Bowdoinham Public Library is excited to host Jessie Dowling who will share a evening of stories and photos of the Mongol Derby.

The Mongol Derby is the dubbed, “the longest and toughest horse race in the world”. It is an endurance race which follows the messenger system created by Ghengis Khan. Riders cover 1000km of the Mongolian steppe riding 30 different semi-wild horses, changing horses every 40km. Jessie and others navigated the routes and survived on their wits and skills, while living amongst the local Mongolian herders. Jessie trained for a year, raised funds, travelled to Mongolia, and finished 13th in the Derby, held in August 2023.

Jessie Dowling is a cheesemaker and sheep and goat farmer from Whitefield, Maine. She owns and operates Fuzzy Udder Creamery LLC. Her passion for growing a local business, centers on putting the welfare of animals and people first. Another passion of hers is working with horses, which has come to the forefront as her business has become sustainable, not requiring her constant attention. Her passion for horsemanship led Jessie to compete in the Mongol Derby.

The afternoon program at the library is free but seats in the Kendall Room are limited. If you would like to access Jessie’s talk online, we will also be streaming the program live via Zoom. Go to the library’s webpage (BowdoinhamLibrary.org) or the library’s Facebook page before the event to find the Zoom link to access the program. There is no rain date. If weather is bad, the program will take place solely online. Beginning at 3:00pm, Jessie will share an hour’s worth of photos and then answer questions from the audience.

We will be collecting donations to support Jessie’s chosen charity: BraveHeart Therapeutic Riding. She heard about BraveHearts’ Veteran Program, and connected with BraveHearts’ mission of aiding mental health issues through equine-assisted horsemanship.

Saturday, January 13, 3:00-4:30pm

Kendall Room, Coombs Municipal Building

Free admission.

Zoom link available online at BowdoinhamLibrary.org