



THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

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September - October 2021

Community Spotlight Rides in Neighbors Cars

By Lynn Sternfels

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. Rides are provided to Bowdoinham and Bowdoin residents age 60+ and those with a disability that prevent them from driving safely. A ride can be scheduled for a non-emergency medical appointment or to go shopping or do an errand. The program can be used to get a ride to church, use the Bowdoinham Food Pantry or Library or even to help get a pet to a vet appointment.

Over the years, RIDES has grown. In 2019, volunteer drivers provided 251 trips that took 627 hours and encompassed 10,332 miles.

When the pandemic began and many appointments were canceled, we dropped to 3-4 drivers that served several clients. Now, in 2021, we are back to a dozen clients, but unfortunately, we have lost some drivers.

Volunteer drivers find the program rewarding. One driver commented, "I have especially enjoyed getting to know our elder Bowdoinham/Bowdoin residents. I have learned so much about their lives and the history of our community." And the riders are very appreciative— "This program means EVERYTHING to me. It has allowed me to stay in my own home even though I cannot drive."

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 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.

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.

Hometown Helpers for Digital Literacy

By Kate Cutko, BPL Director

We are excited to announce a new initiative of the Library and the Advisory Committee on Age Friendly Bowdoinham to assist older adults with accessing and using their digital devices. This is made possible with a grant from the Maine Humanities Council. Hometown Helpers for Digital Literacy will create a core group of trained volunteers who will facilitate group learning hosted by the Bowdoinham Public Library and work on a one-on-one basis with individuals who need help using their devices.

The pandemic has underscored everyone's reliance on technology for personal, medical, educational, and social engagement. It also has demonstrated the tremendous digital divide that can isolate older adults from essential services and connections with friends, family, and

community. This project is a crucial step in overcoming digital barriers and helping older residents engage more fully in the life of our community.

The Library is actively recruiting volunteers for this project who have a working knowledge of any Android, Windows, or Apple device. Expertise is not necessary. We are looking for individuals who are compassionate, good listeners and communicators, and who can address issues in a clear and logical manner. Volunteers will be asked to participate in four hours of training with our consultants in September and October. Beyond that, participation will be subject to a volunteer's interest and availability.

Please contact Kate Cutko at the library via email at bowdoinham@gmail.com or call 666-8405 if you are interested in serving as a Hometown Helper. It is a project that can make a real difference in people's lives.

Not Your Mothers Garden Club

By Joanne Savoie

As of May 2021, Not Your Mothers Garden Club (NYMGC) of Bowdoinham, Bowdoin and Richmond resumed "In Person" meetings.

So far, we have had four very informative and entertaining Garden Tours at members' homes: Laura Arnold, Josephine Mussomeli, Kate Brinsmade and Nan Curtis. The club meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 1PM. The meeting sites alternate between the Coombs Municipal Building Kendall Room, 13 School St. In

Continued on Page 4.

Celebrate Bowdoinham!

**September 11th, 2021
At Maily Waterfront Park**

More Details on Page 10-11 and at www.bowdoinham.com

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Thank You Pam Ross!

By Nicole Briand

I'd like to take this opportunity to Thank Pamela Ross for her eighteen years of service to the Town of Bowdoinham. Pam was a constant resource at the Town Office that we could all count on and she will be sorely missed. I hope you will all join me in wishing Pam a Happy Retirement in North Carolina with her family!

A Note from Our New Town Clerk

By Tina Magno

Stepping into a new role after 27 years in Banking makes me excited, and hopeful about what I can bring to being the new Town Clerk.

It will take a lot to fill Pam Ross' many years of knowledge, but I am eager to learn all the wonderful things that come with this position.

My family and I built a home here in 2017 and we have loved what a wonderful community this is, and how it takes pride in development and its roots to not change a lot but still stay a functioning place to visit and explore.

As I work my way into learning all I can in my new position, I hope to bring my positive attitude and many years of customer service experience to the Town of Bowdoinham as you come in to do business with us.

Thank you to everyone in the Town office for all their hard work and for accepting me to join them here, and to the community of Bowdoinham for the warm welcome I have already received from so many of you.

I look forward to helping this community as best as I can and look forward to many years with Bowdoinham.

Road Work

At Town Meeting, a \$900,000 bond was approved for road work and the paving of the Fire Station Parking lot. The Town has hired All States Construction to pave the middle section (section 2) of Carding Machine Road and Dingley Road. We expect this work to be done in October. Until then, Public Works will continue to replace culverts and work on the ditching on Dingley Road.

The Townspeople also approved a \$250,000 bond for the Mallon Brook Stream Crossing on Dingley Road to match the \$125,000 stream crossing grant the Town has been awarded. The Town is expecting to complete this project between July and October 2022.

Parking at Recycling

By Solid Waste Dept. Staff

Recycling, located at 121 Pond rd. Upon entering the public works facility take an immediate left and proceed around to the side of the building where you will find the Solid waste / recycling department.

Please note that there is availability for four vehicles to park at any one time. We ask that residents be mindful of how they park to allow for maximum access for all town residents. Please pull on or back up to the space facing the recycling and scrap metal containers.

Bulky Waste and Freon Disposal Day

October 2nd

By Bryan Benson, Director

We will be holding a Bulky waste day on October 2nd from 8:00 am, to 2:00pm at the Public Works facility located at 121 Pond rd. The following items will be accepted on this day for a fee.

Freon Collection \$14/item
regardless of size
(Fridge, Dehumidifier, A/C, etc.)

Box spring/Mattress each piece:

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

Carpet:

\$1.00/foot, priced by the lesser length
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 W. Bath
- Maine Waste to energy in Auburn

Questions? Contact Bryan Benson at 207-666-3228

Old Docks For Sale

The Town is accepting bids for the purchase of six wooden docks that are currently located at the former Public Works property. The older, wooden docks are 6ft wide by 16ft long. Sealed bids plainly marked "Surplus Property Bid" on the outside of the mailing envelope, addressed to Nicole Briand, Town Manager, 13 School Street, Bowdoinham, Maine 04008 will be accepted until 10am on Thursday, September 16, 2021. Bid must include bid price per dock and number of docks. Bidders will receive notification of the bid results via email. Items will be awarded to the highest bidder. In the case that multiple highest bids are received, the item will be awarded to the highest bid received first.

Payment must be received by the Town before the bidder may take possession of their items. Items that are not paid for and removed by noon on September 23, 2021, will be offered to the next highest bidder. All items are being sold "as is, where is," the Town is not responsible for any repairs. All sales are final.

In submitting a complete written bid, bidders agree to the terms and conditions of this Surplus Property Sale. Requests for additional information should be directed to townmanager@bowdoinham.com.

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Bowdoinham Cemetery Advisory Committee

By Elaine Diaz

During the summer, the Committee met monthly except for July. At our August meeting, we welcomed a new member, Linda Temple, who has been an active volunteer for several years. We have focused mostly on assessing the conditions and needs of various plots and reporting them to the Town Manager, Nicole Briand and the Public Works Foreman, Tobey Frizzle. The Public Works crew have been great about checking out complaints and problems and correcting them or reporting back to BCAC or the Town Manager of any needs.

Daniel Samaha recently confirmed that he is the Keeper for the Coombs- Buker Cemetery on the River Road and has been for at least 10 years. Carissa Jefferson has become the Keeper of the Preble-Grant Plot on the north end of the River Road and has requested assistance in removing a hanging tree limb. Public Works will be taking care of this. Sam Tome, current Keeper of the Pratt Cemetery on Wildes Road is upgrading the fencing and placing a stone on the unmarked grave of an early Pratt couple. He has also taken on being the Keeper for the Sedgley Plot and the Reed Tomb, both located in the State Game Preserve on the end of Wildes Road. Linda Temple, Karen Tilbor, and Susan Tuttle are looking for "2 or 3 burying grounds on the east side of the Abagadasset River near the Dinsmore Mill site." Access from the River Road is difficult due to very rough terrain near the Riverbank; they hope to get to the area via the river. The above information about these possible sites came from Ed Webber to Marilyn Hinckley in the 70's. The Blair and Libby plots in the Carding Machine Road

area have not yet been found and may be these, as there was a Blair Family on that side of the river according to Helen Graves in "Along the Abagadasset 1738 to 1934." Any hunter, fishers, and foragers out there, have you ever seen anything suggesting a burial site along the upper Abagadasset River?

We haven't firmed up plans yet but hope to coordinate a volunteer effort assisting Susan Tuttle for a clean-up in the Browne Cemetery. We also hope to organize a Town-wide assessment and cleanup weekend in the old Meeting House Burying Ground and the adjacent Adams-Cromwell Cemetery on Abagadasset Road. These are two of our oldest cemeteries and have never really been worked on. If confirmed dates will be posted on Bowdoinham.com and Facebook. September and October are good times for such work!

Our applications for the summer MOCA Training Workshop in South Thomaston were not accepted. This is very disappointing, as I felt we were all but promised some slots. However, Nicole, Tobey, and the BCAC are working on a plan to develop our own training and equipment for some restoration, repairing and resetting. The tree removal and trimming has been completed for now in the Village Burying Ground, and Public Works is keeping it well groomed. However, many stones are in rough shape, and we are shocked at how many stones and fencing has gone down over the bank toward Sampson Brook. Erosion and unauthorized "tossing" seem to be the major issues. Nicole is looking into state regulation and support in dealing with this. Nicole has the "draft" of the revised Policy for Maintenance of the Town Cemeteries to be finalized by the Select Board.

For any concerns, questions, or information regarding our cemeteries, contact Elaine Diaz at 666-8255 or Tobey Frizzle at 666-3505

Tips for Air Travel Especially Elders

By the Advisory Committee on Age Friendly Bowdoinham

In April, I made my familiar trip back from the West Coast, flying from Seattle, WA back to Portland, ME. The airports and planes were still fairly empty which made things much easier for travelers. However, there are still huge challenges, especially for elders.

Take the offered ride

Before I got my bionic hip and knees, airports proved too huge and painful for me to walk. I started to request a wheelchair when I booked my ticket. Life became much easier. Wheelchairs are whisked through lesser known and often uncrowded corridors. On one hilarious occasion my aide rushed me down ramps and through emergency exits and secret tunnels which got me to a departing bus in time. There are also the multi-passenger carts which can be hailed more spontaneously by simply stopping one or asking airport staff to get one for you.

Pack light

The airlines are not letting plane staff lift your luggage to the overhead racks (and why haven't they switched the storage bins to put them under the seats?!). Understandable since people have huge and heavy carry-on bags these days. You can still ask strong and kind fellow passengers to lift your roll-on bag into the overhead bin, but you may have to do it yourself in a pinch I can travel indefinitely with a small roll on.

Prepare for the Security Xray check

Wear slip on shoes or bedroom slippers. Use the bathroom before you join the security line as waiting times are unpredictable. Label ALL electronic and electrical devices – put your name on hearing aid chargers and electric toothbrushes, Kindles, phones, electric razors, keys. This is a wonderful use for all the name/address labels you get free from charity organizations. To be extra safe, photograph all devices. Any device can trip the Xray scan - it will then have to be scanned a second time in a different number of bins. This is how I got separated from my hearing aid charger. Count carefully the number of individual bins you fill to run through security, especially if you have to do it a second time. Let the security person know if you have any artificial joints or metals in you.

And one last tip that I got from a savvy traveler (important even in a pandemic) USE every nice bathroom you come to ahead of time.

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Bowdoinham, and Enterprise Grange, 15 Alexander Reed Road in Richmond, with occasional field trips mixed in. Everyone is welcome!

As one charter member, Marilyn Stinson said "We are an eclectic group of enthusiastic gardeners from Bowdoinham, Bowdoin and Richmond focusing on any and all aspects of gardening and cuisine, gathering for the joy of sharing our interests and enjoying the company of like-minded individuals."

We are in our 4th year and have covered all manner of gardening topics. Meetings generally feature a speaker, often from the knowledgeable club members, along with discussion. As of July, Laura Arnold and Nan Curtis are Co-Chairwomen of the club.

Examples of our programs: "Discussion of Maine Seed Companies," "Favorite Garden Tools and How to Maintain Them" by Brett Thompson, "Companion Plants," "Timeline of Vegetable Planting" by Nan Curtis, "Perennials" by Betsy Steen and Leslie Anderson, "Native Shrubs," "Flower Arranging," "Bulb Basics: Garlic and Spring Flowers," "Sharing of Ideas on Critter Management," "Insect Control, including the Brown tail Moth" by an Entomologist, slide shows on gardens of the world, Garden Tours, "Beekeeping and the value of the Bees to the Grower" by Rick Cooper.

The club announces its meetings by email and Facebook: "Not Your Mothers Garden Club" and "Bowdoinham Friends and Families."

Happy Fall from the Bowdoinham Food Pantry!

by Volunteer Hannah Burroughs

When you next visit the pantry as a client, volunteer, or just a curious community member, you'll see a pretty exciting new improvement to the space: a walk-in cooler! This unit will help us preserve our many donated produce and dairy items so we can offer a wider variety of fresh groceries to pantry clients. Many thanks to all who helped this aspiration become a reality: Good Shepherd Food Bank for grant money that made the purchase possible, BFP board member and local farmer Bethany Allen for lots of preliminary researching of which model to buy, Chris Cavendish and David Reinheimer (pictured!) for installing the beast, Sean McCarthy of McCarthy Electric for hooking it up, Scott Oulette of Alternative Rx for his continued generosity and support of the pantry, and especially Fred Haer, for providing the pantry its space!



And while we're giving thanks and looking back at a great summer full of delicious Bowdoinham bounty, we are ever appreciative of the farmers who continue to share their harvest with the Food Pantry. Among them: Harvest Tide Organic, Six River, and Phil's Farm.

As always, to contact the Bowdoinham Food Pantry, email bowdoinhamfoodpantry@gmail.com, call 751-7779, or find us on Facebook. Donations can be made on our website at www.bowdoinhamfoodpantry.org. Thank you!

New Art Gallery and Studios in Bowdoinham

by Bill Stanton

I am moving my art studio from the Ames Mill in Richmond, where it's been located for 14 years, to the Knights of Pythias building at 18 Main Street in Bowdoinham. At the new location, there is studio space for me and another artist, and an art gallery. Presently, renovations are being done to make the space function better as studios and a gallery. They include replacing the existing wall-to-wall carpeting with pine board flooring and installing track lighting.

A grand opening show is being planned for the weekend of September 11 and 12 during Celebrate Bowdoinham. The gallery show will include several of my large paintings of scenes around Bowdoinham, paintings by two artists from Brunswick who I do plein air painting with, and photographs by two local photographers. In addition, several members of the Bowdoinham Guild of Artisans will be displaying and selling their crafts.

I invite you to see and enjoy the beautiful artwork and crafts and visit with the artists and artisans who created them on September 11th & 12th at 18 Main Street in Bowdoinham. Masks are required.

Peary's Garden

By Lily Montgomery

The garden is bursting this fall as we wind down our fourth growing season at Peary's. Our plots are loaded with zinnias, sunflowers, tomatoes, corn, eggplant, squash, basil, beans and so much more! We also have a new row of high bush blueberries coming along nicely, ready for harvest in a few more years.

But most exciting is our beautiful new brick pizza oven named "Forno del Geometra" or Surveyor's Oven, built by Brian Smith and a team of dedicated volunteers!

We are excited to announce that we'll be having our first-ever fundraiser to support the garden and help purchase compost and pay for well repairs, tools and supplies for next spring. Please join us in celebrating at "Forno del Geometra" - details below. ALL WELCOME!

Peary's Garden Pizza Fundraiser

Thursday, October 9th
(Rain date Oct 10th), 4:00pm-7:00 pm

The garden is located on Sadie Lane, off of Main Street, behind the Harvest Tide Organics farm stand near the on-ramp for the highway.

\$12/ pizza; homemade desserts + cold drinks available to buy a la carte (or BYO)

-Cheese/vegetarian/meat pizza options TBD featuring local ingredients

Reservations are required so we can make sure you don't have to wait too long for your meal- please contact Lily at lilypmontgomery@gmail.com with your name, contact info and pizza order (cheese/veg/meat) - we'll give you a time slot between 4-7 pm.

In the event that this fundraiser feels unsafe due to Covid-19, we will postpone until a later date.

Follow us on Instagram @pearysgarden for more info about our garden and this event!

Nazarene News

By Marilyn Davis

As of August, the Bowdoinham First Church of the Nazarene celebrated 73 years in our community. Sarah Stapler recently noted that the high winds last winter had blown shingles off the church roof which sits just below the Town Hall, the highest point in Bowdoinham. So, in an ongoing effort to maintain this beautiful church, the congregation decided to have the roof replaced. The last nine years the church has had the leadership of Pastor Christina Couch, who has put her heart and soul into maintaining the

church and helping it to grow and be a place where anyone can feel welcome.

The Church, originally named "Church of the Redeemer," was built for the Universalist Society in 1890 by John P. Rideout, a shipbuilder, and the great-grandfather of Linwood Rideout, part of a longtime family Bowdoinham family. The church closed in 1925 and was empty for over 20 years, until Linwood Bishop and Rev. Harland C. Joyce met in 1948. Mr. Bishop, who had gotten married in the church, held the deed so that it would not be turned into a garage, allowed Rev. Joyce to hold meetings there. Soon after those began Mr. Bishop, with the encouragement and facilitation of Rev. Joyce, sold the church to the Nazarene denomination. Thus began the history of The First Church of the Nazarene.

Over the last 73 years, many longtime families of Bowdoinham have continued to be a part of this church, along with families from other communities. Because it is among the beautiful buildings in the center of Bowdoinham, it is important to the congregation to maintain this 131-year-old church. It has retained the original stained-glass windows, chandeliers, and much of the woodwork. In addition to a new roof, work will continue on the exterior painting, thanks to a generous donation from Tom and Betty DeForest, who also married in the church.

Anyone wishing to donate to the Church's Building Fund can send donations

to "Bowdoinham Nazarene" at 7 School St., Bowdoinham, 04008, with the note "Building Fund." Any donations will be greatly appreciated and put to good use.

Guild of Artisans

By Lynn Sternfels

Several months ago, when doing some planning for the months ahead, it seemed we could move forward with some of the events that we all missed in 2020. Now, once again, uncertainty is creeping back and although we are excited to be planning fall and winter events, the bottom line is safety.

Due to the generosity of the Town, last year, we were able to get our website up and running so please check that out if you haven't already: bowdoinhamartisans.com

We also have a Facebook page—Bowdoinham Guild of Artisans and we'll make updates as we go along, but, as of now, we look forward to being part of Celebrate Bowdoinham on September 11th. Bill Stanton, a Guild member, is opening his new gallery in town on that day and several of the guild members will join him in that venture. Find others down at the waterfront.

The guild also hopes to be part of a new fall event sponsored by the Library. Last year, the guild did a very successful pop-up show on the Waterfront in October. We hope to expand on that by joining the library on October 9th at their Cider Fest.

And, once again, we hope to sponsor the annual Holiday Show at the Town Hall. There are twenty-two members of the guild now and we would like to fill the hall with fine art, music and food in a celebration of the arts in Bowdoinham.

Merrymeeting Arts Center

By Lee Parker

Merrymeeting Arts Center (MAC) continues to offer Exhibits and Events and classes in line with emerging guidance from Maine CDC. We are currently limiting number of participants in the Pottery Studio (Green Building) to 10 and everyone must wear a mask. Please check our website, merrymeetingartscenter.org, and follow us on Facebook for upcoming events, exhibits and classes.

The Heron Fund is made possible by the generosity of the Muir Family and donations from MAC friends and supporters. The Fund allows MAC to compensate artists for the classes they teach while ensuring that everyone can participate. Art for Everyone!

Celebrate Bowdoinham

MAC is looking forward to participating in Celebrate Bowdoinham with Zucchini Races, "Take & Make Kits", Open Pottery Studio and Local Myths Exhibit. All events will happen in or near our spaces next to Maily Park.

3rd Annual ZUCCHINI RACES!

It's that time of year – there is zucchini EVERYWHERE! Decorate yours, put some wheels on it, and come race it at Celebrate Bowdoinham! Everyone can participate. Here's how it works...

Get a Zucchini! At race time we will divide the entrants into different categories by size.

Decorate it! There are prizes for best decorated.

Put wheels on it! Zucchini mounted on skateboards will be raced in a separate category.

Race it! 11 AM at the Matthew Townsend Parker Memorial Skatepark (by the waterfront behind the MAC Studio).

Prizes awarded to the fastest zucchinis and the best decorated zucchinis, and lots of laughs and fun to be had by all. Please come at 10:45 to register. Race will start at 11! See you at the races!!!

Open Studio

Hours will be 9-1 on Saturday, Sept. 11 during Celebrate Bowdoinham. Come try your hand at hand building using Dry-Air clay and take home your creation when you leave. Please note: we will limit the number of participants to 10 *Continues on next page.*

Loans for Bowdoinham Businesses

~ Are you a small business owner?

~Do you have limited capital for growth?

~BCDI's loan program can help!



We're a group of Bowdoinham neighbors who have come together to help fund local businesses.

Since 2011 Bowdoinham Community Development Initiative has coordinated and administered over \$100,000 in loans from Bowdoinham residents to small businesses in town. The funds for these loans come from your Bowdoinham neighbors; it's Neighbors Investing in Neighbors!

Loan amounts range from \$500 up to \$20,000. To find out more about applying for a loan, or becoming an investor, contact BCDI online or by email.

www.bcdimaine.org

bcdi.maine@gmail.com

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(at a time) and everyone must wear a mask (available at the door).

TAKE & MAKE!

The "Merrymeeting Take & Make" project is a partnership between the Merrymeeting Arts Center (MAC) and the Bowdoinham Public Library, funded by The Anonimo Foundation. Each month, a new "Take & Make" kit is distributed, containing supplies and instructions for a single art project. Forty kits are available, at no charge, to children in Kindergarten through the 5th grade.

Come to the MAC studio during Celebrate Bowdoinham and get your FREE Dry-Air clay kit to take home and make your own pottery. The kits include dry-air clay, acrylic paint, paint brushes and instructions and ideas for making a clay project at home.

Pottery Studio!

New Schedule and Offerings

Melissa Bardsley will be in the Studio (Green Building) this fall as follows:

Tuesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays:
Open Studio 9:00am-11:00am

Mondays:
Wheel Throwing 3:30pm-5:30pm
And Open Studio 6:00pm-8:00pm

Wednesdays:
Merrymeeting Adult Ed 3:30pm-5:30pm
Open studio 6:00pm-8:00pm

Local Myths

MAC's fall exhibit, traditionally opening during Celebrate Bowdoinham, will feature "Moth Seeks the Light" along with the other Local Myths. We will also exhibit local work related to Moth and her story. Everyone is invited to submit a piece of art they have created. All artists - amateur, professional, 1st time artists - of any age or ability are encouraged to participate. Any medium - drawings, paintings, sculpture, photography, collage, fiber arts, mixed media, etc. - is acceptable. There is no fee to enter and all submissions will be displayed in the MAC gallery. The only requirement is that

the piece be somehow related to Moth, no matter how loosely interpreted! Please submit only one piece of art/artist. Art must be submitted no later than Sept. 9.

Mac Gallery

Upcoming Exhibit

"Beyond the Blues"

This is an exhibit of traditional and contemporary Shibori textile art by Kathleen Goddu. Shibori is an ancient Japanese process of folding, clamping, twisting, stitching, plaiting fabric and compressing it before dying in indigo to resist the dye from entering certain parts of the fabric. This creates a 3-D effect on a 2-D surface. There are hundreds of patterns and processes.

Beyond the Blues also offers textiles that demonstrate color blending with natural dyes and other dyes using Shibori techniques. There will be wall hangings, scarves, and home décor items for sale.

October 1 – November 5, 2021

Merrymeeting Art Center,
9 Main St.

Bowdoinham, ME

Hours: Thur, Fri and Sat - 10am to 2pm

Opening Reception: Friday, October 8th
5-8 pm, Artist presentation at 7 pm.

Maine Craft Weekend:

October 2-3, 2021: 10 am – 5 pm

There will be a demonstration of some of the Shibori techniques as well as a brief talk by Kathleen at 11 am and 3 pm each of the two days.

Merrymeeting Arts Center encourages art, education and community celebrating the cultural heritage and natural environment of Merrymeeting Bay. Inspired and guided by the eclectic values of the life and spirit of Bryce Muir, the Center joyfully promotes egalitarianism, whimsy, environmental consciousness, and diversity through its artists, programs and projects. The center is located in Bowdoinham, Maine at 9 Main Street adjacent to Mailly Park and the Cathance River boat launch. For more information on the Merrymeeting Arts Center, its history and current doings, please visit www.merrymeetingartscenter.org, email us at merrymeetingartscenter@gmail.com or leave us a message at 207-370-5002.

Notes from Merrymeeting Hall Bowdoinham Historical Societies' Community Center for Bowdoinham

By Betsy Steen

Thank you to the Board of Selectmen and the Town of Bowdoinham for their support of Merrymeeting Hall which allows us to offer free use of the Hall to any Town connected group, Bowdoinham Non-profits, and other community groups!

For private parties, we charge \$100 per event in summer and \$150 in winter. If you use the kitchen for extensive cooking or do not clean the Hall after use, other fees apply.

Slowly groups such as "Singing Bowl" are returning, and folks are scheduling showers and parties!

Merrymeeting hall will be the site of BHS's contributions to Celebrate Bowdoinham, on Saturday, September 11th. They include the presentation and first public display of the Pandemic Quilt: Bowdoinham 1912 to 2012. With this we will also be displaying the Bowdoinham 1762 to 1912 Quilt (finished in 2012), the Barbecue Quilt, and the Coombs School Quilt as well as other Bowdoinham-created quilts.

We also hope to be able to have an "Open House" to show off BHS's new quarters in Merrymeeting Hall's lower level. BHS's "Rideout Research Room and Archive" is close to being finished. Next, we can begin moving materials from the MMH main floor and from our former quarters on the 3rd floor of the Coombs Municipal Building.

NOTE: Anyone willing to be added to our handy "Strong Backs Brigade," a group which occasionally helps move large objects for BHS when needed, please email me.

Tom and Brett continue their fine work, making Merrymeeting Hall the most useful and attractive building possible. The Friday Ladies assist them and carry on their own useful projects for MMH.



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by Times Record

Of course, all of this is only possible if Covid, especially the Delta variant, can be controlled in our area. This variant is bad enough, but as I see it, we (and the entire world) are in a desperate race to get as many people vaccinated as quickly possible before another variant emerges which could potentially be even worse and which our current vaccines could not control.

To volunteer or inquire about using Merrymeeting Hall please contact:
Betsy Steen: baviewess@comcast.net, 737-9460
Lara Ashouwak: lashouwak1@gmail.com, 666-8161
or Tom DeForeest: tdeforeest@comcast.net, 666-3061

Bowdoinham Historical Society News

By Betsy Steen

Awarm WELCOME to all the new folks in Town! May you come to love Bowdoinham as much as we do! If you would like to be added to the Historical Society/Merrymeeting Hall eLetter list, please email baviewess@comcast.net

BHS THEME FOR 2022: Bowdoinham and Beyond: 1930 - 1960

We are looking for clothing, household items, photos, documents, memories, stories from this period to borrow or copy. We would also love help from anyone with an interest in this period or Bowdoinham history in general. (See the July 1, 2021 Bowdoinham News for more specific information.)

IF COVID PERMITS...

BHS will hold our annual "Bread and Hyacinths" Yard Sale at the BHS Meeting House and Carriage Shed during September and/or October. It will, we hope, be much like last year's on several Sundays. If you wish to donate items (no clothes, book, electronics), contact:

Betsy Steen - baviewess@comcast.net, 737-9460
Lara Ashouwak - lashouwak1@gmail.com, 666-8161

Please. Make sure your donations are CLEAN and USABLE.

We can always use help with this project. It's fun and supports the Historical Society and Merrymeeting Hall. More information will be forthcoming.

We hope there will soon be a TOWN HALL RESTORATION AND PRESERVATION COMMITTEE which will work to bring the 1823 Union Church/ Town Hall back into good and useful shape. This iconic building will be 200 years old in 2023. If you don't want to be 'on the official Town committee' but still want to help, please consider joining 'Friends of the Town Hall', a group of folks who will further this important project in other ways such as volunteering labor or fundraising.

It's September, and kids are returning to school. For our knowledge about Bowdoinham's many schools over the last 250+ years, we thank Ella Purington Curtis for her research and article in the book Bowdoinham: The Seventeenth Town in Maine 1762-1962.

Though in 1774, the Town raised money to support two schools which were held in private homes, it wasn't until 1791 that the town was formally divided into three dis-

tricts, and schoolhouses began to be built. As the population of the town grew, more districts were added until in 1870, there were 17 Districts and 17+ schoolhouses. Then as population diminished, so did the number of schools, until in 1940 there were but three rural schools in addition to those in the village. In 1946, it was decided to close the Coombs High School and send students to Brunswick or Richmond. By 1950 a new elementary school was needed. The people of the Town of Bowdoinham built this building, the first part of our Bowdoinham Community School, themselves, literally; funding it with money made at the Bowdoinham Chicken Barbecues.

For a complete school history, pictures, and a map of districts, please look at Ella's article. It is available in the Library in the 1762-1962 Bicentennial Book mentioned above. BHS also has a number of notebooks devoted to schools and school issues. These will be available to enjoy once BHS's new Rideout Research and Reading Room is open in the next month or so.

Once Covid is under control, we hope that young scholars will again attend Jellerson School for a school day in 1910.

MEMBERSHIP in BOWDOINHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

If you haven't already.
Family - \$15.00
Individual - \$10.00
Mail check or cash to address below.
Or via Pay Pal using the donate button on the BHS website. (Please note "membership" in the memo.)
Thanks for Your Support!!

Mail: PO Box 101, Bowdoinham, ME 04008
Online: www.bowdoinhamhistoricalsociety.org/
Like us on Facebook: [facebook.com/thebowdoinhamhistoricalsociety](https://www.facebook.com/thebowdoinhamhistoricalsociety)

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THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

Morning Jo

You Can't Please Everyone: You Are Not Pizza

By Jo Werther

I saw this meme on Facebook recently and thought it might give you a laugh. It definitely made me laugh! Probably because I could relate a little too well. But the thing is, "people-pleasing" is really no laughing matter. Although it's typically thought of more as a "women's issue," plenty of men struggle with it too.

And all kidding aside, the difference between pizza and me, or pizza and you, is this: unlike pizza, we really CAN'T please everybody. No matter how hard we try. There are lots of reasons we might choose to put other people first: taking care of our kids, caregiving for our aging parents, showing up for our friends... Nothing wrong with any of that. If you're anything like me, you probably wouldn't do any of it too differently.

The trouble starts when we do it because we feel we HAVE to rather than because we



CHOOSE to... when we don't say no even if we need or want to.... when we put our own needs last, even to our own detriment... or chronically over-commit... or run ourselves ragged for the people in our lives... and wear ourselves out. Lots of people I know feel guilty when they set boundaries and

resentful when they don't. Quite the dilemma!

But there are some surprisingly simple things you can do if you want to make a change.

For starters: the next time you're struggling with saying no, try asking yourself these 5 questions:

What do I feel?

What do I think?

What do I want?

What do I need?

What's in the way of me acting accordingly?

Keep your answers short. Take a little time to reflect on what came up for you. And see if it helps shift your perspective. Small changes can lead to bigger ones!

Remember to breathe.

Questions?
Something you'd like me to address next time?
Email: info@jowerther.com

The Loose Ladies Book Club to feature the life and legacy of Frances Perkins

Mark Your Calendars! October 21, 2021 at 1PM

The venue is to be determined. Call the Bowdoinham Public Library closer to the date for details- 666-8405

Free and Open to the Public

Frances Perkins, pictured below, (b.1880- d.1965), the first woman to serve in a U.S. presidential cabinet, was Secretary of Labor (1933-1945) for the entire tenure of Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Perkins was the driving force behind many



of the groundbreaking New Deal programs that are still the foundation of the American social safety net—Social Security, unemployment insurance, the 40-hour work week, and the minimum wage. Born in Boston, educated in the public schools of Worcester, and a graduate of Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley, Massachusetts, she spent summers throughout her life at her ancestral family homestead in Newcastle, Maine, now a National Historic Landmark owned by the nonprofit, nonpartisan Frances Perkins Center.

Michael Chaney, pictured right, the speaker and Executive Director of the Frances Perkins Center based in Newcastle, ME, with administrative offices and a public exhibit on Main Street in Damariscotta, will present a program and documentary video about the life and legacy of Frances Perkins. Chaney, a native of Alna, ME, holds an undergraduate degree from the University of Maine-Orono and a Master's in history from the University of Connecticut. Before returning to Maine in 2010, Chaney's career was in non-profit management and public history in Vermont and New Hampshire, including, from 2001 to 2009, serving as President and CEO of the New Hampshire Political Library, a non-profit educational organization founded to preserve New Hampshire's first-in-the-nation presidential primary. From 2010 until 2014, Chaney was the Executive Director of the Yarmouth (Maine) Historical Society.

The program is sponsored by the Loose Ladies Book Club which is in its 19th year and it is in memory of Louise Huntington,



a member who was an avid reader and lover of biographies.

About the Frances Perkins Center The Frances Perkins Center is dedicated to honoring and preserving the legacy of the woman behind the New Deal by continuing Frances Perkins' work for social justice and economic security and by preserving for future generations her nationally significant family homestead in Newcastle, Maine. The Homestead is currently undergoing a major restoration project and will open to the public in 2022.

To learn more about the Frances Perkins Center, call (207) 563-3374, email info@francesperkinscenter.org, or visit www.FrancesPerkinsCenter.org.

FREE PASSES available to Bowdoinham Public Library Card Holders:

Maine Botanical Gardens
Maine State Parks
Peacock Beach
Children's Museum & Theater of Maine
Portland Museum of Art

*A Bowdoinham Public Library Card
is clearly a ticket to adventure and discovery!*

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Office – 666-5941**

Bowdoinham Municipal Directory

Town Office

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

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

Recycling

121 Pond Rd
666-3228

Website: bowdoinham.com/SWR
Recycling Hours:

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

Trash Pick Up:

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

Bowdoinham Public Library

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

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

Animal Control

522-8816

Fire & Rescue

666-3505 (non-emergencies)

Public Works

666-3505

Sagadahoc Sheriff Dept.

443-8201

Water District

(Payments Due Quarterly)
737-4721

THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

Celebrate Bowdoinham

Join us in celebrating Bowdoinham's 259th Birthday! Celebrate is back with fun for the whole family. Come on out and enjoy the festivities. This year will feature lots to see and do, with fine art displays, an inflatable obstacle course, a petting zoo, and recreational tours and demonstrations. Events kick off at 10AM with the parade (from the Fire Station to Main St, down Main St, to River Rd, to Ridge Rd, to Cemetery Rd, to Center St, and back to the Fire Station). This year's theme is "Bowdoinham, Stronger Together!"

Following the parade, vendors, games and activities will be open for all to enjoy. We are excited to announce that in addition to past favorites such as the Lobster Crate Races, Ken-Ducky Derby, and Zucchini Races, there will be opportunities to enjoy some boating and pottery making. Pete Feeney will be introducing would-be rowers to the sport, and Dave Mention will be offering rides (with donation to BCDI) in a locally-crafted Grandlaker canoe at the dock. The Merrymeeting Arts Center will be hosting an open pottery studio and running the Zucchini Races at the skate park. Try your luck with your homemade Zucchini cart and see if you're a veggie racing star! Children can also try their luck with games and a coin scramble, or get their faces painted.

The 12th Annual Celebrate Pie Contest will be held Friday Evening. Bakers looking to compete should drop off their pies at the Bowdoinham Food Pantry between 3:30pm and 5:30pm on Friday, September 10th. Judging starts at 5:30pm and will be based on taste, appearance, crust, if the pie holds its shape when sliced and most importantly, is it pie! The pies will be sold by the slice



the following day during the main festivities. The proceeds of this event will go to Bowdoinham Food Pantry's Backpack program which helps to provide meals for students at BCS.

A very special Quilt Showcase will be on display at Merrymeeting Hall. It will include the first public showing of the Bowdoinham Pandemic Quilt along with the earlier Bowdoinham 1762-1912 quilt and about 8 other Bowdoinham quilts including Coombs School and BBQ quilts.

The Merrymeeting Trailblazers will be hosting a group bike tour of the interim route of the Merrymeeting Trail. Meet at the railroad tracks. The midpoint will be in Richmond with turnaround at Fort Richmond waterfront park. Total distance is 18 mi, with a turn back option for 10 mi route.

All day at the Waterfront, local food vendors will provide a variety of tasty treats and delectable delights. The library will be hosting a used book sale for bookworms to peruse. Just \$1 for hardcover books and fifty-cents for softcover. Grab a bite to eat, a good book, and a seat, and enjoy the live music provided by local musicians and performers starting with a performance of the national anthem, and then Bob White, lovingly known as "Bob the Bus Driver", starting at 11am. Cilantro will bring the day's festivities to an end with their five-piece band performing a variety of classics until the fireworks fly at 8:00pm!

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(207) 666-5601

Celebrate Bowdoinham 2021

September 11th, 2021

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, September 10th

3:30pm

Pie Contest Drop Off at the Food Pantry

5:30pm

Pie Contest Judging Begins

Saturday, September 11th

8:30am

Farmers Market

10:00am

Parade

Route: Fire Station (Post Rd) to Main St; down Main St to River Rd; then River Rd to Ridge Rd to Cemetery Rd to Center St; back to Fire Station.

11:00am

Zucchini Races a Matthew Townsend Parker Memorial Skatepark, 6 Main St

12:00pm

Coin Scramble

1:00pm

Citizen of Year Award

1:00pm

Merrymeeting Trail Bike Ride
2 hour ride, meet by RR tracks

1:30pm

Lobster Crate Races

3:30pm

KenDucky Derby Race

8:00pm

FIREWORKS!

ACTIVITIES AT THE WATERFRONT

Saturday, September 11th

11:00am - 4:00pm

Kids Activities

Inflatable Obstacle Course,
Games, and more!

11:00am - 4:00pm

Petting Zoo

10:00am - 3:00pm

Open Pottery Studio
at Merrymeeting Arts Center

9:00am - 6:00pm

Open Art Gallery
Cathance River Art Gallery
At Knights of Pythias Bldg.

10:00am - 3:00pm

Bowdoinham Quilt Showcase
at Merrymeeting Hall

11:00am - 1:00pm

Boating Activities
With Pete Feeney and Dave Mention
at the docks

1:30 - 3:30pm

Face Painting &
Balloon Twisting
Sponsored by Five County Credit Union

All Day

Hungry? Find a variety of tasty local eats at the waterfront, including farmers market vendors and pie contest entrees by the slice. Frosty pints and hot wings can be found at Three Robbers Pub, and deli items and ice cream cones at Bowdoinham Country Store!

MUSIC AT THE GAZEBO

Saturday, September 11th

10:55am

Margot Frost
Singing the National Anthem

11:00am

Bob White
A local hero, "Bob the Bus Driver" is a kids favorite

11:45am

Sapphire Lane
Bowdoinham's own, singing duo

1:00pm

Pretty Girls Sing Soprano
A trio of terrific harmonies by terrific women

2:15pm

Watersong's Best Students
and Recording Artists.
From Bowdoinham's own Watersong Music

3:45pm

Red Beans and Rice
A well-oiled trio playing rumbly old-time Blues and Americana

5:00pm

Peter Gallaway
A well-known favorite with classic rock and releases from a new album

6:30pm

Cilantro
*Five-piece band featuring great harmonies on classics past to present
Performing until the start of fireworks*

For more information, visit us on Facebook or at www.Bowdoinham.com

For Covid-19 safety information, please refer to the Maine CDC website and on-site signage.

THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

Community Calendar

September

6th
Labor Day - *Office Closed*

11th
Celebrate Bowdoinham!

October

2nd
Bulky Waste and Freon Disposal Day

Closing Day of Farmer's Market

11th
Indigenous Peoples' Day - *Office Closed*

November

1st First Half of Property Taxes Due

2nd
Municipal and School Election

11th
Veteran's Day - *Office Closed*

20th
Thanksgiving Farmers Market

25th & 26th
Thanksgiving - *Office Closed*

27th
Alternate Curbside Trash Pick Up Day
(due to holiday)

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 5:30pm

Planning Board
4th Thursday of Month at 7:00pm

**Advisory Committee on
Age Friendly Bowdoinham**
2nd Monday of Month at 2:30pm

Comprehensive Planning Committee
2nd Tuesday of Month at 6:30pm

**Community Development
Advisory Committee**
1st Tuesday of Month at 6:30pm

Cemetery Advisory Committee
1st Monday of Month at 4:30pm

Solid Waste Committee
Every other Wednesday at 5:30pm

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