



# THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

Volume 13, Issue 3

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May-June 2015

## BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

### Contractors, Part III

By Wendy Rose

**B**owdoinham has a wealth of contractors to handle all of your building needs.

#### Colonial Hardwoods

Patrick McDonough

Just inside Patrick's front door is a beautiful compass medallion inlaid into his hall floor. It exemplifies the skills and creativity Patrick brings to all his work. "I can do anything a customer wants with a wood floor," Patrick says. This includes installation, refinishing, repairs, and recoating. While 90% of the flooring he uses is durable, economical red oak, Patrick can work with any type of wood, and recently installed a wide plank pine floor.

Patrick has been working with wood flooring since 1988 and has had his own business since 1992. For the last 4 years, he has worked on his own. While much of the work follows the same, straightforward steps as decades ago, there have been some changes over the last 25 years. He has seen wood flooring become more popular throughout the house instead of just in the downstairs areas. There are new "green" finishes, and Patrick is very aware of environmental considerations. Radiant floor heat has also brought some new installation techniques.

Most of Patrick's work comes to him through word of mouth, and about 75% of it is new construction. He covers an area that stretches to Falmouth, Cumberland, and Yarmouth, but would like to do more work closer to home. Because of his contacts, Patrick did not experience much of a slow down during

the recent economic recession. "From the very beginning, the business has been based on treating the customer the way I would like to be treated," he says. "It's important to be on time and finish the job. I don't get



paid until the customer has seen it and is happy."

Patrick has some great advice for homeowners. "The greatest enemy to a wood floor is grit and a big dog," he says, "and its best friend is the vacuum cleaner." He suggests that one keep an eye on traffic patterns across the flooring. "It is a good idea to have a floor refinished before a traffic pattern goes through the finish." This type of job only takes one to two days on average. If the wear has gone all the way through the finish to the wood, then a larger sanding and refinishing job needs to be done. If you have any questions about what needs to be done, give me a call," he suggests.

A native of North Haven Island, Patrick has loved living in Bowdoinham,

and his family has been here since 1989. He has especially enjoyed the snow this winter since he is the Trail Master for the local snowmobile club. "I deal with around 100 landowners and have found everyone to be so nice," he says.

You can reach Patrick by calling him on his cell, 831-5718 or at home at 666-3069.

#### Smith Bros. Plumbing and Heating

Frank Smith

Four generations of the Smith family have built their plumbing and heating business starting in 1882, in the Houlton area. Even though he grew up with the business, Frank didn't initially intend to pursue it as a career. Instead, he broke with tradition and went to the University of Southern Maine to study finance. He even started a finance career, but discovered that sitting in an office and being confined to that environment just didn't fit him. He had experienced the work that the family's business offered and realized that the variety and challenges of it were a happier direction for him. After working with other contractors, he finally earned his Master's license and took over the management of the family business in 2003, moving it to the Bowdoinham area.

*Continued on page 2.*

### INSIDE

Business Spotlight	1-2	Ridge Road Church News	7	Boy Scout News	9
Community School Vision	3	42 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Plant Sale	7	Summer Reading Program	9
Skatepark News	3	Citizen of the Year	7	News from COA	10
Open Studio Day	4	Call for Historical Photos	7	Did you know?	11
News from Arts Center	5	Recreation News	8	Town Tax Club	11
Cruise 'In on the Cathance	5	Golf Scramble Needs You	8	Community Calendar	12
Historical Society News	6	Cub Scout News	9		

## Contractors, Part III

*Continued from page 1.*

Now covering an area from Boothbay to Portland and up to Bowdoinham, Frank offers a wide array of services. About 80% of his work is with new construction—installing various heating systems such as gas, oil, radiant heat, solar hot water heaters, and heat pumps. He also does plumbing and heating service work on existing systems. He has seen a large increase in the use of heat pumps, especially with new construction since it is an economical way to have both heating and cooling in one's home. "I enjoy putting heating systems together and then seeing everything work when you turn it on," he says.

Mostly working alone, Frank has remained busy throughout the recession and is seeing things pick up. "There were a lot of energy upgrades during the recession," he says. "Because I've been so diversified, I really didn't see a slow down." He notes that more customers are considering alternative systems which keep him up to date on the latest. He has seen the economic benefits of installing heat pumps and would be happy to answer any questions folks might have about it

When asked what tips he would offer homeowners about their heating systems, he said, "It's helpful to maintain your system on a yearly basis. If you pick up on small problems and leaks before they get big, you can save a lot of money." He also mentioned a new program from Efficiency Maine that provides incentives for homeowners to install Heat Pump Water

Heaters that can save \$250 in a year in electricity bills.

Frank maintains an office in Brunswick at 16 Pleasant Street and also operates out of his home in Bowdoinham on Elliott Lane. You can reach him by phone at 522-1708 or by email at [frank@smithbrosme.com](mailto:frank@smithbrosme.com). He also has a website: [www.smithbrosme.com](http://www.smithbrosme.com).

### Christian and Robinson Plumbing Contractors

*Peggy Christian*

Peggy was studying humpback whales in the late 1960's on Cape Cod when she met Mark Robinson, a master plumber. They started a family, and Peggy decided to change professions so she could stay close to home. "I found that I liked the work and the challenge," she says. After being an apprentice, then journeyman, and passing the requisite tests, Peggy became a master plumber herself. Their move to Bowdoinham in 2000 meant studying the Maine plumbing code in order to pass the Maine State test, but once that was accomplished, Peggy and Mark were underway with their Maine business which Peggy now handles on her own.

"I enjoy figuring out how to put all the pieces together," Peggy says. Her favorite challenges are service jobs at current homes—everything from small renovations, dripping faucets, clogged toilets, frozen pipes, and blocked drains. She has handled emergencies like water streaming through a ceiling, broken down hot water heaters, and overflows. With many

older homes in the area, Peggy is busy helping homeowners to keep everything running smoothly. Most of her jobs are in Bowdoinham, but she travels as far as Bath and other area towns. "Every job is different," she says. "That's what I enjoy, the variety!"

Peggy includes plumbing tips in her

Bowdoinham News business advertisement that can help folks maintain their plumbing systems, (*see page 11*). She plans to update everyone soon about the new regulations for hot water heaters. "The Bowdoinham Newsletter has been a great way to advertise the

business," she says. "I even found one of the tips posted at a customer's home, so I know they are being used."

While the economic slowdown affected her business, Peggy reports that her phone is ringing with more jobs as the economy improves. Several customers are now able to do projects they had to put off for a while. She looks forward to continuing serving customers as long as she is physically able.

Peggy really enjoys being a woman in a non-traditional career and says that the ability to think her way through a job's challenges is more important than physical strength since there are tools that can help her accomplish any task. "I love being in Bowdoinham and talking with my customers," she says. "It's a great place to be."

You can reach Peggy by phone at 666-3371, by cell phone for emergencies at 751-4866, and by email at [christianrobinsonplumbing@gmail.com](mailto:christianrobinsonplumbing@gmail.com).



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## A Vision for our Community School

By Chris Lajoie, Principal

Last October, in my second month on the job, the Instructional Leadership Team (ILT) at Bowdoinham Community School began the process of developing a shared vision. We reached out to our students, their families, and our staff and community members to hear their thoughts about an ideal school. We asked people to consider “a time [they] loved learning.” After compiling hundreds of responses we teased out the common threads and big ideas. What stood out to people about a time they loved learning?

- It often involved a significant relation-

ship with a family member, friend, or teacher.

- It often felt “authentic,” connected to the learner’s own life and to the world.

- It often allowed the learner to have voice and choice – to drive the learning process.

- It often reflected a growth mindset, where the learner overcame a challenge or did something he or she never thought possible.

Based on these important elements, the ILT developed two draft vision statements. We held a community forum at the school in February to discuss the statements, and then put it to a vote. Students, parents and staff cast their ballots during parent-teacher conferences in March, and indicated which word or phrase resonated most strongly with them. In the end, the vote was so close that the

ILT decided to bring the best from each statement into one:

In It Together: Meaningful Learning that Lasts

A shared vision is a lens through which an organization makes its decisions. At Bowdoinham Community School as we plan for the future, and in our everyday work with kids, we are committed to facilitating meaningful and lasting learning for our kids. And we are in it together. I love hearing from the Bowdoinham community, and intend to provide regular opportunities to bring community members into our shared vision. If you ever have thoughts or questions to share, I am all ears! Many thanks to those of you who have been actively involved in our children’s lives, and continue to make ours a true “community” school.

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## New Momentum for Bowdoinham Skatepark

By Wendy Rose

Many Bowdoinham residents, especially its younger citizens, have long held a dream for a skateboard park where youngsters can gather and engage in fun, outdoor activities. Great progress has been made to establish a location, funding, and a gravel base, but the completion of the park will depend on further fundraising for its construction.

New momentum is helping to bring this dream closer. A new generation of skateboard enthusiasts recently had an opportunity to try out the sport at the Bath Skateboard Park thanks to the efforts of Bowdoinham parents and town encouragement. Six youngsters enjoyed honing their skills on the jumps, quarter pipes, and the beginner area,

There will be more opportunities for other children to learn the sport through an elective series that Seth Berry plans to offer at the Bowdoinham School on May 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2:15-3:15pm. The town owns some helmets and protective gear that will be available for children

who want to try out the sport before investing in equipment. Seth would also welcome donations of working skateboards, helmets and pads (knee, elbow, and wrist), so that there will be enough for everyone. Anyone who would like to help should contact Seth at 737-4149.

Two fifth graders who participated in the field trip to Bath, Anibal Berry and Elijah Tuttle, report that they had a great time. “I feel like it’s very energetic and fast,” says Elijah. “It’s really fun when you get to know how to do the tricks,” Anibal adds. Elijah has watched skateboarding on You-tube and has seen all the tricks that make skateboarding both a challenge and fun. They would love to see a park in Bowdoinham village that might include jumps, a rail, a beginner area, a little hill and quarter pipes. Anibal points out that parks are often used by bicyclists and roller bladers, so it could be an all-purpose area. “It would be great to learn new tricks,” they both said. They feel that it would be a good way to get together with their friends in the warmer months to play outdoors.

Anibal’s mother, Adelaida, is very supportive of the idea of a skateboard park. “It would be a place for kids to get together and do something that’s healthy” she

says. “Having it at the waterfront makes it comforting, I feel that the community can help guide the activity.”

The town is working with various Bowdoinham citizens to close the funding gap so the park can be completed sometime in the next couple of years. Those who would like to help kids realize their skateboard park dream can make donations by sending a check to the Town of Bowdoinham (specify Skate Park Fund on the memo line) Attn: Nicole Briand. Donations of \$100 will immortalize the donor with their name inscribed in the walkway. Folks can also join the Bowdoinham Community Skatepark Project on Facebook to stay tuned about future events.

### Summer Concert Series

The Concert Series will be moving back to Sunday nights (6-8pm) for 2015! We will also be adding two concerts to the line-up. Starting June 14<sup>th</sup> we will be bringing your favorite local bands back to Maily Waterfront Park. Concerts will continue through August 30<sup>th</sup> and will feature a wide range of rock, folk, country and acoustic music.

## Open Studio Day

By Nicole Briand

Down East Magazine called Bowdoinham “Maine’s Creative Epicenter” and named us one of the six best places to live in Maine. So what better way to show off our “Very Crafty Town” than for our artisans and craftspeople to open their studios and workshops for us to explore on Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>!

### Open Studio Schedule

#### **Bill Stanton**

2nd Floor of Ames Mill,  
307 Front St, Richmond

**9am-3pm.** Come visit Bill while he works and explore his studio, located in a historic mill building on the Kennebec River.

#### **Lobster Buoy Birdhouses**

760 White Road *(Please park on grass along driveway near barn.)*

**10am-3pm.** The barn shop will be open for tours and kids are welcome to paint their own small cedar buoy to take with them. They’ll also be offering an event special:

- Birdhouses - \$34 (retail price \$42)
- Suet Feeders - \$18 (retail price \$24)

#### **Mortimer LaPointe Woodworks**

1191 River Road

**10am-3:30pm.** You’re invited to explore Mortimer’s shop and see his woodworking projects.

#### **Kate Cutko**

555 Browns Point Road

**1-4pm.** Visitors are welcomed to Kate’s “Barn of Opportunity.” Projects include canvas floor cloths, Mother’s Day cards, and handmade journals. Guests may make-and-take their own upcycled apron, made from recycled materials.

#### **Jane Page-Conway**

13 Wildes Road

**10am-4pm.** Jane will be displaying both her photography and encaustic wax work, as well as demonstrating how to clean and restore negatives.



#### **Bowdoinham Historical Society**

1 Browns Point Road

**10am-3pm.** Visit this historic Meeting House and view historic photographs and negatives in celebration of the Historical Society’s “Year of Photography.”

#### **Scott Libby Woodworking**

112 Pond Road

**9am-2pm.** Stop by and visit Scott’s facility. There will be live woodworking demonstrations at 10am, 11am & 12pm. They will also have both current and past projects available to view.

#### **Steven Thomas Bunn**

Hedge Hill Farm, 22 Center St

**9am-4pm.** Enjoy a cup of coffee while you tour Steve’s woodshop, watch a demonstration of his Windsor chair-making and view Blue Iris Gallery’s paintings by Phyllis Hartzler.

#### **Catmint Garden & Gallery**

16 School St

**9am-2pm.** Come explore Sarah’s gallery of paintings, cards and children’s books, along with her beautiful perennial gardens.

#### **Cathance Place**

9 Main St

**10am-3pm.** Cathance Place is hosting:

#### **Watersong Music**

Come see Earl’s music studio (where all the magic happens) with live music from 2-3pm.

#### **Merrymeeting Arts Center**

The Arts Center’s Annual Youth Show, “Ferns and Fiddleheads” will be open.

Come see all the wonderful artwork created by emerging artists, along with the ecological information provided by the Friends of Merrymeeting Bay.

#### **Bloom**

This is a great opportunity to learn about Laurel’s all-natural body care products, (which make great gifts for Mom).

#### **Fun Fascinators For Fabulous Females**

Have fun with Kaleele and her fabulous fun fascinators.

#### **H. Monique Designs**

Come meet Heather and learn how she makes her beautiful silver, bronze and copper jewelry.

#### **Morphee Creations**

Manon will have her small press with her to show how she makes her creations, along with a variety of her unique items from paper products and home decor to clothing.

#### **Salt Wood Design**

Liam’s impressive collection of crafts from furniture, sculpture and wall hangings will be on display.

#### **Winding Rose Studio**

Wendy will be displaying her beautiful fiber arts, and demonstrating a unique method of applique quilting that magically makes the stitches disappear.

#### **(11) Pottery Project**

6 Main St

**10am-3pm.** Delilah Pottery, Jeffrey Lipton, Stephanie Austen and Matt Ahlers will be showcasing their pottery and demonstrating how it’s made.

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## News from Merrymeeting Arts Center

By Lee Parker

**M**errymeeting Arts Center is celebrating spring with its annual spring emerging artist's show, "Vernal Pools: Ferns and Fiddleheads". This exhibit opened on April 10<sup>th</sup> and will be on display through May 31<sup>st</sup>. Students from schools in Richmond, Bowdoinham, Brunswick and Freeport are featured along with other young area artists. The colorful artwork of varying media all focus on these harbingers of spring.

In coordination with this event, local artist Jane Page-Conway will hold a workshop on "Fern Art" and Andy Cutko will host a "Fern Walk" on Sunday, June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2-4pm. Please check our Facebook page for dates, times and locations.

Don't forget to visit the Merrymeeting Arts Center Gallery and Pottery Project during Open Studio Day, Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 10am-3pm. The Pottery Project will also be participating in the Maine Pottery Tour that same weekend and will be open on Sunday, 10am-3pm.

The Merrymeeting Arts Center major summer exhibit "Bay Clay, Bay Brick, Bay Pottery" will feature works by ceramic artists from Pottery Project and other ceramic artists from the area. The exhibit will open on Friday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, 5-7:30pm with a reception for the artists. Light refreshments will be served.

The ceramic show will introduce our larger summer project which is done in collaboration with the Bowdoinham Historical Society. Research into Bowdoinham history revealed that Merrymeet-

ing Bay clay has been used through the centuries for pottery and brickmaking, an important local industry in the early 1800's. The Arts Center will have a display of text, photos and artifacts on their history.

During the summer Matt Ahlers, Pottery Project artist, will teach a workshop using locally dug clay. DropIn Art, a free activity offered during the months of July, will give participants an opportunity to work with this clay. Check our Facebook page for dates and times.

Author and poet Gary Lawless will give a writing workshop using clay as metaphor. Talks by a geologist on the clay deposits in the area and an archaeologist on prehistoric and colonial pottery are planned. Details for these will be posted on Facebook and in the July Bowdoinham News.

The Board of Merrymeeting Arts Center would like to thank the Town of Bowdoinham for its generous support. An update of our events of the past year will be available at the Town Meeting in June.

Merrymeeting Arts Center spring gallery hours are every Saturday, 10am-1pm or by appointment. And our summer gallery hours are Saturdays, 10am-1pm and Sundays, 1-4pm or by appointment. We can be reached at 370-5002 (please leave a message) or [www.merrymeetingartscenter@gmail.com](mailto:www.merrymeetingartscenter@gmail.com). Visit us on Facebook or our website at [www.merrymeetingartscenter.org](http://www.merrymeetingartscenter.org).

## Cruise 'Ins are Back

By Lynn Spiro

**C**ruise 'In On the Cathance, sponsored by The Town Landing Restaurant, now marks its 7<sup>th</sup> year in downtown Bowdoinham. There is no entry fee to exhibit or attend the Cruise 'In On the Cathance. Everyone bringing a classic or antique car gets automatic entry into the Door Prize Raffles. Anyone attending can participate in the 50/50 drawing, and buy additional Door Prize Raffle tickets with the proceeds going to a local charity. This year all donations will go to the Bowdoinham Heating Assistance Fund.

The old family car surrounds the best of memories or the very first car owned, always with a smile, always a story to tell. One year's event toted a Model A car by Bowdoinham's own Don and Billie Oakes. Don told of driving the car in high school, and back and forth as he went away to college and came home to court his wife in the early years. Phil Frank brings along his antique tractors which he still uses today.

Bowdoinham, incorporated in 1762, honors and commemorates every year, the history and traditions that are still valued in this community today. It is a generational community, many of whom own and cherish their own classic cars. Valuing not only the beauty of classic and tricked out cars however, the hours and hard work put into each and every detail.

Come and join classic car enthusiasts for this free event at The Town Landing Restaurant, 12 Main Street, in downtown Bowdoinham. Cruise 'In on the Cathance will be held throughout the summer on the last Saturday of each month, June 27<sup>th</sup>, July 25<sup>th</sup>, and August 29<sup>th</sup>, 4-6:30pm. See restored cars and other special vehicles of interest at this popular event. Stroll the streets, shop and have dinner our locally owned restaurant. Celebrate with us not only the history of this town, but also the history of the classic and antique cars that remind us of the memories of our youth, and simple things in life we treasure.



### CLAY, BRICKMAKING & POTTERY

Merrymeeting Arts Center and Bowdoinham Historical Society invite you to help us with this project by sharing any information you may have on clay, brickmaking and historical pottery in the area.

Do you have a clay mine on your property? Have you found bits of old pottery? Do you have documents or photographs relating to bay clay, bay brick or bay pottery? Do you have a brick?

If so, please contact Betsy Steen by email [bayview@comcast.net](mailto:bayview@comcast.net) or leave a message at 370-5002 and she will call you back.

## 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](http://www.bowdoinhamhistoricalsociety.org)

## Contact BHS

Mail:  
PO Box 101, Bowdoinham

Email:  
[info@bowdoinhamhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@bowdoinhamhistoricalsociety.org)

Website:  
[www.bowdoinhamhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.bowdoinhamhistoricalsociety.org)

Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/thebowdoinhamhistoricalsociety](http://www.facebook.com/thebowdoinhamhistoricalsociety)

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

## Bowdoinham Historical Society News

By Betsy Steen

The Historical Society will be participating in Open Studio Day on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 10am-3pm, so come see us at the Meeting House, 1 Browns Point Rd.

This will be the first in series of displays relating to 2015: Year of the Camera, and will feature an 1880 Photographer's studio, displays of historic photographic equipment and Bowdoinham photos, including the glass negatives of Bainbridge Porter

Brown. We will also have our publications and Bowdoinham note cards on sale.

We will be kicking off fund raising for our Carriage Shed to be built beside the Meeting House. It will serve as: a repository for large items, secure storage, a heated work area for major projects or undertakings such as the restoration of the 1798 hand tub Phenix, and storage for the annual yard sale.

Visit us at the Lancaster-Bishop Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Coombs Municipal Building. We have great conversations, and we even get some work done making Bowdoinham history accessible to all. Occasional board

meetings at 3pm, everyone's welcome!

Thanks to Robert & Alice Miner & Tony & Heather Cox we now have a large print of the 1912 panorama of Cathance Landing in the BHS room.

In the last issue, we asked your help in identifying 4 photos. We have these and other "mystery photos" at the Lancaster-Bishop Room, waiting for their names.

In February, we had two 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classes from Durham visit us at Jellerson School for a school day in 1910.

Then in April we had four more classes of 2<sup>nd</sup> graders join us from

Bowdoin & Bowdoinham.

Transcription of Bowdoinham documents and letters from the past is revealing interesting stories of life in Bowdoinham. Thanks to our transcribers, Marlene Hensley and Debbie Lipscomb!!

We are still looking for old cameras and other photographic equipment, as well as old photographs.

If you can help with any of these projects, have information to share, and/or items to loan/donate, please contact Betsy Steen [bayviewess@comcast.net](mailto:bayviewess@comcast.net) or stop by the BHS room on a Tuesday.



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## Ridge Road Church News

By Albert Stehle

The rebuilding of the church has been like a pie: each time I start something new another slice has been cut, still so many pieces to go. Right now the floor has to be rebuilt in the foyer area, and doors open and close tight. The original layout of the second floor choir loft has been exposed, do I rebuild to 1836 or 1895?

Now I would like to introduce Ridge Restoration. Ridge Restoration will be holding classes and workshops on cemetery restoration. The first class held will be on stone washing, followed by hands on instruction. With the rebirth of the

church now quite noticeable, items once rescued are returning: the little chandelier is complete, lanterns found under the floor in a box fit perfectly, and a fourth was purchased with chimneys; for all a true work of art. The large chandelier now in the town hall has been handled so many times and now needs a great deal of work. Please if you can help find all the globes and chimneys that were rescued that are no longer with the chandelier it would help. Without those, the large chandelier is going to cost thousands to bring back to the beauty it once was. Rebuilding the floor has cut into my south side trim money. If you would like to make a donation or learn more about upcoming workshops, email [albertstehle@yahoo.com](mailto:albertstehle@yahoo.com).

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## Seeking Nominations for Citizen of the Year Award

By William Post, Town Manager

The Town is currently seeking nominations for Citizen of the Year. This award is presented to the selected nominee at the annual Celebrate Bowdoinham event in September.

The criteria for this award are as follows:

- The Citizen of the Year award recipient shall be an outstanding individual recognized for their impact on the lives of Bowdoinham citizens, a special individual who shows dedication and spirit beyond what is considered regular duty.
- The following characteristics will be considered: present activities, previous activities, charitable/philanthropic efforts, improvement in the quality of life for Bowdoinham residents, and commitment to the community.

If you would like to nominate someone to receive this award, please contact the Town Manager at 666-5531 or by email at [wpost@bowdoinham.com](mailto:wpost@bowdoinham.com). All nominations will be confidential and will be reviewed by a committee appointed by the Select Board. The committee will then forward a recommendation to the Select Board in August.

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## Call for Historic Photos

By Brendan Bullock

The Bowdoinham Historical Society is celebrating 'The Year of the Camera' in 2015. As part of a number of photo-related events planned in the coming months, we'd like to reach out to everyone in the local community to help us in archiving more historical photographs of Bowdoinham. An effort was made in the 1970's to seek out images in local family collections, and we'd like to do so again!

The kinds of images we'd love to see: work and play around Merrymeeting Bay; houses and buildings that are important to the town; any buildings that once stood, but are now gone; family photographs in front of houses; portraits of notable Bowdoinham citizens throughout the town's history; and any images you think are worth preserving for posterity!

As far as handling the images, we can make digital scans and copies of your originals and return them to you, or you can donate photographs directly to the Historical Society to be archived. We'll be happy to discuss this with you.

Dig through those attics, shoeboxes, family albums, and slide/negative boxes and let us know what you come up with!

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## 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Plant Sale

By Jill Hooper

The Plant Sale is almost here! This is a town event not to be missed.

Recognized by the Maine State Legislature as the Longest Running Plant Sale in the State of Maine, this is our 42<sup>nd</sup> year!

Locally grown and hardy, over 120 species of perennials, in various varieties and colors are available. Trees, shrubs, annuals, herbs and vegetables, we have it all. Gardening experts will be on hand to help. We now take credit cards; who would have imagined that 42 years ago! Join us at the Town Hall on May 16<sup>th</sup>, 9am-4pm.

This year, to add to the excitement, we are raffling off two hours of consultation time with Bowdoinham Gardener and Artist Sarah Stapler. Your two hours could include plant ID, garden/ yard design, suggestions and advice. This time is for consultation only and not physical labor or a drawn garden plan. Those who have hired Sarah for this service have been amazed at what they have learned from Sarah.

We don't do previews of the sale, but the best way to see what we have in advance is to volunteer. There are plenty of jobs to be done with no experience required. Help is needed to move, label, count, and price plants. During the sale we need people to direct traffic, help carry plants to cars, tally orders, and restock plants. Once it's all over, the magic continues as we make the whole thing disappear in under 2 hours. Volunteers are needed to move things out and restore the Town Hall to a better than we found it state. We will be offering a volunteer training session prior to the plant sale this year. Please contact the library at 666-8405 or Michelle Reed, Volunteer Coordinator at [volunteercoordinator@bowdoinham.lib.me.us](mailto:volunteercoordinator@bowdoinham.lib.me.us).



## Recreation News

By Lisa West

**T**hank you to all the volunteers that make our basketball seasons so successful. We had our 3/4<sup>th</sup> grade and 5/6<sup>th</sup> grade season preceding the K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade season. Thank you refs, coaches and parents for your valuable time in continuing these programs.

Baseball/softball registrations and assessments have come to an end and we are waiting for the snow and mud to pass as we create schedules. Opening Day for baseball and softball is May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Come on down to Pertel and Middle Fields to watch some kids having fun playing ball and grab some dinner at the Snack Shack; The Snack Shack is known for their burgers, fried chicken, french fries and onion rings! Volunteers are always needed to help with field prep and the Snack Shack. If you have any interest and some time to spend enjoying a ball game, we would love to have you there cheering on our teams.

Stay tuned for more information to come on the Active Community Environment, (ACE) previously the Walking, Biking & Paddling group. Under the Healthy Maine Partnership, ACE is a national group supporting and promoting safe, accessible recreation facilities.

Adult basketball is still happening, Fridays 5:45-7:15pm at the Community School until May 29<sup>th</sup>. Please go to the Town website for the registration forms.

For more information, please visit our website ([www.bowdoinham.com/recreation](http://www.bowdoinham.com/recreation)) or Bowdoinham Recreation Dept Facebook page.

## TFOF 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Golf Scramble Needs You

By Jessica Sullivan

**T**rust for Our Future (TFOF) is a district wide, non-profit educational trust offering grant support for innovative projects and programs. The mini-grants awarded to M.S.A.D. #75 teachers foster critical thinking and problem solving through technology, the arts, science, health promotion, visiting authors, and many more meaningful learning modalities designed to inspire and engage students beyond the general school curriculum. All district children have the potential to benefit from these educational enrichment opportunities, and major funding for teacher awarded grants is provided by our annual Golf Scramble. Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Golf Scramble will be held on June 24<sup>th</sup>. This is the first year the Trust has had a representative from Bowdoinham, and it would show tremendous support to have our town rally for this very worthy educational cause.

Our first annual Trust for Our Future Golf Tournament held at Highland Green raised approximately \$5,000 with more than 75 players and over 40 area businesses contributing sponsorships and donations to the well-attended silent auction. To increase the potential giving of the Trust through this year's Golf Tournament to be held again at Highland Green, we need your help! Your support as a sponsor, player, volunteer, or prize donor is a great way to invest in academic excellence for students in Harpswell, Topsham, Bowdoin, and Bowdoinham. Here are some

ways you can be involved:

- Join the golf scramble committee or volunteer the day of the event.
- Come play golf in the scramble at Highland Green.



- Sponsor the fundraiser as a business, individual, as a family, or in memoriam.
- Donate goods or services to our popular silent auction.

Please save the date: June 24, 2015 (rain date: July 1, 2015), at Highland Green in Topsham. For more information about the TFOF 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Golf Scramble or to register to play, visit [www.tinyurl.com/TFOFGolfScramble2015](http://www.tinyurl.com/TFOFGolfScramble2015) or email event Co-Chair Holly Kopp ([hollyjkopp@gmail.com](mailto:hollyjkopp@gmail.com)). For more information on Trust for Our Future, visit [www.trustforourfuture.org](http://www.trustforourfuture.org).

## Annual Rummage Sale

15<sup>th</sup> Annual Rummage Sale will be held on Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup> & Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Town Hall. With a \$1 admission, you can take advantage of our early bird sale that begins on Friday at 5pm and ends promptly at 7pm. Saturday the doors will open at 9am and close at 1pm.

This event is made possible by the generous people in Bowdoinham who donate their gently used things for the benefit of the Bowdoinham Community School. ALL proceeds go to the school's field trip and special events fund.

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## Cub Scout News

By Cathy Curtis

A special thank you to Kathleen McGee from the The Friends of Merrymeeting Bay who brought animal exhibits to our February Pack Meeting and taught the cubs about Merrymeeting Bay.



Bowdoinham Cub Scouts celebrated the birthday of scouting at their Blue and Gold Banquet on March 1<sup>st</sup>. Each Cub made a cake to be raffled based on a variety of Cub Scout themes from airplanes to camp fires and even a pan of bacon and eggs. For the second year in a row, The Golden Cupcake award went to Tyler and Ethan Berry for their Target cake. The annual Pack Pinewood Derby was held on Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, where 26 Cubs raced hand-made cars down a wooden track. A big thank you to former Boy Scouts, Adam Shaw and Andrew Streeter, for being our line judges. Also thanks to the Bowdoinham BIW van who provided this year's trophies. Best in Show went to Damien Hale, 5<sup>th</sup> Place to Colby Bleau, 4<sup>th</sup> place to Aiden Fisette, 3<sup>rd</sup> place to Alex Skolfield, 2<sup>nd</sup> place to Chase Hardee and 1<sup>st</sup> place was awarded to Grady Satterfield, a fitting end to his last year in Cub Scouts. Those Cubs went on to compete in the district Derby the following week. On April 19<sup>th</sup>, we will be having an Arrow of Light Ceremony for our Webelos bridging to Boy Scouts. Members of the Pack and Troop will take a field trip to Battleship Cove in Fall River, Massachusetts to spend the night during April vacation. New ranks will be awarded in April and May.

Any boy interested in joining Cub Scouts (1<sup>st</sup> grade-5<sup>th</sup> grade), please contact Athena Mann: amannscpack699@yahoo.com or 737-4641.

## Boy Scout News

By Athena Mann

The Scouts look forward to welcoming new boys into the Troop as they complete their first year as a new unit. Spring is the time of year that Scouts cross over from the Cub Scout Packs to Troops. This is a great time for any interested youth, new to Scouting, to join as well. The Bowdoinham Scouts meet each Monday evening at 6pm, in the Coombs Municipal Building, upstairs next to the Library. If you are a boy between the ages of 10-17, and would like to meet the members of Troop 699,



you're welcome to come to a meeting. The Scouts are working on planning for a local hike, canoe trips, and camping out right here in Bowdoinham. Later this summer they plan to canoe the Moose River, in Jackman, Me.

May 15-17<sup>th</sup>, the Troop will take part in Scout O Rama, the first of it's kind in Maine. All of Pine Tree Council's Districts will come together for this event in Freeport. Troops will camp at Recompense Shore Campground, participate in an all Scout parade on Main Street, and demonstrate their skills throughout Discovery Park at L.L. Bean. This event hopes to bring in 1,500 youth members of BSA, Maine. Scout-O-Rama is open to all; non-Scouters are invited to join in the fun and see what we're all about.

Troop 699 is always accepting donations of returnable bottles and cans at their drop box located behind the Town Landing Restaurant. They're still working to build up the Troop's camping and cooking supplies.

For more information, please contact David Mann, Scoutmaster, 837-4270 or email dmann88napa@gmail.com.

## Library Summer Reading Program

By Kate Cutko

The Bowdoinham Public Library will once again host a summer reading program for kids of all ages. This year's theme is "Every Hero Has a Story". We have some great hero stories to read aloud during our Tuesday Storytime, all featuring some sort of hero. We will have a kick off on June 30<sup>th</sup> where kids can make their own super hero capes! More special events on July 14<sup>th</sup>, July 28<sup>th</sup> and August 4<sup>th</sup>. All other Tuesday mornings will offer a read-a-loud story. All events begin at 10am and are free of charge. As always, we will have reading logs where kids record time spent reading to earn prizes. Prizes this year will include ice cream cones, strawberries, and the ever popular "Bowdoinham Bucks" to be spent around town! Kids can pick up their reading logs anytime after school lets out. Stay up to date on all Reading Program events by "Liking" us on Facebook or by checking our website, [www.BowdoinhamLibrary.com](http://www.BowdoinhamLibrary.com). The power of reading is surely a super power; the power to prevent the dreaded summer slide, the power to transcend time and space, the power to fuel imagination and to bring families together. See you this summer!



### Bowdoinham Public Library

#### Hours:

Tuesday: 10am-12pm, 2-5pm, 7-8pm

Wednesday: 2-6pm

Friday: 2-5pm

Saturday: 10am-3pm

#### Contact Information:

666-8405

[kcutko@bowdoinham.lib.me.us](mailto:kcutko@bowdoinham.lib.me.us)

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

## News from Advisory Committee on Aging

By Patricia Oh

Older adults are a vital part of our society. Since 1963, communities across the country have shown their gratitude by celebrating Older Americans Month each May. The theme of this year's celebration is "Get into the Act," to focus on how older adults are taking charge of their health, getting engaged in their communities, and making a positive impact in the lives of others.

Bowdoinham's older residents have been "getting into the act" for decades and are continuing to have a key role in community development! The Advisory Committee on Aging would like to thank all of you who are actively engaged in making Bowdoinham a better place to grow up, live, and grow old!

After the long, hard winter, May is a great time to "get into the act" by trying something new. Bowdoinham's Advisory Committee on Aging (COA) sponsors activities that will put a spring into your step, exercise your brain, and give you a chance to socialize with your friends and neighbors in Bowdoinham! If you want to try something new, the Advisory Committee on Aging probably has an activity or an event that will interest you.

Are you curious about how stained

glass is made or intrigued by insects? The Shipmates Senior Club has a trip planned for you! Are you interested in learning more about your ancestors? Join the genealogy group for hints and tips! Did



you play cribbage or Bridge in younger years and would like to take it up again? Both group are open and always

looking for new players! Would you like to learn a new hand-craft or develop your skills in yarn work? We have experts in all kinds of crafts who are willing to share their knowledge—and have fun socializing!

Summer is just around the corner!

Starting in June, COA will offer several summer adventures, which may include walking and other outdoor activities. For a complete listing, watch the calendar on the town website or read the monthly Activity and Resource; available for free at the at the Town Office, at the Bowdoinham Public Library, and at the Town Landing. It can also be downloaded from the town website, [www.bowdoinham.com/aging-bowdoinham-committee](http://www.bowdoinham.com/aging-bowdoinham-committee).

COA's Wellness Committee has started

to prepare for the Fall Wellness Fair. We don't want to give away any surprises quite yet but it will be held on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 9am-12pm at the Town Hall. For more details, watch this column and read the Activity and Resource list.

The Activity and Resource list includes a complete listing of all activities and events sponsored by the Advisory Committee on Aging as well as listings of activities, events and resources that are not sponsored by COA but may be of interest to older residents and their families. To be added to our mailing list, contact Patricia Oh, Older Adult Services Coordinator (phone: 666-5531, ext. 110 or email, [poh@bowdoinham.com](mailto:poh@bowdoinham.com)).

## Grand Opening

Join us on Wednesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10am for a Open House Day at the Coombs Municipal Building! The Bowdoinham Public Library will have an age-friendly grand opening, come and see all of the resources and surprises Kate has assembled. The Advisory Committee on Aging's Safety and Accessibility Committee will have a display of "tools" for making everyday tasks a little easier. The Bowdoinham Historical Society will be open for you to explore their resources. Door Prizes and Snacks!

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## Did you know?

By Brian Hobart, State Representative

People across Maine are taking back hundreds of thousands of dollars in cash and other assets as a result of the State's efforts to reconnect them with their lost or unclaimed property. To find out if the State Treasurer is in possession of something belonging to you, go to: [http://www.maine.gov/treasurer/unclaimed\\_property/](http://www.maine.gov/treasurer/unclaimed_property/).

## Electricity Shopping

Maine's electric utilities do not generate electricity, they focus instead on delivery. The price of electric power supply is established through a wholesale market in New England, and many suppliers who operate in that market obtained licenses from the Maine Public Utilities Commission (PUC) in order to sell power to retail customers in Maine. A number of Maine's large industrial and commercial providers buy their own power.

Over the past few years, residential and small commercial customers have seen competitive retail supply offers from a variety of companies for the first time. The Maine Office of the Public Advocate has information to help customers understand this market and decide how to proceed.

Remember, customers who make no choice will continue to receive standard



offer service. For those customers who choose to go with a competitive option, they need only make arrangements with their new supplier, who will then work with the utility to make the switch. The new service will be put in place around the time of the utility's next monthly billing cycle.

## Identity Theft

Everyone has personal information, such as credit card numbers, bank account numbers, and Social Security numbers, that can be misused when in the wrong hands. A scam artist who learns any of your personal information can potentially use that to learn more of your personal information and eventually make purchases in your name. For more information, please visit [www.maine.gov/ag/consumer](http://www.maine.gov/ag/consumer).

## Important Contact Information

Governor's Office: 287-3531  
Maine House: 287-1400  
Attorney General: 626-8800  
Bureau of Motor Vehicles: 624-9000  
Marine Resources: 624-6550  
Public Utilities Commission: 287-3831  
Public Safety: 626-3800  
Health and Human Services: 287-3707  
Fraud Hotline: 287-2409

## Have you heard of the Town's New Tax Club?

By William Post, Town Manager

The Town of Bowdoinham offered a "Tax Club Plan" beginning last July that allows property owners to pay their annual property tax bill in monthly installments without incurring interest. This plan was authorized by a vote at the annual town meeting in June 2014. It is expected that it will be offered again this July after town meeting approval.

To be eligible to participate in this plan, the property owner must be current with their property taxes, must enroll no later than July 31, 2015 and must abide by the requirements of the plan. Automatic electronic payments are not offered under this plan, but property owners can schedule payments online through the Town's online payment system. For more information on the 2016 Tax Club Plan, please contact the Town Office at 666-5531, or email the Town Manager at [wpost@bowdoinham.com](mailto:wpost@bowdoinham.com) or Linda Jariz at [ljjariz@bowdoinham.com](mailto:ljjariz@bowdoinham.com).

This is an easier way to pay your property taxes in smaller monthly payments without incurring any interest. We are pleased to be able to offer this payment option to our residents.

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Mark M. Robinson  
Master Plumber #M590010708

## Plumbing Tip Clothes Dryer Vent

Dryer vents can be a fire hazard. Lint can collect along the walls of corrugated hosing or at bends, decreasing the efficiency of your dryer and possibly igniting. The vent material should either be solid galvanized or flexible metal, never plastic or foil. The vent should have no dips but should run as straight and level as possible to the outside. Clean the lint after each dryer use and clean your vent periodically. Better yet, use a clothes line!

## Solid Waste and Recycling Barn

### Barn Hours:

Thursday & Saturday: 8am-4pm

### Trash & Recycling Pick-up:

Thursday

### Contact Information:

Phone:

Barn - 666-3228

David Berry, Director - 751-2809

Email: [dberry@bowdoinham.com](mailto:dberry@bowdoinham.com)

Website: [www.bowdoinham.com/solid-waste-recycling](http://www.bowdoinham.com/solid-waste-recycling)

# THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

## Community Calendar

### May

#### 1st

14<sup>th</sup> Annual Rummage Sale, 5-7pm  
Town Hall, 13 School St

#### 2nd

14<sup>th</sup> Annual Rummage Sale, 9am-1pm  
Town Hall, 13 School St

#### Open Studio Day

#### 5th

Public Hearing on Town Meeting Warrant  
Kendall Meeting Room, 5:30pm

#### 16th

Library Plant Sale, 9am-4pm  
Town Hall

#### 21st

MSAD 75 Budget Meeting, 6:30pm  
Orion Performing Arts Center

### June

#### 3rd

Age-Friendly Grand Opening, 10am  
Bowdoinham Public Library

#### 9th

MSAD 75 Budget Referendum Election  
Town Hall, 8am-8pm

#### 10th

Town Meeting, 7pm  
Bowdoinham Community School

#### 14th

Summer Concert, 6-8pm  
Maily Waterfront Park

#### 21st

Summer Concert, 6-8pm  
Maily Waterfront Park

#### 24th

TFOF 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Golf Scramble  
Highland Green, Topsham

#### 27th

Cruise-in on Cathance, 4-6pm  
Town Landing Restaurant

Red, White & Blue Festival, 6pm  
Maily Waterfront Park

#### 28th

Summer Concert, 6-8pm  
Maily Waterfront Park

### Town Board & Committee Meetings

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

#### Select Board Meetings

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

#### Planning Board

4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of Month at 7:00pm

#### Committee on Aging

4<sup>th</sup> Monday of Month at 3:00pm

#### Community Development Advisory Committee

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of Month at 6:30pm

### Town Office

#### Hours:

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri: 8:30am-4pm

Wed: 9am-6pm

Tax Assesor: Wed, 9am-5pm

General Assistance: Fri, 8:30am-4pm

#### Contact Information:

Phone: 666-5531 Fax: 666-5532

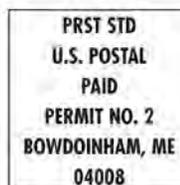
Email: [wpost@bowdoinham.com](mailto:wpost@bowdoinham.com)

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

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

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