



# THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

Volume 16, Issue 3

www.bowdoinham.com

May-June 2018

## BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

### Local Food Opportunities

With summer coming, so are more opportunities to get local food! The Farm Stand, formally know as the Farm Cart, will be coming back June 5<sup>th</sup>, and the Bowdoinham Farmers' Market will be back at Mailyly Waterfront park on June 16<sup>th</sup>. New this year, is the opportunity to grow your own favorite fruits, veges and herbs at Peary's Community Garden.



**The Farm Stand**  
by Bethany Allen

Harvest Tide Organics' Farm Stand

at 218 Main Street in Bowdoinham will open for the summer on Tuesday, June 5<sup>th</sup> this year. The farm stand features produce grown by Harvest Tide Organics in Bowdoinham on Merrymeeting Bay. The stand will be stocked with fresh vegetables daily. There will be lots of what's fresh and in season in Bowdoinham: greens, carrots, beets,

strawberries, tomatoes, peppers, beans, cucumbers, squash, sweet corn from our favorite neighbor Fairwinds, and lots more. This year, you'll see some exciting changes going on around the stand as we improve storage, parking, and signage as we grow! We're also hiring a helper to keep the stand stocked daily, so you can expect more when you visit.

The stand will continue to be 100% self-serve and honor system and accepts cash or check as forms of payment. This year we will be offering pre-payment options for those who don't like to carry cash; we'll be sharing more about this soon. The farm stand will continue to be open 7 days a week from dawn to dusk.

We've grown a lot in the last three years - thank you, Bowdoinham, for all your support! See you this summer!

### Bowdoinham Farmers' Market

by David Asmussen

The Bowdoinham Farmers Market returns to the waterfront park this summer on June 16<sup>th</sup>! From 8:30 to 12:30 you'll find all your favorite vendors, plus several new! Blue Bell Farm, Counterpoint Bread, Otter Farm and Jupiter Farm

will have fresh veggies, bread, meat and goodies. New to the lineup are flowers from Sunrise River Flowers and fresh pasta from Bonny LLC. All the provisions you need for a summer adventure



can be found right down town.

The Bowdoinham Farmers Market now has approved SNAP and WIC vendors. Thanks to the generous support of the community, the Ice and Smelt Festival Soup Supper was a fantastic success! Stay tuned to our Facebook page for more details.

While Bowdoinham has only a summer market, our farmers are using the excellent soil in town to grow and raise food year round. You can bring home the seasonal specialties and support your farming neighbor in many local markets, CSAs and a huge number of restaurants and natural food stores. Take a look at the menu and chances are you'll see a Bowdoinham farm. Supporting the markets that offer local food keeps dollars in the area where they bounce around to other local businesses.

*Continued on page 2.*

### Open Farm Day & Art Trail

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>**. The day will begin with farm tours AND studio tours. Then at 3pm the celebration will continue at Mailyly Waterfront Park for a barbeque featuring fresh foods from local farms and live music. Stay tuned for more information on the Town's website and Facebook page.

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## Local Food Opportunities

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Whichever market you go to:

- Come early for the best selection.
- No cash? No problem. While cash is fee free, many vendors have mobile credit card readers and want to make it easy for you to take home their delicious wares for months before market.
- Talk to the vendors. What is that vegetable? How do I use that cut of meat? Will that bread go well with my atomic chili? Vendors really get to know their product as they raise them for months before market. Take 10 seconds to ask about that oddball. Tell us how you prepared the meal at home, and we'll share it with others looking for ideas.
- And of course, bring a big sturdy bag to bring home your bounty.

We know it's not always easy to get to the market, but with the long warm days there are more opportunities than ever, and we're sure you'll find the effort deliciously rewarding.

### Peary's Community Garden

*by Lily Montgomery*

We are still taking applications for the 2018 season! Come join your neighbors and grow your own food this year in Bowdoinham's new community garden, located on Sadie Lane (behind the Farm Cart).

Plots are \$25 for a 10'x25' space. Compost, water, tools and expert gardening advice available! Organic and conventional gardeners welcome.

Contact Lily Montgomery for more information at [lilypmontgomery@gmail.com](mailto:lilypmontgomery@gmail.com) or find us on Facebook.

## Summer Concert Series

*By Earl Bigelow*

The coming summer of 2018 is promising to be a good one for the Bowdoinham Summer Concert series. This is the third summer of collaboration between the Town and Watersong Music to produce ten Sunday's of concerts on the gazebo in the Maily Waterfront Park. The series starts on June 24 and ends on August 26. The combination of great music and a well done meal, billed as, "Dinner and a Show" has proven to be happy equation resulting in "the place to be" for the families of Bowdoinham and surrounding communities.

Series organizer Earl Bigelow has sought some new acts to mix in with some returning favorites. Local bands are key to the series. "The first motivation for me was to create a venue that put the comfort and ease of the musician first. That starts with making the physical setting as acoustically pleasing as possible, like a recording studio. This lets the musicians feel and perform at their best." Earl points out the effort to line the ceiling of the gazebo each

spring to cut down on reflection/echo that is heard on stage. This summer there are plans in place to improve the lighting on stage, with the goal of producing a Saturday night concert under the stars.

Each Sunday will have a different group serving a family oriented meal, with quality and substance in mind. There are plans to improve the physical layout to enable the quality and efficient service of food. The target price for a meal will be 8 to 10 dollars with a special price for children. "The goal is to give people a sure bet for spending the enchanting

hours of a summer Sunday evening on the river," Earl said. "Food and music, and a great gathering of the special, eclectic population of our beautiful midcoast area." There is a standing rain date for the following Wednesday for any Sunday that is rained out.

For a line-up of coming bands and the groups that will serve food go to the Bowdoinham Facebook page. There will be a great variety of people, food and music. Come with family and friends and a blanket or a lawn chair. The Philip Maily Waterfront Park in Bowdoinham, will be "the place to be" on Sunday night!



45<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Bowdoinham Library  
PLANT SALE

May 19<sup>th</sup>  
9am to 4pm  
at Town Hall

Perennials,  
Herbs,  
Vegetable,  
Annual Seedlings,  
Trees  
and Shrubs

*(Clever folks bring boxes.)*



## Boy Scout Troop 699

By Cathy Curtis

Boy Scout Troop 699 continues to support scouts along the Boy Scout Trail. We have four scouts working on their Eagle rank: Jacob Ross, Richard Mann, Adam Dustin and Fred Czerwinski, one scout working on Star: Mason Blodgett, two scouts working on First Class: Nate Skolfield and Kyle Siebert, one scout working on 2nd Class: Chris Mann, and two scouts working on Tenderfoot: Tyler Wescott and George



Czerwinski.

Highlights this year include a Camporee at Camp Hinds, a Klondike Derby in Bath at the Maine Maritime Museum where they raced a troop-built dog sled,

soap carving with Gus Frank, origami and Go Kart building. The troop is planning a summer canoe trip with training on local rivers this spring.

Thank you for

continuing to support the Troop with your ongoing bottle donations.

Students aged 11-17 are welcome to join scouting at any time. Contact Scout Master David Mann at [dmann88napa@gmail.com](mailto:dmann88napa@gmail.com).

## Cub Scout Pack 699

By Cathy Curtis

Cub Scout Pack 699 has been going strong this year. We have some new leadership with Cubmaster, Crystal Perkins.

Highlights so far this year include a hike at Fort Baldwin and camping out in the school gym in January.

In February we had our annual Blue and Gold Banquet. There was a Super Hero theme and Andrew Peterson-Stevens took home the Golden Cupcake Award for his Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle cake. Cakes were auctioned off to support our campership fund.



1st place went to Colby Bleau; 2nd place to Chase Hardee; 3rd place to Theo Forcier; 4th place to Bradley Jasper and 5th Place to Jacob Morrell. Best in Show went to Simon Grenier. Those scouts went on to compete at the district level in Lewiston. A big thank you to Topsham Pack

We held our Pack Pinewood Derby in March.

646 for loaning us their track and helping with the Derby.

The Pack will head to Massachusetts in April to spend the night at the Franklin Park Zoo in Boston. We also look forward to the Webelo Crossover this

spring.

Students in grades 1-5 are welcome to join at any time. Please contact Athena Mann [737-4641,amann-pack699@yahoo.com](mailto:737-4641,amann-pack699@yahoo.com), Crystal Perkins [my-man-stan@hotmail.com](mailto:my-man-stan@hotmail.com)

or Cathy Curtis [666-8434](tel:666-8434), [curtisc@link75.org](mailto:curtisc@link75.org), for more information.



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## Bowdoinham Historical Society News

By Betsy Steen

**2018 Theme:** Bowdoinham Fires, and the Men, Women, and Equipment that Fight Them.

### Strange Sources of Great Information

Old School Reports or Interviews on Bowdoinham History, Deb Lipscomb transcribed our son Rob's 1977 school report on "Firefighting in Bowdoinham." To write it, he used sources such as Silas Adams' History of Bowdoinham, the 1962 BiCentennial of Bowdoinham book, and most important, an interview with Fire Chief Allan Frizzle. It provides us with information on the old fire trucks and the past fire stations which we have had a hard time tracking down.

*The point?* Maybe YOU have reports you or your children did on some aspect of Bowdoinham history from grade or high school. Maybe you have transcripts of interviews of towns people, now gone from us, which could provide a window into their areas of knowledge during the past 100 years in Bowdoinham. If you do, please share them with us.

Another excellent resource are old scrapbooks from the 1900s of news

clippings related to Bowdoinham and surrounding towns. We would love to borrow them.

Speaking of scrapbooks we have a number already from the 1920s and 30s. We need someone(s) to help go through them and take pictures of relevant articles, so that we can print them and add them to the appropriate topic notebooks

### Antique Apples Talk Bears Fruit

Elaine Diaz has talked with John Bunker who gave the wonderful Heritage Apples of Bowdoinham talk last October. He says he is amazed and excited about the wealth of heritage apples folks brought in. He has identified all and thinks he has found among them the lost Sanford-Given apple he was seeking. Declaring Bowdoinham especially rich in heirloom apples, he plans to continue his research here. There is talk of those interested in these lovely old apples continuing to meet. Call Elaine (666-8255)

### UPCOMING

- Story Hour - Some Sunday in June  
Topic: Bowdoinham Firefighting and the Volunteer Fire Department and other service organizations
- Bowdoinham Fires and the Men, Women and Equipment that Fight Them

We hope to open our Fire display in June this year; have it open on Open Farm Day in July, and on Sunday afternoons in August.

- BHS serves Supper at the Concert with a display on The Great Fire of 1902 on July 15th.
- Strawberry Shortcake at the Open Farm Day BBQ on July 22nd
- The Restoration of Bowdoinham's Hand Tub Water Witch talk by Rick Ellis on a Sunday in October.

We can always use help with any of these ventures. Please contact Volunteer Coordinator Lara Ashouwak to tell her the sorts of things you would enjoy doing, (666-8161 or lashouwak1@gmail.com).

*Thank You* to Frank Connors, who in March gave an excellent talk and slideshow on the Great Bowdoinham Fire of 1902!!

There is interest in researching connections Bowdoinham might have had to the Underground Railroad. If you have stories about your family or your house, or other applicable knowledge, OR if you would like to help with such research, please contact BHS, Elaine Diaz at 666-8255.

*If you haven't renewed your membership for 2018, please do, it keeps us going!*

### 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

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## News from Merrymeeting Arts Center

By Lee Parker

The Merrymeeting Arts Center will close out its 10th year with a gala celebration and fundraising weekend on June 22 and 23. Our activities will raise funds to support maintenance of the Local Myths Collection, a group of Bryce Muir's most important sculptures, and to creating exhibitions and educational opportunity surrounding these treasures and the stories they represent. The Local Myths collection is a generous donation from Peggy and Seth Muir. We are incredibly grateful to them and look forward to continuing Bryce's legacy which has inspired and sustained MAC these past 10 years.

### Events at MAC

On Friday evening, June 22, there will be a reception at the MAC Gallery with refreshments and live music, readings from Bryce's "Local Myths," story-telling by friends of Bryce and a silent and live auction of some of Bryce's sculptures – a once in a lifetime opportunity to buy one of Bryce's works, all proceeds going to MAC. On Saturday, June 23, the silent auction, as well as the exhibition of the Local Myth collection, will continue throughout the day. We will celebrate our connection to Cathance River with kayaking, canoeing and paddle boarding at the waterfront, art at the MAC studio, a croquet tournament and corn hole from 12 – 4; improv skits and music at the gazebo, 4:30 – 5:30; a pizza party and wrap up of silent auction at Watersong Studio 5:30 to 6:30, and the Wicked Good Band performing at 7. Tickets for Friday and Saturday evenings will be available in May.

### Exhibits in the Gallery

(Grey building at 9 Main Street)

"Vernal Pools & Ribbon Snakes" opened April 6th with a reception for the young artists (under 18 years old). The exhibit includes art by students of the Bowdo-



Art For Everyone

inham Community School and other area schools and home schools, as well as work by the Preschool class from the Merrymeeting Arts Studio. This year the literary arts were included with work from a Creative Writing class at Mt Ararat High School being displayed. The exhibit will remain open through May 19 and can be seen on Saturdays from 10 am–1 pm or by appointment (call 207-504-1132).

### Education in the Arts Studio

(Green Building at 6 Main Street)

The past few months have been busy at the Arts Studio with classes on Ukrainian egg decorating taught by Kate Cutko, Pre-school and Teen art classes (new class sessions begin in May) with Jennifer Stonebraker, Saturday morning music with Miss Susan for young children and their caregivers, and Mixed Media Fridays with Mandy Russell. Open Jam session and Open Studio continue - Pottery with Dana Pratt and various other offerings such as Weaving with Luke MacFayden. To see what is happening and when check the schedule which is posted on MAC's Facebook page.

Is there a class you would like to take or teach? For registration and/or more information send Melissa Fiori an email at [merrymeetingartstudio@gmail.com](mailto:merrymeetingartstudio@gmail.com).

### SKATEBOARD PARK MURAL

With the support of the Town of Bowdoinham, MAC applied for and received a grant from the Maine Humanities Council in 2017 to create a mural to be installed on the fence that surrounds the Matthew T. Parker Memorial Skate Park. Local Artists Jane Page-Conway, mixed media artist and Manon Whittlesey, print-maker teamed up with Karen Goetting, art teacher at the Bowdoinham Community School to implement the project.

The goal was to create a mural to cover the 150' long, rough fence that is obstructed by support structures on the side facing the park. After considering several different approaches the three artists decided to create the mural from individual 2 foot pieces of wood cut and shaped to resemble a skateboard. The work on the boards was done during art class; every child in the school completed a board. They were each allowed to choose two primary colors and were not allowed to incorporate words or symbols. Depending upon the grade level some boards were stamped by individually crafted stamps; some were painted with a thick paste that was then used to create pattern and texture using different tools. The resulting mural will be a spectacular display and a constant reminder of the importance of art and education in our lives. The mural will be installed during May and June.

*Merrymeeting Arts Center encourages art, education and community celebrating the cultural heritage and natural environment of Merrymeeting Bay. Inspired and guided by the eclectic values of the life and spirit of Bryce Muir, the Center joyfully promotes egalitarianism, whimsy, environmental consciousness, and diversity through its artists, programs, and projects.*



## BCDI News

By Ingrid Leschefske

On Monday, March 26th, BCDI co-hosted a forum to discuss Farm Friendly Communities with support from Grow Smart Maine and Maine Farmland Trust. Forty people were in attendance from the towns of Bowdoinham, Bowdoin, Richmond and Auburn. The three panelists included Rod Melanson, Planning Director, Town of Topsham; Sally Harwood, Co-Chair Agriculture Commission, Town of Winslow; and Adam Bishop, Farmland Protection Program Director, MFT. The panel was moderated by Stephanie Gilbert, Farm Viability & Farmland Protection Specialist with the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, & Forestry.

After being welcomed by the hosts, a variety of resource partners were introduced to attendees. These included Darren Carey, assessor's agent for the Town of Bowdoinham, and representatives from Androscoggin Valley Soil & Water Conservation District, Brunswick Topsham Land Trust, Kennebec Estuary Land Trust, the Natural Resources Conservation Service and Maine Farm Bureau. The program began with an overview of the current use tax programs including Open Space, Agriculture, and Forestry.



Adam Bishop explained, "An agricultural easement is a voluntary, legal agreement between a landowner and a non-profit land trust that permanently protects land by restricting it for agricultural production." Easements are a complex tool that can be used by landowners.

Rod Melanson talked about several aspects of Topsham's comprehensive plan that allow flexible use for agricultural and entrepreneurial activities. He also talked about other tools Topsham is using to be a more "farm friendly community", such as a form-based code approach and the town's Local Farms-Local Food Initiative co-sponsored by Kennebec Estuary Land Trust.

Sally Harwood spoke at length about how she and several others in the town

of Winslow worked over four years to create an Agricultural Commission. The commission then surveyed farmers and created Winslow's own Voluntary Municipal Farm Support Program (VMFSP). The VMFSP is a tool that can incentivize farming in a town by reducing the valuation of agricultural buildings and refund a portion of the taxes paid by a landowner in exchange for a

20-year conservation easement. The state developed the program in 1999 as a way to support the agriculture sector. What is unique about the VMFSP is that each town can customize the program to suit the needs of their community. BCDI's Farmland Committee will be looking at the program and doing research to assess the potential benefits and impacts of such a program. If you are interested in more information, please contact BCDI ([bcdi.maine@gmail.com](mailto:bcdi.maine@gmail.com); [www.bcdimaine.org](http://www.bcdimaine.org)) or visit: <http://growsmartmaine.org/events/forum-growing-farm-friendly-communities-bowdoinham/>

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## Comprehensive Planning Committee

By Joanne Joy, Chair

**T**hanks to everyone who has already provided input into the redevelopment of the Public Works Area to a Waterfront Recreation Area. It is interesting that the input has been quite consistent from 2005 for the original Waterfront Plan, from 2012-13 for the 2014 Comprehensive Plan, and more recently as part of the discussions convened by BCDI. It also points out how slow the process can be to move from community planning to implementation when major changes and expenses are needed to finish a project. It is exciting that the reality of a re-imagined waterfront will be available to the community soon (well by 2020 if all goes according to plan).

With final approval of the move of Public Works, a Request for Proposal (RFP) has been issued for landscape architects to provide more details to the great ideas from the community. The RFP asks for more detailed drawings of ideas collected through time, estimated costs, and identification of permitting requirements while considering continuity with Maily Park and long term maintenance responsibilities.

The proposed timeline for the architects include meetings with the Comprehensive Planning Committee (CPC) in July and community input meetings as soon as October 2018. A few proposed dates from the RFP timeline are below, but the dates may change.

- Request for Proposals advertised April 2, due May 10, contract signing June 12, 2018
- First meeting with the Comprehensive Planning Committee July 10, 2018
- First Public Meeting October 2018
- Second Public Meeting January/February 2019
- Complete Plans Necessary for Permitting June 2019

The CPC meetings are held the second Tuesday of every month from 6:30 to 8:00pm at the Coombs Municipal Building and the public is welcome. Please contact Nicole Briand, Director of Planning & Development at nbriand@bowdoinham.com or call 207-666-5531 for more information.

## Recreation News

By William Post

**L**isa West left the position of Recreation Director for the Town in April after serving the community well for the past three and one-half years. Her hard work and dedication to the Town is greatly appreciated. Lisa added some adult recreation programs during her tenure and tried to expand recreation activities for youth as well. We wish Lisa the best. Thank you Lisa!

Allen Acker was hired in April as Recreation Director to replace Lisa. Allen is a Bowdoinham resident and is no stranger to the community or the recreation program, serving currently as a coach. Allen's personality, familiarity with the community and background will serve the Town and the Recreation Department well. Allen can be reached by email at recreation@bowdoinham.com or at the Town Office at 666-5531.

Allen is also interested in learning from residents as to what they would like to see for additional offerings for adults in Bowdoinham. If you have an idea, or would like to be involved in an activity that you think would be fun for others, please let Allen know.

In addition, we are always in need of volunteers for the Snack Shack at the recreation fields for baseball, softball and t-ball games. Spending an hour or two helping sell food, snacks and beverages to those watching these games helps offset the cost of the recreation programs and will allow the Town to offer more programs. You might even find that you enjoy it and meet new people. Games are offered throughout the week and a big game day is scheduled for Saturday May 12th where a full schedule of games will kick off in the morning. Teams from all of Ararat Nation will be playing at our fields. Come out and watch or volunteer!

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## Town Budget Update

By William Post, Town Manager

The Finance Advisory Committee finished reviewing and revising the Town Manager's proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2019 (July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019) on April 4th. The budget was then presented to the Select Board on April 24th. The next step in the process is a public hearing on the proposed budget and other town meeting warrant articles on May 8th at 5:30 p.m. at the Coombs Municipal Building, Kendall Meeting Room.

The Town's proposed expense budget shows an increase of \$99,820 or 5.98% from the current year. The department heads and Town Manager made a concerted effort to keep the expenses as low as possible while maintaining the level of services that the town expects. Several departmental budgets show a decrease from the current year. But there are some increases that are not controlled by the Town, including a health insurance increase and ambulance contract increase.

Revenues from sources other than property taxes are expected to increase by \$59,378 or 7.24%, helping to offset the increase in expenses. Most of the increases in revenues are from automobile excise tax collections continuing to be strong. With these increases in revenues, the net impact on the budget is an increase of \$40,442. With the expected increase in the education budget of 4.5% and the county tax increase of 2.4%, it is estimated that the tax rate will increase by only 1.6% which is less than inflation in 2017 (1.7%).

The Town Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 13, 2018 at the Bowdoinham Community School at 7:00 p.m. The Select Board is scheduled to finalize the Town Meeting Warrant on Tuesday, May 8, 2018.

### Welcome

Join us in welcoming Patricia "Trish" Frederick to the Town Office as our new part-time administrative assistant.

## Clerk's Corner

By Pamela Ross, Town Clerk

Important dates to remember:  
Thursday, May 24th M.S.A.D. #75 Budget Meeting held in the Orion Performing Arts Center in Topsham at 6:30pm

Friday, May 25th - voters changing Party enrollment must do so by this date to participate in the June 12th State Primary Election (remember that if you are unenrolled you can enroll in a qualified party anytime.

Wednesday, June 6th the Registrar will be available during regular business hours and special hours until 7:00pm for the purpose of correcting the list of voters and to receive applications of persons claiming the right to vote in the upcoming election.

Tuesday, June 12th State Primary/ Referendum and the M.S.A.D. #75 Budget Validation Referendum Election will be held at the Bowdoinham Town Hall from 8:00am-8:00pm.

30 days before the Election Absentee Ballots will be ready. (Application can be found on our website at [www.bowdoinham.com](http://www.bowdoinham.com)) or online request at [www.maine.gov/cgi-bin/online/AbsenteeBallot/index.pl](http://www.maine.gov/cgi-bin/online/AbsenteeBallot/index.pl) (Sample ballots will be available for viewing on our website when the Town receives them.

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

By William Post, Town Manager

The Town of Bowdoinham now offers a "Tax Club Plan" that allows property owners to pay their annual property tax bill in monthly installments without incurring interest. This plan was first authorized by a vote at the town meeting in June 2014 and is expected to 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, 2018 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 2019 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 Melissa Halsey at [assistantclerk@bowdoinham.com](mailto:assistantclerk@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.



Join us for  
OPENING DAY

JUNE 16<sup>TH</sup>

Open on Saturdays  
8:30am to 12:30pm

Located at the Maily Waterfront Park

1 Main St, Bowdoinham

Visit us on Facebook!

## Age-Friendly Bowdoinham News

By *Rachelle Tome*

**M**ay in Bowdoinham is a busy time as town folk begin to emerge from the grips of winter to engage in favorite spring activities, such as planting gardens and sprucing up lawns and homes. One Bowdoinham landmark that is in the center of spring activity is the Town Hall, hosting annual spring events such as the Community School rummage sale and the Library plant sale. The Town Hall has long been the center of spring activities, including Coombs High School graduation ceremonies and the May Balls held for those attending dancing lessons provided by Richard Paradis.

The Town Hall has hosted many activities throughout its rich history, including contradances, Minstrel shows, Miss Bowdoinham pageants, public speaking completions, school plays, art shows and town voting, just to name a few. Most Bowdoinham citizens have at least one special memory which took place at the Town Hall.

Keeping the Town Hall ready for activities requires ongoing attention. While there have been initiatives to help this special landmark clean and ready for use over the years, this historical structure needs our attention again. The Advisory Committee on Aging (ACOA) sees the Town Hall as a perfect location for future Age-Friendly activities and would like to work with other community groups to make some necessary improvements.

This includes a thorough cleaning and possibly some interior painting. Other repair projects may also be considered. Our goal is to have some of the work completed and the Town Hall ready for Celebrate in September. Individuals or community groups interested in assisting with this important project are asked to contact Melissa Halsey at the Town Office at [assistantclerk@bowdoinham.com](mailto:assistantclerk@bowdoinham.com) or 207-666-5531.

The Advisory Committee on Aging supports our town's efforts in developing an Age Friendly Bowdoinham. We are fortunate to work with 50 + volunteers and many local partners to coordinate activities designed to provide services and advocacy designed to enable our older residents to live in their homes for as long as possible as well as provide programs geared to keeping older adults active and engaged in the community. There are many regular monthly activities available.

For more information about upcoming events follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/AgeFriendlyBowdoinham/>. You can also call Missy at the Town Office to be added to our mailing list: 207-666-5531. If you are interested in the Committee's work, please consider attending our monthly meeting. Meeting details as well as a hard copy calendar of the many activities offered each month are available at the Town Landing, Bowdoinham Public Library, and at the Town Office.

## Seeking Nominations for Citizen of the Year Award

By *William Post, Town Manager*

**T**he 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.

Previous residents receiving this honor include:

- 2013 – Susie Uhle
- 2014 – Leslie Anderson
- 2015 – Lynn Spiro
- 2016 – Nancy Curtis
- 2017 – Doug Tourtelotte

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. An appointed committee will review nominations and forward a recommendation to the Select Board in August.

### LAW OFFICES OF ARTHUR J. LAMOTHE



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## COLONIAL HARDWOODS

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EXPERT INSTALLATIONS, SANDING, FINISHING  
AND CUSTOM WORK

HEADQUARTERED IN BOWDOINHAM OVER 20 YEARS

## Brown Tail Moth News

By Ellen Baum

Last spring, an anticipated severe infestation of the brown-tail caterpillar was minimized due to the timing of spring rains, which supported the fungi that attacked the caterpillars. This was a huge relief, allowing many of us to have a fairly symptom-free summer.

That said, moths arrived to make nests in Bowdoinham trees in late summer 2017, which are easily visible now. Based on current knowledge of defoliation, winter web surveys and other observations, the Maine Forest Service rates Bowdoinham at high risk of exposure for 2018.

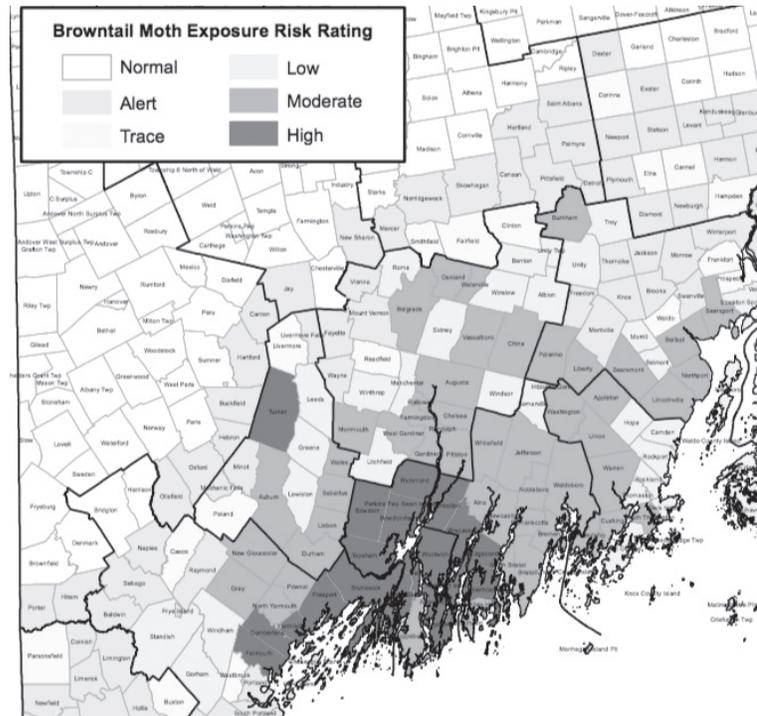
As in 2017, we urge residents to:

1. Begin clipping nests within reach and remind them that the Bowdoinham Library has pole pruners to check out, available to any resident with a library card.
2. Refer to the Maine Forest Service website for more information both about treatment of nests. [http://www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/forest\\_health/invasive\\_threats/browntail\\_moth\\_info.htm](http://www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/forest_health/invasive_threats/browntail_moth_info.htm)
3. Bowdoinham's Brown Tail Moth Task Force prepared this document last year, which is still applicable, if needed.

### Advice for the Brown-Tail Moth Rash

#### To lessen the chance of getting a rash:

- Wear long sleeves and long pants, tightly closed at the neck, wrists and ankles. It's thought that polyester is more effective at keeping the hairs off the skin than cotton.
- Use a pre-contact wipe or lotion made for poison ivy, oak and sumac before going outside.
- Do yard work on damp days or wet down material with a hose. Don't leave grass clipping on your lawn or use clippings for composting or garden mulch.
- Close your car windows in areas of



Map available at - [http://www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/forest\\_health/documents/browntail\\_moth\\_risk\\_map.pdf](http://www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/forest_health/documents/browntail_moth_risk_map.pdf)

heavy infestation.

- Use duct tape to pull the barbed microscopic hairs from exposed skin.
- Wash exposed clothes immediately, alone and in hot water, don't skimp on the detergent. Consider washing twice if heavily infested. Dry in the dryer.
- Take a cool shower for 10 – 15 minutes if you believe you have been exposed, scrub your body vigorously with a brush or rough cloth. Fels Naptha may be particularly effective.
- Check before going to parks and beaches about the infestation there.

#### Treating the rash:

People react differently to different treatments. Nothing but time will make the rash go away. What is helpful is anti-histamine for the itch, steroid for the swelling and something to sooth the skin. Below are some suggestions, not to be taken as medical advice.

- Kennebec Pharmacy, a non-affiliated pharmacy located at Mid-Coast Hospital has a now-famous, prescription spray. Wilson's Drug on Front St. in Bath has both a prescription and non-prescription

lotion. Insurance will not cover either prescription. In the Portland area, Coastal Pharmacy & Wellness, 84 Marginal Way, also makes a specially formulated prescription spray, which some insurance companies cover.

- Calamine lotion, Benadryl spray, tea tree oil, vicks vapo rub (generic) or jewel weed may help mild rashes.
- Mix equal parts of Aspercreme and Sarna.
- Thoroughly mix ½ tube of hydrocortisone and ½ tube of Benadryl with a bottle of witch hazel.
- Take an oral anti-histamine.

These suggestions come from a mix of the Maine Forest Service, Maine Pesticide Control Board, Northern New England Poison Center, Bowdoinham Brown Tail Moth Task Force and your neighbors. Join Mid-Coast Maine Brown Tail Moth Support on Facebook for updated information throughout the summer.

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## CEO Corner

By Darren Carey

An increasing violation in town is the “junkyard” violation. A junkyard is defined as “a yard, field or other outside area used to store, dismantle or otherwise handle:

- A) Discarded, worn-out or junked plumbing, heating supplies, household appliances and furniture;
- B) Discarded, scrap and junked lumber;
- C) Old or scrap copper, brass, rope, rags, batteries, paper, trash, rubber debris, waste and all scrap iron, steel and other scrap ferrous or non-ferrous material; and
- D) Garbage dumps, waste dumps, and sanitary fills.”

At this time, I ask that all property owners remove anything that constitutes a junkyard from your property.

## Assessors Alley

By Darren Carey

Through the months May and June I will be visiting properties that obtained building permits over the course of the last two years. The purpose of the visit is to update property records, establish a true and accurate list of taxable real estate and personal property in Bowdoinham. I am also going to take this opportunity to update information on our existing property cards.



If you may any questions please contact me, Darren Carey at 666-5531 or [dcarey@bowdoinham.com](mailto:dcarey@bowdoinham.com).

## Safe Disposal of Medical Sharps

By Bryan Benson

Each year, thousands of Mainers use millions of syringes, pen needles and lancets or “sharps” to control medical conditions like diabetes, arthritis and allergies. Stockpiling used sharps in the home or improper disposal by throwing them in the trash or flushing them down the toilet puts you and your family, solid waste staff, and the general public at risk for accidental and painful needle sticks that can lead to infection, tetanus and transmission of diseases.

If you or a family member use sharps at home, you are allowed under Maine law to dispose of them in your household trash if you take the proper precautions to secure and label the container before doing so. **Please DO NOT place sharps in recycling without proper container!**

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## Recycling Changes - Plastics & Glass

By William Post, Town Manager

With the recent news about China limiting their use and re-use of several types of recyclable materials from the United States, the market for certain plastics and all glass that we used to recycle has changed. We are now no longer able to sell these materials and therefore these materials need to be disposed of with your household garbage.

Most items made from plastic are marked with a number (1 – 7) usually on the bottom of the item inside a triangle of arrows. The Recycling Barn will still accept #1 and #2 plastics, but will no longer accept #3, #4, #5, #6 and #7 plastics for recycling.



Examples of different plastic containers:

- #1: plastic bottles for water, juice, mouthwash, peanut butter jars and salad dressing
- #2: milk jugs, water jugs, laundry de-

tergent containers, shampoo bottles and yogurt containers.

#3: toys, take-out food containers, cling wrap, shower curtains

#4: grocery bags, bread bags, garbage bags, plastic wrap

#5: straws, opaque plastic containers like Rubbermaid, bottle caps

#6: Styrofoam food containers, disposable cups and plates, deli food plates, packaging, packing peanuts

#7: baby bottles, sippy cups, large 3 or 5 gallon water storage containers

The easiest way to determine if an item can be recycled is to look for the symbol above with a #1 or #2 in it. If it has the #1 or #2, it can be recycled. If not, throw it away.

All glass items must now be thrown away with household garbage including jars and bottles.

We appreciate your help with the changes and hope that you continue to recycle your newspaper, cardboard, mixed paper and #1 and #2 plastics and always properly dispose of everything else. For questions, please contact the Recycling Department at 666-3228.

How-To -

Homemade Household Sharps Containers

Make your own sharps container using a heavy puncture-proof plastic bottle – like for laundry detergent. Place sharps in the bottle and when it’s full, seal it with the cap and heavy-duty tape, mark “Do Not Recycle” and simply place in your household trash for curbside pick up.

## 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

**8th**

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

**19th**

Library Plant Sale, 9am-4pm  
Town Hall

**24th**

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

**28th**

Town Office Closed  
In observance of Memorial Day

### June

**12th**

State Primary/Referendum and M.S.A.D.  
#75 Budget Validation Referendum  
Elections  
Town Hall, 8am-8pm

**13th**

**Town Meeting, 7pm**  
**Bowdoinham Community School**

**16th**

Farmers' Market Opening Day  
Maily Waterfront Park

**22nd & 23rd**

10th Anniversary Gala Celebration  
Merrymeeting Arts Center

**24th**

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**

3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of Month at 2:30pm

**Community Development Advisory**

1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of Month at 6:30pm

**Comprehensive Planning Committee**

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

### Town Office

Hours:

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

Wed: 9am-6pm

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

Phone: 666-5531 Fax: 666-5532

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

Visit us on Facebook

### Save-the-Dates

Open Farm Day & Art Trail: Sunday, July 22, 2018

Celebrate Bowdoinham: Saturday, September 8, 2018

**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**  
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