



# THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

Volume 22, Issue 5

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November - December 2023

## Planning & Development Department Updates

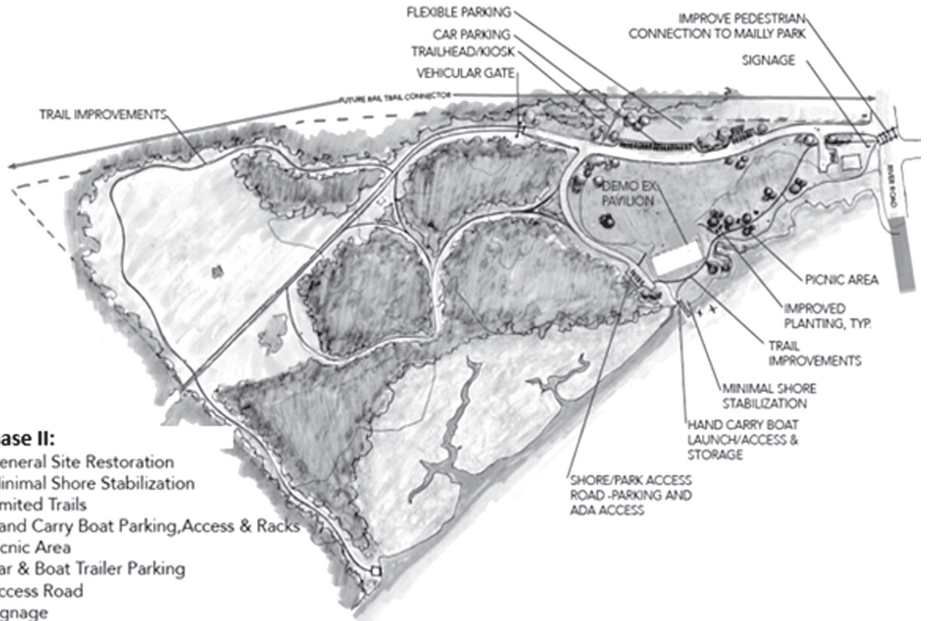
### Waterfront Redevelopment Project Update

With the wet summer, paving jobs were being pushed back which created scheduling conflicts for the Town's project. As of the end of September the boat launch was near complete except for the installation of the bollards. Further, this late into the season the ADA kayak launch will be pushed back for installation next year. The hydrant system, electrical conduits, and structures, and aggregate based have been laid. We expect the completion of the bollard, paving, loam, seeding, and mulching of the site before the end of the year.

During September we learned that the Town has been awarded a \$50,000 no-match Community Action Grant for Phase II of the new waterfront redevelopment project. Phase II includes earthwork including grubbing, filling, and grading, road and parking improvements, utility installation, stormwater management, landscaping including removal of invasive species, shoreline stabilization, and planting new native trees, and installation of pedestrian pathways. In addition, the Town is still anticipating an announcement from the State on our \$500,000 Land and Water Conservation Grant application which the town voted on at the June 2022 Town Meeting where it was approved to use TIF revenues as matching funds. Hopefully the grant request will be successful, and the large infusion of funding will help move the project forward into implementation in 2024.

### Community Resilience Partnership

With the help from the Comprehensive Plan Committee, the Town enrolled in the Community Resilience Partnership (CRP) in July of 2022. The CRP is the State's program for implementing the State's Climate Action Plan. Benefits of this program include access to grant writing assistance and to the program's biannual no-match Climate Action Grants (CAG).



#### Phase II:

- General Site Restoration
- Minimal Shore Stabilization
- Limited Trails
- Hand Carry Boat Parking, Access & Racks
- Picnic Area
- Car & Boat Trailer Parking
- Access Road
- Signage
- Crosswalk/Safety
- Landscape Planting
- Connections to Rail Trail

In the Fall of 2022, the Town was awarded \$37,991 CAG to replace 68 lighting fixtures with LEDs in the Town Office and upgrade our streetlights to LEDs. This Fall all interior lights were replaced, saving the Town an estimated \$1,041 a year in electricity savings. Additionally, more than half of the streetlights have been replaced. We are waiting to get power brought to a few new streetlight locations before that portion of the project is complete. LED upgrades to the Maily Waterfront Park and the Recreation Fields lighting will also be forthcoming with this project. Once completed, the streetlight upgrade is estimated to save \$8,041 annually in electricity costs. Additional savings will

also be realized as the Town will be acquiring these lights outright and no longer paying CMP to lease these lights.

Further, this Fall the Town was awarded a CAG for \$50,000 to supplement Phase II of the new Waterfront Park as mentioned above. To stay enrolled in the program the community must undergo a reapplication process every two years where the community designates new resiliency priorities for grant funding opportunities. Stay tuned for more information on renewing our enrollment in the Summer of 2024. And for more information on what this program is

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# THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

## Comprehensive Planning Committee

Thanks to All Who Chatted With us at Celebrate Bowdoinham.

Members of the Comprehensive Planning Committee and Housing Action Subcommittee, Dave Asmussen, Tracy Krueger, and Joanne Joy, shared progress on the Comprehensive Plan Goals and Recommendations and asked for your ideas on housing and land use at Celebrate Bowdoinham on September 17, 2023. We provided interactive opportunities. For instance, we used an old breadboard and a pound of dried lima beans to demonstrate various ideas for housing placement that could allow for open spaces for farms, recreation, beautiful views, water and animal protection like deer wintering yards, and more.

In addition, large sheets of paper were taped to the tables for people to add their input on two topics; 1) Give Us Your Land Use Ideas and 2) What are Your Housing Ideas. Here were your responses:

### Land Use Ideas

- A balance of housing with land as well as multi-family units.
- People of all incomes deserve a place to live.
- Additional rules for sub-developments are okay but NOT OKAY to have additional rules for where we can build on our own properties.
- Expand the village districts.

### Housing Ideas

- Cottage Community along with tiny or small house neighborhoods.
  - o Affordable, 1 or 2 bedrooms for both older community members and other families, front porches, and small decks.
- Focus density in the village with more flexible options.
- Outside village: More housing while protecting access to natural resources and farmland.
- Try to find a way for community people to own and live in housing units, rent to neighbors, and avoid corporate or BnBs taking over.

Additionally, three sandwich boards asked for input from community members to inform future discussions.

- o One had generic pictures of types of housing (duplex, triplex, fourplex, and cottage clusters) so community members could indicate their preferences by 'voting' with dots.

- o The second had actual photographs of homes, land, and roads/streets and asked for community members' opinions about which they liked the looks of better. This type of choice is called Visual Preference. One example of choice could be a duplex, triplex, or fourplex, could exist in a rehabbed older single family home rather than a newly constructed unit in a style not consistent with other buildings in the village.
- o The third sandwich board was very popular. It asked people to note and vote for their favorite RURAL things that they do in Bowdoinham. Some of the answers: enjoying the views, photography, hunting, walking the dog, people watching, snowmobiling, pickle ball, painting, farming, and hiking. Many others were related to the water ways including fishing and paddle boarding.

All of this input provides background for the Wednesday, October 11, 2023, Facilitated Community Forum on Land Use from 6:00-8:00 PM at the Bowdoinham Community School.

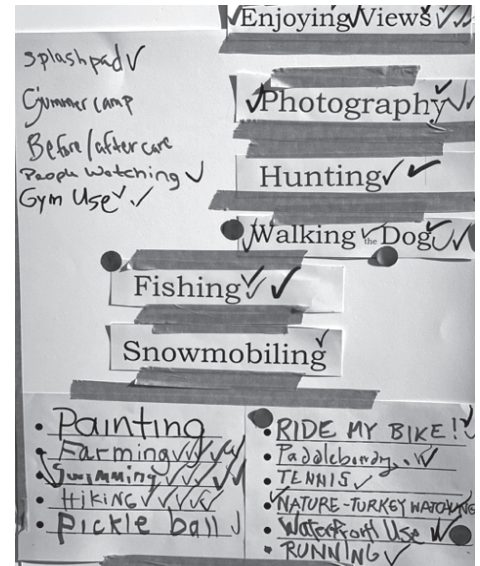
If you received this by Wednesday, November 1, 2023, you can still join us for the second Community Forum and discussion at 6:00-8:00 PM at the Bowdoinham Community School.

You may receive a survey this winter to add your thoughts and priorities as well. Stay tuned!

And...

If you are interested in housing issues, please feel free to join the Housing Action Subcommittee, either in person or by Zoom. Mike Shaughnessy and Joanne Joy are co-chairs. If you are interested in being added to the email list of meeting reminders, agendas, etc. send your email to Jason at [recreation@bowdoinham.com](mailto:recreation@bowdoinham.com). Meetings are the 1st Wednesday of each month at 6:00 in the Kendall Room at the Coombs Building.

There is still time to also join the Comprehensive Planning Committee. We want to include more perspectives and voices. CPC meetings are the second Tuesday of each month, 6:00-8:00 in the Graduates Room of the Coombs building. Yvette Meunier, Director of Planning and Development, staffs this process; her email is [planning@bowdoinham.com](mailto:planning@bowdoinham.com).



CPC Committee Members: Joanne Joy, Chair; David Asmussen, Co-Chair; Laura Arnold, Peggy Christian, Fred King, Jason Lamoreau, Jan Marks, Robert Schott, and William Stanton.

Learn more, share more, and add your voice to the Comprehensive Plan.

Joanne Joy, Chair

## Planning & Development

*continued from page 1*

funding in other communities around the state please scan code or visit: <https://tinyurl.com/m6cedd8b>.



### Energy Upgrades

Earlier this Summer the Town installed two single-zone heat pump units for the Planning & Development offices. An additional seven single-zone units will be installed this Fall throughout the Town Office and Library to provide supplemental heating and replace the use of air conditioners. The Town took advantage of an Efficiency Maine rebate to bring the costs down by 50% for a total out of pocket cost of \$24,900 for all nine units installed. If you are interested in checking them out, come on by. Further, the NexAmp solar farm in Madison, Maine the Town subscribes to is now online and the Town has begun receiving energy billing credits. We should be seeing a 15% savings from this energy supply which will further help lower energy costs.

## Town Hall Preservation

By Rachelle Tome

**B**e sure to check out the latest Town Hall video. Thanks to a grant obtained by the Bowdoinham Public Library, Rebecca Conley of Boco Video Production developed these wonderful videos. You can find them on the Town Hall Committee's page: [www.bowdoinham.com/department/town-hall-committee](http://www.bowdoinham.com/department/town-hall-committee).

The Town Hall Committee would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to those who donated items for our Silent Auction at Celebrate Bowdoinham. Local businesses and artisans generously donated 34 items and we were able to earn \$1662 from the items sold. We hope the successful bidders enjoy their winning items. We also invite everyone to begin thinking about next year's auction. Do you have a service or item you could donate? We love to hear from you!

It was great to see everyone during Celebrate. Several folks stopped by the Town Hall Committee tent to ask questions, share their support, and to check out the



structure created by Paul Baines. We invite your feedback in the days ahead and hope you'll participate in future discussions.

The Committee meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 4:30 pm in the Coombs Building.

## Celebrate Bowdoinham

**W**ith hurricane Lee heading our way for the Celebrate weekend, the Town made the call to push the main event to Sunday, September 17 with a delayed parade start in case there was a lot of debris cleanup following the storm. Thankfully, damage was limited giving the most critical staffers of Celebrate, our police, fire, EMS, and public works crews reprieve. It in fact turned out to be a beautiful day.

The events started at 11am with Merrymeeting Arts Center's 5th annual Zucchini Race at the skatepark. This year's participation was the largest to date and even drew MPBN coverage. At noon, the parade kicked off with veggies flying and ducks splashing about. Thank you to all the Bowdoinham business and organizations that joined the festivities by entering the Float Contest. This year's theme was Making a Splash in Merrymeeting Bay. First place went to the Town of Bowdoinham for their KenDucky Derby inspired float and their \$250 prize was donated to the runner up – The Bowdoinham Library's Loose Ladies Book Club.

Following the parade, Rose Tuttle sang the national anthem and Tessa Kingsley was presented with this year's Citizen of the

Year award by members of the Selectboard. Bands began to play while patrons visited the more than 35 vendors, local businesses, and organizations on display. Meanwhile, kids scrambled for coins, made crafts in the art tent, played carnival games, and jumped around in the inflatables.

As always, the community support poured into the numerous charity drives. Masonic Lodge and the Electa Chapter #2 Order of the Eastern Star hosted a tag sale to benefit the Dempsey Center and ALS research. The Silent Auction had 34 items to bid on, which raised \$1,662 to sponsor the preservation of the Old Town Hall. While a few food trucks could not make the new date, the Bowdoinham Recreation Department stepped up to host a fundraiser BBQ, which raised about \$1,000. Meanwhile, the Bowdoinham Food Pantry sold off slices from their annual pie contest raising \$780. And thank you to the Mount Ararat Seniors for staffing the kids' activities and hats off on raising \$350 at the dunk tank for your senior class trip.

The afternoon's feature event, the infamous KenDucky Derby was a hoot with Wayne Dorr calling out the play-by-play. In the evening balloon twisting and face painting entertained the kids while the music continued. Leading

up to dusk, performing artist Liza May gave a mesmerizing fire dancing performance at the gazebo before the fireworks lit up the night's sky.

Celebrate Bowdoinham was filled with fun, entertainment, amusement, and gratitude for the Town we call home. Thank you to all the volunteers who worked so hard, and to all the business and individuals who participated and contributed so generously. Thank you to all for making Celebrate Bowdoinham a success!

### Committee Members Wanted

We are looking for volunteers to join the following Committees & Boards:

- Appeals Board: [www.bowdoinham.com/board-appeals](http://www.bowdoinham.com/board-appeals)
- Solid Waste Committee: [www.bowdoinham.com/SWC](http://www.bowdoinham.com/SWC)
- Emergency Medical Services Committee: [www.bowdoinham.com/department/emergency-medical-services-committee](http://www.bowdoinham.com/department/emergency-medical-services-committee)
- Town Hall Committee: [www.bowdoinham.com/department/town-hall-committee](http://www.bowdoinham.com/department/town-hall-committee)

# THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

## Snowbirds

The snowmobile trail system in Bowdoinham is a by-product of its users...

I've often heard the phrase "it takes a village to raise a child." It wasn't until I had a daughter that I understood what that meant. A child is influenced by far more than her parents. She is equally influenced and sculpted by many more: her teachers, her friends, our friends, the list goes on. I may not want to admit it, but she likely spends about as much time with those other influencers as she does us. If I might change that phrase a little bit, it'd be "a child is raised by a village," but that doesn't have the same ring to it. Our trail system is much the same way.

The Bowdoinham Snowbirds snowmobile club might organize and maintain the trails. But its culture is a product of the entire community. It certainly wouldn't be there without the generous landowners who allow us to be guests on their property. Many of them also contribute to the maintenance of the trails. The trail system is also a product of the users, and their impact on the trails. This September, at Celebrate we heard countless encouraging stories of how the vast majority of riders are courteous to both other trail users and property owners. Unfortunately, that same morning we had an instance of the opposite - damaging ruts caused by ATVs. Fortunately, these instances are rare. The positive stories we heard are a testimony to the great culture of our trail system that stakeholders have created over time. We are all stewards of the land; we owe this to ourselves. We hope that all individuals using the trail system will continue to be courteous guests, so we may all continue to be. One of the best ways to do this is to police ourselves, to teach our children to ride with respect, to hold our friends accountable, to treat trail use as a privilege not a right, and to realize anyone's actions can affect many.



Just like anything else, the trail systems evolve, and us all with it. Houses are built, the trails get adjusted. Storms do damage, the trails get repaired. A couple bad apples make a mess, we repair the damage and attempt to improve relationships. While extremely fulfilling, being a steward takes work. Consider volunteering if you use the trails. Club meetings are held at the fire station on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 7:00pm. We also meet at the Maily Waterfront Park every Sunday at 8:00am for trail work starting in October and through the start of the riding season.

We would also like to clear up some confusion about our local trail system. The club does not own the trails, the landowners do, use of the trails is not ours to give. Landowners have given permission to the trails for winter snowmobile use only. Other activities, especially during non-winter months, should be discussed directly with the individual owners of each property.

Please help us keep one of the features that makes Bowdoinham special.

Paul Denis, President,  
Bowdoinham Snowbirds

### State of Maine NOTICE OF ELECTION

Tuesday

November 7, 2023

Municipal Election & State Election  
Municipality: BOWDOINHAM Voting

District: 1-1

Voting Place Name: Bowdoinham  
Community School

Voting Place Location: 23 Cemetery Rd,  
Bowdoinham

Polls Open at 8:00 A.M.

Polls Close at 8:00 P.M.

Question on ballot:

Article II:

Two open positions for the  
Town's Select Board Members.

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# Bowdoinham Holiday Festival

~First 2 weekends in December~

## Santa Comes to Town

Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 5:30 pm

Bowdoinham Fire Station, 57 Post Rd.

*After a short ride around the village, the Fire Department will be bringing Santa to the Fire Station at 6pm to light the Christmas Tree and to sing our favorite carols.*

## Bowdoinham Guild of Artisans

### Show & Sale (2 locations & 2 weekends)

Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Sat. & Sun. December 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Sat. & Sun. December 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Merrymeeting Hall & Cathance River Gallery

*Top quality fine arts including painting, encaustic, jewelry, collage, fiber arts, wood-working, pottery, metal-work, stained glass, leather work, blown and fused glass, and book art from library volunteers.*

## Merrymeeting Arts Center

### Holiday Art Fair (2 weekends)

Sat. & Sun. December 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Sat. & Sun. December 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Merrymeeting Arts Center, 9 Main St.

*A variety of art will be on display and for sale from local artists.*



## Holiday Wreath Workshop

Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Merrymeeting Arts Center's Studio, 6 Main St

*Come make your own Balsam wreath, \$20 for small and \$25 for a large. Supplies and instruction included. Proceeds benefit the Library.*

## Cookie Decorating Party

Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Bowdoinham Food Pantry, 9 Main St.

*Join the Bowdoinham Food Pantry at a FREE cookie decorating party! Bring your holiday spirit and they will provide the cookies, frosting, bobbles, and a festive place to decorate.*

## Bowdoinham Community School

### Holiday Craft Fair

Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Bowdoinham Community School, 23 Cemetery Rd.

*Something for everyone on your list; local crafts, a bookfair, and baked items, food, and crafts made by the children to benefit the school. Donations for the Food Pantry will be collected as well.*

## Family Holiday Goodies Bake Off

Mon. December 4<sup>th</sup> - Wed. December 6<sup>th</sup>

Bowdoinham Town Office, 15 School Main St.

*Drop off your favorite family holiday goodies for a chance to win! Top 3 recipes selected by staff will be shared in the newsletter & get a Hannaford giftcard.*

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

## Bowdoinham Public Library

### Computer Classes

The library is pleased to continue offering in-person, free computer classes at the Coombs Municipal Building each month, partnering with folks at the National Digital Equity Center. Five brave Bowdoinhammers spent three afternoons in September learning to use their Apple iPads. In November let's tackle something that all computer users need to know about: Fraud and Scams! On November 9th the library will be hosting another class "Identifying Frauds and Scams". Learn about different types of internet fraud and scams, the dos and don'ts of protecting yourself online and what to do if you have experienced online fraud or abuse. No devices are required; just bring yourself. Class will be in the Kendall Room starting at 10 AM. Please preregister online at [NationalDigitalEquityCenter.org](http://NationalDigitalEquityCenter.org) ("Onsite class catalog" is where you can find the Bowdoinham Library classes) or stop in at the library and we'll help you register. All classes are free to Maine residents. First time students will need to complete a one-time registration form.

### Holiday Wreaths and Treasures from the Library Attic

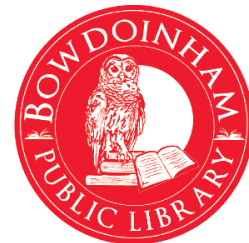
Get a jump on the holiday decorating, support your local library, and get the joy of making something with your own hands. Drop in to the Merrymeeting Arts Center Studio on Saturday, December 2, anytime between 9am and 3pm and we will help you make your own evergreen wreath. We

will have volunteers on hand to help you. We have ribbons and decorations to add as well. \$25 for a large wreath and \$20 for a small.

For the 10th year in a row, library volunteers will be selling their hand-crafted gifts and decorations made from discarded books. We call it "Treasures from the Library Attic" and it has become a beloved component of the Bowdoinham Artisan Guild Sale each December. This year find us inside Merrymeeting Hall on December 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 9th and 10th. We will have ornaments, shadow box art, framed

pieces and lots of garlands- all made from book pages, book covers or old maps.

New books are arriving every week. Whether in print, audio books or eBooks delivered right to your device- when the weather gets cold and dreary, please remember that your Bowdoinham Public Library holds the key to all sorts of adventures. Who knows where it can take you?



## *Bowdoinham Public Library* **Make-Your-Own Wreath Workshop**



\$20 Small  
\$25 Large

### **HOLIDAY NEEDS/WANTS**

Older folks have different needs and wants from kids and teens and adults. Holiday presents can be chosen to meet their very specific situation. Crampons for the ice? A walking sticks? Handwarmers? Assisting devices if hands are becoming arthritic or reading is getting more difficult. Or cans of sand ready to spread? Flashlight batteries? OR a gift card or personalized gift card - i.e. offering drives to the market, snow shoveling, cleaning. And sometimes there is a perfect gift for a loss - a backscratcher is a true gift to the newly alone.

*Dec. 2, 2023, Drop In, 9am-3pm*  
*Merrymeeting Arts Studio*  
*9 Main Street, Bowdoinham*



## Merrymeeting Arts Center

Jen Kelley

### CELEBRATE BOWDOINHAM'S ZUCCHINI RACE

What sport does the zucchini excel at? SQUASH!

No matter how you slice, dice or bake it, the Zucchini Race was a smashing success! We had a record number of creative participants. We raced a sloth, Barbie and Ken, ducks, gladiators, sharks, and many more!



And the winners are...

- Best Decorated: Astrid Hayward
- Under 14" winner: Julet Crosman
- Over 14" winner: Perigin Schlaquin
- Skateboard winner: Giden Lopez
- Grand Champion: Julet Crosman

Thank you to our volunteers: Jan Marks, Ashley West, Jo Werther, Jen Kelley, Lisa Shannon, Steve Shannon and Sophie Shannon. Also, thanks to Earl Bigalow for lending us the audio equipment.

### SINK AND SWIM!

Our pottery studio is sporting a brand new sink! This much needed upgrade wouldn't have been possible without the herculean efforts of Zachary Fields (pottery studio manager), Ashley West (president of MAC board), Peggy Christian (plumber extraordinaire) and Matt Ahlers (carpenter life-saver). And a special shout-out to The Bowdoinham Country Store for allowing us to salvage their old sink. This will make a huge difference and we can't thank you enough!



### COMING UP:

MAC is heading into a busy holiday season with exciting events on the horizon!

Bowdoinham Public Library Exhibit and fundraiser – NOV 3rd – 25th

MAC Craft Fair – Returning for TWO weekends. DEC 2 & 3 and DEC 9 & 10.

Check out our website for more information at [merrymeetingartscenter.org](http://merrymeetingartscenter.org)

### ART FOR EVERYONE

could mean YOU!

Looking for ways to give back? We're looking for a Volunteer Coordinator for 2024 to help take MAC to the next level. In order to grow, we're looking for an organized individual to help us coordinate our wonderful volunteers when we need extra hands at the gallery and/or events. This is a new position where we estimate a time commitment of a few hours a month. MAC is a volunteer run organization dedicated to developing community by providing a place where everyone can enjoy and participate in the arts. If you're interested in learning more, please email: [merrymeetingartscenter@gmail.org](mailto:merrymeetingartscenter@gmail.org).



The Heron Fund is our scholarship fund for all MAC organized studio programs and events. It 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 remove financial barriers for program participation, and ensure Art for Everyone!

Oh, and it's not too late for that 2023 tax write-off.

### Help – Clogged Culverts

As we prepare for winter, please keep your culverts in mind! Clogged culverts can result in flooding or even a road collapse! Please do not shovel snow or deposit yard trimmings and other debris that would disrupt the flow of water or otherwise obstruct the way. When culverts are clogged water gets redirected, eroding the surrounding structures, like roads or driveways, eventually causing a collapse. Ensuring culverts are clear of snow and debris will prevent flooding and enable Public Works to direct resources to the clearing of roadways and other priority maintenance activities during weather related operations. If a drain is still clogged after clearing surface debris or if you have questions or concerns about a culvert near your property, please contact Public Works at (207) 666-3503 or [pworks@bowdoinham.com](mailto:pworks@bowdoinham.com)



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**Excavation - Road Work - Land Management**

## Cemetery News

By Elaine Diaz

**G**ood news: We, the committee with about 30 community volunteers cleaned over 100 stones in the Village Burying Ground in July, August and September! The bad news: During a windy storm in late August, a huge tree limb fell, breaking two large marble stones that we had just cleaned! So sad to see them, all white and shiny, but broken. But that's the way it goes with cemetery work, an ongoing uphill job to care for them. And if it weren't for the steady involvement of volunteers and keepers, their willingness and cheeriness, and meeting new people all the time who care about this work as much as I do, I for one, might give up.

However, we did accomplish a lot in the Village Burying Ground. Again, we thank Tobey Frizzle and the Public Works crew for bringing us supplies, their help, for the quick removal of that tree limb, and the neat appearance of the cemetery. Nicole Briand, the Town Manager is already planning additional tree and limb removal with Tide Water Tree. We had hoped to do an October Cleanup in the Brown Cemetery, but due to time and health constraints, Susan Tuttle, the Keeper has decided to defer that to Spring.

Pine Tree Engineering has finished the Stage 1 plan for the V.B.G. drainage problem on the West (Ridge Road) end, to hopefully be completed by Fall. Stage 2 involves stabilizing the South bank toward the Sampson Brook. Nicole is pursuing a possible grant to help with the cost.

Linda Temple, Tobey Frizzle and Nicole Briand met with Jason Desrosier and completed the agreement to use his driveway and continue it as a Right of Way to the Temple Randall Cemetery. In exchange Public Works will improve his drive and continue the ROW to the Cemetery.

The Booker Road Plot GR 67, which was listed as TBF (to be found) has been located. Jack Ruby took his neighbor Clint Cote to the site recently. It is situated on a "path" to the North off the Booker Road, "near the foundations of the old house and barn." Clint says it consists of a low rock border, and standing unmarked field stones. He said he has passed near it many times while hunting, without recognizing what it was. Jack, a mushroom forager was aware that it was a burial plot. These two men live just over the line in Bowdoin, but in their

youth (pre 1995) were all over that area. It is just east of northbound 295, definitely in Bowdoinham and on property owned by the Mendalls. Clint will be taking them there.

Another find! Remember that lonesome Nathaniel Millay stone, leaning against a tree in the woods off the Millay Road? Well, after the September Stone Cleaning, Linda insisted that we locate the Capt. Jeremiah Millay stone, which is on the V.B.G. map. We did and found a beautiful monument with Nathaniel Millay's name on it. There is plenty of room to place it there and after some repairs to the stone bottom, and making a base for it, Tobey and crew will be doing that.

Again, hunters, fishers, and foragers, please continue to keep a lookout for little burial plots in the woods and fields, as we have a few more to find, as follows: GR 66 the Hatch Stones. Two loose stones with Hatch names on them, probably no longer together, last seen on the east side of the Carding Machine Road, just north of the Maxwell Family Plot. GR 64 Methodist Church Burying Ground. Probably in the area behind the first house on the east side of the Carding Machine Road, just north of the junction with route 24. GR 61 Libby Plot. Might be on the East bank of the Abby River in the Densmore Falls area. And some other "known of or heard of" plots, which were also documented in some notes by Henry Lamoreau in the early 70's, recently found by Frank Connors. Gr 31 Hackett Plot. "In the woods behind Linwood Hackett's saw mill." GR 82 Goddard's Point Plot. On Goddard creek, just above where it enters the Cathance River. Forrest Douglass told Henry that that area was owned by Liz Gordon. He had no idea where the name Goddard came from, but that is the name of the Creek on the 1976 map. The creek is not named on the 1858 map, and there are no Goddards or Gordons listed as homeowners on that map which does list them at that time. The location is about due south of Brent Zachau's place on Brown's point Road and due west of Joanne Fearday's home on the Wildes Road. GR 83. Stones near the water in the State Wildlife preserve, end of Wildes Road. "An early site, possibly Indian." The story from Keith Wildes was that the site "was being dug into by several young men, when one of them had his leg broken ending that

investigation." Several people have noticed those stones. It would be nice to get the site marked.

The last BCAC meeting of the year was on October 12. Nina and Peter Mendall will be away, so we will not meet in November or December. Next meeting will be January 4th at 4 PM. For any questions or concerns regarding the cemeteries during that time, please call Elaine Diaz at 666-9255 or email at [elainediazhome@gmail.com](mailto:elainediazhome@gmail.com). Or contact Tina Magno or Tobey Frizzle at the town office. Happy Holidays!

## Elections and Voting

### Upcoming elections:

- November 7, 2023 - State Referendum Election and Select Board Member Nomination

### Where/when do I vote?

All Bowdoinham residents vote at the Bowdoinham Community School, 23 Cemetery Road. The polls are open at 8:00 AM and close at 8:00 PM.

If you choose to vote absentee, you may pick up your ballots at Town Office, up to 30 days before any election. The last day to pick up absentee ballots is always close of business on the 5th day before the election (per State law).

### Absentee Voting

Absentee ballots are available approximately 30 days before each election (Title 21-A Sec. 753). There are three ways to request ballots:

- Stop by the Town Clerk's Office during regular business hours to pick up your ballots;
- Call the Town Clerk (666-5531) to request that ballots be mailed to you; or
- Use the following link to electronically request that ballots be mailed to you (only if there is a State of Maine election)
- <https://apps.web.maine.gov/cgi-bin/online/absenteeballot/index.pl>

Per State Statute (Title 21-A Sec. 753-B.2), the last day to request absentee ballots is 5. days before any election. Absentee ballots must be received by **8 PM on election day** in order to be counted (Title 21-A Sec. 755). Please plan accordingly!



## Tessa Kingsley

*Citizen of the Year*

A community is much like a garden. A bountiful garden often requires care and tending much like a community. With Bowdoinham, many of the people that help make this place thrive are volunteers. Whether it's a healthy school, a vibrant arts scene, or safe neighborhoods, people giving their time freely often plays a major role in developing the attributes of a great community. Bowdoinham is just such a place. One of our local treasures that has given so much to our community and helped it thrive is Tessa Kingsley. That is why this year we are honoring her commitment

to our community by recognizing her as Bowdoinham's Citizen of the Year.

Raising three wonderful children is no small feat by itself. She and Rodney have done just that with Sterling, Royal, and Molly. In addition, Tess has used her boundless energy, amazing skills, and wonderful creativity to make Bowdoinham just that much more special.

She has given so much to the community over the years in so many ways. She has served Bowdoinham from:

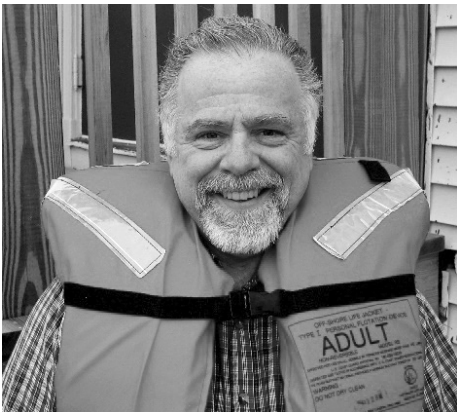
- Being a volunteer in the schools,

- To sewing costumes for a whole range of activities including the Zigurat Theater.
- To serving as the library's volunteer coordinator,
- To creating an epic smelt parade,
- And finally, to most recently, her leadership role in the Merrymeeting Arts Center.

Tess has been a driving force behind the Merrymeeting Arts Center. She has spent countless hours making sure everyone has access to art. Some of her efforts have included making sure 200 art kits have been provided to the school before every break. She has also spent almost every Sunday at Merrymeeting Arts Center assisting community members with the Art Lab program.

Tess is retiring from the Arts Center and is now going to use her talents at the Mount Ararat Middle School. She is still very much serving our community in this new place. Her contribution is just shifting to a new place. We truly thank her for everything she has done and continues to do for Bowdoinham.

## John McMullen



John served Bowdoinham as Postmaster before retiring from the US Postal Service. He loved Bowdoinham so much he and his wife Carol moved here. Mail wasn't John's only passion, he loved boating, making Merrymeeting Bay the perfect spot for them.

John served as a member of the US Coast Guard Auxiliary and US Power Squadron, instructing safe boating courses and marine navigation. In 2006 John applied for and was appointed Bowdoinham's Harbor Master where he has served the community faithfully for 17 years. John's passion for this town, the bay, and the safety of everyone on the water will be missed. We are grateful for his commitment and service and wish him and his wife fair winds and following seas as they head out towards their next adventure.

We want to say thank you to John McMullen our beloved Harbor Master as he once again retires from yet another career. After much consideration this September John retired as Harbor Master. His last day of service was September 30th.

## Holiday Shopping at the Town Office

Are you wondering what to give those loved ones from away or your favorite hometown enthusiast? Look no further than your own Town Office. We have a variety of Bowdoinham merchandise on sale: camp mugs, collector plates, cookbooks, totes, hats, t-shirts, calendars and more. There are even some Hammy Family pin sets left over from Celebrate. Come visit us during regular business hours and view our display.



## LET ME INTRODUCE MYSELF...

I'm originally from Maine and have **loved living in Bowdoinham** for the past seven years. I am proud to be part of such a **vibrant and caring community**, and I'm happy to be your real estate resource!

**Reach out any time!**



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## Bowdoinham Food Pantry

*Jenn Stonebraker, Director*

**G**reetings as the pantry heads into our busiest season! We anticipate record numbers of neighbors needing our support in the coming months. As we plan for the holiday season, we want to extend our gratitude for our community - because of your support we are able to meet the ever rising need with compassion, dignity and a whole lot of love!



### Our upcoming events:

- Saturday, November 18th: Thanksgiving Market Food Drive & Advent Calendar Launch at the Bowdoinham Farmers' Thanksgiving Market, Maily Waterfront Park. Join us in collecting items for Thanksgiving! Think about your "must-haves" for the holiday - cream, sour cream, butter, olive oil, kosher salt, pickles, olives, pecans, molasses, brown sugar.
- Saturday, December 2nd 10am-2pm: Free Cookie Decorating Party at Pantry, 9 Main St Join us for a FREE cookie decorating party! Bring your holiday spirit and we will provide the cookies, frosting, bobbles, and a festive place to decorate.
- Saturday, December 16th - Solstice Market Food Drive at the Bowdoinham Farmers' Market Solstice Market - Location TBD. Join us in collecting items to make the holidays special for our neighbors. Bring

your donation to the Market or take one of our 'Giving Tree' tags during the event (many of the items can be found right at the Market!)

As always, we are open for in person shopping every **Wednesday from 4-6PM** at 9 Main Street. No income verification required!

Donations can be made in person at 9 Main Street Wednesdays between 10-3:30 or at our drop boxes at the USPS and Bowdoinham Country Store (non-perishables only at these two locations, please). Donations can be mailed to 9 Main Street, Suite C, Bowdoinham, Maine 04008 or accepted online at [bowdoinhamfoodpantry.org](http://bowdoinhamfoodpantry.org).

### WISHLIST:

Snacks for the Falcon Market (individual packages are best)

- Granola bars
- Pretzels
- Popcorn
- Dried fruit
- Trail mix
- Cured beef/pork

## Morning Jo

*Jo Werther*

### Ready or Not, Here They Come.

The holidays. Holy-days for most of us. But for some of us, especially if we are stressed out from the cumulative effects of our own life challenges, they can be hellish days. These are hard times for many people. Personally, politically, locally, and globally, pretty much everyone is feeling worn out.

### Ho, Ho, Ho! Harrumph.

This season of celebration, so fraught with memories, can feel mixed for a lot of us. And to make matters worse, most people who struggle at this time of year carry the added burden of believing they're supposed to feel some other way. They tend to suffer in silence, which only adds to their feelings of sadness and isolation.

### "Just Say No to Forced Jolly-ness."

Whatever holidays you grew up with, however your family celebrated them, and whether your memories are happy or not, this is the season of "forced jolly-ness." Images of togetherness, happiness, and peace are projected, larger than life, all around us. Still, despite expectations to the contrary, it really is okay if you're not feeling it.



### Presence is the Best Present.

Whether you're struggling in this season or wanting to support someone else who is, it's all about how to "be there" for yourself, for others, or both. Your presence is the very best gift you can give. The more present you are, the more you give permission to others to do the same.

### Honor All of Your Feelings.

You have a right to all of your feelings. The trick is to balance the hard ones with

the here-and-now pleasant ones that might surprise you if you're not trying so hard to push the other ones away.

### Be There... For Yourself and for Others.

Let your family and friends know how you're doing. Reach out to anyone you think may be struggling. As always, remember to breathe.

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

## Guild of Artisans Holiday Show and Sale

The Bowdoinham Guild of Artisans will be hosting its annual Holiday Show and Sale again this year, but it will be at a new venue with an additional annex in order to accommodate all the member artisans. Both floors of Merrymeeting Hall along with the Cathance River Gallery across Main Street will be filled with artisans displaying works such as pottery, jewelry, woodworking, stained and blown glass, paintings, fine art photographs, encaustic art, metal works, and fiber arts such as clothing, scarves, corded bowls, quilts, and woolen mittens. Kay Ahlers will be on hand with her whimsical “fascinators.” The popular Bowdoinham Public Library booth will have “book arts” available such as tree ornaments and blank notebooks/journals. There will be many gift items that are affordably priced as well as more expensive fine art objects.

“Our Guild has expanded its membership once again this year and our regular artisans have been working hard to expand their offerings, so there will be plenty of new things to see,” says Lynn Sternfels, BGA President. “We are happy to be in Merrymeeting Hall where there will be enough room to offer a memorable opening reception.”

New member Penny Hartwell adds, “I’m excited to join this eclectic and creative group. I’ve enjoyed coming to the show in years past

## Community Brunch



A committee is forming to revive the first-Sunday-of-the-month community brunch, starting January 2024. If any of the previous crew would like to re-volunteer, or if you’re new to the brunches and you’re interested in helping out (including planning, cooking, serving, setup, prep) write to Linda Jariz at [ljjariz123@gmail.com](mailto:ljjariz123@gmail.com), or George Oliver at [golivergo5@gmail.com](mailto:golivergo5@gmail.com), or Harriet van Vleck at [harriet.vanvleck@gmail.com](mailto:harriet.vanvleck@gmail.com).

Look for more announcements on Bowdoinham Friends and Family in December.

and have been impressed by the diversity and workmanship produced by this group of artisans.”

The event begins on Friday, December 1 with an opening reception at Merrymeeting Hall from 6-8. Food and drinks will be on hand for the opening event. The show continues on Sat., Dec. 2 from 10-3, Sunday Dec. 3 from 10-3, Friday, Dec. 8 from 6-8, and closes on Sat. Dec. 9 from 10-3. Please come join us.

Want to learn more about the artists and the event? [www.bowdoinhamartisans.com](http://www.bowdoinhamartisans.com).

## Bowdoinham Family Holiday Goodies Bake Off



With the holidays closing in many of us will be dusting off those famous family recipes we bake each year with loving pride for our family and friends. You know the ones I am talking about your Great Aunt Sophie’s Christmas cookies or Grammy’s famous peanut butter fudge. This year Bowdoinham will be having a Family Holiday Goodies Bake Off.

To participate, bring a plate of your famous family recipe to the Town Office along with the recipe between December 4-6. Items will be tasted and judged by town employees from all departments and winners will be announced Friday, December 8th on both the Town website and Facebook page. The top three favorites will receive a \$10 Hannaford gift card as well as have their picture and recipes posted in the January-February Newsletter.

## Fire Department Pie Sale

Bowdoinham Fire Department is hosting their annual pie sale fundraiser on Tuesday, November 21. Doors open at 8AM and sales will continue until we sell out. Pies can be dropped off starting Monday 11/20 from 6:30PM to 8PM or on Tuesday 11/21 starting at 7AM.



Pies are \$10 each and we will accept cash or checks. We cannot set aside pies or pre-order pies. For more information watch for upcoming posts on Bowdoinham Friends and Family’s Facebook page. Or you can contact Ken Chase at 207-417-0965 with any questions.

Thanks for your continued support and have a great holiday season.

## The Giving Tree

The giving season is quickly approaching, and we will be starting preparations here at the Town Office.

If you would like to help bring some holiday cheer to our fellow residents all you need to do is choose a gift tag from the giving tree starting November 28th. The gift tags will have all the pertinent information that is needed. We ask that you bring the unwrapped gift (along with the gift tag attached) back to the Town Office by Monday, December 17th.

The purpose of this tree is to help any Bowdoinham Family member who may be in need this time of year. Please know that the name(s) are kept strictly confidential. If you have any questions or know someone who may need help this season, please call Tina at the Town Office at 666-5531.

PLEASE NOTE: This holiday season we would like to help out some of our elderly residents. We will be collecting hats, mittens, scarves, gloves, blankets, puzzles, books, cards, and printed word games. If you know anyone in need, please let us know.

**BOWDOINHAM  
GUILD OF ARTISANS**

**2023 HOLIDAY SALE**

Merrymeeting Hall  
& Cathance River Gallery

Main street, Bowdoinham,

**Dec. 1 6-8pm**

**Dec. 2 10-3pm**

**Dec. 3 10-3pm**

**Dec. 8 6-8pm**

**Dec. 9 10-3pm**

<https://www.bowdoinhamartisans.com>

## Cathance Fitness Center

Cathance Fitness Center is located at 1201 Main St. Bowdoin, Maine. This route 125 address is the old Bowdoin Elementary School.



Create your memberships and handle payment information on our newest website: [CathanceFitness.com](http://CathanceFitness.com).

- We are excited to bring you a way to sign-up from home. *Please notice the links across the top to help you with membership choices as well as class information.*
- Scroll down to the gallery to see photos of the three-room facility.
- **Before re-opening**, we had many pieces re-padded & re-covered. We also fixed

up the Smith Press, Rowing Machine and replaced the Stationary Bike with a new one. You will even notice some helpful posters on the walls.

**Sign up tip:** After digitally signing your membership waivers, click on “memberships” to add it to the cart. **Note:** We can reactivate your old cards!

**Class overview, offered right here in your neighborhood!** **Zumba Gold:** Build your aerobic strength through a fun, low-impact dance workout. **Zumba Gold Toning:** Through dynamic lightweight resistance training and dance moves, this class helps participants build muscle strength, increase bone density and improve mobility, posture and coordination. Weights are provided by the instructor.

**Silver Sneakers** details in Sept/Oct newsletter. **All class contact information is on the website above.**



## Ice & Smelt Festival

We are very excited to bring to you The Ice & Smelt Festival again this winter! This year Ice & Smelt is happening over the weekend of February 2nd, 3rd and 4th! We have events that are going to be located throughout town, indoors and outdoors, with the goal of getting you and your family active for a safe winter festival!

There will be a host of programs sponsored by the Merrymeeting Arts Center, Bowdoinham Public Library, and the Recreation Department!

**Sneak Peak of planned activities so far:**

**The Recreation Department** is offering ice skating at our skating rink at the Recreation Fields on Ridge Road, and sledding at the hill in the fields near the school. There will be

ice skates and cross-country skis available at the Town Office to borrow. We will also be hosting our first Ice & Smelt indoor Cornhole Tournament. Friday night, February 2nd will be Bowdoinham Recreation Night at the Maine Celtics home basketball game. We will also be hosting a snowshoe story walk all weekend at the recreation fields for all ages. Snowshoes will be available to borrow. AND, the Bowdoinham Snowbirds will once again be hosting their amazing sledding event on Dingley Road.

**The Bowdoinham Library** is co-sponsoring alongside Community Plate a story telling and dinner event that they are calling “Fish Tales” held at Merrymeeting Hall on Saturday, February 3rd.

## Dog Licenses

**Do I need to register my dog?**

Maine State law requires that any dog six (6) months of age or older that spends more than 10 days within the State must be licensed even if the dog is licensed in another state. Dog owners must obtain the annual license from the Town Clerk's office in the town where the dog is kept by between October 15th and December 31st of each year.

**What are the fees?**

The fee to license a dog is \$11.00 if the dog is capable of producing young, or \$6.00 if the dog has been spayed or neutered.

PLEASE NOTE: Dogs licensed after January 31st of any year are charged the annual fee PLUS an additional \$25.00 late fee. The late fee is mandated by State Law and may not be waived for any reason.

\*\*When licensing your dog, current rabies information must be presented if not already on file in the Town Clerk's Office. Please provide new rabies information if your dog has been immunized since the last time you registered him/her. If your dog has been spayed or neutered, please provide the Clerk with a veterinarian's certificate of surgery.\*\*

Any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Town Clerk, Tina Magno at 207-666-5531, ext. 101.

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## Second Baptist Church

The Second Baptist Church of Bowdoinham, celebrating 203 years in Bowdoinham, continues our mission to bring the Truth and Love of God into our community and world through the lives of committed and growing Followers of Jesus Christ.

The church celebrated Pastor John Ross who retired in June. He served the Bowdoinham Second Baptist Church since 2014 including providing online services during the height of the pandemic. We thank him for his service to our church and the town and wish John and his wife Joan God's blessings in retirement.

Summer services welcomed a variety of guest pastors: Keith Garwick, Hayden Woods, Bill Stone, Teen Challenge Maine, Mike Whitney, John Schanck, and Phil Ingle.

The Second Baptist Church has called Rev. Dr. David R. Clark to be their Interim Pastor. "Pastor Dave" is a retired American Baptist pastor, having served seven churches, five of those in Maine (Hollis, Nobleboro, Ogunquit, Auburn, and Otisfield). He and his wife Wandah live in Auburn.

Pastor Clark grew up in Massachusetts, and earned degrees from Gordon College (Wenham MA), Trinity Evangelical Divinity School (Deerfield, IL) and Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary (South Hamilton, MA). He was ordained in 1978. His ministry passion is to preach and teach the Word of God, and to help people to grow in their relationship with Jesus. His interests include rooting for all Boston sports teams, exploring the coast of Maine, and listening to classical music.



Wandah Clark grew up on the West Coast and earned a Certificate in Church Ministry and Management (North Park University, Chicago IL), and is a Certified Master Gardener (UMaine Cooperative Extension). Her interests include gardening, fiber arts, and technology.

The Clarks will serve Second Baptist while the church seeks a new settled pastor.

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

In a world filled with noise and distractions, we invite you to find solace in the serenity of our church service. Let your spirit be uplifted and your heart find peace.

- Worship Service at 10:00 AM on Sunday
- Communion is held on the first Sunday of the month

- A potluck church luncheon is held after service on the third Sunday of the month
- Midweek Prayer and Bible study at 6:30 PM on Wednesdays
- Men's Breakfast at 7:00 AM on Saturdays
- Women's Bible study at 9:00 AM on Sundays
- Also, AA Meetings are held each Monday and Thursday evening at 7:00 PM

### Scheduled Christmas Events in December:

- Advent Sunday services at 10:00 AM.
- Free Christmas Organ Concert on 12/10/23 featuring Ryan Sweet at 4:00 PM.

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

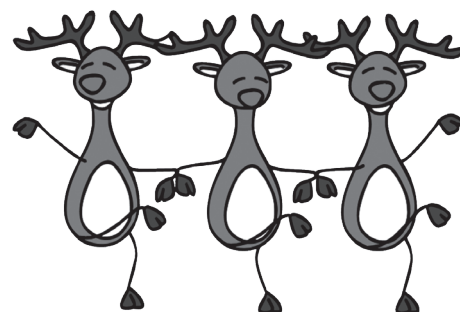
## Merrymeeting Dance Alinement

Merrymeeting Dance Alinement's weekly line dance sessions continue through the end of the year. **Time:** Tuesdays from 5:30-7:30. **Venue:** Merrymeeting Hall, 2nd Floor, 27 Main Street, Bowdoinham village center.

*On the first Tuesday of the month (November 7 and December 5) from 5:30 to 6:00, there will be informal instruction for absolute beginners.*

All ages and skills welcome, including moose; all styles of music played. Sessions are free. Free snacks, too. Come dance, come watch. Come and go as you wish.

For more information or to get on the weekly reminder list, email George Oliver at [golivergo5@gmail.com](mailto:golivergo5@gmail.com)



## Heating Assistance

Winter is right around the corner and the heating assistance program needs your help. 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.

## Stone that Tell Stories: Monument in the Woods

By Frank Connors, Bowdoinham Cemetery Sexton

It's startling, that seven-foot tall, graying marble obelisk, alone in the woods on a bluff overlooking Merrymeeting Bay. Surrounded in part by a stone rubble wall and the remains of an ornate, cast-iron fence, this 24-square foot lot is one of Bowdoinham more remote cemeteries. There are the remains of several slate stones visible on the lot.

John Patten was one of Bowdoinham's earlier settlers, her first ship builder, and a civic leader. This surviving stone, with its remarkable epitaph, tells its own story. "Here lays the remains of John Patten," it says, "born in the County of Derry, Ireland, in 1717...came to America with his father Hector in 1727... landing in Boston and removing to Falmouth (now Portland),,, in 1742 he met and married Mary Means, a pious and exemplary lady..." They soon moved to what is now Bowdoinham's Cathance Neck (a part of Topsham in those days) and raised 14 children. He died in 1795 after a fall from a horse.



Patten was a petitioner to the Massachusetts Bay Colony to organize the Town of Topsham in 1764. He was an accomplished farmer, blacksmith, lumberman and part owner of the original Cathance mills. In 1768, he launched a 90-ton sloop, the Merrymeeting, which was the second vessel built above Bath on the Kennebec River. He was the patriarch of one of Bath's most famous ship-building families.

**Find the grave.** Leave Bowdoinham on Route 24 (Bay Road), pass Bay View Cemetery on your right. Atop the next hill, on your left, see a dirt road named Muddy River Lane. Drive slowly, almost to the end, you'll see the Bay and camps on the shore through the trees. The Patten Cemetery is nearly 100 yards to your left, through the woods, you will NOT see it from the road. Note the Cemetery is surrounded by private property. DO NOT leave your vehicle on the road, DO NOT search without permission. DO NOT visit during hunting season.

## Maine's Most Endangered Historic Places of 2023 List



Maine Preservation organization announced on Thursday October 5, 2023, their list of this year's Maine's Most Endangered Historical Buildings and the Bowdoinham Town Hall was on the list!

Maine Preservation was founded in 1972 as a statewide non-profit historic preservation organization. Their mission is to promote and preserve historic places, buildings, downtowns, and neighborhoods across Maine in hopes to strengthen cultural and economic vitality of Maine communities.

What does this mean for Bowdoinham Town Hall? The organization has a bag full of resources available to help preservation projects. It also brings attention to the plight of our building to other organizations and groups that may provide more resources to help save our Town Hall.

You can view more about Maine Preservation on their website: [www.maine-preservation.org](http://www.maine-preservation.org).

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# THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

## Age Friendly Bowdoinham

Peggy Muir

Thanks to everyone who came by our tent at Celebrate Bowdoinham. Habitat for Humanity shared the space with us. We had many handouts and information sheets and a display of the many adaptive devices we own and lend out. It was a lovely Sunday! In case you missed it, the town office has some laminated factsheets with key resources available. Just stop by the town office and ask. Or scan this code below to access them right now.

Our monthly luncheons have started up again the second Thursday of each month at the Fire House. Look for our new signs that we put up along our roads the week before each luncheon date.

Our September 14th luncheon at the Fire House had 50 people in attendance. We heard a great talk by Sally Cluchey with useful information especially on the referenda in the upcoming election and taxes. There were many questions asked and answered. Leslie Anderson was thanked for

her many times cooking and presented with a signed poster.

Our October 12th luncheon featured a talk by Linda McCullough of The Church Ladies organization who helps people move, run estate sales or garage sales, takes items to consignment and in general eases the transition from a big house to a smaller, cozier home.

Our November 10th luncheon does not yet have a speaker booked when newsletter went to print but we will announce it on the Town website.

Our December 14th luncheon will have some holiday cheer and surprises!! Stay tuned.

With winter approaching it's time to button up your houses and put winter safety measures in place. Get out the crampons and canes or ski poles to help you navigate and get sand to keep by the entrance to your house. Make sure you have candles

and flashlights and water for power outages. And have your car or truck ready for the cold weather. Consider contracting the Handyman Brigade to do some winterizing tasks.



Don't forget to vote, **November 7th!** There are important referenda on the ballot. You can get Rides in Neighbors Cars to help you get to the polls by calling 207-837-9577.

Many older Bowdoinham folks have been playing pickleball. The beautiful new tennis court at the Community School turns into two pickleball courts by setting up nets which pack away handily. On several occasions we had two full courts (4 people can play at each) and others on the side rotating in - 11 attendees in total. Our oldest player was 77.

## Winter is Coming!

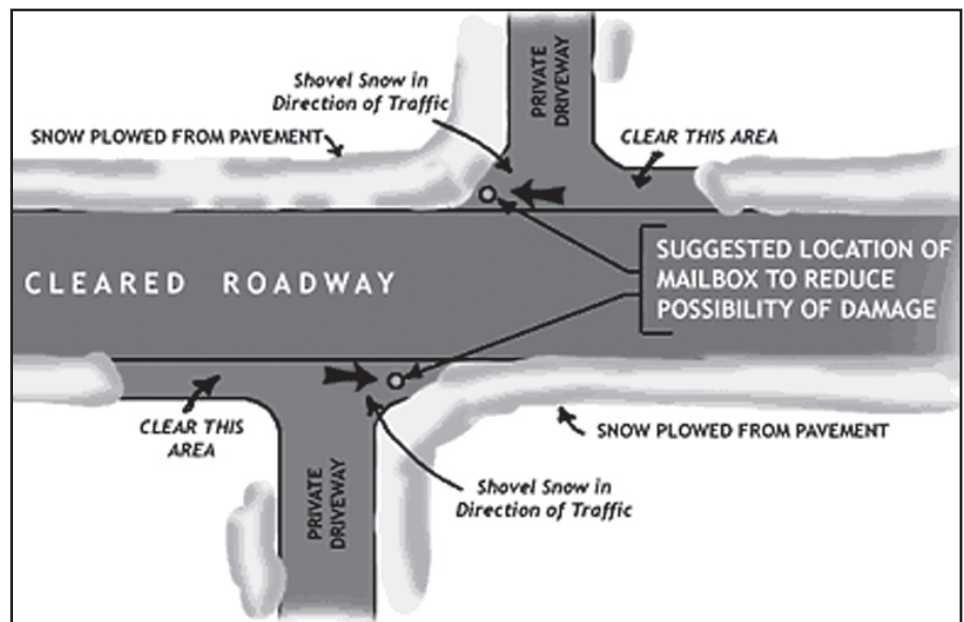
Although the month of October provided some nice weather, the inevitable will happen and we will soon have freezing temperatures and snow. Here are a few winter tips for you to consider:

### Who plows what roads?

The Town is responsible for plowing, sanding, and treating most streets and roads in Bowdoinham. The exceptions are Main Street (from Fisher Road to Bowdoin) and Post Road. These two roads are NOT plowed, sanded, or treated by the Town – in fact, Main Street from Fisher Road to the Bowdoin town line and the entire length of Post Road are plowed, sanded and treated by the Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT).

### Snow in your Driveway

The Town's crew is not done clearing the roads of snow, slush, and ice until well after storms have stopped. To get to clear pavement, the plow trucks scrape the roads after the storm. This results in snow and slush being pushed back into driveways after they have been cleared. One way to help eliminate this issue for your driveway



is to clear an area on the right side of your driveway (the right side if you are entering your driveway). If this is done, the snow and slush being scraped off the road will be deposited in this area and not into your driveway entrance. See the illustration above.

### Courtesy sand pile

The Town maintains a courtesy sand pile for residents at the Maily Waterfront Park, next to the bathroom. Please keep to the two five-gallon bucket limit per visit. It is very important that we stay within this limit to assure there is sand for everyone. No pickup truck loads or commercial haulers.



## “Cover to Cover: The Art of Book Covers” Exhibit in November

The Bowdoinham Public Library has been the happy recipient of many older books which have been generously donated to us. We are happy to announce that they will be featured in an upcoming exhibit, “Cover to Cover: The Art of Book Covers.” The exhibit will be a multi-faceted event including: displays of prime examples of several styles of book cover art (Art Nouveau, Gold Embossed,

etc.); over 50 older books on sale for unbeatable prices; and 6 colorful mosaics made out of book covers and pages which will be available through a silent auction.

The Merrymeeting Arts Center is collaborating with the Library to offer this exhibit in their space at the FHC building on the waterfront. The opening reception will be on Friday, Nov. 3 from 6:30-8 p.m. The exhibit will continue on the following dates: Saturdays, Nov. 4, 11, 18, and 25 from 9-4; Tuesdays Nov. 7, 14, and 21 from 1-5; and Thursdays Nov. 9, and 16 from

1-5. Please note that these times are the same as Merryreading Books so it is a great opportunity to browse our exhibit and the bookstore for the perfect holiday gift.

“Kate Cutko and I were both inspired by an exhibit on book cover art held at the Farnsworth Museum several years ago,” says Wendy Rose. “We realized that the Library had wonderful resources to do our own modest exhibit, and we added to the book display by creating the mosaics.” All are invited to come and learn more about the wonderful book cover mini-masterpieces.

## Winter Is Here

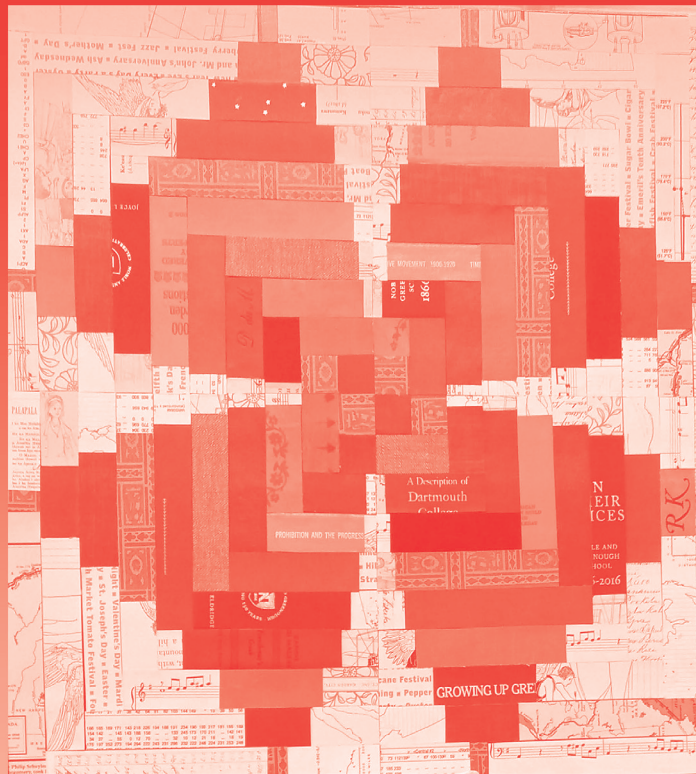
*\*\*The Town would greatly appreciate donations for the Heat Assistance Fund so that we can continue to provide this vital resource to our residents in need.\*\**

The Town has two options for residents who need emergency assistance with their heat bills.

- General Assistance (GA) – is a program administered by the Town in coordination with Maine DHHS. Applicants must qualify financially and show that they are in need of assistance.
- Heat Assistance Fund – the Town of Bowdoinham has a **donation-based program** for heat assistance. This is usually used in emergency situations for anyone who does not qualify for General Assistance.
- If you are in need and have not already applied for LIHEAP heating assistance, you may do so by contacting KVCAP at 800-542-8227
- Please contact CMP to set up a payment plan if you are unable to make your winter payments. You should make a plan and pay each month toward your electric bill to avoid shutoff in the Spring. GA may provide limited assistance with CMP bills in the Spring.
- You can find additional resources at [211maine.org](http://211maine.org), dial **211**, or text your zip code to **898-211**.

You can use the General Assistance application to apply for GA and the Town Heat Assistance Fund. The applications can be found in the office and in the green mailbox by the front door to the Town Office. Please call the office for an appointment with GA.

## From Cover to Cover



The Bowdoinham Public Library has been blessed by an abundance of book donations, many of which are fine examples of book cover art. This exhibit uses these donations to bring attention to what publishers discovered (especially since the 1840's)—book covers matter!

**Opening Reception - November 3 from 6-8pm**

**Exhibit times: Saturdays Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25 from 9-4pm**

**Tuesdays Nov. 7, 14, 21, from 1-5pm**

**Thursdays Nov. 9, 16, from 1-5pm**

**Merrymeeting Arts Center / 9 Main Street / Bowdoinham**

# THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

## Bowdoinham Community Development

Please join Bowdoinham Community Development (BCDI) for its Annual Meeting on Monday, December 11th at 6pm at Merrymeeting Hall. All are welcome - members and non-member, alike! Snacks and beverages will be offered. The program will include a summary on the activities of the past year, as well as conversations about the directions BCDI will take in the year ahead.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have a question, comment, or idea you would like to share, or if you would like to request any specific information about the organization. Send your thoughts and inquiries to [bcdi.maine@gmail.com](mailto:bcdi.maine@gmail.com).

We look forward to seeing you on December 11th!

## Tax Year 2024 Property Tax Bills

2024 Real Estate and Personal Property Tax Bills were mailed September 20th. Please contact the Town Office if you have not received your tax bill or have any questions.

Your tax bill is due in two payments – **Nov. 1st** and **May 1st**. At the bottom of your bill are two payment coupons. You will NOT receive a bill for the second half due in May. For anyone whose taxes are not paid through escrow, please mark your calendar now for both due dates.

Tax Club coupon books were mailed out on September 21st. Please contact our office if you signed up for Tax Club but have not received your payment booklet. Your payments are due on the 15th of each month.

If you owe back taxes, your payment will be applied to the oldest first. Should you make either payment late, you will incur interest. If you are unsure of how much you owe, you may contact our office at any time.

You have several options for making your tax payments:

- In person at the Town Office
- Mail to: Town of Bowdoinham, 13 School Street, Bowdoinham, ME 04008
- Online by clicking on the [Bowdoinham Payment Portal](http://www.bowdoinham.com/tax-payment) at [www.bowdoinham.com/tax-payment](http://www.bowdoinham.com/tax-payment)



## Friends of Merrymeeting Bay 2023 – 2024 Zoom Speaker Series

7:00 PM LOG IN LINK POSTED AT [WWW.FOMB.ORG](http://WWW.FOMB.ORG)  
PRIOR TO EACH PROGRAM.

- OCTOBER 11** Public or Private Power? Question 3  
*Seth Berry, Co-founder: Our Power*
- NOVEMBER 08** Endangered Species-Now More Than Ever!  
*Tara Thornton, Deputy Director, Endangered Species Coalition*
- DECEMBER 13** Geologic History of Merrymeeting Bay  
*Joe Kelley, Marine Geologist*
- JANUARY 10** Archaeology from Swamps & Caves!  
*Becca Peixotto, Field Archaeologist*
- FEBRUARY 14** Dam Removals on the Kennebec River  
*John Burrows, Exec. Dir.-US Operations, Atlantic Salmon Federation*
- MARCH 13** Biocontrol Research in Merrymeeting Bay  
*Hillary Peterson, Integrated Pest Management Specialist, MDACF*
- APRIL 10** Bald Eagles: Recovery, Research & Conservation  
*Chris DeSorbo, Director, Raptor Program, Biodiversity Research Institute*
- MAY 08** Fort Western on the Kennebec, 1628-1919  
*Linda Novak, Director, Old Fort Western*

FREE • OPEN TO THE PUBLIC • FREE

Sponsored by: Friends of Merrymeeting Bay

Contact Ed Friedman, 666-3372 or [edfomb@comcast.net](mailto:edfomb@comcast.net) for more information.

[www.friendsofmerrymeetingbay.org](http://www.friendsofmerrymeetingbay.org)

Help support our youth league sports with a little advertising. From reaching all 1,400 homes in Bowdoinham, to regional exposure with our traveling teams, your funding will grow your business and our home teams! To score one of these deals respond by December 1st!

### 2024 Rec/News Sponsorship Packages

	Platinum	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Basic
Platinum: 40% savings, \$755 value Gold: 35% savings, \$530 value Silver: 30% savings, \$405 value Bronze: 25% savings, \$305 value	\$455	\$350	\$285	\$225	\$180
1 year (6 issues) of business card size ads in Bowdoinham News. Reaches 1,400 homes. - \$180 value	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Spring team sponsorship, business name on back of jersey. - \$225 value	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗
Fall team sponsorship, business name on back of jersey. - \$225 value	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗
3' x 5' vinyl homerun fence banner displayed throughout the year, incl. State Championship - \$125 value	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗

Sponsorship packaged available until: **December 1, 2023**. Regular print advertising is available: Business card sized ads can be purchased for \$30/issue, 1/4 page ads for \$75/issue, 1/2 page ads for \$125 and other sizes are available. Inquires can be sent to [planning@bowdoinham.com](mailto:planning@bowdoinham.com)

## Referendum Election - November 7, 2023

Referendum Elections are held to provide Maine's citizens an opportunity to vote on People's Veto Referenda, Direct Initiatives of Legislation (i.e. Citizen Initiatives), Bond Issues, other referenda proposed by the Legislature, and Constitutional Amendments. Referendum elections are an important part of the heritage of public participation in Maine.

### Questions Appearing on the November 7, 2023 Ballot

#### Question 1: Citizen Initiative

##### An Act to Require Voter Approval of Certain Borrowing by Government-controlled Entities and Utilities and to Provide Voters More Information Regarding That Borrowing

*Do you want to bar some quasi-governmental entities and all consumer-owned electric utilities from taking on more than \$1 billion in debt unless they get statewide voter approval?*

#### Question 2: Citizen Initiative

##### An Act to Prohibit Campaign Spending by Foreign Governments and Promote an Anticorruption Amendment to the United States Constitution

*Do you want to ban foreign governments and entities that they own, control, or influence from making campaign contributions or financing communications for or against candidates or ballot questions?*

#### Question 3: Citizen Initiative

##### An Act to Create the Pine Tree Power Company, a Nonprofit, Customer-owned Utility

*Do you want to create a new power company governed by an elected board to acquire and operate existing for-profit electricity transmission and distribution facilities in Maine?*

#### Question 4: Citizen Initiative

##### An Act Regarding Automotive Right to Repair

*Do you want to require vehicle manufacturers to standardize on-board diagnostic systems and provide remote access to those systems and mechanical data to owners and independent repair facilities?*

#### Question 5: Constitutional Amendment

##### RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine Regarding the Timing of Judicial Review of the Determination of the Validity of Written Petitions

*Do you favor amending the Constitution of Maine to change the time period for judicial review of the validity of written petitions from within 100 days from the date of filing to within 100 business days from the date of filing of a written petition in the office of the Secretary of State, with an exception for petitions filed within 30 calendar days before or after a general election?*

#### Question 6: Constitutional Amendment

##### RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Require All Provisions in the Constitution to Be Included in the Official Printing

*Do you favor amending the Constitution of Maine to require that all of the provisions of the Constitution be included in the official printed copies of the Constitution prepared by the Secretary of State?*

#### Question 7: Constitutional Amendment

##### RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Align the Proceedings for Circulating Written Petitions for People's Vetoes and Direct Initiatives with Federal Law

*Do you favor amending the Constitution of Maine to remove a provision requiring a circulator of a citizen's initiative or people's veto petition to be a resident of Maine and a registered voter in Maine, requirements that have been ruled unconstitutional in federal court?*

#### Question 8: Constitutional Amendment

##### RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Allow Persons Under Guardianship for Mental Illness to Be Electors

*Do you favor amending the Constitution of Maine to remove a provision prohibiting a person under guardianship for reasons of mental illness from voting for Governor, Senators and Representatives, which the United States District Court for the District of Maine found violates the United States Constitution and federal law?*

## Bowdoinham Municipal Directory

### Town Office

13 School St  
Phone: 666-5531  
Fax: 666-5532  
Website: bowdoinham.com  
Hours:

Monday: 8:30am-4:00pm  
Tuesday: 8:30am-4:00pm  
Wednesday: 11:00am-6:00pm  
Thursday: 8:30am-4:00pm  
Friday: 8:30am-4:00pm

### Recycling

121 Pond Rd  
666-3228

Website: bowdoinham.com/SWR

#### Recycling Hours:

Tuesday: Noon-6:00pm  
Thursday: 8:00am-4:00pm  
Saturday: 8:00am-4:00pm  
Trash Pick Up: Thursday Mornings  
(or the following Saturday morning  
when Thursday is a Holiday)  
Town Office sells Trash Bags

## Bowdoinham Public Library

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

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

## AnimalControl

522-8816

## Fire & Rescue

666-3505 (non-emergencies)

## Public Works

666-3505

## Sagadahoc Sheriff Dept.

443-8201

## Water District

(Payments Due Quarterly)  
737-4721

# THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

## Community Calendar

### November

- 1 First Tax Payments Due
- 1 Comprehensive Plan - 2nd Land Use Forum @ the Community School 6 - 8pm
- 7 Elections
- 10 Veterans Day: Town Office Closed
- 21 Fire Dept. Pie Sale 8:00am
- 23 Thanksgiving: Solid Waste & Town Office Closed
- 24 Town Office Closed

### December

- 1 Santa Comes to Town 5:30pm  
Guild of Artisans Art Sale Reception 8pm
- 2 Holiday Wreath Workshop 9am - 3pm  
Cookie Decorating Party 10am - 2pm

- 2 - 3 Guild of Artisans Art Show & Sale 10am - 3pm  
MAC Holiday Art Fair 10am - 3pm
- 4 - 5 Family Holiday Goodies Bake Off drop off 8:30am - 4pm
- 6 Family Holiday Goodies Bake Off drop off 11am - 6pm
- 8 Guild of Artisans Art Show & Sale 6 - 8pm
- 9 BCS Holiday Carft Fair 10am - 3pm
- 9 - 10 Guild of Artisans Art Show & Sale 10am - 3pm  
MAC Holiday Art Fair 10am - 3pm
- 11 BCDI Annual Meeting 6pm
- 22 Town Office Closed
- 25 Town Office Closed

### January

- 1 New Year: Town Office Closed
- 15 Martin Luther King Day: Town Office Closed

## Town Board and Committee Meetings

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

### Select Board

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

### Planning Board

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

### Advisory Committee on Age Friendly Bowdoinham

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

### Community Development Advisory Committee

1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of Month at 6:30pm

### Comprehensive Planning Committee

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of Month at 6:00pm

### Cemetery Advisory Committee

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of Month at 4:00pm

### Town Hall Committee

Last Tuesday of Month at 6:30pm

### Solid Waste Committee

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of Month at 5:30pm

**Town Office Hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri 8:30am - 4pm • Wed 11am - 6pm**

Town of Bowdoinham  
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