



THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

Volume 21, Issue 2

bowdoinham.com

March - April 2023

Stone Coast Studio

Cara Taggersell and R.J. Graef

Cara Taggersell fell in love with glass blowing and its beautiful forms during the very first glass blowing class she took at Temple University's Tyler School of Art. She ended up getting a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts in glass and ceramics and initially worked for other artisans. The deep desire to follow her own artistic vision, however, led her to create her own studio and business here in Bowdoinham with her husband, R.J.'s partnership help.

Cara and R.J. met 10 years ago. While R.J.'s primary career has been in the marine industry, he has been a willing apprentice to Cara and has worked with her to transform their property into a working studio and home. They have both held other jobs in order to finance the construction of the studio space and the acquisition of all the equipment that is needed.

They bought their property on the Millay Road seven years ago. With the help of professionals, they have created a studio in the renovated barn that is an open, professional work space complete with a glass furnace, glory hole, annealer, work bench and tools. These are all positioned in a way to facilitate the complicated process of transforming solids into colorful, semi-liquid forms, and then back into fragrant solids once again.

For the last 8 months, the studio has been in full operation. Cara and R.J. have been concentrating on creating a line of colorful glassware, ornaments for hanging in windows or on a Christmas tree, and decorative figures. In the future, Cara would like to also develop gallery and museum quality conceptual glass objects. In recent years, American glass artists have brought these beautiful forms to greater popular recognition. While Seattle area glass artists are often recognized as a unique concentration of this work, Cara points out that there are 3 active hot glass artists in Bowdoinham's immediate area making it a node of creative design in Maine.

An exciting aspect of the business is the glass blowing classes that started up in February. The



first round will continue until March 3. Cara concentrates her instruction on 2 to 3 students at a time so that everyone will get individual guidance. The studio space is designed with students in mind, and Cara hopes to continue to offer blocks of instructional classes in the future.

While developing their line of products, Cara and R.J. have also been expanding their market outlets. Stone Coast is now a member of the Bowdoinham Guild of Artisans and participated in the recent Holiday Show and Sale at the Town Hall. They also have items at the Maine Potters Market in the Old Port and Gifts at 136 Maine Street in Damariscotta. They had a successful experience at the Bowdoinham Farmer's Market last summer and hope to do that again in the coming year. New outlets are in the works.

All of their efforts have enabled Cara and R.J. to cover their operating expenses which are higher than many businesses. Running the propane which fuels the equipment costs \$250

a week. They are grateful to have achieved this benchmark and hope to expand the business income so that it will cover 25% of their family's budget. Until that point, Cara supplements the household income through her work as a licensed realtor and R.J. works in the marine industry. As the business grows, they will be able to spend more time in the studio.

Both Cara and R.J. are grateful for all the support they are getting from Bowdoinham. "We have gotten nothing but love from the community," says R.J. "We are excited and grateful to be here and are looking forward to seeing the business grow," Cara adds. "People should feel free to be in touch, come and see the space and take a class."

As a side note, if you get a chance to talk with Cara in person, ask her about her career in the sport of fencing. She recently refereed at a tournament in Peru.

You can reach Cara at 207-251-8835 and R.J. at 207-417-1019 or email them at stonecoaststudio@gmail.com.

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Watersong Music

Earl Bigelow

Town Hall Preservation

Rachelle Tome



Concert in the park. (Photo credit Margot D. Frost)

The summer of 2023 is coming, and the waterfront concerts series is taking shape. This will be year eight of Watersong Music producing the series with the great town of Bowdoinham. It has been so popular and well attended, and the inclusion of food has certainly been a part of its success. We have been able to promote it as dinner and a show.

We are looking for nonprofit organizations to sign up for this excellent opportunity to make some money for your mission and be very present in the community. The groups

who have done well in the past are the Bowdoinham Historical Society, and the Bowdoinham Library. Others have been both the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts and numerous animal rescue organizations. Our hope is to have food at every show this summer. They are Sundays, starting on June 25, thru August 27. The music starts at 6 and the food is best if ready at 5:30. If you and your group are interested, please call (207) 607-9027 or email Earl earlspad@gmail.com at Watersong Music 9 G Main Street, Bowdoinham, Maine

Bowdoinham's Town Hall holds many special memories for our community. As a youngster in town, I remember performing on the stage for school plays, Prize Speaking competitions sponsored by the Toastmasters, Miss Bowdoinham pageants and variety shows. Richard Paradis provided dancing lessons for many of us, with the May Ball as the culminating gala. The were dances, from the bands featuring talented Bowdoinham musicians to the popular Contra dances. Many local folks have used the Town Hall for family celebrations such as weddings, anniversaries and birthdays, my own 16th birthday included. What memories do you have to share? Send your stories and pictures to the Town Hall committee at the Town Office. We'd love to feature your stores in future newsletters as we prepare to breathe new life into this historic building.

Town Hall Committee members have been meeting through the winter to determine next steps for improving and restoring the building. We're looking forward to a report in March from Preservation Timber Framing. They will provide an assessment of the structure which will assist in determining priorities for repair and preservation efforts. Stay tuned for details. We hope you'll join us to learn more.

Preserving the Town Hall will be a community efforts, through fundraising, volunteering for work projects and supporting Town initiatives. Let us know if you'd like to help and we'll add your name to our list. Just contact the Town Office. In the meantime, you can help by buying a Town Hall 2023 calendar or note cards. Donations are also gladly accepted. Funds can be sent directly to the Town of Bowdoinham and earmarked for the Town Hall or can also be sent to the Bowdoinham Historical Society, who is serving as a vital partner for this project.

The Committee meets the 4th Tuesday of the month at 4:30 pm in the Coombs Building. Please stop by and join us!



Tourtelotte

EXCAVATING

(207) 666-5941
188 Millay Road
Bowdoinham, ME 04008
www.tourtelotteexcavation.com

Excavation - Road Work - Land Management

News from Merrymeeting Hall

At Merrymeeting Hall, regular use is continuing, especially in the Theater. Merrymeeting Hall is also happy to host private parties. From May through October, the fee is \$100. From November 1 to April 1, we charge \$125 because of the need to use heat. We charge a \$50 deposit which is returned if the hall is left clean and ready for the next use. Contact Betsy Steen at bayviewess@comcast.net.

BHS is slowly putting to rights its **Rideout Library and Archive** on the MMH Lower Level. We hope to have weekly hours soon.

Merryreading Books, The Library's used bookstore shares the lower level with the BHS office. We will try to coordinate our hours with Merryreading Books.

A Busy Place is Merrymeeting Hall!

Events at Merrymeeting Hall

Sunday: ARRT (Artist Rapid Response Team) *Natasha Meyers*

Once a month (Usually 1st Sunday) Next 3/5/23

Monday: Yoga 4:15 - 5:30 *Anita Goller, Jason Lamoreau*

Singing Bowl 7:00 - 8:00 *Ailish Kress*

Tuesday: Line Dancing 5:30 - 7:30 *George Oliver*

Thursday: Knitting (main floor) 4:00 - 5:30 *Monica Maniatakos*

Yoga 7:15 am - 9:15am *Peggy Christian*

Bowdoinham Community School Presents Student-Created Production of Local Stories

Bowdoinham Community School, in collaboration with Bowdoinham Public Library, is pleased to announce this year's school play, *Six River Stories*, an anthology of scenes based on Bowdoinham history, legends, and lore. The performance of *Six River Stories* will take place at Bowdoinham Community School, 23 Cemetery Road, on Saturday, April 8 at 11:00am with a community potluck to follow.

Led by teaching artist and Bowdoinham resident Dana Legawiec with the support of parent volunteers, students in grades 3-5 created original theater based on stories about life in Bowdoinham. The students listened to audio recordings from Bowdoinham Public Library's Story Bridges archives for inspiration, adapting the stories for the stage. Says librarian Kate Cutko "It's wonderful that cassette tapes of interviews recorded by students in the 1980's are being revived today. Students are hearing some of the old stories from our town and creating their own unique responses." Members of the Bowdoinham Historical Society helped with research. Students also collected and created their own tales. Adds Principal Chris Lajoie "This is an incredible opportunity for our students to write themselves into a new chapter of the town's history."

Admission to *Six River Stories* is free with donations gratefully accepted to support arts programming at the elementary school.

Seating is first-come, first-served and carpooling is recommended. Doors open at 10:45am. For more information contact Dana Legawiec at legawiecd@link75.org.



O'Farrell

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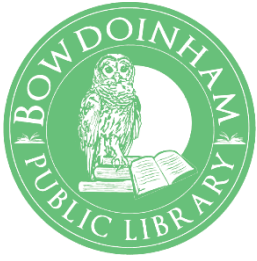
Bowdoinham, Maine 04008

www.ofarrellenergy.com

ofarrellenergy@gmail.com

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Bowdoinham Public Library



Save the Dates!
Saturday,
May 20, 2023...
Back to our
roots...
The 50th Annual
Bowdoinham
Library Plant
Sale

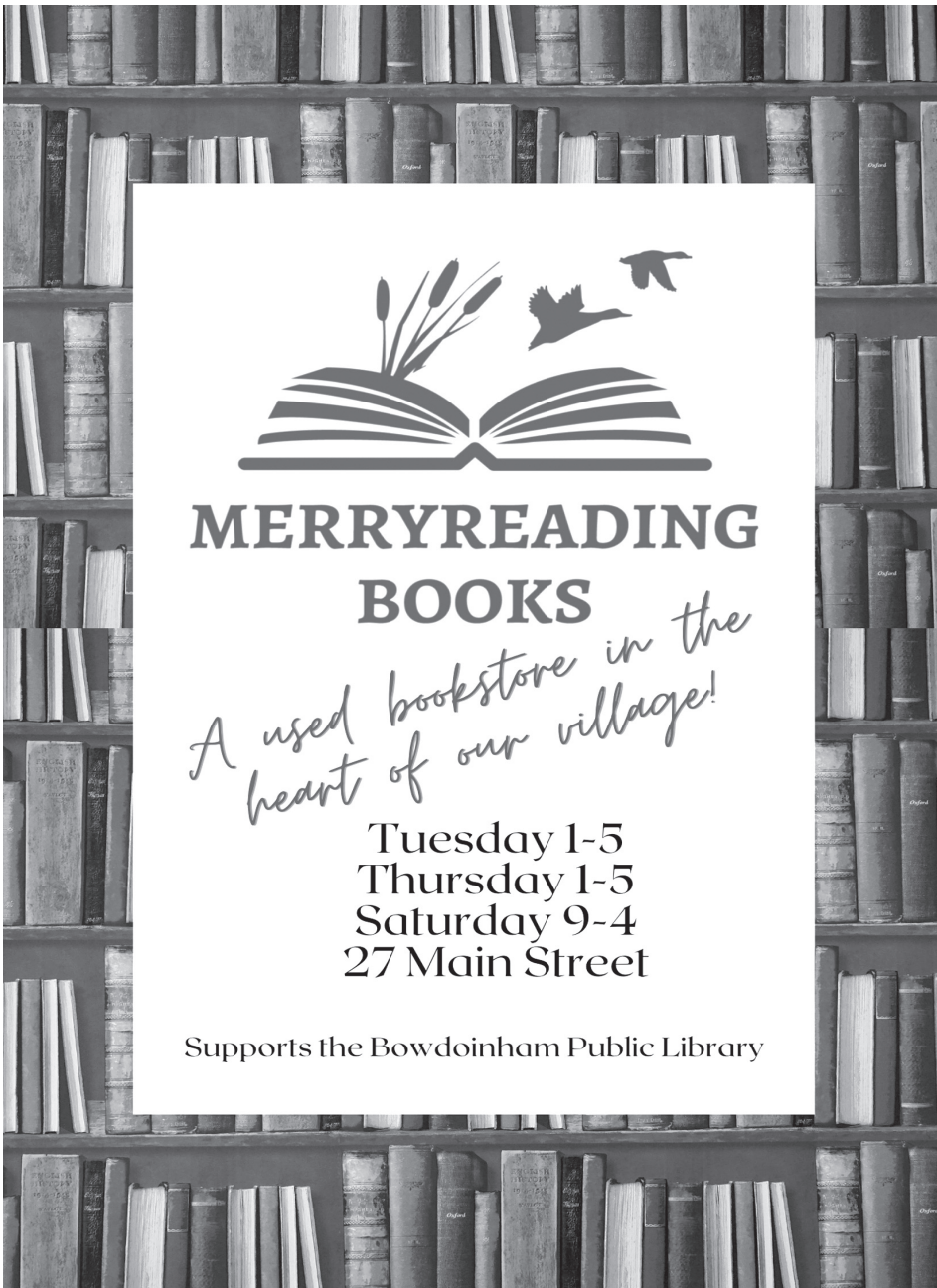

at the Bowdoinham Town Hall!

After a two-year hiatus, we will move from an online sale to be back in person inside the Town Hall with our field-grown perennials and annuals from local growers! Ours is the longest, continuously operated

plant sale in the state and this will be our swan song. Our hard-working plant sale volunteers are aging and the competition from other plant sales is fierce. Many of you have supported the sale for years and years. Your gardens are swelling with the plants that have taken root. Please consider splitting and donating plants for our sale. (We'll be sharing details about how to do that when the sale gets closer.) If you would help with planning this year's sale, please join us for a planning meeting on Monday, March 13th at 7pm at the library.

The Luke MacFadyen Edible Book

Festival returns to the Bowdoinham Town Hall on **Saturday, April 1st at 6pm**. Once again, we invite you to bake a cake (or other edible food item) inspired by a book or a book title. We will gather and have judging by those who come to admire the entries, and then we will award prizes and all join together to eat! Start thinking of all those book puns, bookish ideas and all the literary inspiration you've got. We will charge \$10 to enter the contest but the entry to the hall on Saturday night is by donation only. Call or email the library for more information or to register your entry.

**MERRYREADING
BOOKS**

*A used bookstore in the
heart of our village!*

Tuesday 1-5
Thursday 1-5
Saturday 9-4
27 Main Street

Supports the Bowdoinham Public Library

Town of Bowdoinham Bulky Waste Day April 22, 2023

We will be holding our Spring Bulky waste day on April 22nd from 8am to 2pm at the Public Works facility located at 121 Pond Rd.

The following items will be accepted on this day for a fee.

Box spring/Mattress each piece:

Twin	\$5.00
Full	\$7.00
Queen	\$8.00
King	\$10.00

Carpet:

\$1.00/foot, priced at the lesser of the size i.e., 5'x8' = \$5.00

Furniture:

Chair	\$5.00
Chair - recliner	\$7.00
Couch - small	\$7.00
Couch - large	\$12.00
Couch - recliner	\$14.00
Couch - pull out	\$14.00

Construction debris including sheetrock, insulation.

¼ yard of debris	\$30.00
½ yard of debris	\$50.00

Large and/or heavy quantities of construction debris should be taken to one of the following locations:

- Grimmel Industries in Topsham
- Pine Tree Waste in West Bath
- Maine Waste to Energy in Auburn

Peary's Garden

Lily Montgomery

We are so excited to be heading into our sixth season at Peary's Community Garden! Last summer our plots were bursting with produce and flowers- squash, corn, tomatoes, melons, zinnias, giant sunflowers- and so much more. Our membership has grown steadily since the garden started in 2018 following BCDI's Community Conversation, and we are proud to now have space for about 25 plots within our fenced area. We still have room for more gardeners this season, so please get in touch if you are interested.

Brian Smith, who owns the land where Peary's is located, built a beautiful wood fired oven at the garden and we were thrilled to be able to enjoy delicious pizza several times throughout the season. Stay tuned for more community pizza nights at the garden in 2023.

Peary's Garden is open to any and all who are interested in growing their own food. Plots are 10'x 25' and cost \$25 for the season. Half plots are available as well (\$15), and we are happy to waive the fee if cost is an issue. Membership includes water access, seeds, tools, spring/fall tilling, organic fertilizer and compost, manure and advice if needed. Peary's is a family friendly place and we welcome gardeners of all ages and abilities - please join us!

Thank you to all who continue to make this garden such a special spot!

Email lilypmontgomery@gmail.com for more info or to sign up!



(Photo courtesy Brendan Bullock for BCDI)

Bowdoinham Recreation

Recreation Basketball was a great success this year for all of our boys and girls in grades 3 – 6! Thank you again to our team sponsors: Acker's Acres, Holloway Concrete Construction, Main Street Fuel and Five County Credit Union. Also, a special thanks to Counter Point Bread for donating basketballs for every one of our players to keep and play at home! We will continue the fun throughout March with our "Little Dribblers" program from grades K – 2 as well as some of the 3 – 6 athletes representing Bowdoinham on their Ararat League travel teams.

Don't forget that registrations for T-Ball, Rookies Baseball, and all ages of Softball are due on or before March 15th. Register at www.bowdoinhamrec.com. Late registrations will be accepted only if there is room available and a

late fee of \$10 will be charged for each registration received after March 15th.

Registration for Youth Cross Country Running (grades 1–5) closes on March 8th.

The Recreation Department is looking to gauge interest in rec-sponsored Adult activities such as Tennis, Volleyball, Pickleball, Basketball, outdoor Soccer, Cornhole, Walking group on trails or anything else the community desires (and is willing to help organize!). Send your ideas and thoughts to recreation@bowdoinham.com.

Our Snack Shack will be opening soon for the spring/summer season. We are in need of volunteers to help out with shifts in the snack shack. Teenagers or younger kids are welcome to help out with the help of an adult (and they love doing it)! Keep an eye out for a "Sign-up Genius" link to schedule a time slot to volunteer.

RIDES in Neighbor's Cars

Did you know that there is a dedicated group of volunteers in town that in the past year, to date, has driven over 10,000 miles and spent over 600 hours driving seniors and those with a disability that prevents them from driving, to medical appointments, shopping trips and other appointments. As one of the drivers, I can say that it has given me an opportunity to meet some amazing people who wish to remain independent in their own homes.

Rides in Neighbors Cars began with the idea of helping increase the independence of people who can no longer drive by matching people who need a ride with people willing to give a ride. One of the riders stated, "This program means everything to me. I would not have been able to

stay in my home had it not been for the help this program has given me"

If you have just a little bit of extra time in your week and could volunteer to offer a ride, we welcome you to join our great group of volunteers. You might choose to help someone get to a regularly scheduled weekly appointment or you might only be able to offer rides every now and then. You can choose your availability monthly and typically drivers take 1 to 5 trips per month. Please call 207-837-9577 for information on how to get started with us.

We also want to make sure we reach out to those who may need rides. If you need a ride or know someone who might benefit from this volunteer program, please call 207 837-9577 for details. There is no charge for any ride but donations are always gratefully accepted.

LAW OFFICES OF ARTHUR J. LAMOTHE

Bowdoinham

666-5713

or

721-9911

www.lamothelaw.com

THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

Merrymeeting Arts Center

The start of winter is typically a quiet season at Merrymeeting Arts Center, but it hasn't been without project planning and new offerings in the studio! We're not out of the snowstorm yet, so please keep an eye on our Facebook updates for schedule changes due to weather.



We are thrilled that programming in the MAC Studio continues to expand! Katie Hudak's after school program that started in January has been a great success. Katie is a local parent and educator with a passion for the arts. We are so lucky to be able to offer a space for her creative instruction and ambitious mini-camp that was offered during February vacation. Ashley West approached us to start an every-other-Friday toddler group at the studio, which will be a wonderful place for parents and young ones to gather during the week. Ashley lives in Bowdoinham with her partner and two small children. She has taken courses at the Maine College of Art. Ashley brings her enthusiasm and passion for the arts, as well as her experience in Early Childhood Education. If you are an artist or community member interested in a class series or opening the doors to use the studio as a makerspace, we'd love to explore those options with you! Our website calendar is a great resource to see what's happening with MAC and see where we could fit new programs! Email us at MerrymeetingArtsCenter@gmail.com for more information.

We have launched three of our four vacation art kits at the Bowdoinham Community School. This large scale initiative provides every student with art materials to create something unique while on school vacation and was made possible by grant funding and the volunteer support of the Bowdoinham Parent Partnership. We hope students enjoyed the smelt shack luminaries for February vacation featuring the artwork of Jane Page-Conway. Our April vacation kits will showcase the creativity of our local, family-run Bowdoinham Sprouts run by Ryan and Bridgid Redka. This incredibly talented family has been offering their own take-and-make art kits from their stand on White Road, and we hope that spreading their vision through the MAC vacation art kit program will help

shine more light on the amazing work they offer to our community.

Thank you to Mt. Ararat High School Senior, Addison Kennedy, for her successful Capstone exhibit during The Ice and Smelt Festival. Your engagement of the Bowdoinham Community School students to create a collaborative vision of what their community means to them was a heartwarming ode to your town during your last year of high school. It was a pleasure working with you.

The end of March will bring another exhibit by Merrymeeting Adult Education affiliated artists.

Self-portraits explore many purposes: they give insight into the art of one particular moment in time, they shed light onto the self-perception of the artists, and they also speak to creative innovations made possible through this self-reflective process. *Me, Myself & I: The Art of Self-Portraiture*, showcases how the genre engenders a wide variety of interpretations and artistic freedoms. Opening Reception: Friday, March 31st, 4-6pm. The exhibit will be on display for one weekend, Saturday 4/1 and Sunday 4/2, 10-2:00. As always, our gallery is free to the public; donations are welcome. Our gallery is starting to bustle again- keep an eye on our calendar and Facebook announcements for more shows coming soon!

Even through all the ice, snow, and smelt, we are starting to think about summer! The Gallery for Everyone series of weekend exhibits will run from opening day of the Bowdoinham Farmers' Market through the end of August. Local artists of all ages and experience who are interested in taking part in this year's Gallery for Everyone series are encouraged to reach out to MerrymeetingArtsCenter@gmail.com with interested dates.

MAC is looking to expand grant writing and development potential. There has been great momentum over the past year and having a new board member or volunteers dedicated to these areas will enrich the positive community impact established by the current members. Merrymeeting Arts Center is a volunteer-led organization so the time commitment is flexible, but a successful board member and volunteer will be passionate about providing artistic opportunities in our community and connecting with local artists and organizations. Please reach out to MerrymeetingArtsCenter@gmail.com for more information on board involvement or volunteer potential!

The Heron Fund is made possible by the generosity of the Muir Family and donations from MAC friends and supporters like you. Donations can be made on our website and allow us to compensate instructors, build programming that fills creative needs in our community, and ensure that everyone can participate- Art for Everyone! www.MerrymeetingArtsCenter.org.

Nazarene News

The Nazarene Church is sad to announce the passing of Marilyn Joyce Davis.

Marilyn was the daughter of founding pastor Harland Joyce and sister of retired pastor Dan Joyce.

Although a resident of Turner, she was a beloved, long-time member of the church. Most recently, she served as a board member and treasurer, and spent a lot of time helping to keep our flower beds looking beautiful.

She was also the creative force behind our Victorian Christmas Open House. Many of the ornaments and decorations were handmade by her, often using scraps of fabric and craft supplies she gathered, in the spirit of a true old-fashioned Christmas.

Marilyn's dedication to her faith in God and her commitment to serving Christ were an inspiration to us all.

We were privileged to have known her. Marilyn will be missed more than words can describe.

Her full obituary can be viewed at www.funeralalternatives.net/obituaries/obit-details.php?Davis-3052&fbclid=IwAR1mrTQcvaeQ0wm1tNjWfVhBo_SlbwM_SSc73vdpZlgKHxe9ozxxE-jEXdQ.

Ambulance Services at a Crossroads

By Town Manager, Nicole Briand

As you may have heard, the Town is working to secure ambulance service for next fiscal year, July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024. North East Mobile Services is now committed to honoring our contract thru the end of this fiscal year, June 30, 2023.

We have talked with Gardiner, Richmond, Topsham, Lisbon, North East Mobile and Sagadahoc County. We are also exploring developing our own service. Given the costs and timeline to develop our own service we are hoping to partner with another provider, for at least next year.

While our current focus is securing service for next year, I want to let you know that Bowdoinham is not alone in this situation. Ambulance service is in the spotlight at the State level due to the many challenges these services are facing from funding, to staffing, to hospital intake. Therefore, as changes over the next several years are made at the State and hopefully County levels to support this essential service we will see our ambulance service evolve.

We will be having a public informational meeting about ambulance service on Wednesday, March 29th at 6:30pm, in the Kendall Meeting Room.

Assessor's Alley:

If you own a business in Bowdoinham, you must declare your personal property to the assessor by May 1st, 2023. The business may qualify for the BETR (Business Equipment Tax Reimbursement) or BETE (Business Equipment Tax Exemption) programs. If you did not receive a declaration form, visit the Assessor's page on the Town website.

ASSESSOR'S NOTICE April 1, 2023
Effective Tax Year 7/1/2022 - 6/30/2023
36 MRSA Sec. 706: TAXPAYERS TO LIST PROPERTY, NOTICE, PENALTY, VERIFICATION. Before making an assessment, the Assessor shall give seasonable notice in writing to all persons liable to taxation, of which they were in possession of the first day of April of the same year. If any person after such notice does not furnish such list, that person is barred of the right to make application to the assessor of any appeal from any abatement of taxes, unless the taxpayer furnishes the required list with the application and satisfies the assessor that the list could not be provided at the appointed date and time. Deadline to furnish list is May 1, 2023.

Richard A. Ferrier Scholarship Fund

The Maine Community Foundation's Richard Ferrier Scholarship: offers financial assistance to Bowdoinham residents between the ages of 13 and 18 as of June 1, 2023, to pursue their artistic, academic, athletic and vocational or life's passion outside of the traditional school environment. Eligible applicants must be residents of Bowdoinham who clearly demonstrate a need for financial assistance. Preference is for applicants who have resided in Bowdoinham for at least one year. Awards are not retroactive; the student's program must start after June 1 of the application year. The fund does not pay for equipment, instruments, transportation, or Drivers' Ed.

Over the years the committee has awarded many scholarships to Bowdoinham

Community School and Bowdoinham students who used the funds to participate in activities including sports camps, theater camp, clown camp, dog agility lessons, educational tours, workshops and the Bath Area YMCA trips.

The application deadline for the Ferrier Scholarship is June 1, 2023. Applications can be downloaded on the Bowdoinham Website or at the Maine Community Foundation website, www.mainecef.org. Please contact committee members Becca Norklun (norklun@gmail.com), Jason Lamoreau (recreation@bowdoinham.com), Jon Beede (beedej@link75.org), or MaineCF staff member Jackie Shannon (jshannon@mainecf.org) if you have any questions.

Merrymeeting Arts Center presents:

Gallery FOR EVERYONE

Weekend pop-up gallery exhibits showcasing artists of all ages to celebrate the value of a gallery experience for everyone.

June 24 - August 26
Saturdays, 8:30-1:00
9 Main Street, Bowdoinham
Our gallery is free to the public; donations welcome

Visit our website and Facebook page for information on the exhibit of the week as well as future artistic opportunities.

[/MerrymeetingArtsCenter](https://www.merrymeetingartscenter.org)
www.merrymeetingartscenter.org

THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

Age Friendly Bowdoinham News

By Peggy Muir

The days ARE getting a bit longer! February 18-19, we enjoyed the annual Ice & Smelt Festival. Age Friendly Bowdoinham sponsored hot cocoa & cookies at the snack shack by the recreation fields.

Recent snowstorms remind us of the challenges and beauties of winter in Maine. For elders snow is a threat in many ways – slick decks, stuck windows, snow drifts, power outages and social isolation. Hopefully as elders we have the support we need from neighbors, friends, and kin. Local organizations like the wonderful Fire Department, the Bowdoinham Food Pantry and the Public Library all offer a variety of assistance for us. Don't forget Sand Buckets and Handyman Brigade are also available.

Distribution of winter safety kits in collaboration with The Bowdoinham Food Pantry and Bowdoinham Fire & Rescue was a success! We're hoping to get feedback on the winter kits and perhaps repeat this project.

The January 2023 Luncheon at the Fire House was a success with 30 people enjoying the excellent food prepared by Leslie Anderson, Judy Hardin, Deb Smith and

many other helpers. Thank you to all who helped put on these events for us. It is so nice to have regular times to get together.

We are hoping to solicit business sponsors in the future to offset some of the luncheon costs. If you are a business owner and can donate to support our luncheon, contact Jason Lamoreau at age.friendly@bowdoinham.com or 666- 5531.

NEXT LUNCHEON:

Thursday, March 9th
at the Bowdoinham Fire Station
11:30am Lunch at noon!
Donations appreciated!

PRESENTATION:

Aga Smith
On our minds and wellbeing

NEED A RIDE:

Call Rides in Neighbors' Cars:
207-837-9577

Check out Age Friendly Bowdoinham on the Town of Bowdoinham web page. For more information contact Jason Lamoreau at Recreation Director / Older Adult Services Coordinator, Town of Bowdoinham, 13 School St, Bowdoinham, ME 04008 207-666-5531 or email: age.friendly@bowdoinham.com.

CMP TIF

The Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC) will be presenting a proposal at Town Meeting to extend the current CMP Tax Increment Financing (TIF) program for an additional 10 years. There will be information sessions and public hearings on the proposal throughout the spring to fill everyone in on the specifics.

Approved by the town in 2014 for a 20 year period, the extension will allow the CMP TIF program to continue until 2044. Because many of the original initiatives of this TIF have been accomplished in the last 8 years, the extension will allow the town to take on new, important projects and to use it to match other funding sources. The extension will also help the town to cover the costs of activities that are currently paid for with the Pipeline TIF when it runs out in 2030.

One of the big advantages of having a TIF program is that it helps to keep more of our tax dollars at work on town projects that have been approved by the voters and

that fall within the State guidelines for TIF programs. Instead of increasing our tax obligations to the School District budget or the Sagadahoc County budget, CMP TIF dollars will be put to work on Bowdoinham projects.

2nd Half of Property Taxes Due May 1st

You can pay your Real Estate and Personal Property Taxes three ways: In person, by mail or ONLINE.

To pay online simply go to www.bowdoinham.com, click on **Online Services**, then **Online Tax Payment**. Scroll down to **Bowdoinham Payment Portal** and follow directions.

For current year tax bills we accept three online payment method:

1. **E-Check/Checking Account** - You will need to provide your account number and the bank's routing number to pay by this method. There will be a \$1.00 processing fee assessed.
2. **Credit Cards** - We currently accept VISA, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover credit cards. There will be a 2.75% processing fee for each credit card transaction with a minimum charge of \$1.95.
3. **Debit Cards** - Tax payments qualify for a discounted flat rate of \$3.95 when using a VISA consumer debit card. All other debit card transactions will be processed as credit.

For prior-year tax bills and liened properties, payments must be made by cash or bank check and cannot be paid online. Checks are accepted via mail, please do not mail cash.

**Please note that an accurate processing fee will not be reflected until all payment information is entered.*

LET ME INTRODUCE MYSELF...

I'm Cara, I live right in town and I just joined Portside Real Estate Group as an Associate Broker. I'd love to help you buy or sell your next home!



CARA TAGGERSSELL

(C) 207.251.8835

carataggersell@portsidereg.com

portside
REAL ESTATE GROUP

18 PLEASANT STREET,
SUITE 204, BRUNSWICK, ME
www.portsidereg.com
207.607.5965

Morning Jo

Don't believe everything you think.

Everyone has a commentary running in the back of their mind. And within it, there are storylines about ourselves, other people, and the world around us.

Are you a glass half-full kind of person? Or a glass half-empty one?

Most of us believe that we can't really help what we think or feel. That's true, to some extent. But we can raise our awareness of our typical "spin" on things. And then we can try a different "spin"

and watch how our thoughts and feelings change.

The "Maybe, Maybe Not..." story.

A farmer awakens one morning to find that his only horse has run away in the night. He wonders how he will now manage the enormous amount of work to be done. "What a terrible thing to have happened!" His friends cry. And the farmer replies, "Maybe. Maybe not..." The following day, his horse returns with a herd of other horses. "What a fortunate turn of events!"

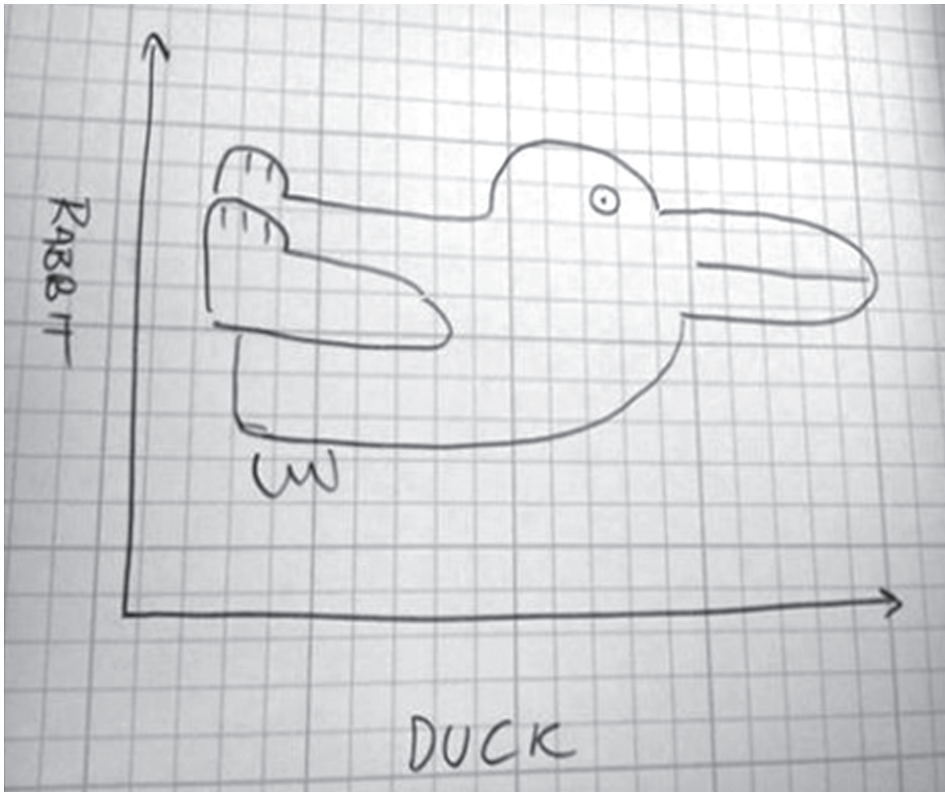
His friends declare. And the farmer replies, "Maybe, maybe not..." A week later, the farmer's son tries to ride one of the horses. The horse bucks him off and he breaks his leg. Friends arrive with food and offers of help. "What an unfortunate accident!" they lament. And the farmer replies, "Maybe. Maybe not..." A month later, a war breaks out. The young men of the village are sent to the front line. The farmer's son is still unable to walk and thus cannot go. Their friends express gratitude. "What a life-saving twist of fate," they sigh. And the farmer replies, "Maybe. Maybe not..."

When you change the way you look at things, the things you look at change.

It's not that any one way of seeing things is more correct or more "healthy" per se; it's about becoming more aware of the way our own "habits of mind" affect the way we feel.

The ability to change our perspective is a secret superpower. Give "Maybe, Maybe Not" a try and see what happens!

Questions/Comments? Anything particular you'd like me to address next time? Email me at jowtherlcs@gmail.com.



From the CEO Desk

Matthew James

Every summer the Town of Bowdoinham amends its Land Use Ordinance. Amendments allow for the Town to meet their responsibilities more effectively for administrative purposes and for the protection of the environment, property, and population of Bowdoinham. This process begins in January; however, the process has been delayed due to a change in staff this year. The Code Enforcement Officer, Planning Board, and a Sub-Committee of the Comprehensive Planning Committee have all drafted some amendments that will be reviewed throughout the next few months.

Legislation passed in April of last year, called L.D. 2003, allows for more accessory dwelling units, short term rentals, and population density in towns across Maine. The Board will be reviewing how this legislation affects Bowdoinham. An amendment to the Land Use Ordinance that details how the Town may protect historic buildings and neighborhoods will also be addressed. Expect public hearings on topics such as L.D. 2003 and amendments to land use requirements in Village District 1 at the March Board meetings.

Heavy Loads Limited Posting on Town Roads effective on Thurs., Feb. 16th

The Town of Bowdoinham seasonally posts Town roads in order to prevent damage from heavy truck traffic when the roads are "soft". This occurs when the roads are partially thawed and the solid material under the road is wet. With the recent warm weather and the forecast of above freezing temperatures for most of the extended ten-day forecast, Town roads will be posted effective Thursday, February 16th.

For more information on the Maine Department of Transportation posted road regulations visit www.maine.gov/mdot/postedroads/docs/local/2020/final-PostedRoadsInMaine-2020.pdf

Enforcement is done by the Maine State Police 207-624-7076

THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

Stones that tell Stories

By Frank Connors

Thomas Tyler Rideout, A Civil War Hero

Thomas Tyler "T.T." Rideout was born April 20, 1841, and enlisted in the 19th Regiment, Maine Volunteer Infantry, on 5 August, 1862. He was 21 years old, records say, was unmarried and a bounty of \$150 was paid to him. The 19th could be considered one of Bowdoinham's "home" regiments, since at least 24 local men served in its ranks. He was a "good Soldier," according to Sgt. Samuel Smith, a fellow NCO in the 19th who eulogized him after he was killed at Gettysburg.

"While we were making a flanking movement at the time of Pickett's infamous charge," Smith wrote, "he fell by my side. I stopped and asked him where he was hit and he replied, "in the back." He fell in a very exposed position, so I laid down my gun and dragged him about a rod, where I found him shelter behind a large boulder. Bullets were singing about us pretty lively at the time. Rideout was later taken to a field hospital, where I found him in good spirits and expecting to live and go home. A surgeon informed me that He'd been shot through the lungs and the ball lodged

against his shoulder, where he first felt it, and he added that Rideout could not live. I afterward learned that he died about 15 days after he was wounded." Bowdoinham's GAR Post (Grand Army of the Republic) Number 26 was named in his honor.

The Adams History of Bowdoinham says, "his body was returned home by a friend and is buried in the Village Cemetery." An 1864 Maine AG report says he was buried at Gettysburg, (Section C, Grave 10.)

If you care to find the Bowdoinham burial site of Thomas Rideout, go to the last gate of the Village Burying Ground, (farthest from the Community School.) Walk straight to the last lane parallel with Cemetery Road, turn right, walk another 50 feet, you'll see the stone on your left.

Edit Note: One of the unique features of our Town of Bowdoinham is the fact that more than 60 Cemeteries are located within our borders. With the advice of Bowdoinham's Cemetery Advisory Committee, and Town Sexton Frank Connors, we're proud to offer tidbits of local gravestones (and of the people they memorialize) in this and future editions of the NEWS.

Historical Society

The United States of America can boast of some of the snowiest places on earth. The ten snowiest states are New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont, Alaska, Wyoming, Michigan, New York, Utah, Minnesota, and Massachusetts. The snowiest state of all is New Hampshire, which gets an average of 174.35 inches of snow each year. This is followed by Maine, which gets 92 inches annually and Vermont, with 80.2 inches. Alaska and Wyoming come next, with 79.6 and 77.33 inches respectively.

These states frequently have massive snowstorms that paralyze entire regions. Some storms were so intense that they have become part of Maine History.

The Great Snow of 1717, 50 years before Bowdoinham was incorporated a series of snowstorms between February 27 and March 7, dropped five or more feet of snow, with much higher drifts.

The Great Blizzard of '88, the Great White Hurricane, (March 11–14, 1888) was one of the deadliest blizzards in US history, The storm brought hurricane-force winds and over 4 feet or more of snow to parts of Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut.

The Blizzard of 1913, The storm struck in mid-February and brought over 30 inches of snow.

Blizzard of 1952, dropped 25.4 inches on February 17 and 18.

'Down East' blizzard of December 29-30, 1962, brought a maximum snowfall of 46" at Ripogenus Dam and 40" in Orono. Temperature ranged between 0°F and -15°F during the storm with sustained winds of 20-40 mph.

Nor'easter of 1969, where precipitation remained as snow, accumulations reached 40 inches (100 cm) or more, crippling travel. Drifts up to 30 ft (9.1 m) high.

The Blizzard of 1978, (February 7-8), dropped 15 to 24 inches of snow along the seacoast of New Hampshire and southern Maine.

Great Ice Storm of 1998, this was five smaller successive ice storms in January 1998. It caused massive damage to trees and electrical infrastructure throughout the area, leading to widespread long-term power outages.

Winter Storm 'Nemo', the epic Blizzard of 2013. (February.) The storm was certainly among the top five to affect Southern New England and Maine

Winter Storm Juno 2015, 21 inches of snow Boston's Logan Airport; nearby Framingham had 2 1/2 feet, A 78 mph gust of wind was reported on Nantucket.



(Photo courtesy Silas Morin)

Cemetery News

Well, we were a little ahead of ourselves in January, writing that we had presented the updated Policy For the Superintendence and Maintenance of the Bowdoinham Cemeteries to the Select Board. It was not finished and presented until February; and at this writing, we don't know if approved. We really struggled with maintaining consistency and historical accuracy in Appendix A, the cemetery names, as many of the cemeteries have had various names used over the years. We decided to keep the GR numbers as each cemetery has a unique GR number, while there may be two or three cemeteries with the same name! We also went with using the same names as listed on the Bowdoinham Historical Society Website, bowdoinhamhistoricalsociety.org=BHS Home Page. Currently, this is where anyone would search for Bowdoinham Cemetery information. However, Tobey has found the flash drive onto which Elaine put all up to then cemetery data in 2020. This will soon be available on the town website and all new information will be added as it comes in.

The Volunteer Coordinators, Linda and Elaine will spend the rest of the winter contacting all Keepers and other volunteers to determine each one's availability and needs for assistance and supplies. In early Spring, we will deliver clean-up kits and Keeper and volunteer folders of useful information. As soon as weather permits, we will be completing reassessments of all known burial grounds in Bowdoinham and getting that information to the Town in order to prioritize needed work.

Our summer plan is to focus on clean-up and restoration in the Village Burying Ground (across from the School) and to stabilize some fragile monuments there and in the Ridge Road Cemetery. We also will be supporting Keepers in working on some smaller plots, We continue looking for some small burial grounds we have not yet found, but have heard of. We ask that any fishermen or Spring hunters be on the lookout for

stones that appear to be "arranged" (they may be unmarked field stones). There might be some in the area between Pond Road, Millay Road and Post Road or on the East bank of the Abagadasset River, in the Dinsmore Falls area. Please, if you have any information, "finds" or questions, contact any one of the following:

Linda Temple, Volunteer Coordinator, (207) 666-3343, wwells9@myfairpoint.net

Elaine Diaz, Volunteer Coordinator, (207) 666-8255, elainediazhome@gmail.com

Nina Mendall, BCAC Chair, (207) 666-8838, njmendall@comcast.com

Tina Magno Town Clerk, (207) 666-8838, townclerk@bowdoinham.org

This is an extra request, not necessarily related to any cemeteries. Would anyone with ancestry or knowledge related to the Irish Famine immigrants in Bowdoinham (nearly 100 of them listed in the 1850 census in this town), please contact Elaine Diaz, as I am doing a research project on them. They are (shamefully) missing from any Bowdoinham historical writings, except for a couple of brief mentions in Abraham Preble's Journal. 92 of these folks lived in a "shanty" near the Cathance River and built this section of the railroad. Prejudice and persecution against these Irish immigrants were rampant at all levels of society, government and press. Let us try to acknowledge them! Some of the family names listed in the census were Donahue, Cohalow, Long, Gorman, Conner, Dessan, Durgin, Cajorda, Harrigan, Murray, Caine, Glenn, Radican, Gerety (or Gerrity), Gafney, Callin, Welch, Canly, Redington, Morrice, Galvan, Hill, Marremall, Driscoll, Harrington, Flood, Diamond, Carues (or Carrn), Magee, Knowland, Redington, Caughlin (or Cocklin), Kelley, Roanoe, Fitzgerald, Grogan, O'Conner, Barkley, Galigean, Wilson, Brick, Eagle. These are the names as recorded in the 1859 Census, and some other town records. I suspect much misspelling. I welcome any information about the Irish Immigrants in the Bowdoinham area. Thank you!

Burning Permit Required

Spring is slowly approaching and with it comes time for cleanup. Limbs, leaves and debris from what was a relatively mild winter are being gathered and stacked for disposal. Many people choose to compost or chip the winter remnants while others opt for burning. If you are among the latter, then here is a bit of background information and few reminders on the process.

The Maine Forest Service generates a daily wildfire danger report beginning in early spring and continuing until the first widespread snow in the fall. This report is usually issued at or before 9:00 AM daily and is based on current/future weather and wind conditions combined with readings from their network of sensors throughout Maine. This allows them to categorize the day based on the National Fire Danger Rating System. This is a color-coded system and what you commonly see on fire stations throughout Maine. Any day coded as a yellow or higher means no burning is allowed and permits will not be issued.

Green = low fire danger

Blue = moderate fire danger

Yellow = high fire danger

Orange = very high fire danger

Red = extreme fire danger

A burning permit is REQUIRED for any outdoor burning, the only exceptions are for outdoor grills and fireplaces used for recreational purposes such as cooking. A permit can be obtained online for free at www.wardensreport.com or for a \$7.00 fee through the Maine Forest Service at www.maineburnpermit.com. Since the fire danger changes from day-to-day permits are typically only issued for the actual day, you are burning and you will find that neither website will allow a permit to be issued until the State has declared the fire class day. If you do not have access to the internet, you can obtain one in person at the fire station on Saturday or Sunday morning between 7:30 AM and 8:30 AM.

Please make sure to read and understand the permit. If you indicate the presence of a certain tool or piece of equipment, then it needs to be on hand and readily available while burning. Also note there are several materials that cannot be burned including household trash and pressure treated lumber.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the fire station at 666-3505 or Sagadahoc dispatch at 443-9711.

Earth Day 2023

This year Bowdoinham will conduct its annual Earth Day roadside clean up on Saturday April 22nd. All roadside trash collected can be brought to the Recycling facility located at 121 Pond Rd. between the hours of 8am and 2pm for disposal. Bags and gloves will be available the morning of Earth Day. For more information contact the Solid Waste Dept. at 666-3228 or stop by Recycling on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

BCDI - Housing Community Conservation Summary

Comprehensive Plan Presentation

The role of the comp plan is to guide rather than prescribe. The Comprehensive Planning Committee (CPC) is currently looking at current land use ordinances for all areas of town and how changing them would affect housing in years to come.

Housing and population data

<https://censusreporter.org/profiles/06000US2302306365-bowdoinham-town-sagadahoc-county-me/>
Compared to Maine and Sagadahoc County, Bowdoinham has twice as many people 60 to 69 years old; 30% more people 0-9; 50% fewer people 10-19; half as many people 70-79; and one fifth as many people over 80.

The median income in Bowdoinham is higher than the county and state, and the median value of homes owned in town is 10% higher than the county and 20% higher than the state. In the past decade incomes have risen 35% and home prices have risen 245%. People also travel almost twice as far to work than those in the county and state.

Resulting questions include: WHO wants to live in Bowdoinham? WHO is living here now? WHO is living here now and would like to move to different housing? WHO should new housing be built for?

Affordability versus Subsidized

Affordable housing equals housing (mortgage, taxes, insurance) that costs 1/3 of the owner's income.

Subsidized housing is housing for which someone else pays part of the housing costs for those who earn less than a certain percent of the median income.

Group Discussion

The majority of the meeting time was devoted to discussion in break-out groups, and then the sharing of each individual group's thoughts with the entire group. To facilitate conversation, four general considerations were suggested: Who is future housing for? What form would it take? Where would it be? How to make it happen. While there was great diversity among the considerations expressed, there was a surprising degree of consensus regarding numerous issues.

Who is future housing in Bowdoinham for?

The two populations most mentioned were young families starting out and retirees/senior citizens. As folks in their 60s and 70s age out of larger homes, how do we maintain a balance of age and economic diversity? We currently have few housing options for downsizing seniors or young families. The idea of mixing young and older, higher and lower income folks in the same housing is very popular. The disparity between median income and median home prices in town makes home ownership unattainable for our existing population, even the 30- to 60-year olds.

What form would it take?

Increasing housing density is important for affordable and attainable solutions to the town's housing needs. Housing option types should include cluster housing, appropriately scaled apartment buildings, conversion of existing larger homes into multi-family units, condos, ADUs, and micro-houses. A mix of housing types in a single development is an option: townhouses, individual homes, apartments. A combination of rental and occupant-owned housing is desirable as it addresses the diversity of financial capabilities of different populations.

Where would it be?

The village area and the corridor from I-295 through the village continuing south on Rte.24. Less desirable would be development in the rural and agricultural areas. Protecting existing open space and farmland is a priority. Identify where people want to live. Different needs for different people: walkability, easy access to I-295, open space. How to manage increased housing density in rural or agricultural areas to preserve open space.

How to make it happen?

Existing codes and regulations impact potential new housing opportunities. Set backs, frontage requirements, minimum lot size, number of dwellings per lot: these and other factors determine what can and cannot be built. Existing Town ordinances and land use regulations prohibit many of the housing options identified as potential solutions to Bowdoinham's housing situation. The Comprehensive Planning Committee

is currently working toward a 2024 comp plan as required by state law to be approved by voters in June 2024. That plan will incorporate input from the two BCDI/CPC housing conversations. Proposed changes to the town land use ordinance go first to the Planning Board, and if approved, go to the Select Board, where if approved, go to Town Meeting for a vote.

New Director of Planning and Development



In February Bowdoinham welcomed Yvette Meunier to our ranks as the new Director of Planning and Development. Yvette has spent nearly 15 years in the public sector at the state and regional level supporting agricultural development, water resource protection, to running Maine's Bottle Bill and most recently as a regional resilience coordinator for Western and Central Maine.

She is also very active in her community as the Chair of Topsham's Energy Committee and as a Trustee of the Brunswick Topsham Water District. Yvette is excited to work for a town with a strong sense of community. She understands the value of community volunteers and is looking forward to supporting our planning and development committees. Yvette comes ready to put her network and experience navigating state and federal programs to work for Bowdoinham.

When she isn't working, she enjoys overnight sea kayaking trips on the Maine Island Trail and biking around Merrymeeting Bay.

Road Maintenance

Road is responsible for about 30 miles or roads. If the Town wants to maintain a 10-year work plan, the Town should be maintaining 10 years of road per year.

The Town should raise \$300,000 to \$400,000 per year in order to pave 3 miles of roads a year. If the Town was to do borrow this funding every year, we would add \$45,000 in debt service per \$350,000 bond and pay \$100,000 in interest. This would add \$450,000 to the Town's annual debt service payment: year 1 - \$45,000, year 2 - \$90,000, year 3 - \$135,000, year 4 - \$180,000, year 5 - \$225,000, year 6 - \$270,000, year 7 - \$315,000, year 8 - \$360,000, year 9 - \$405,000, year 10+ - \$450,000.

Instead of borrowing, we're recommending that the Town raise \$350,000 per year for road maintenance. This would save the Town approximately \$100,000 in interest per bond and \$100,000 per year in the operating budget long term.

As you have most likely noticed, several of our roads are in need of repaving, as they were last paved over 10 years ago and not all of our roads have 3.25 inches of pavement. The road pavement standard is 2 inches of base pavement and 1.25 inches of surface pavement. However, in the past, Bowdoinham opted only complete the base pavement.

To address the Town's current state of roads, we have created an aggressive 8-year road plan to catch-up on our road maintenance.

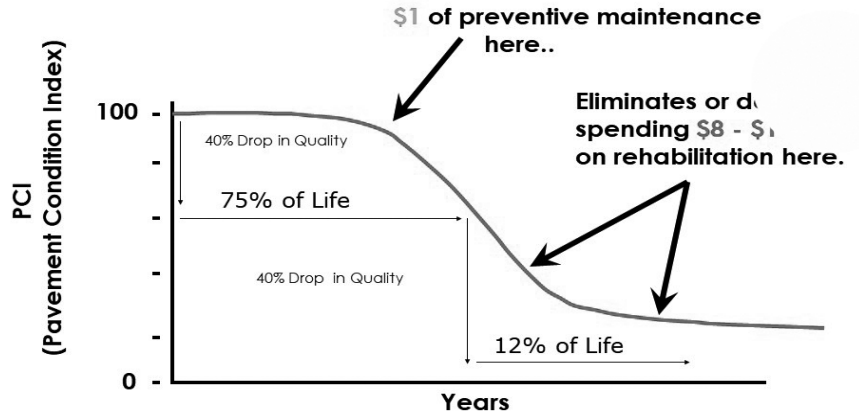
Our goal is to implement a pavement preservation road plan.

A Planned Network Strategy of Treating

Pavements in Good Condition to Maximize their Useful Life as Cost Effective as Possible. Part of this is being able to maintain our road shoulder and ditches to keep the water away from the road base. To accomplish this goal,

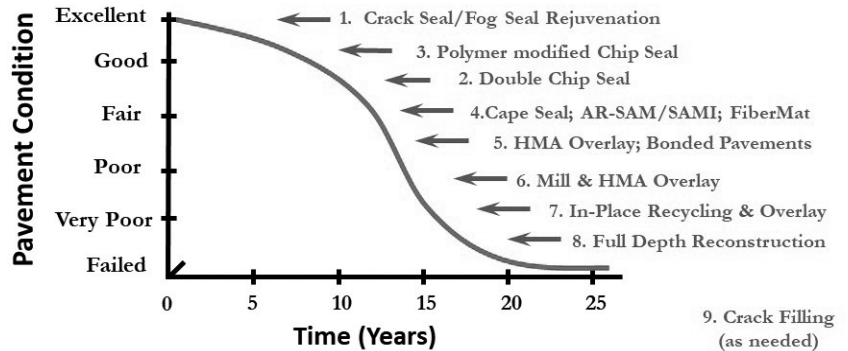
the Town should be maintaining 10 miles of shoulders and ditches per year. For this to be possible Town is proposing to purchase an excavator to clear ditchlines and regrade ditches as necessary.

Life of a Pavement



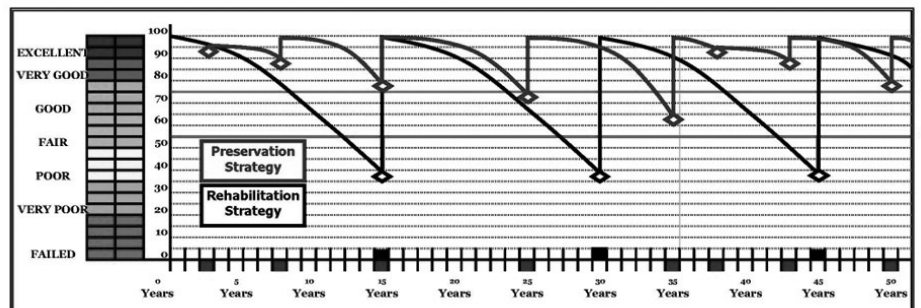
Asphalt Deterioration Curve

Applying the Right Treatment, to the Right Road, at the Right Time...



Progressive Pavement Management

Preservation vs. Rehabilitation



PRESERVATION STRATEGY:

- Years 3 & 38: Fog Seal
- Years 8 & 43: Chip Seal (Single)
- Years 15 & 50: AR Chip Seal
- Year 25: Bonded Wearing Course
- Year 35: 1-3/4" Hot Mix Overlay

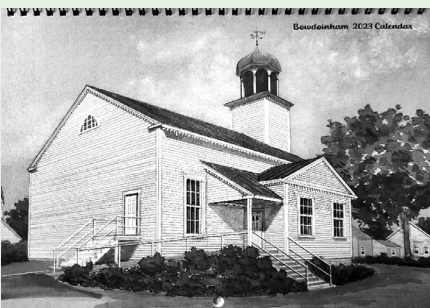
TOTAL COST/SY OVER 50 YEARS = \$28.65

REHABILITATION STRATEGY:

- Year 15: CIPR with 2" HMA Overlay
- Year 30: CIPR with 2" HMA Overlay
- Year 45: CIPR with 2" HMA Overlay

TOTAL COST/SY OVER 50 YEARS = \$48.00

Bowdoinham Calendar - 2023



The annual Bowdoinham Calendar is now on sale at the Town Office for \$10.

Funds from the sale of these calendars goes towards the repairs needed to upkeep and restore our beloved Town Hall. This year's calendar features photos, paintings & drawings of the Town Hall.

Mailbox Installation on Maine's State and State-Aid Highways

Mailbox installations are allowed within the right-of-way of Maine's state and state-aid highways. However, there are two very important conditions.

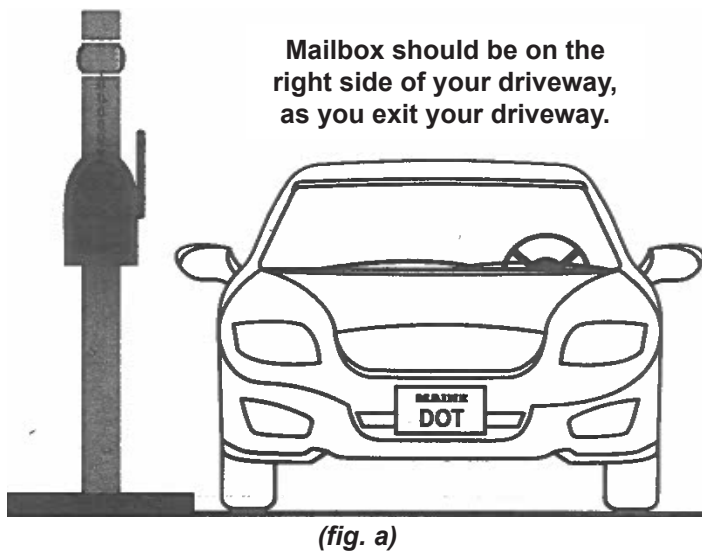
1. The mailbox must be installed in a way that:
 - ensures the mail can be delivered; and
 - doesn't create an obstacle or a safety hazard for those using or maintaining the highway.
2. The mailbox is installed entirely at the owner's risk. If the mailbox is damaged during any MaineDOT operation, including snowplowing, the property owner is not entitled to replacement or compensation. In fact, if the mailbox was not installed according to the standards outlined in the policy, the owner may be held liable for injuries or damaged that may be incurred.

Mailbox Installation Standards

Here are some details regarding mailbox height, location, offset, and post type to reduce the chances for damage.

General Location:

Whenever possible, place your mailbox after your driveway opening. This location improves its visibility, minimizes the amount of snow that comes off the plow, and improves the approach for your mail carrier.



Mailbox Support Design:

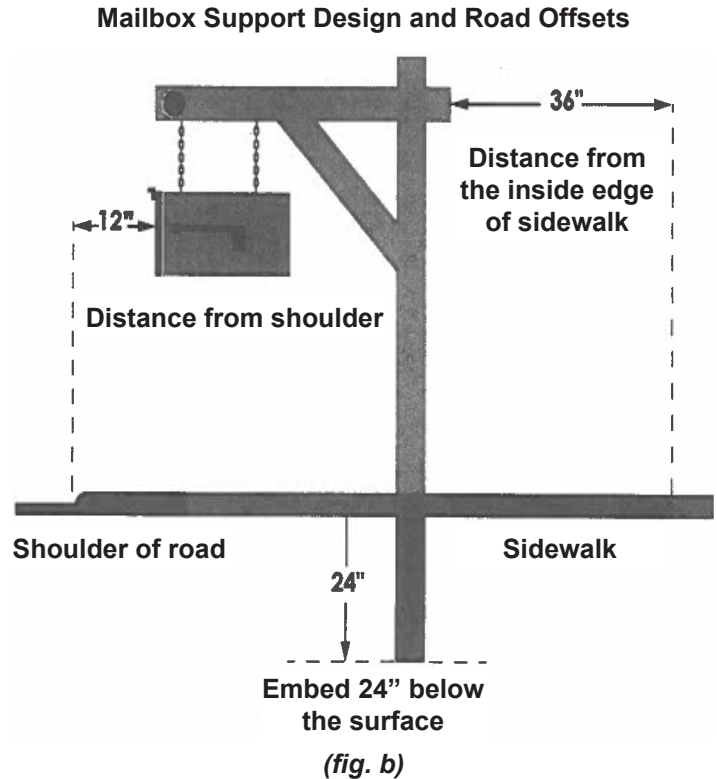
In many cases, it is best to use an extended arm post with a free-swinging suspended mailbox (fig. b). This allows snowplows to sweep near or under the box without damage, and provides easy access for your mail carrier. Place a red reflector on the arm at the point closest to the road. This will help your local snowfighter see and avoid your mailbox during winter storms.

Offsets from Roads:

Mailboxes should be set back from the edge of the shoulder, regardless of whether the shoulder is gravel or paved. In other words, the face of the mailbox should be at least one

foot back from the edge of the normally plowed surface of the highway or the face of curb (fig. b). Greater offset distances are encouraged so the mail carrier can move out of traffic and to minimize potential damage to your mailbox.

A mailbox in a sidewalk should leave at least 36 inches behind the back of the box or the post, whichever is located the furthest from the road (fig. b).



Post Size, Type, and Embedment:

Mailbox posts must be sturdy enough to hold up the mailbox in all types of weather. However, they can't be so rugged that they present a hazard to vehicles that leave the road. **If a mailbox support is struck by a vehicle, it must easily break away.** Therefore, the following types of posts are recommended:

- 4"x4" wooden posts embedded two feet into the ground (fig. c). Larger wooden posts (4"x6" or 6"x6") may be used only if the post is drilled through with an appropriate spade bit to create a shear plane (fig. d).
- One-inch to two-inch round diameter steel or aluminum pipe, or standard U-channel post embedded two feet into the ground (fig. e).

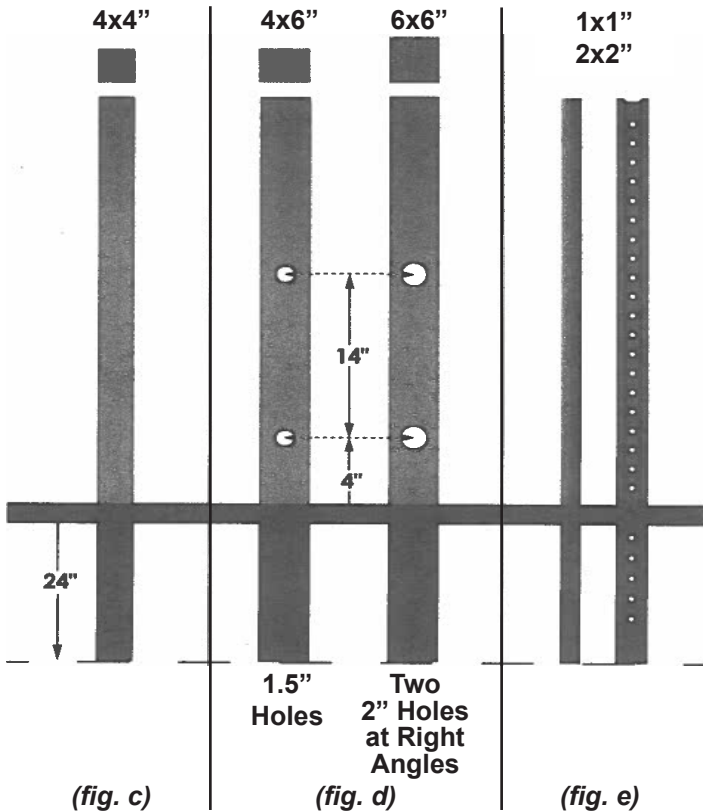
Unacceptable Mailbox Supports Include:

- anything filled with concrete,
- masonry and stone structures,
- heavy steel structures, and
- most objects that were intended for other uses (e.g., antique plows, I-beams, etc).

Mailboxes, attachments or support systems not consistent with this policy are considered **deadly fixed objects** and are in violation of Maine Law (23 MRSA § 1401-A). When MaineDOT sees this type of installation, the owner will be informed and immediate removal will be requested. If the

property owner doesn't comply with this request, MaineDOT may remove the installation and seek reimbursement from the property owner for all costs.

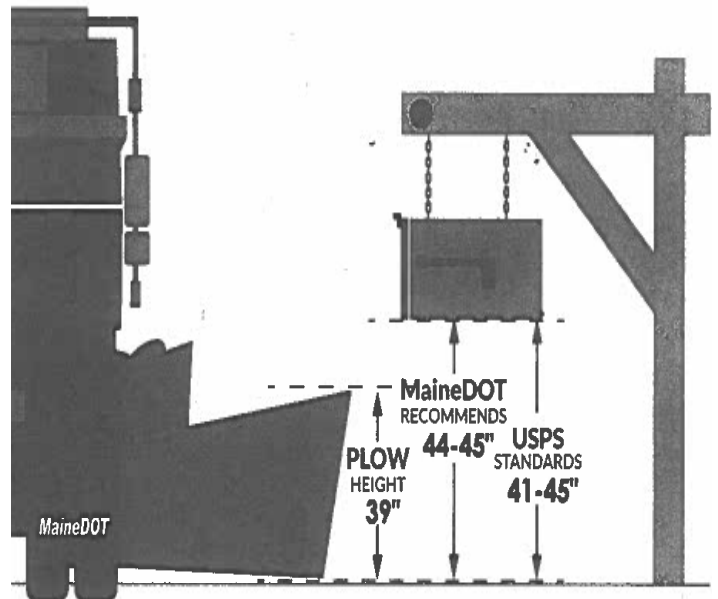
Acceptable Mailbox Supports



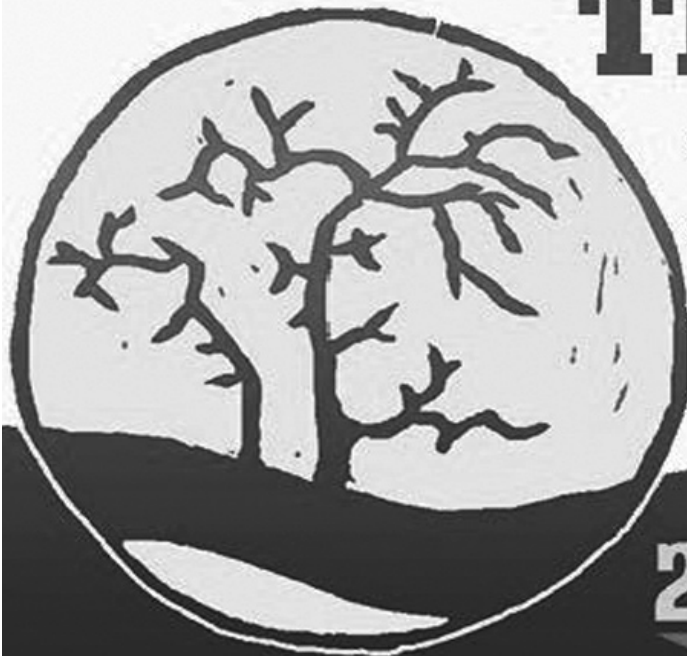
Mailbox Height:

According to USPS standards, a mailbox must be installed so the bottom of the mailbox is between 41 inches and 45 inches above the highway shoulder. MaineDOT recommends the height be closer to the 45-inch measurement to minimize the chances of being struck by the plow truck wing (fig. f).

MaineDOT recommends a height of 45 inches above the highway shoulder.



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THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

Community Calendar

March

8th *Friends of Merrymeeting Bay - My Life for the Birds & Bats 7 p.m. via Zoom*

9th *Age Friendly Bowdoinham Luncheon 11:30 a.m.*

21st *Water District Board of Trustees Meeting 6 p.m.*

29th *Ambulance Informational Meeting 6:30 p.m.*

April

1st *Edible Book Festival 6 p.m.*

13th *Age Friendly Bowdoinham Luncheon 11:30 a.m.*

17th *Town Office Closed*

18th *Water District Board of Trustees Meeting 6 p.m.*

22nd *Bulky Waste Day / Earth Day*

28-29th *BCS Annual Rummage Sale*

May

1st *Second Half of Taxes Due*

Town Board and Committee Meetings

All meetings are open to the public. For more information please visit: www.bowdoinham.com/calendar

Select Board

2nd & 4th Tuesdays of Month at 6:30pm

Planning Board

4th Thursday of Month at 6:00pm
(November will be on the 3rd Thursday)

Advisory Committee on Age Friendly Bowdoinham

2nd Monday of Month at 1:30pm

Community Development Advisory Committee

1st Tuesday of Month at 6:30pm

Comprehensive Planning Committee

2nd Tuesday of Month at 6:30pm

Cemetery Advisory Committee

1st Thursday of Month at 6:00pm

Town Hall Committee

Last Tuesday of month at 6:30pm

Town of Bowdoinham
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