



THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

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BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Auto Repair Services

By Wendy Rose

With several auto repair businesses, Bowdoinham is a one-stop-shop for all your repair needs.

Stewart Burrell

Stewart Burrell is a Bowdoinham native and has been providing repair services since 1988. His large barn/garage was originally built to handle the wood business he ran with his father.

After the flood of 1987, Stewart decided to switch gears and began to service logging trucks, heavy equipment, tractors, and construction vehicles. The barn was a perfect place with its 2 large bays and lots of room for heavy equipment. Brakes, rear ends, transmissions, under carriage, fabrication, welding, and engine work are just some of the types of jobs that Stewart is able to handle. He also has a mobile unit that helps him reach Bowdoinham and Richmond snow plows if they get in trouble in the middle of a storm. While he has never advertised, word of mouth referrals keep him busy.

Stewart has chosen to focus on large trucks and does not do state inspections or auto repair. He will do occasional pickup truck work.

Stewart has just finished a term on the town's Finance Advisory Committee and has served as a Selectman in the past.

You can find Stewart at 499 Carding Machine Road and can reach him by calling 737-8554.

Cobb's Repair Service Kyle Cobb

Kyle has just finished his 3-year project of building a large garage next to the Bowdoinham airport on the Wallentine

Road. His 3 lifts, large bays and modern facility can accommodate any size vehicle. Kyle has worked in a variety of industries: power sports, construction, and excavation--and has a lot of hands-on experience. He is very happy to have located in Bowdoinham where his dream of having an all-around repair shop can take shape.

While Cobb's Repair Service can do state inspections and regular mechanical work on cars, Kyle's real specialty is diesel trucks. He works on heavy equipment, tractors, and can service fleets such as town trucks or landscaping equipment. He has built up so many customers, that he has needed to add 2 employees. His wife, Heather, coordinates everything from the waiting room.

No matter what the problem is, "we can fix just about anything," according to Kyle. "We give customers the best deal we can and try to make it happen."

You can reach Kyle at 666-5985, cobbrepairservice@gmail.com or at 6 Wallentine Road.

G&G Gas and Repair George Gilba

George, and his wife Irene, have been running G&G Gas and Repair in the Bowdoinham village since 1996. When they took it over, it was a bit rundown,

so they have worked hard to improve the facility and to build the business.

George received his automotive repair training in Europe. After immigrating to the U.S. from Hungary in 1980, it took some time to find the right spot for his own business. New Jersey and New York were too crowded and hectic so he traveled north and found the place he wanted to be right here in Bowdoinham.

G&G Gas and Repair is a licensed Maine State Inspection Station and can do any type of repair. The garage has 2 lifts, and when George gets too busy, he gets help from other mechanics. His true specialty is Mercedes, BMW, and Audis, something that is easy to see by looking at the lot near his garage which looks like a German used car parking lot! Other mechanics in town will send these car models to George because of his expertise and experience with them.

As many know, Irene recently had a stroke. Many citizens in town have been helping out at the garage by pumping gas so George can continue to concentrate on repairs. George is very grateful for this help and reports that Irene has been coming home on the weekends; a happy development.

George can be reached at 666-5535, or stop by the garage.

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Auto Repair Services

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Hoyt's Auto Repair

Jeff Hoyt

Jeff Hoyt has been in business at 120 Pond Road (on Route 125 next to the former Hilltop Homes) for nine years now. He did car repair on the Post Road beginning in 1991, but really likes this current location. His 3 bay garage has one lift. He added an experienced car technician 6 years ago and between them, they have 57 years of experience.

As an official Maine State Inspection Station, they are able to handle all the repairs that come up relating to inspection issues. They also have the diagnostic equipment that is needed to assess what is wrong with vehicles. Jeff has seen the industry change a lot over the years with computers and diagnostics. "The most fun, however, is when we get to do a rebuild or fabricate a part," Jeff says. This is where his long experience comes in handy.

One of the bays of the garage is devoted to motorcycle repair which is a specialty for Jeff. Both he and his employee are certified motorcycle inspectors. They service all makes and models, but as a Harley Davidson owner, Jeff especially enjoys working on them.

All of Jeff's business has come through word of mouth. "I try to take care of people and their car needs. There are a lot of good people in this town. They keep me busy. This is a good town to make a living in."

You can reach Jeff at 666-8009.

Kevin O'Farrell

"My neighbors call me the everything man," says Kevin. Indeed, Kevin has a number of enterprises operating out of his

location at 5 Brook Lane, just off the Post Road. His auto repair service grew out of his 15 year experience at dealerships. He enjoys having his own garage now, and has a beautiful building which he started in 2007.

Kevin is an official Maine State Inspection Station, so he does all the normal repairs that may be needed for a car to pass inspection. He works on all makes and models, but refers any diesel engine work out to another Bowdoinham mechanic.

His garage is equipped with state-of-the-art diagnostic equipment and a large lift. Because he worked for a number



George Gilba

of years at Volvo dealerships, Kevin has special skills and knowl-



Jeff Hoyt

edge for Volvos. Indeed, his yard looked a little like a used Volvo car lot. He has seen Volvos go 300,000 miles and

more when they are well maintained.

Kevin's other business is property maintenance including snow plowing and summer mowing and maintenance. He has commercial contracts in the Topsham area and also does a few residential properties.

"I have never had to advertise except for the town website," Kevin comments. "I want people to know that I stand behind my work. I like the country setting. It is more peaceful, and my customers are very understanding." Kevin mentioned how easy it is to work with the Bowdoin-

ham town officials and how helpful they have been.

You can reach Kevin at 721-2787 or at kofarrell@gmail.com.

Dave's Auto

Dave Robert

Dave is part of the Robert family that grew up helping their dad at Robert's Auto Center on the Bay Road. He also gained experience working at other auto body shops as an Auto Body Technician,

but, as he says, "There's nothing like working for yourself." He moved in to the former Sandy's Repair Service garage at 673 Post

Road in April, 2013, and has been upgrading the property ever since.

Dave specializes in collision repair and rust treatment. He can also do tune ups, exhaust, front end work, and brakes. "Rust repair is my forte," says Dave. "If it isn't repaired right, a rust repair job can

look pretty for a year and then rust appears because it is rusting from the inside." He pays special attention to getting down to the basic problem and

fixing it.

Word of mouth is keeping Dave busy along with referrals from other garages in town which don't want to deal with rust issues. Since Bowdoinham is his home town, a lot of people know Dave. He also gets quite a few customers from Bath since he went to high school in Bath.

"I like being in Bowdoinham," Dave says. "It has a nice small town feel."

You can reach Dave at 666-3246 and at his garage at 673 Post Road.



Kevin O'Farrell



Kyle Cobb



Dave Robert

Robert's Auto Body & Sales
Shawn Robert

It's hard to miss Robert's Auto Body and Sales on the Bay Road. The colorful flags, used car display, and bustling activity immediately draw one's attention when driving on the road to Topsham.

Shawn grew up in this business that his dad started in 1969 and learned about car repair and auto body work from the time he started work there at 18. His practical experience with his father was bolstered by training at the Maine Region 10 Technical High School along with some post-graduate work.

The business has expanded to four departments: auto repair, auto body work, salvage, and car sales. Nine employees are kept busy throughout these departments. With several buildings, 8 lifts, and a well-disguised auto salvage yard holding 500-600 cars, the property is full of car-related activity (to say nothing of the small farm and alpacas). Auto repair is the largest department, and as an official Maine State Inspection Station, they are fully equipped to diagnose and repair any inspection-related issues. Collision repair and auto body work is a specialty, but all rust repair is referred to Shawn's older brother Dave (see other profile). Approximately 115 cars are sold off the lot in a year.

Shawn is very active with the Topsham Fair and serves as Vice-President on the Board. His collection of 28 horse-drawn wagons and 12 sleighs is now displayed in a special museum at the Fair Grounds. He has started on a second museum that displays period items, and would like to expand it in coming years. "I like being in Bowdoinham," Shawn says.

You can reach Shawn at 725-4430 and fbowdoinham@yahoo.com.

Thibeault's Auto Care
James Thibeault

Jim has one of the newer auto service businesses in town, but he has already put in over 17 years doing auto body repair

when working elsewhere. He bought his home on the Millay Road eight years ago with the thought that he would eventually like to have his own business, and he was able to get underway about a year ago. The large barn/garage is a great facility with 2 lifts, room for 4 vehicles, and a side paint room. Like several other of our Bowdoinham auto repair entrepreneurs, he received his initial training at the



Stewart Burrell

some mechanical repair work. His specialty, however,



Chad Weaver

friendly product that provides important protection against rust. "When you're in Maine, everything is subject to rust," Jim advises, "so it is important to have this protection." It is possible to do the undercoating at any point in the year. The only issue during the winter is that it takes a little longer since the undercarriage has to be completely dry before applying the coating.

Jim and his family enjoy being in Bowdoinham, and he likes being in business for himself. "I work on everyone's vehicle like I'd work on my own," he says.

You can find Jim at 356 Millay Road.

Maine Region 10 Technical High School.

Jim is equipped to handle auto body repair, rust work, and



Jim Thibeault er, is undercoating using Fluid Film—a lanolin-based, environmentally



Shawn Robert

His phone number is 319-8100.

Top Tech Auto Repair
Chad Weaver

Chad is very grateful to be the new owner of the former Stillwell's Garage at 25 Fisher Road. His wife, Kelly, came up with their new name, Top Tech Auto Repair which reflects Chad's special ability with diagnostic work and electronics. Kelly has also redecorated the pleasant waiting area which even has a corner for children.

Chad brings an extensive background in auto repair to this new enterprise. He got his initial training at the Maine Region 10 Technical High School and then attended Vocational Technical Institute in Illinois for further training. Working at a business in Lisbon Falls for several years has added practical experience. "I always wanted to do this work," Chad says, "and it is really great that I live just down the road from the business."

Top Tech Auto Repair is well equipped with 5 lifts and plenty of space for several cars. Chad was so busy, he added an employee six months ago. This frees him up to take on larger jobs such as engines and transmissions.

As an official Maine State Inspection Station, he does all the repair work that is usually associated with inspections—brake work, exhaust, electronics, and suspension. All car models are serviced, although Chad will sometimes refer owners of Mercedes and BMW's to George Gilba in the village (see other profile).

Many of Chad's customers from Lisbon Falls have followed him to his new location. "All of my customers who have been with me for years know and trust my recommendations," Chad explains. "If I notice that something really needs to be done on the car while I am working on it, it really does need to be done! I don't suggest extra work unless it is really important."

Chad can be reached at 666-1055 and at toptechauto@yahoo.com.

Bowdoinham Holiday Festival



*Tree Lighting
by Tony Cox*



*Pony Parade
by Kate Cutko*



*Horse Wagon Rides
by Kate Cutko*



Music by Susan Tuttle Photography



*Cheez
by Susan Tuttle Photography*



Village Display by Nicole Briand



*School Craft Fair
by Susan Tuttle Photography*



With Santa by Susan Tuttle Photography



*Bowdoinham Guild of Artisans Show
by Tony Cox*



Morphee Creations by Tony Cox



*Library at the Guild
by Kate Cutko*



Polar Bear Dip by Nicole Briand



Dippers by Jessica Sullivan



*Cookie Decorating at Long Branch
by Nicole Briand*



Polar Bear Dip by Anibal Berry-Gaviria



*Polar Bear Dip
by Bonnie Shippen*

Ice & Smelt Festival

By Lee Parker

Merrymeeting Arts Center is excited to host the third annual Ice and Smelt Festival on Saturday, February 8th from 2pm until dark. The festivities will take place at Maily Waterfront Park, Merrymeeting Arts Center and the Masonic Hall. This is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy winter activities and the arts!

Activities will include:

- Best Beard Contest run in collaboration with the Maine Facial Hair Club with many categories for competitors. We hope the enthusiasm of the first two years will be repeated with a huge turnout of hairy folks to compete in numerous categories and an audience to cheer them on.



- Indoor games
- Art activities
- Mural painting
- Outdoor games and sports (weather dependent of course)
- Bonfire

Afternoon activities will conclude with entertainment (to be announced) followed by a Soup and Bread Supper where hungry folks can sample a range of exotic soups as well as old favorites.

Events will conclude with the launching of paper lanterns. The lanterns may be purchased and decorated in advance or bought at the last moment for \$5 apiece. This event is a visual delight not to be



tion and smelt shack decorating contest the week of February 1st, so stay tuned for more information.

The final schedule will be posted online at www.merrymeetingartscenter.org and on the Town of Bowdoinham website as well in various places around town. We hope to have a huge turnout for this third Ice & Smelt Festival!

Festival goers will have the opportunity to visit the new Merrymeeting Arts Center Pottery Project in the recently renovated Green Building and to sign up for Winter classes in pottery, photography, drawing, lego/robotics and place-based preschool. The Gallery will also be open featuring the ever changing exhibit of works by Bryce Muir.

The Merrymeeting Arts Center has provided art exhibits, education, and events for the local communities for the last seven years. Among its many offerings have been: 25 art exhibits, art classes, summer drop-in art, workshops, lectures, films, slide shows, art activities at



Celebrate and Holiday Festival.



Night out in Bowdoinham

By Kathy Tome

On Saturday, February 1st, please join us at the Bowdoinham Community School for a night filled with excellent food, musical performances by talented teachers and local friends as well as a Live Auction. All proceeds from this event will go towards the Bowdoinham Heating Assistance Fund.

Most of us take it for granted that when we come home in the winter months, our house will be warm or we at least have the option to turn up the thermostat or load the wood stove. For several families in Bowdoinham, that is not always the case. Some of you may know about the Bowdoinham Heating Assistance Fund. Unfortunately, many residents rely on the BHAF to help with their heating costs during the cold winter months. This program is funded totally by donations.

The Ladies Auxiliary will be organizing the dinner, Sandy Petteruti will be arranging the musical talent and Kathy Tome will be coordinating the Auction. You won't want to miss this fun filled evening of delicious food, amazing musical talent and the great items that will be available for the auction.

Tickets will be \$10 per person, \$25 for a family. Sponsorships will be available if you can't afford to go. Don't be the one that says, "I wished I had gone". Mark your calendar today to have a great evening with your family and in the process helping to keep a neighbor warm!!

Tickets are available at the Town Office or by calling 751-0080. Can't make it, but would like to help? Checks can be mailed to the Bowdoinham Town Office and made out to the Town of Bowdoinham and reference the Bowdoinham Heating Assistance Fund.

Have an item you would like to donate to the Live Auction or want to help in anyway, please let us!! For more information, contact Kathy Tome at 751-0080 or kathytome@gmail.com.



Art For Everyone

THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

News from BCDI

By David Whittlesey

The past several months have seen some important developments for BCDI, all promising for the organizations long-term viability. But perhaps most importantly, BCDI completed its 8th Community Development Loan in late October to support Banana Banners in putting on a new roof! Check out the new shade of Burgundy! And in early December, Left Field Farm repaid the second part of its loan, once again, in full and ahead of time. Sean and company are off to a great start!

In October, BCDI met several times with the Securities Administrator of the State of Maine Office of Securities. Judith Shaw and her team were most helpful

in clarifying the process and procedures necessary for the BCDI Community Loan Program to fully comply with state regulations. These were tested out with the Banana Banners loan, through which we established a “template” for the process so that it can continue to be quick and



efficient while not running afoul of the State Code.

Also in October, BCDI entered into an agreement with the Kennebec Estuary Land Trust (KELT) and Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust (BTLT) to assist in their Local Farms-Local Food project. David Whittlesey, as Manager of BCDI, will work closely with Chris Cabot and his colleagues to help shape the goals of the Community Agricultural Connections

program which is funded through the Sewall Foundation.

In November, The Internal Revenue Service finally determined that BCDI is exempt from Federal Income Tax under section 501 (c) (3). This means that contributions to BCDI are tax deductible, as are “bequests, devises, transfers or gifts” received by the organization. This means that your Membership contribution, in addition to helping sustain BCDI, is now tax deductible.

A last bit of good news comes from the New England Grassroots Environmental Fund which in December awarded BCDI a grant of \$2,000 to continue our work in 2014. This is all very encouraging, and makes growing the BCDI Membership all the more important. If you haven’t done so, please visit our website (www.bcdi.us/membership) and become a member today!

News from Long Branch

By Nanette Giacoma

There is a lot happening at Long Branch this winter.

Holistic Health Fair

Take Care of Yourself in the New Year. Tease the tension out of your mind, body and soul at our Holistic Health Fair on Sunday, February 2nd, 1-4pm. Not only will you enjoy the healing benefits of our local experts, you will receive information on how to make this year one of your healthiest. We will be offering:

- Chair Massages
- Herbal Remedies
- Holistic Nutrition
- Meditation
- Reiki
- Oracle Card Readings
- Yoga and more!

Free Soup Fridays

Who says there is no such thing as a free lunch? Join us Fridays, 11am-1pm, for a bowl of delicious homemade soup made with local ingredients. Can’t make it

Fridays? Not to worry! We are now selling homemade soup Tuesday & Thursday, 11am-1pm. Soup is served with a slice of the famous Black Crow bread. Yum!

SoulCollage with Nanette

2nd & 4th Fridays of the Month, 11:30am-1:30pm.

Whether you consider yourself an artist or not, SoulCollage is easy, fun and powerful. As you cut images from magazines that speak to you and glue them to your SoulCollage card, you will explore your imagination, intuition and wisdom. Grab a free bowl of soup and join us for a couple hours in a relaxed, creative space.

Buying Club

Every two weeks we offer a bounty of Maine Produce and Products. Once a month we offer select items from United Natural Foods. Rice, raisins, and peanut butter, for instance. All items offered through the buying club have a 15% mark-up which will be evident in your on-line basket. Our annual membership fee is \$25. New customers can try it free for one order cycle. Frequent buyer program: \$5 off for every \$100 spent. Order

windows open on a Friday and close on a Monday. Pick-ups begin on Friday.

Winter 2014 Courses

- Introduction to Wood Carving
- Introduction to Beekeeping
- Fundamentals of Cheese Making
- Introduction to Furniture Making
- Introduction to Edible and Medicinal Mushrooms
- 8-week Beekeeping Course
- Micro-greens: Grow Your Own
- Wood Carving – The Complete Series
- Seed-Starting in Soil Blocks
- Knife and Tool Sharpening
- Graft Your Own Apple Trees
- Introduction to Traditional Archery
- Poultry Series: Class 1, 2 & 3
- Bread Baking Class 101
- Shiitake Mushrooms: Grow Your Own
- Wild Food Foraging Walk
- Introduction to Timber Framing
- Outdoor Wood-fired Clay Oven Workshop
- Introduction to Chair Caning
- And much more!

For more information, please contact us at 666-8900 or www.longbranch-school.com.

Five County Credit Union

By The Five County Credit Union Team

Five County Credit Union celebrated the grand opening of its newest branch with a ribbon-cutting ceremony held at 9 Main St. in Bowdoinham on Saturday, November 9, 2013 at 10am. The event was attended by Five County Credit Union Board Members, employees and their families, along with representation from the Midcoast Chamber of Commerce and local residents. The ribbon cutting was followed with light refreshments provided by the Town Landing restaurant along with face painting and balloon twisting by Party Palooga. Thank you to everyone who made this event possible, we look forward to serving the Bowdoinham community.

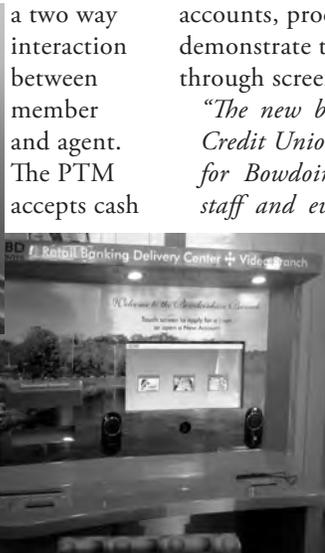
"We are thrilled to have the opportunity to service the needs of our Bowdoinham community. Our new full service Video branch allows us to further strengthen our relationship with local residents and businesses by providing a unique experience and convenient access to all of their Five County accounts, through our one-of-a kind RBD, 'Retail Banking Delivery Center' touch screen kiosk and PTM, 'Personal Teller Machine'," said Richard Dupuis, Five County President and CEO.

This unique branch is based entirely on video banking technology. We have two units; one for transactions such as deposits & withdrawals via a Personal Teller Machine, 'PTM'. The PTM is not self-serve, it is operated by our call center agents who are located at our Lewiston branch. The video conference allows for



a two way interaction between member and agent. The PTM accepts cash and checks for deposit; dispenses cash, checks and coin and has an ID scanner and signature pad.

"As an employee of Five County Credit Union and also a resident of Bowdoinham, I am very excited to see a new branch in my home town. I love being able to assist my neighbors with their financial needs and to be a face of the credit union in my own community makes me proud of where I work and live." -Christine Goth, Five County Employee & Bowdoinham Resident



Five County's Retail Banking Delivery Center, or RBD, accommodates members for new accounts and loans. It is a sit-down 'kiosk' unit with a touch screen monitor, integrated signature pad, ID scanner, document scanner and printer. Members initiate a video session with a call center agent who is able to open accounts, process and close loans; and demonstrate the use of online products through screen sharing.

"The new branch of the Five County Credit Union offers a great opportunity for Bowdoinham. The Five County staff and everyone else involved have been very considerate and are truly interested in what the people of Bowdoinham want and need, and have been willing to think outside the box to make it happen. It has certainly struck a lot of interest from what I hear, and I think they will see a boost

in their membership from this." -Lynn Spiro, Owner, The Town Landing.

The hours of the Bowdoinham branch are from 8:30am to 8:00pm Monday through Saturday and open on all holidays except for Thanksgiving and Christmas. To learn more about Five County Credit Union, call 800-750-0959 or visit our website at www.fivecounty.com.

Jeff THE ELECTRICIAN

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Bowdoinham Historical Society News

By Betsy Steen

It's been a busy and productive fall!! Jellerson School is FINISHED (as much as any old and evolving building is) and open for business. We have used it officially 24 separate occasions in 2013! BHS, 250th Committee, and BayView Cemetery meetings, cataloging work sessions, events such as the Ice Cream Social and Celebration of Childhood Past, and visits from 2nd and 4th grade classes. It's a very happy little building! And it really does have the prettiest working outhouse in all of Maine and a full woodshed.

A Celebration of Childhood Past was such fun that we just couldn't take it down after only 2 days so it was open 2 more Sunday afternoons in November and again on December 7th as part of Bowdoinham Holiday Festival. It was a great success overall, but the most fun was seeing the reactions of the children who visited. Indeed it produced enough

happy memories to warm the whole winter. And it will be the pattern for many future BHS "November Celebration of History" displays. Stay tuned.

BHS Reading and Research Room is taking shape! The old Bowdoinham School Superintendent's Office atop Coombs Municipal Building had been cleaned, scraped, painted, had windows fixed, and shelves built, and all in all is now a delightful space in which to work with BHS's extensive collection. It is conveniently close to the storage area the town built for us some years ago. It is furnished with a large library table, a desk that belonged to Gladys Raymond when she taught 1st & 2nd grades at Coombs School, donated by Adelbert and Linda Temple, and two comfortable wing chairs. Thanks to the town and our great crew of volunteers.

In the Spring we plan to begin work on the BHS Meeting House. Built in 1884 as the Old School Baptist Church, it graces the corner of River Road and Browns Point Road. Also in the planning stage is a small 'Carriage Shed' at the Meeting House for storage and other uses.



Childhood Past Display



Jellerson School House



Childhood Past Display

Support BHS

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

Available at the Town Office or Bowdoinham Public Library.

BHS Needs & Wishes

'Another Way to Recycle'

Jellerson School House:

- Primary level musical Instruments (triangle, rhythm sticks, etc)
- Any old school house items: dip pens, antique crayons, pencils, books, slates, old oilcloth, etc. We have enough desks, thank you everyone!
- Orphan mittens & hats for the mitten bin, old wool sweaters

Research and Reading Room:

- Laptop computers, (able to do MS Word & Excel, and /or Mac Pages & Numbers and/ or connect to the Internet wirelessly),
- Printer • Scanner •Laminator
- Kuerig Single Cup Coffee maker

We'll give them a safe home and a new career and you a 501c3 donation receipt.

Don't Miss

Don't miss our own Frank Connor's new book, **Speaking Frankly!** (\$16.95 or 2/\$30)

Available at People Plus or Gulf of Maine Books in Brunswick or at his book signing at the Bowdoinham Public Library on January 14th at 7pm.

BHS Annual Meeting

Please join us on Thursday, January 30th at 7:00pm in the Select Board's Meeting Room (the Kendall Room), Coombs Municipal Building, 13 School St. There will be a brief business meeting and the election of officers. Then we'll enjoy **Archaeology and Bowdoinham** with Don Foster and some refreshments.

BHS Memberships

\$5.00 for an individual
\$10.00 for a family

Please send to:
PO Box 101
Bowdoinham, ME 04008

or visit our website,
www.bowdoinhamhistoricalsociety.org

Brunswick Area Student Aid Fund

By Kate Cutko

Since its inception, thousands of high school graduates living in the communities of Bowdoinham, Bowdoin, Harpswell, Brunswick, and Topsham, have received post-secondary financial assistance from the Brunswick Area Student Aid Fund (BASAF).

Formed in the mid-1950's by a group led by Mario Tonon, BASAF accepted a total of \$5,700 from various contributors. Tonon was a Principal at Brunswick High School and later Superintendent of Brunswick Schools. Since then, BASAF has awarded approximately \$6.3 million to area students pursuing education beyond high school.

All graduates of, or students about to graduate from, Mount Ararat High School and Brunswick High School are eligible for awards. Graduates of other secondary schools who are residents of Bowdoin, Bowdoinham, Brunswick, Harpswell or Topsham, as well as residents of those communities who were home-schooled, are also eligible. Qualifying students are eligible for up to 2 years of need-based assistance.

"The cost of higher education continues to grow at a rate faster than the general inflation rate. College bound students and their families face a significant financial burden, and the mission of BASAF is to help," says Dan Doiron, BASAF's Treasurer.

BASAF awards are named in honor of various individuals and groups who have supported BASAF by providing endow-

ment funds and other support over the years. In the course of 57 years, there are many who have contributed to the success of BASAF.

The Fund's largest source of funding comes from the McKenney Booker Educational Trust. Marion McKenney was an educator in Brunswick for over 40 years. She served as the founding Treasurer of BASAF for approximately 25 years. She and her husband, Emery Booker, established their Educational Trust under the terms of their Wills in order to provide on-going support for BASAF's mission.

One BASAF fund intended to benefit residents of Bowdoinham is the Bowdoinham Community School Fund. Awards from this fund are based on student financial need, and intended for high school graduates who are residents of the Town of Bowdoinham. This fund was started by a former principal of the Community School, Paul Burns, upon his retirement. Mr. Burns served for 28 years as principal of the Community School and retired in 1993. He reports that the initial investment came from the remnants of a small fund at the school from soda machine sales. That fund now holds over \$14,000. Current BASAF board members include two Bowdoinham residents; Kate Cutko, Bowdoinham Public Library Director, and Joannie Mitchell, school nurse at Brunswick High School. Bob Curtis and Marla Blake each served over 10 years each on the BASAF board.

For more information, please visit their website at studentaidfund.org. Contributions are greatly appreciated and should be sent to BASAF, PO Box 867, Brunswick, ME 04011."

News from the Library

By Kate Cutko

Here is a line-up of great winter events at the Bowdoinham Public Library. All programs take place from 7 to 9pm and are free of charge. Weather cancellations will be posted on the library's website: www.BowdoinhamLibrary.org, on our Facebook page, and on our phone's answering machine: 666-8405.

Please go to our website for more details about these programs.

- **January 14th**- Author Talk & Book Signing with Frank Connors. Frank will talk about his recently published book, Frankly Speaking is comprised of essays written for the People Plus newsletter.

- **January 21st**- Genealogy Workshop with Theresa Turgeon. Teresa will show folks how she got started with the use of Ancestry.com, a program that is free and accessible through the library's computer. No experience necessary. This is for folks new to ancestry.com.

- **February 4th**- Sugar Blues Workshop with Mary Stride. Do you crave sweets? Is that craving getting the best of you? If you are ready to have more energy, fewer cravings and take back control, join Mary for this informational workshop.

- **February 11th**- Author Talk & Book Signing with Richard Rubin. The Last of the Doughboys: The Forgotten Generation and Their Forgotten War, chronicles the last living American veterans of World War I, all between the ages of 101 and 113, and captures their stories.

We hope to see you this winter!



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The Upcoming Legislative Session

By Representative Seth Berry

When the Maine Legislature reconvenes in January, we will take up a number of issues facing the state, ranging from health care to education to supporting our small businesses. Roughly 200 proposals will be vetted through the public hearing process and worked on in committees before going to the full legislature.

Unlike the first session, the second session of each two-year Legislature is reserved for bills of a more pressing nature, or bills carried over from the previous year. While a few tend to grab the headlines, other meritorious proposals tend to fly below the media's radar. Two of these are the veteran's court bill and a bill to strengthen Maine's OUI laws.

The veteran's court legislation, proposed by my colleague Rep. Lori Fowle of Vassalboro, would expand this popular program into other regions of the state. Maine's only veteran's court currently operates in Kennebec County. Specializing in the unique needs of veterans, the court takes a team approach in dealing with veterans who after leaving the military, struggle with substance abuse issues and have been in trouble with the law.

As many of us have seen in among our

own friends or families, these folks often have no previous brushes with the law, but after returning home from war, have problems reintegrating into society. The current treatment court has been successful and has existed with very little funding and the gracious efforts of volunteer judges, attorneys and counseling professionals. This program can be replicated in other areas of the state with just a bit of effort on our part. It seems only right to help those who have done so much for us.

Another bill, sponsored by retired Maine State Trooper and colleague, Rep. Tim Marks of Pittston, would strengthen the OUI laws. Under current law, prosecutors may only charge a drunk driver as a repeat offender if the driver has a prior conviction within the past 10 years. Repeat offenses result in stricter penalties, including license revocation.

Marks' bill would allow the state to hold repeat OUI offenders more accountable by extending the number of years that an OUI counts against a driver's record to 15 years. In bringing this proposal forward, Rep. Marks has made compelling arguments about the carnage he has seen as a trooper, and how often it was those repeat offenders causing these deadly accidents. He also pointed out that many states never clear the OUI from the driver's record. This bill will go before the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee in the coming months,

where members will need to decide what to recommend to the full Legislature after the public has a chance to weigh in.

As your Representative, I also have a number of proposals that will be deliberated by the Legislature. These include a bill to help foster children transition into adulthood, legislation to improve early child care and a measure to better inform college-bound students of their choices.

I am also pleased to be working with our new State Senator, Eloise Vitelli, on a measure to move Maine towards a system of universal voluntary pre-K education. I'm looking forward to the coming session and to doing the people's work as your Representative and as House Majority Leader for another year.

As always, please feel free to contact me about state or legislative business anytime!

Thank You Seth!

Once again, Seth took the plunge at the Polar Bear Dip to raise money for the Skatepark.



Thank you to Seth and all those who sponsored him, your support is greatly appreciated!!!

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News from Friends of Merrymeeting Bay

By Dup Crosson

Happy 2014 from FOMB! We're kicking off the New Year with our Annual Meeting and Potluck on January 8th, and we'd love to see you there! The night begins at 6:00pm at the Cram Alumni House on the Bowdoin College campus, 86 Federal Street in Brunswick. In addition to the food, we'll have our brief annual business meeting and elections before our featured speaker at 7:00pm. Bruce Bourque, Chief Archaeologist at the Maine State Museum, closes the evening with a presentation entitled *The Swordfish Hunters*, as part of our 2013-2014 Speaker Series.

We'll be continuing our Speaker Series, monthly presentations through May, at 7:00pm at Brunswick's Curtis Memorial Library, unless otherwise noted.

FOMB is powered by only one staff member and is always looking for new members and volunteers, so please bring a friend!

For more information, please contact Dup Crosson, Coordinator/Organizer, at 666-1118 or visit our website at www.fomb.org.



News from Cub Scouts

By Cathy Curtis

This fall our pack has been busy going on hikes at the Wildes' Preserve and Camden Hills, collecting food for the Bowdoinham Food Pantry, visiting the fire station, earning belt loops, badges and pins and selling popcorn. A big thank you to the community for your financial support of our pack which helps send our Cubs to summer camp.



Wildes' Preserve



Top of Bald Rock Mountain

One of our highlights was visiting the State House on Veteran's

Day where Representative Seth Berry gave us a guided tour and facilitated a debate and vote on two bills proposed by the scouts in the House of Representatives. A special thank you to Mr. Berry for taking time out of his day to educate the Scouts.

Live Internet Streaming-Select Board Meetings

By William Post

Beginning in February, meetings of the Select Board will be streamed live over the internet on a trial basis so that residents and others interested may watch these meetings. In addition, the meetings will be able to be viewed for up to one year as they will be archived as part of the service. The meetings will be able to be viewed from a link on the Town's website (www.bowdoinham.com) or from www.townhallstreams.com. Please check the Town's website for further information. This service may be increased to cover other meetings that are held in the Select Board's meeting room depending on the number of viewers.

Do you want to receive a copy of The Bowdoinham News, but don't live in Bowdoinham? Now you can!!!

Individuals may now order a yearly subscription to The Bowdoinham News for only \$15 (per year). For more information or to order a subscription, please contact Nicole Briand, Director of Planning & Development at 666-5531 or nbriand@bowdoinham.com.

Bowdoinham Food Pantry

Open Fridays 3-6pm, 9 Main Street

We are helping so many families and we could not do it without the support of this town!!

Want to Donate? Checks can be made out to Bowdoinham Food Pantry, P.O. Box 246, Bowdoinham, ME 04008. Have donations to drop off? They can be delivered to the pantry, Town Office or Town Landing, during normal business hours!

For more information, visit our Facebook page or contact us at 751-0080 or bowdoinhamfoodpantry@gmail.com.

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Plumbing Tip *Toilet Bowl Cleaning*

Toilet bowl cleaners that are placed in the tank contain a high amount of bleach that will degrade the rubber and plastic working parts of your toilet, voiding the warranty and causing problems to develop. Toilet bowl cleaners that hang on the inside rim of the bowl run the danger of becoming dislodged and accidentally being flushed down, often times causing a serious blockage. They are job security to me! An old fashioned manual cleaning is your best option. Also, many newer toilet seats actually easily snap off for easy thorough cleaning of the bowl rim.

Committee on Aging 2013 Report

By Gracia Woodward

Currently there are 80 people in Bowdoinham who are 75 years old and older, and 300 people between the ages of 66 and 74. These numbers are expected to triple in the next nine years.

How We Began

In the fall of 2012, the Committee on Aging in Bowdoinham (COA) was formed as an advisory committee to the Selectboard. The committee adopted, as its priorities, the first three steps reported in a needs assessment, "Aging in Bowdoinham" that had been done during the summer:

- (1) Provide a regularly distributed list of local activities, volunteer opportunities and services offered by the town to support aging in place.
- (2) Provide a local resource person to help older residents access needed services.
- (3) Develop a network of volunteers willing to give time to help older or disabled town residents.

What We've Done So Far

- October 2012 – Monthly meetings of the Committee on Aging began.
- January 2013 – Bowdoinham Senior Center opened, Thursdays at the Second Baptist Church. COA began regular articles in the Bowdoinham Newsletter. COA decided to increase its meeting to two a month.
- February – Began distributing a

monthly listing of local Activities and Resources for seniors. Met with Barry Lohnes, director of Region 10 Technical High School (still known as "voc tech") to discuss services to seniors as one of the employment options for students. Effective Sept 2013, the school has incorporated this emphasis



Bridge Class



Holiday Centerpiece Demonstration

into its curriculum.

- March – Began planning for monthly movie showings at the Senior Center, which continue every first Thursday
- April – Exercise Plus began on Thursdays at the firehouse: strength, flexibility and balance exercises suitable for all ages that can be done standing or sitting. Monday walking group began. Five to seven people participate each week. Home modification assessment tool put in Bowdoinham Library.
- June – A second session of Exercise Plus began on Tuesdays. Both classes continue to attract enthusiastic participants. 15 people come fairly regularly, and another eight have come once or twice to

try it out. An eight-session Matter of Balance class was held. For their final project, participants assessed the Town Office with regard to safety and accessibility and presented their findings to Town Manager, Bill Post, who received their information enthusiastically. We held a feedback session on COA activities and received many positive comments.

- September – At Celebrate Bowdoinham we staffed a table.
- October – Bridge lessons began, took the holidays off, and started up again the first of this year. We visited the senior center in Litchfield.
- November – Tai Chi for Better Balance began a six-month session.

Over the past year we've had these speakers at the Senior Center:

- Louise Gephart, Mental Health and Aging
- Patricia Oh, Home Modifications
- Joel Merry, Scams Targeting Elders
- Jeanine Beaudoin, Native American Artifacts
- Marie Murray, Mushrooms
- Edna Seeley, How to Make Holiday Centerpieces.

Next Steps

We are delighted with our accomplishments over the past year. However, we have reached (or perhaps passed) the limit of what seven volunteers can do. Future plans are to expand the network of volunteers willing to take charge of activities, and to explore the possibility of a part time staff person.

For more information, please contact us at 666-5531, ext 110.

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Bowdoinham Recreation Department News

By Brandi Lohr

Winter weather is always unpredictable, but we hope for the best, so we can enjoy an outdoor Maine winter. We want crisp white snow to blaze the cross country ski trail by the baseball fields, or maybe cold weather to hold the ice on the ice rink. With the hope of a favorable winter, don't forget the outdoor opportunities that you can take advantage of with a little help from the Recreation Department. Cross country skis, snowshoes, and skates are available to borrow. Don't find yourself cooped up in the house this winter. Come out and enjoy our "Vactionland".

Things to look out for during the next couple of months:

- Cross-country skis, snowshoes and skates are available to borrow.
- Basketball Registration for K-2nd grades will be available until January 31st. The program will begin the week of February 10th.
- Adult Volleyball will begin Wednesday February 26th and will go until April 2nd at the Community School
- Baseball, softball and t-ball registrations will be available mid-February and will be due back by mid-March.
- Adult Yoga classes are now offered on Mondays at 9:15am and Wednesdays at 10:15am in the Kendall Road. We're also working on adding another time.
- Soccer Clinics start February 8th with details to come, please stay tuned.

Don't forget to like us on Facebook at Bowdoinham Recreation Department to keep updated on events and activities.



Basketball Practice

Sea-Level Rise Study

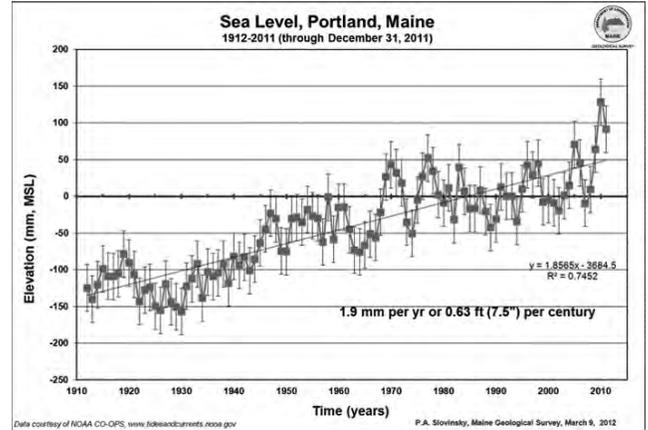
By JT Lockman

Last year, the Town received a grant from the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry to look at the effect of sea level rise and possible amendments to the comprehensive plan for adapting to sea level rise. The State has hired Catalysis Adaptation Partners, to help with the process. Catalysis Adaptation Partners has been working on multiple sea level rise projects throughout southern Maine.

The State of Maine's DEP Sand Dune Rules are based on an assumption that the level of mean higher high water (or the average high tide, abbreviated MHHW), will increase by at least two feet by the year 2100. The tide gauge in Portland shows that sea level rise already has risen seven and a half inches in the last 100 years, and in the next 100 years the rate is expected to increase, as sea water temperature continues to get warmer, and the oceans continue to expand. In the last 15 years, the rate of increase has accelerated, as the global ocean has risen faster. Should large areas of glaciers on land in Greenland and ice shelves in Antarctica continue to melt dramatically and add to the ocean water levels, the rise in sea level rate still may grow even faster.

These global trends will continue to make water levels higher on Merrymeeting Bay, right here in Bowdoinham. Although one or two feet may not seem like a big difference, if storms arrive with surges on

top of already higher high tides, overall saltwater flood heights will increase. The Maine Geological Survey has developed predictions of possible flood levels from Merrymeeting Bay in the future. Below is an illustration of one the MGS sea level rise scenarios



Portland Tide Gauge Shows that the High Tide Level has risen 7.5 inches in the Past Century



Bowdoinham Waterfront: Flooding Impacts of a 100-year Storm arriving at High Tide with 2 Feet of Sea Level Rise

The first public meeting to discuss the MGS report on the vulnerability of Bowdoinham to sea level rise, and possible strategies to adapt, will be held on Tuesday, January 28th at 6:30pm in the Kendall Meeting Room, at 13 School Street.

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

Comprehensive Plan Update

By Nicole Briand

After three years of hard work and about fifty meetings the Comprehensive Planning Committee is in the process of finalizing the Comprehensive Plan.

From the beginning the Committee's goal was to get as much public input as possible, in order to create a Plan that represents all of Bowdoinham. The Committee has put considerable effort into gathering input from townspeople through surveys, public workshops & meetings, and meetings with other community organizations and Town committees. Now, three years later, the Committee has a draft Comprehensive Plan complete, ready for your review and feedback. The Committee only has until March to finalize this Comprehensive Plan for Town Meeting, so please don't wait until then to have your voice heard. The time for making changes to the proposed plan is now, so please tell (or email) us your thoughts before it is too late to make changes.

In hopes of hearing your thoughts and suggestions, the Committee will be having two public hearings in February:

- **Tuesday, February 11th at 6:30pm**
- **Tuesday, February 25th at 6:30pm**

The goal of these public hearings is to hear what you do or don't like about the



Proposed Future Land Use Map
proposed plan and any suggestions you may have for changes. Once again, the Committee will be bringing back Craig Freshley of Good Group Decisions to facilitate these public hearings. As always, refreshments will be provided and we will have activities to keep the kids busy. We encourage everyone to get involved to help us make a Comprehensive Plan that Bowdoinham can be proud of.

For more information, please contact Nicole Briand, Director of Planning & Development at 666-5531 or nbriand@bowdoinham.com or visit our website, www.bowdoinham.com.

Town Office hosts "Business Center"

By William Post

If you did not know, the Town Office has a guest high-speed internet service available that is open and free for the public to use. It can be accessed by searching for a wireless open network near the Town Office. Beginning in early February, the Town Office will be providing a mini-business center in the Graduates Room (across from the Library) equipped with a computer, printer and the open wireless internet service. This "business center" will be open during hours when the Town Office is open (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:30 am-4pm and Wednesday 9am-6pm) and when the Library is open (including Saturday 10am-3pm).

Residents may bring their own laptop computer, tablet or other device and use the Town's wireless internet, or may choose to use the desktop computer in the 'business center'. In addition, residents may use the printer that will be provided to print documents from their device or from the Town's provided computer. The service will be free, with only a nominal charge for using the printer provided in the room.

In order to gauge the use of the 'business center' we only ask that you provide some basic information when you use the room such as how long you used it, why (homework, research, email access, etc.), whether you printed documents, and what device you used (Town-owned computer or your own). This information will be used to better serve those that are using this 'business center'.



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Business Workshops

By Wendy Rose

As part of our efforts to support our local businesses, we are offering another series of Business Workshops for Winter 2014.

Business Plan:

The Entrepreneur's Best Friend

Tuesday, January 28th, 6:30-8:30pm

In this workshop, the entrepreneur will learn what needs to be in their Business Plan. You'll even look at those sometimes scary financial forms and learn what they are really asking for. Since the pricing and breakeven analysis can be such a stumbling block, we'll walk through the steps for this section using a special worksheet. At the end, we'll discuss some helpful business resources that are available, often for free.

Bookkeeping:

Getting those Pesky Numbers in Line

Tuesday, February 25th, 6:30-8:30pm

It is so tempting to just run the business and leave the bookkeeping to someone else, but the numbers tell the story! If you don't read them, you won't know what is really happening with your endeavors. We'll cover some very basic bookkeeping systems, talk about their drawbacks and advantages, and help get you started on a choice that makes sense for you. We'll use a real, live business

scenario to give you some practice, and before you know it, the bookkeeping task will be more do-able.

The Financials:

Cash Flow, Income Statement & Balance Sheet

Tuesday, March 25th, 6:30-8:30pm

Why be mystified by these Financial Forms when, in fact, they are understandable for anyone! We'll use a Cash Flow form that is already programmed and can be downloaded onto anyone's computer, so it would be most helpful if you could bring your laptop with Microsoft Office Excel as one of its software programs. This will give you a chance to play with a cash flow and see how helpful it is for planning the future of the business.

The workshop instructor will be Wendy Rose, who worked as a small business counselor and trainer for Maine Centers for Women, Work, and Community for over 25 years. In this work, she helped new and existing business owners write business plans, develop marketing strategies, set up their financial systems and coordinate their business systems.

All three workshops will be held at the John C. Coombs Municipal Building, 13 School Street. You may attend one or all workshops. These workshops are free for Bowdoinham businesses and residents. There will be worksheets and handouts for participants to take home.

Dog Licenses

By Pam Ross

State Law requires all dogs six months and older to be licensed.

Why should I license my dog?

Dog licensing has been an important part of combating the spread of rabies in the United States. The fee that you pay goes toward helping to fund the Town's animal control program and the Animal Welfare Program. The tags your dog wears also acts as an ID for your dog if they ever get lost they can be returned home.

When should I license my dog?

After October 15th you can buy a dog license from your town for the next year. The deadline for getting a license is January 1st, however there is a grace period of January 31st to before a late fee is incurred.

What is the fee for licensing my dog?

Neutered/Spayed Dog - \$6.00
Not Neutered/Spayed Dog - \$11.00
After January 31st there is a \$25.00 late fee.

What do I need to license my dog?

A copy of a current rabies certificate and a certificate from a veterinarian stating that the dog has been neutered or incapable of producing young.

What is the Animal Welfare Program?

The primary purpose of the Animal Welfare Program is to ensure that animals in Maine are humanely and properly treated. The Commissioner of Agriculture has created a comprehensive program to uphold the animal welfare laws through communication, education and enforcement.

The majority of funding for the Animal Welfare Program comes from the licensing of dogs and various facilities such as animal shelters, boarding kennels, breeding kennels, pet shops, research facilities, and pet and livestock food registration, You can also support the program by purchasing the Animal Welfare License plates.

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THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

Community Calendar

January

8th

Friends of Merrymeeting Bay Annual Meeting, 6pm
Bowdoin College

14th

Author Talk & Book Signing:
Frank Connors, 7pm
Bowdoinham Public Library

21st

Genealogy Workshop, 7pm
Bowdoinham Public Library

25th

Bean Supper, 4-6pm
Bowdoinham Fire Station

28th

Sea-level Rise Presentation, 6:30pm
Kendall Room, 13 School Street

Business Workshop, 6:30pm
Graduates Room, 13 School Street

30th

BHS Annual Meeting and Presentation,
Archaeology & Bowdoinham, 7pm
Kendall Room, 13 School Street

February

1st

Night Out in Bowdoinham, 5-7pm
Bowdoinham Community School

2nd

Holistic Health Fair, 1-4pm
Long Branch

4th

Sugar Blues Workshop, 7pm
Bowdoinham Public Library

8th

Ice & Smelt Festival, 2-6pm
Maily Waterfront Park & lower Main St

11th

Author Talk: Richard Rubin, 7pm
Bowdoinham Public Library

Public Hearing on Comprehensive Plan
Kendall Meeting Room, 7pm

22nd

Bean Supper, 4-6pm
Bowdoinham Fire Station

25th

Public Hearing on Comprehensive Plan
Kendall Meeting Room, 7pm

Business Workshop, 6:30pm
Graduates Room, 13 School Street

Town Board & Committee Meetings

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

Select Board Meetings

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

Planning Board

4th Thursday of Month at 7:00pm

Biking, Walking, Paddling

4th Monday of Month at 6:30pm

Committee on Aging

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

Community Development Advisory Committee

3rd Tuesday of Month at 6:30pm

Comprehensive Planning Committee

1st Tuesday of Month at 6:30pm

Solid Waste Committee

To Be Announced

Finance Advisory Committee

To Be Announced

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

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