



# THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

Volume 15, Issue 1

www.bowdoinham.com

January-February 2017

## BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

### Business Website

By Nicole Briand

**D**id you know that the Town's website has a Directory of Businesses that are located in Bowdoinham or are owned by a Bowdoinham Resident? Next time you're looking for goods or services be sure to check the Town's website first. It's a great resource to help you shop locally and support our vibrant business community.

This is a free service the Town provides to support our local businesses! It only takes about five minutes to create your business page on the Town's website, then you can be easily found with a simple google search.

*Can my business be added to the website?*

Your business is eligible for inclusion in the Directory if:

- The business is located in Bowdoinham.
- The business is located in another town, but you own it, and you live in Bowdoinham.

*How can I add my local business to the Bowdoinham Business Directory?*



You can Submit a New Business Listing using the online form at <http://www.bowdoinham.com/business-listing>. You will need a logo or photo in jpeg or gif format.

*Why is a logo, photo, or image required?*

Each page includes a logo or a photo/image, to add visual impact and logo recognition, and so that the listing pages are consistent with one another (which helps make it readable).

*How can I enhance my listing, to get more visibility?*

You can keep your listing fresh, and get more visibility, with a page to showcase a specific product, service or special, for

a limited period of time. Submit a Card Page to add a card page to your business listing.

*How can I send a quick update, to my listing page or a card page?*

If you just need to send a quick correction, or if you want to change the logo/photo, or have some other minor change to make, you can "send an update" and we will make the change.

*What if I have some other question about the Directory?*

Use the Contact Form, and select "Business Directory / Local Products and Services" as the category. We will respond promptly.

### Home Heating Assistance

Winter is here and the Heating Assistance Program needs your help. This program is funded entirely from private donations. Please consider making a donation, to help your neighbors stay warm this winter.

Donations can be dropped off or mailed to the Town Office at 13 School Street.

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## Public Works Information

By William Post, Town Manager

The Town's need and desire for a new Public Works Facility is long-standing. Over the last 11 years, the citizens of Bowdoinham have repeatedly expressed their interest in and support for transitioning the Public Works operation to a more adequate property. Following years of searching, a property at 121 Pond Rd. has been identified that can accomplish this goal, and which can be acquired at minimal cost to taxpayers.

### WHY DON'T WE JUST FIX THE FACILITY WE HAVE?

The current Public Works property is deeply inadequate in a variety of ways. Investing any additional taxpayer money in sustaining that facility is not advisable. Issues with the current property and facility include:

- 90% of the current property is within the Flood Plain and Shoreland Zone. Any new construction or substantial improvement would be required to meet the current Shoreland Zoning and Floodplain Management standards. These standards could require the building to be moved, elevated, and "flood-proofed" which would be at a much higher cost than regular construction.
- The two acres that are not in the Flood Plain or Shoreland Zone are approximately 1,800 feet from Rt. 24. Building on those 2 acres would require constructing a road at a high cost. These 2 acres is not large enough to contain the Public Works operation.
- The current facility cannot accommodate the town's equipment and is not an adequate workplace for our town employees. It was acquired in 1998 for a "temporary" Public Works garage.
- The concrete pad that holds the winter sand/salt mixture needs replacing at an estimated cost of \$60,000.
- The winter sand/salt mixture is stored outside leading to risk of contamination to groundwater.
- The facility is located in the village

close to residences.

- The current structure that is used for the Public Works garage is structurally deficient as described in an independent engineer's report commissioned by the Town in 2010. It is cost-prohibitive to repair the existing garage and the engineer recommends replacing the structure.

### WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF THE 121 POND ROAD PROPERTY?

- Optimal location (buffered from residences, close to plow routes, close to highway for deliveries of fuel, sand and salt)
- Lot size – 54 acres
- Good value – Total sale price of \$105,000
- Potential for future growth on the lot over time for other future Town-required activities/operations. (Any future development of the property would be subject to additional town meeting approval.)
- Potential for other uses, such as trails, hunting
- Potential, as part of the project, to expand Town-water to site, leading to further business development on Pond Road

### WHAT ARE THE COSTS AND HOW WILL THEY BE FUNDED?

- The Town has a purchase and sale agreement for \$100,000 for the land at 121 Pond Rd. and the Town will pay closing costs, estimated to be no more than \$5,000 for a total of UP TO \$105,000.
- The engineering and design work will cost \$65,000. This work includes: topographical survey, proposed site plan, building designs for salt/sand storage and garage, local and state permit applications, final plans and specifications and construction cost estimates.
- Both the land purchase and the engineering and design be funded from the Town's Undesignated Fund Balance. The Undesignated Fund Balance is currently estimated at \$1,041,877, well above the Town's policy level of \$813,343. This part of the project WILL NOT affect property taxes.

### WHAT HAS BEEN THE PROCESS TO DATE?

- 2005: The town voted to adopt a Waterfront Plan that calls for moving Public Works to a new location and redeveloping the current site.
- 2009: The town voted against borrowing \$225,000 for the purpose of purchasing a 7.25 acre property and designing and engineering a new public works facility at the corner of Pond Rd. and Main St. (\$125,000 land purchase, \$100,000 for engineering/design and site work).
- 2011 – 2012: A Town Manager-appointed Task Force researched and reviewed options for the Public Works Facility and Recycling Barn.
- 2012: Approximately 90 – 100 residents attended a meeting in which the task force presented information on options for the Public Works Facility and Recycling Barn. Those at the meeting overwhelmingly supported the Town finding a different location than the current location for Public Works and constructing a new Public Works Facility.
- 2012-2016: The Town Manager reviewed and inspected eight properties, disqualifying each as suboptimal for various reasons ranging from size to location to cost.
- 2016: 121 Pond Rd. comes to the town's attention and was investigated by the Manager. The Manager was authorized by the Select Board to negotiate a purchase and sale agreement.
- October 26: At an informational meeting, the Town Manager informed those present about the possibility of a promising new property.
- November 8: At their regular meeting, the Select Board approved a purchase and sale agreement for property located at 121 Pond Road.
- November 29: A second informational meeting was held to discuss the Pond Road property.
- November 29: The Select Board approved calling for a Special Town Meeting on December 14, 2016 for the voters to consider purchasing the property at 121 Pond Rd. and funding the engineering and design work.

## Special Town Meeting Update

By William Post, Town Manager

On December 14, 2016, the Town held a Special Town Meeting in order to:

- Authorize the Select Board to:
  - (a) purchase real property located at 121 Pond Road, Tax Map R02 Lot 62, to serve as the location for the new Public Works Facility;
  - (b) appropriate a sum not to exceed \$105,000 from the Undesignated Fund Balance for this purpose; and
  - (c) negotiate and execute any and all documents necessary to accomplish said purchase.
- Appropriate a sum not to exceed \$65,000 from the Undesignated Fund Balance for the purpose of engineering and design services for a new Public Works Facility.
- Enact an ordinance entitled "Town of Bowdoinham Moratorium Ordinance Regarding Recreational Marijuana Retail Establishments and Social Clubs."

All three of these articles were passed.

*What are the Town's next steps?*

For the Public Works Garage, the Town has created a Task Force to work on this

project and will be hiring an engineering firm to start the design of the new facility.

For the Moratorium on Recreational Marijuana Retail Establishments and Social Clubs, the Select Board will be holding a joint meeting with the Planning Board on Thursday, February 16, 2017 at 6pm in the Kendall Meeting Room of the John C. Coombs Building, 13 School Street. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss the following issues with the public:

- which marijuana retail establishments should be allowed/not allowed in Town;
- the permitting process and standards that the Town should require for the uses that will be allowed; and
- the process/schedule the Town will use to address these issues.

*What does this moratorium on recreational marijuana retail establishments and social clubs mean?*

A moratorium temporarily prohibits an activity/use, in this case marijuana retail establishments, (including retail marijuana cultivation facilities, retail marijuana products manufacturing facilities, retail marijuana testing facilities and retail marijuana stores) and marijuana social clubs. This moratorium gives the Town 180 days to consider the potential impacts that such establishments and social clubs may have on the Town and its

residents, and if needed, to implement the necessary amendments to the Town's Land Use Ordinances in order to address/regulate these uses. If the Town needs more time to discuss and create regulations for these uses, then the Select Board can extend the moratorium for up to another 180 days after holding a public hearing on the issue.

*What are marijuana retail establishments and social clubs?*

- Retail Marijuana Establishment- A retail marijuana store, a retail marijuana cultivation facility, a retail marijuana products manufacturing facility or a retail marijuana testing facility.
- Retail Marijuana Cultivation Facility- An entity licensed to cultivate, prepare and package retail marijuana and sell retail marijuana to retail marijuana establishments and retail marijuana social clubs.
- Retail Marijuana Products Manufacturing Facility- An entity licensed to purchase retail marijuana; manufacture, prepare and package retail marijuana products; and sell retail marijuana and retail marijuana products only to other retail marijuana products manufacturing facilities, retail marijuana stores and retail marijuana social clubs.
- Retail Marijuana Store- An entity licensed to purchase retail marijuana from a retail marijuana cultivation facility and to purchase retail marijuana products from a retail marijuana products manufacturing facility and to sell retail marijuana and retail marijuana products to consumers.
- Retail Marijuana Testing Facility- An entity licensed and certified to analyze and certify the safety and potency of retail marijuana and retail marijuana products.
- Retail Marijuana Social Club- An entity licensed to sell retail marijuana and retail marijuana products to consumers for consumption on the licensed premises.

For more information, please contact William Post at [wpost@bowdoinham.com](mailto:wpost@bowdoinham.com) or 666-5531, or Nicole Briand at [nbriand@bowdoinham.com](mailto:nbriand@bowdoinham.com).

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### Plumbing Tip

***Do you know how to shut off your water in a hurry?***

A plumbing emergency can happen any time of the year but frozen and possibly burst pipes in the winter adds another dimension. You should have an easily accessible, easily recognizable and easy to turn water main shut off that all residents in your home can use. Not having to take the time to search and think about what to shut off can greatly minimize any property damage.

## Village District Proposed

By Nicole Briand

Since the adoption of the Comprehensive Plan in June of 2014, the Planning Board has received requests to create a Village District, in order to alleviate some of the requirements for the many legally non-conforming lots and buildings in the village area. There are many lots and buildings within the downtown area that were created before the Town had dimensional requirements. Now these lots don't have the minimum lot size or frontage and/or their buildings do not meet the required setbacks. The Land Use Section of the Comprehensive Plan calls for the area in and around the village to be the Town's growth area. However, many of the lots within this area either don't meet or just meet the dimensional requirements of the ordinance. Therefore, the dimensional requirements within this area would need to change to allow for growth in this designated growth area.

In order to start the process of creating a village district, the Planning Board has created these two draft District Maps to illustrate some of the Town's options. In creating a village district, there are several options for the community to consider.

### 1. Location of Village District.

The Future Land Use Map adopted in the Comprehensive Plan was created as a bubble map to allow flexibility in the actual location of district lines. The two Conceptual Maps provided illustrate how the Growth Area shown on the Future Land Use Map can be translated to create a smaller Village District (Concept 1) or a larger Village District (Concept 2). *Where do you think the district lines should be drawn?*

### 2. Type of Village District.

The Town could create a variety of districts within the Growth Area, creating more than one district would allow for standards to vary within the Growth

Area. Concept 1 shows one Village District for the whole growth area, whereas Concept 2 shows how the Growth Area could be spilt into three districts. *What do you think about creating one, two, three, or more districts within the Growth Area?*

### 3. District Dimensional Requirements

***Currently, the dimensional requirements for all lots in Town are:***

- 1) Minimum Lot Size – 1 acre
- 2) Maximum Residential Density – 1 acre
- 3) Minimum Road Frontage - 150 feet
- 4) Minimum Setbacks for Buildings –
  - a) Front Yard - 50 feet
  - b) Side Yard - 10 feet
  - c) Rear Yard - 10 feet
- 5) Open Space Requirement for Subdivisions – 25% of Net Residential Area
- 6) Structures shall not cover more than 20% of any lot, except structures may cover up to 30% of lots that are legally non-conforming due to lot size.

***These are some draft standards for the Growth Area Districts:***

#### Village District

- 1) Minimum Lot Size – 20,000 sq. ft. *The Town cannot allow smaller lot sizes, because that is the State's Minimum Lot Size Law for properties served by subsurface wastewater disposal systems.*
- 2) Maximum Residential Density – 20,000 sq. ft. *The Town cannot allow greater densities, because that is the State's Minimum Lot Size Law for properties served by subsurface wastewater disposal systems.*
- 3) Minimum Road Frontage - 75 feet
- 4) Minimum Setbacks for Buildings –
  - a) Front Yard - 20 feet
  - b) Side Yard - 10 feet
  - c) Rear Yard - 10 feet
- 5) Open Space Requirement for Subdivisions – 15% of Net Residential Area
- 6) Structures shall not cover more than 30% of any lot.

#### Village II District

On the Concept 2 Map, the Village II District is located further away from what is normally considered the "village area" in town. The existing lots in this location are larger and the majority of existing buildings meet our current dimensional requirements, listed above.

- 1) Minimum Lot Size – 25,000 sq. ft.
- 2) Maximum Residential Density – 25,000 sq. ft.
- 3) Minimum Road Frontage - 100 feet
- 4) Minimum Setbacks for Buildings –
  - a) Front Yard - 30 feet
  - b) Side Yard - 10 feet
  - c) Rear Yard - 10 feet
- 5) Open Space Requirement for Subdivisions – 20% of Net Residential Area
- 6) Structures shall not cover more than 30% of any lot.

#### Historic Village District

Creating this district for the downtown area would allow the Town of further reduce the dimensional requirements to more closely match what is existing. Many of the lots in this area would still be considered non-conforming due to the minimum lot size required by the State. However, the reduction in the building setbacks would allow many of the non-conforming buildings to be conforming, therefore allowing property owners more flexibility in addressing their buildings.

- 1) Minimum Lot Size – 20,000 sq. ft.
- 2) Maximum Residential Density – 20,000 sq. ft.
- 3) Minimum Road Frontage - 50 feet
- 4) Minimum Setbacks for Buildings –
  - a) Front Yard - 15 feet
  - b) Side Yard - 5 feet
  - c) Rear Yard - 5 feet
- 5) Open Space Requirement for Subdivisions – 10% of Net Residential Area
- 6) Structures shall not cover more than 50% of any lot.

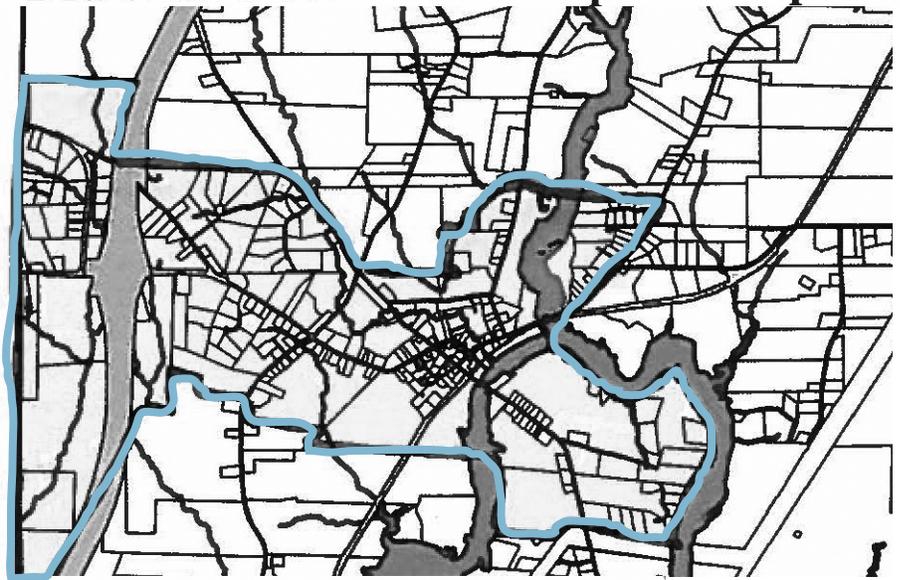
#### 4. District Uses

Creating districts would allow the Town to specify which districts they want to allow or restrict uses or create additional standards for certain uses. Currently, because the Town is made up of one district (excluding the Shoreland Zones) the Town has to allow/permit all uses everywhere in Town, as long as they meet the standards within the Ordinance. This is because State law allows Towns to restrict/ban some uses within areas of a Town, but does not allow a Town to ban them Town-wide, (in most cases). For example, districting would allow the Town not allow or restrict junkyards in the Village District.

The Planning Board would like your input and thoughts regarding the creation of a village district and the standards for the proposed district(s), so that they can create a proposal that will serve the Town and its residents in a positive manner. Please come join the Planning Board for a Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 24, 2017 at 7pm in the Kendall Meeting Room at the Town Office, 13 School St, to discuss this proposal.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, please feel free to contact Nicole Briand at 666-5531 or nbriand@bowdoinham.com (or a Planning Board member) to discuss this proposal, we want to hear your thoughts!

### Draft Land Use District Map – Concept 1



#### Two Districts

-  Residential-Agricultural District
-  Village District

### Draft Land Use District Map – Concept 2



#### Four Districts

-  Residential-Agricultural
-  Village District
-  Village II District
-  Historic Village District

## News from Advisory Committee on Aging

By Patricia Oh

**H**appy New Year! The beginning of each New Year tends to hold promises of hope and opportunities. It's a great time to establish or re-establish goals to help move towards a more healthier and happier you! In the new year, the Advisory Committee on Aging continues to offer fun and exciting programs and are planning to focus on health education topics about maintaining and keeping a healthy lifestyle. If you are particularly interested in a specific topic, let us know. We want to offer special topics—or longer classes that are interesting and helpful.

After the Holiday Season a lot of people turn their minds to exercising the Christmas cookies away. We have a few ongoing classes that can help.

Gentle Yoga meets on Thursday mornings at 9am at the town office. We have a professional teacher for the class so there is a fee. The cost for the class is \$3/week or people can opt to pay monthly. The monthly rate averages about \$2.50/class.

Line Dancing, led by our very own George Oliver, meets twice/month. On the first Tuesday of the month, the class meets at 9am at the Fire Station. On the third Tuesday, the class meets at 6pm, also

at the Fire Station. Beginners are welcome! Line Dance is a wonderful way to enjoy exercise. The movement, music, and socialization will lift your spirits!

Even though it is winter, there are lots of good opportunities to enjoy the outdoors. The Bowdoinham Recreation Department and the Bowdoinham Community School have created an indoor walking opportunity at the school. For more information, call Lisa West (207-666-3504).

Bowdoinham Outdoors is an email group for people who enjoy the outdoors. The group uses the list to plan activities and update members when there is a change in plans. Snow season brings the possibility of snow shoeing and cross-country skiing so join if you are interested in getting out to enjoy our winter wonderland. To join the email list, contact Linda Jariz (email: ljariz123@gmail.com).

Several SilverSneakers classes are offered at Cathance Fitness Center in Bowdoin, Maine. The program strives to promote overall well-being through exercise and other activities. Classes offered at Cathance Fitness Center include Silver Sneakers Classic, Silver Sneakers Cardio, and Silver Sneakers Yoga. There is a fee to take the classes but some health plans include the class as a benefit. For more information, call Cathance Fitness Center (207-666-8141).

Let's begin 2017 in anticipation of renewed hope and happiness. The Advisory Committee on Aging looks forward to advocating for infrastructure and policy that will make our community a better place to live for all ages and continuing to offer activities and programs that make life a little more fun. As always, THANK YOU very much for your continued support of the Advisory Committee on Aging and all of the local programs and services we have partnered with—the Bowdoinham Public Library, Bowdoinham Food Pantry, Handyman Brigade, and RIDES, INC. We are grateful and appreciate everything all of you do to make Bowdoinham the aging friendliest town in Maine!

### Village Lodge Handy Brigade

The Village Lodge Handy Brigade, sponsored by the Masons, provides simple home repair and maintenance services without charge to older adults who live in their own homes. The only cost is for the parts needed. Work is done by volunteers who make it their mission to help people in our community; they are not licensed carpenters, plumbers, or electricians. For more information, contact Patricia Oh at 837-9577 or poh@bowdoinham.com.

### Finance Advisory Committee Member Needed

The Select Board is seeking one volunteer to serve on the Finance Advisory Committee as an alternate. The Committee assists the Select Board and Town Manager with financial decisions regarding development and administration of the town's budget and the investment program for the Town. The Board is seeking volunteers that have experience in business analysis, financial analysis, investments or development and administration of a budget. If you are interested, please contact Bill Post at 666-5531, or wpost@bowdoinham.com.

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## News from Merrymeeting Arts Center

By Lee Parker

The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Ice & Smelt Festival will be held on February 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> this year. As always, outdoor activities are weather dependent and will be planned accordingly. The final schedule will be posted on MAC's website a few days prior to those dates.

Have some great ideas? Want to help us plan? Call Lee Parker 841-5914 or email her at merrymeetingartscenter@gmail.com. We would love to have you join in the fun!

### CALL FOR ARTISTS

For some artists, "Out of Darkness, Light" suggests images of bonfires, sunrises, the flash of color against snow. For others, "Out of Darkness, Light" raises other possibilities. Where do we find light in a dark season? What signs of rebirth and spring are available to us? Where do we look for energy and growth in our own community?

Any artistic medium is welcome including fiber arts, mixed media, clay, painting, photography, etc. Artists with a connection to Merrymeeting Bay are especially encouraged to participate. To participate, leave a message at 370-5002 or email merrymeetingartscenter@gmail.com by January 23; work must be submitted by January 30, 2017.

The opening reception for "Out of Darkness, Light" will be on February 3<sup>rd</sup>, the first event of Bowdoinham's Annual

"Ice and Smelt Festival".



### POTTERY PROJECT

MAC Pottery Project (Donna Lee Jason is our new Manager) will continue to be open on Saturdays from 10am-3pm for anyone interested in trying their hand at ceramics. Drop in and see us! Expanded hours and a new price list will be available in January. Check our website for more information.

### LOOKING FORWARD

It is time to be thinking about Vernal Pools. This year's theme is "Skunk Cabbage and Other Stinky, Helpful Plants". Let your imagination run wild. All genres and media accepted. This show is limited to artists 18 and under. The Exhibit will open with a reception on Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup>. FMI check our website.

Merrymeeting Arts Center, 9 Main Street, Bowdoinham, is funded by the Town of Bowdoinham and through donations and grants. For more information, visit our website at [www.merrymeetingartscenter.org](http://www.merrymeetingartscenter.org).

*Merrymeeting Arts Center encourages art, education, and community, celebrating the cultural heritage and natural environment of Merrymeeting Bay.*

## Library News

By Kate Cutko

Want you to have access to the best resources throughout the Maine library system. For many years we have made use of Interlibrary Loan for our patrons, whereby we offer access to any item in the Maine's entire library network, via the USMail. The Bowdoinham Library underwrites a portion of the cost, and the patron is only charged \$2 per item borrowed. So don't let it stop you in thinking "Oh, the library won't have this book." We can get it! We borrow from out of state libraries if need be.

Want to know what the Bowdoinham Library DOES have? Search our online catalog by going to [www.BowdoinhamLibrary.org](http://www.BowdoinhamLibrary.org), and looking for the catalog button on the left-hand side of the homepage. You don't need a password, just type in Bowdoinham as the Username and up will come our local holdings. Having trouble accessing the catalog? Come in to the library and get some help, or come on Tuesday mornings at 10am for Tech Time with Garry Hensley.

The platform used for downloading free audio and ebooks through the state's consortium will be changing in the next several months. Watch the library website and homepage for information about that and for guidance in accessing the new system.

As always, library cards are free to Bowdoinham residents. Come in a get yours today.

## Tidewater Tree Care

- Winter Brown Tail Moth Pruning
- Tree Injection for Brown Tail Moth Management
- Apple Tree Pruning
- Roof Shoveling
- Tree Pruning
- Hazardous Removals
- View Clearing and Shoreline Cutting
- Planting and Design



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## Community School's Forest Fridays

By Chris Lajoie, Principal

**B**owdoinham Community School's newest classroom teacher, Ms. Lucy Atkins, came to us with experience in outdoor and place-based education. Throughout this school year, Ms. Atkins has taken her Kindergarten class outside for short periods of learning and exploration in the woods surrounding our school. In the first few months of school, children practiced the routines and procedures that make safe outdoor learning possible. Then in December, Ms. Atkins began "Forest Fridays" which involves the class doing extended learning – literacy, math, science, and social learning – outdoors for up to three hours at a time.

Research in outdoor education suggests that it can help young children become more creative and independent players, better problem solvers, and more caring stewards of the environment (O'Brien and Murray 2006), among other benefits.

We have already been blessed by a great deal of community support for this new endeavor. First, our parents have provided both moral and material support, encouraging Ms. Atkins' efforts and ensuring their children are dressed for the weather. One of our Kindergarten parents, Kristine Ceinski, organized a Go Fund Me campaign, which raised nearly \$600 to purchase Grundens rainpants to keep the kids warm and dry during their explorations. Financial contributions were made by a handful of generous parents, extended family members, and Bowdoinham friends. Ms. Atkins also applied for and was awarded a \$250 grant from

the local chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma, an organization of women educators.

As we move forward with our outdoor learning experiments, we will rely on the continued support of our community. In addition to volunteer time for activities like trail clearing and fire tending, we would greatly appreciate donations of wool socks or non-cotton long underwear, and of course small monetary donations can be extremely helpful. With your involvement we can ensure all of Ms. Atkins' Kindergarteners will benefit from outdoor learning regardless of their family's ability to buy gear, as well as grow this program to benefit more students in the future!

Keep track of our Kindergarten learning adventures in the woods through Ms. Atkins' classroom blog: <https://bhmforstdays.wordpress.com/>

## Food Pantry News

By Linda Jariz

**T**he Food Pantry extends its deepest appreciation to all who have donated their time, talent, money and food to make our Food Pantry such a success. For those who want to donate food items, some items move quickly and are constantly needed. Here are the top ten needs:

1. Flour\*
2. Sugar\*
3. Vegetable oil\*
4. Olive oil\*
5. Pasta sauce
6. Mayonnaise
7. Salad dressings
8. Mustard
9. Ketchup
10. Canned tuna in water

*\*Because we would like to distribute these items to as many clients as possible, smaller bottles and packages are more efficient.*

Using the Food Pantry is a very easy process. There are no complicated forms to fill out – just some basic information. The volunteers make it a welcoming and

friendly place. As we enter into the coldest months of the year, we know that more people can experience food insecurity for short times due to increased expenses



or unexpected illness. The Food Pantry can be helpful whenever someone is experiencing a temporary setback. If you or you know of a neighbor who could benefit from some additional food, please call or visit us. We are here to help!

Food Pantry hours: Wednesday from 3pm to 6pm at 9 Main St. Bowdoinham (old FHC building) Phone: 751-7779  
Box this: Neighbor to Neighbor

Because we understand that some people may be reluctant to use the food pantry, we are encouraging people who know of someone in need of additional food to contact us. That someone in need might be an older neighbor or family member. We can work through potential options for providing food. We are here to help!

## Comprehensive Planning Committee Update

By Nicole Briand

**T**he Comprehensive Planning Committee decided that their first project will be working to implement the Town's Waterfront Plan. Adopted at Town Meeting in 2005, the Waterfront Plan recommends that the current Public Works Property be used as a recreational area and for open space. The Plan calls for the Recreation Area to "be used by the Town to enhance recreational, historic and educational activities." The Open Space is to be "relatively untouched. As possible, minimal improvements should be made to allow access to walkers and/or paddlers, and to share knowledge of local history and ecology."

In addition, the Committee will also be working to create an inventory of Bowdoinham's Awesome Places. What is an awesome place? That is what the Committee is going to be asking you in the near future.

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Nicole Briand at [nbriand@bowdoinham.com](mailto:nbriand@bowdoinham.com) or 666-5531.

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## Bowdoinham Historical Society News

By Betsy Steen

Please join BHS or renew your membership: \$15 Family, \$10 individual and help support our projects and programs.

Now that the cupolo graces the roof of the BHS Carriage Shed, it is handsome indeed. Thanks to Tom DeForest and Dave Piccuito and to all who supported this project with labor, materials, or financially! It is now a wonderful space in which to work on major projects such as the Phenix restoration and for storage of BHS collections, especially large items.

After a fascinating year "Digging Up the Past," we turn to "Farming in Bowdoinham: 1717 to 2017" as our theme for 2017.

Our first program will be Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at 3pm in the Coombs Municipal Building's 'Kendall Room'. A round table

of today's Bowdoinham farmers will talk about Farming in Bowdoinham Today.

As 2017 proceeds, we will have a show in the BHS Meeting House about the many farms that have been an important part of Bowdoinham life since first settlement. If you would like to help or have information about farms of the past, photos, or items to share, please contact us at the addresses above or at bayviewess@comcast.net. We are also hoping to have a program in the fall with apple expert John Bunker.



Bowdoinham Historical Society Carriage Shed

## News from the Second Baptist Church

By Pastor John P. Ross

After serving 2 years as our Interim, we were happy to welcome the Rev. John P. Ross as our permanent Pastor. Pastor Ross lives in Gorham and was born in Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia. He is a graduate of Tyndale College in Toronto and the Moody Theological Seminary in Chicago. He has served several congregations for almost 30 years in the Atlantic Provinces, Massachusetts and Maine. His wife, Joan, is employed by Mercy Home Health and Hospice in Portland and they have three grown children and three grandchildren. Pastor Ross loves the outdoors having been employed by Cabelas for the past 8 years and enjoys getting out into the community of Bowdoinham looking for opportunities to connect with people. He wants to be a Pastor that will serve the entire community whether its hospital visitation, crisis intervention, etc. no matter what background any might have.

The church had an exciting event on Saturday evening, November 19<sup>th</sup> where 105 Shoe Boxes were packed for Operation Christmas Child. This more than doubles what was done in 2015. Thanks to all who contributed, especially the Boy Scouts with their leaders and parents. This project was in cooperation with Samaritans Purse International where thousands of churches across the country come together to provide millions of children in many of the poorer third world nations shoe boxes filled with Christmas gifts.

There are many activities that the Second Baptist Church is involved and everyone is invited to worship with them on Sunday mornings at 10:30am.

Pastor John P Ross  
207-232-4520 (Cell)

### Contact BHS

Mail:  
PO Box 101, Bowdoinham  
Email:  
info@bowdoinhamhistoricalsociety.org

Website:  
www.bowdoinhamhistoricalsociety.org

Facebook:  
www.facebook.com/thebowdoinham-historical-society

Office Hours:  
in the Lancaster-Bishop Archive & Research Room, 13 School Street on Tuesdays, 10am-12pm & 2-5pm

### Thank You Bowdoinham!

The Giving Tree was another huge success. This year we had two trees hosted by both The Town Landing and The Bowdoinham Hardware Store. The donations by our residents; fueled by their compassion, thoughtfulness and civic pride, brought Christmas joy to over twenty families. FHC graciously donated ten turkey dinners for Bowdoinham residents during the Thanksgiving holiday, and also generously donate many gifts. For a third year a wonderful Christmas dinner was donated by Ken and Leslie Barker to one of our residents. THANK YOU ALL!

## Tackling Browntail Moths in Winter

By Kate Cutko

The Browntail Moth has hit the area hard this year and the infestation is expected to be worse this coming year. According to the Maine Forest Service, after an aerial survey this fall, a six-fold increase in defoliation was apparent. Information about the lifecycle of this pest can be found at the Maine Forest Service website: [http://www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/forest\\_health/invasive\\_threats/browntail\\_moth\\_info](http://www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/forest_health/invasive_threats/browntail_moth_info).

A Facebook page has been established to share resources, called “Midcoast Maine Browntail Moth Support”. It has some links to news articles and videos. The winter months offer an opportunity for citizens to reduce the numbers of caterpillars on their own properties. While there is no way to eliminate the pests completely, winter nest removal can make a difference in preserving individual trees.

### 1. Identify the Nests

The most common trees and shrubs to be infested with Browntail nests are oak, apple, shadbush, cherry, beach plum, and rugosa rose. The nests are formed at the twig ends of the tree or shrub, strongly attached to the stem with white silky fibers. The nest is constructed using the attached skeletonized leaf of the plant, curved around with an inner chamber of silk for the developing caterpillars. Forming the nests close to the tips of the branches,

the caterpillar is ensuring an early food source when those tiny leaves and buds emerge in the spring. This time of year, when all other leaves have fallen from the trees, the remaining leaves containing nests are easily visible.

Note: Other nest that may be visible in trees are the old nest of the Eastern Tent Caterpillar or the Fall Webworm which are larger and are made of looser, more billowy fibers and are usually found in the crotches of the branches.



### 2. Remove the Low Nests

Simple garden pruners can be used in fruit trees and shrubs to clip out the nests. Longer pole pruners or “lop-pers” are also helpful when the nests are higher. There is a pole pruner available for loan at the Bowdoinham Public Library. It has a rope-controlled blade on the end of an 8 foot pole. Another 8 foot extender is included for a 16 foot reach up into taller branches.

Call the library at 666-8405 to reserve the pole pruners for a three day loan period. Local Filmmaker Jeff Fischer created a short video together with his wife, Ellen Baum, it shows removal of the nests using pole pruners (<https://vimeo.com/192349741?ref=fb-share&1>). Use of safety goggles and a hardhat are recommended when using the pole pruners.



### 3. Destroy the Nests

Nests can be dropped into a bucket of soapy water or burned in a woodstove. Larger amounts can be put through a woodchipper. Some people have reported a mild rash from handling the nests, so be cautious and wear gloves.

### 4. Contact Tree Service Professionals

For help with Browntail Winter nest removal for taller trees such as oaks. Man lift equipment can be rented locally by the day or week maybe pool your resources with friends and neighbors and rent equipment for a week!

**ANDREWS BRUCE CAMPBELL, P.A.**  
919 Ridge Road, Bowdoinham 04008  
207-666-5601; ABC@207Legal.com

**AGGRESSIVE LEGAL REPRESENTATION**  
Felony and Misdemeanor Defense  
Divorce and Family Law  
Real Estate Litigation  
Agricultural Law

### Dog Licenses Due

State Law requires all dogs six months and older to be licensed by January 1<sup>st</sup>, however there is a grace period of January 31<sup>st</sup> to before a late fee is incurred.

#### What is the fee?

Neutered/Spayed Dog - \$6.00  
Not Neutered Dog - \$11.00

*After January 31<sup>st</sup> there is a \$25.00 late fee.*

#### What do I need?

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.



# *Friends of Merrymeeting Bay*

## 2016 – 2017 Speaker Series

ALL TALKS 7:00 PM AT CURTIS MEMORIAL LIBRARY, BRUNSWICK, UNLESS NOTED

- JANUARY 11**     **Bateaux to Quebec: Life & Times of Ruben Colburn**  
*Tom Desjardin, Author, Historian & Director, Bureau of Public Lands*  
**FOMB Annual Meeting & Potluck: 6:00pm, Public Welcome**  
**•Cram Alumni House, Bowdoin College•**  
**83 Federal St., Brunswick**
- FEBRUARY 08**     **Talking Fish-Heads**  
*Nate Gray, DMR Fishery Biologist, Doug Watts, River Activist  
& Author, & Ed Friedman, FOMB, Moderator*
- MARCH 08**        **The King's Broad Arrow: Maine's Mast Trade**  
*Harper Batsford, Assistant, Tate House Museum*
- APRIL 12**        **Cougar Recovery in Eastern North America**  
*Chris Spatz, President, Cougar Rewilding Foundation*
- MAY 10**         **Dragonflies & Damselflies in Maine**  
*Ron Butler, Biologist, U. Maine Farmington*

**FREE • OPEN TO THE PUBLIC • FREE**

Sponsored by: Friends of Merrymeeting Bay  
With support & door prizes from: Patagonia, Inc.-Freeport

Contact Kathleen McGee, 666-3598 or [fomb@comcast.net](mailto:fomb@comcast.net) for more information.

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

### **BUDDHISM UNWRAPPED:**

*Taught in the Tibetan Buddhist Tradition*

*What is Buddhism? How does one become a Buddhist? What do Buddhists believe in and how do they practice? In the class we will answer all those questions (and more) by exploring the teachings on the philosophy and beliefs of Buddhist practitioners, as well as learning about daily practices.*

Ani will present teachings from the Sutras (words of the Buddha) and lectures on some of the great treatises of Buddhism for beginners and advanced practitioners. After the lectures we will

have a short meditation and then open discussion. Each month we will introduce a different teaching.

SUNDAYS AT 10AM  
Merrymeeting Arts Center  
9 Main St, Bowdoinham, ME 04008

\*\* \$10 donation suggested, not required - everyone is welcome\*\*

For more information, please to contact Ani Jane directly at [janejb@yahoo.com](mailto:janejb@yahoo.com). Ani Jane is a Tibetan Buddhist nun in the Sakya tradition with over 23 years of study in Buddhism.

# THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

## Community Calendar

### January

**2nd**

Town Office Closed

**11th**

FOMBs Annual Meeting, 6pm  
Cram Alumni Hall, Bowdoin College

**16th**

Town Office Closed

**24th**

Public Hearing - Proposed Village District  
Kendall Meeting Room, 7pm

**29th**

Farming in Bowdoinham Today, 3pm  
Kendall Meeting Room

### February

**3rd**

“Winter Darkness/Winter Light” Opens  
Merrymeeting Arts Center

**4th**

Ice & Smelt Festival

**8th**

FOMB Speaker Series, 7pm  
Curtis Memorial Library, Brunswick

**16th**

Retail Marijuana Uses Public Meeting  
Kendall Meeting Room, 6pm

**20th**

Town Office Closed

### 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**

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

**Planning Board**

4th Thursday of Month at 7:00pm

**Committee on Aging**

3rd Monday of Month at 3:00pm

**Community Development Advisory Committee**

1st Tuesday of Month at 6:30pm

**Comprehensive Planning Committee**

2nd Tuesday of Month at 6:30pm

For a complete listing of events, please visit the Town's Calendar at [www.bowdoinham.com/calendar](http://www.bowdoinham.com/calendar).

Town of Bowdoinham  
13 School Street  
Bowdoinham, ME 04008

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