



THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

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May-June 2019

Bowdoinham Farmers' Market

By Dave Asmussen

The Bowdoinham Farmers' Market returns to Maily Waterfront Park this summer on June 15th! The market will be open on Saturdays from 8:30 to 12:00. You'll find Blue Bell Farm, Counterpoint Bread, Otter Farm, Scapegoat Garlic Farm, The Bowdoinham Community School Garden and now Maggie's Farm! Let us tempt you with fresh baked bread, crisp organic veggies, locally raised meat and now an assortment of grass fed milk and cheese. All the provisions you need for a summer adventure can be found right down town. The Bowdoinham Farmers Market offers SNAP and WIC benefits and a \$10 match on all SNAP purchases too!

While Bowdoinham has only a summer market, the farmers all around town are using the excellent soil here 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. Whichever market you go to:

- Come early for the best selection
- No cash? No problem. Many vendors have mobile credit card readers and want to make it easy for you to take home their delicious wares.
- Talk to the vendors. What is that vegetable? How do I use that cut of meat? Will that bread hold up to 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.
- Bring a big sturdy bag to bring home your bounty.

With the long warm days there are more opportunities than ever to get to market, and we're sure you'll find the effort deliciously rewarding.

Peary's Garden

By Brian Smith

Peary's Garden is being prepared for a busy season. As of April 1st we have 15 of our 19 plots spoken for. The standard plot is 10 feet by 25 feet, but smaller plots are available. Fed-co Seeds has provided us with a very nice selection of free seeds. They are available at my home at 213 Main Street. The fee for a standard plot is \$25 or less, based on need. A half plot is \$15. In addition to the seed we will provide our gardeners with organic compost, organic fertilizer, horse manure, water, garden tools and a gas powered cultivating tiller. An attempt will be made this year to control the woodchuck situation via Hav-A-Hart trap. There is a tool shed, picnic table, park bench and swing at the garden, making it a very relaxing and restful retreat for those who enjoy gardening. The garden is located on SADIE LANE behind the FARMCART, off Main Street. New gardeners are welcome and we offer expert advice, if needed. For more information contact Brian Smith at brian.luana@gmail.com, 666-3383 or Lily Montgomery at lilypmontgomery@gmail.com, 837-4569.

Open Farm Day & Art Trail

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, July 28th**. The day will begin with farm tours AND studio tours. Then at 3pm the celebration will continue at Maily 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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Library News - New Entrance Proposed

By Kate Cutko

A 2016 survey conducted by the Town's Advisory Committee on Aging discovered that there was a significant need for better access to the library. Many residents cited difficulty using the interior and exterior stairs to the building and therefore did not attempt to visit the library. There is a wooden flight of stairs to enter the building, and another interior stairway to reach the library and public meeting rooms on the second floor of the Coombs building. Improvements have been made to the exterior stairs, with handrails and heated tread mats that melt the snow and ice – yet, the difficulty with stairs remains a barrier for many. When the Library Board was approached by a local donor looking to support the library with a financial gift, the time was right to propose an improved entrance to the Coombs Building.

In 2018, library representatives met with Select Board Chair Tony Lewis and Town Manager Bill Post and agreed to share the cost of an initial building assessment. The Town contracted with the architectural firm 44 North. In addition, the library paid the architect to design a ground level entrance (shown here) that would be located in the rear corner of

the Coombs building. The proposed design creates a new lobby for the building, with doors to both the library and the Kendall Room, where many community meetings and activities

take place. Library Board Co-Chair Joan Knight states, "This project is a great opportunity to make the Coombs Building more accessible not only for the library but for community events and public meetings."

The Library Board and its newly-formed "Building Committee" were thrilled with the design, however the architect reported that several code violations were apparent in the building assessment that would likely prevent any construction to be authorized. Foremost of these violations is an inadequate "burn rate" in the materials forming the ceiling of the entire first floor. By state fire code, the materials need to provide two hours of burn time should a fire break out on the first floor, in order for the occupants of the second floor to exit safely. The



interior staircase also needs to be fire-rated and enclosed. Other egress issues exist along with ADA violations regarding certain current doorways and facilities.

The library building committee presented the proposed second floor lobby concept and design to the Selectboard on February 26th. The library explained the rationale for the new entrance, the features of the proposed design, as well as the problems with fire code violations in the building that exist today. What the library committee proposed at that meeting was that if the town could fund the necessary repairs to bring the Coombs building into compliance, then the library, together with grant sources and donors, would fund the construction of the new entrance. The members of the Select Board were supportive of the concept and the design. One board member spoke of the

**46th Annual
Bowdoinham Library
PLANT SALE**

**May 18th
9am to 4pm
at Town Hall**



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The Coombs building, like other historic buildings in our town, was restored by a team of committed volunteers and saved from destruction in the 1970's. Many people who attended school in these rooms enjoy seeing the activity in these old classroom

“moral obligation” to keep this public building and the people who work and congregate here safe. Another board member acknowledged the “generous gift to the town” that the library was offering, and his belief that the town should correct the code violations that could otherwise stand in the way.

At the February 26th Select Board meeting, the Town Manager reminded the Select Board about the other current issues with the layout of the town office that the Board has discussed previously. These issues include fixing the interior vestibule that is not easily navigable for people in wheelchairs, walkers or crutches, security issues, and the overall inefficient layout of the space for office staff and storage needs as the demands of tasks have increased over the 40-plus years that the space has been used as a town office.

spaces. We are hopeful that among the other financial pressures on the municipality and individuals, people see it fit to keep the building in good shape and functioning well into the future for the many functions it serves. The proposed Town budget for the next fiscal year includes an amount to add to the Town Office Capital Reserve Fund, enabling the Town to begin to move forward in a phased approach to correcting code violations and improving town office space at the same time.

We are hopeful that people see the value in the improved accessibility to this historic building. We welcome the public to come in and see the architect's designs, the current site of the proposed entrance and to discuss the project with the staff and Library Board. Quarterly library board meetings are always open to the public.

Cemetery Advisory Committee News

By Elaine Diaz

Bowdoinham Cemetery Advisory Committee hosted a spaghetti supper for Volunteers and Cemetery Keepers on April 1st, at the Merrymeeting Hall on Main Street. About 40 people attended. After supper Linda Temple demonstrated stone washing on the little Franklin Starbird stone. Lisa Picard, Director of the Pejepscot Historical Society had found the stone in their basement and brought it to us. She attended this event and we were able to properly thank her. We hope to return this stone of a 2 1/2 year old child to its rightful place by the Starbird family monument in the Adams-Starbird-Carr Cemetery on the Millay Road this summer.

We also were pleased to have three members of the Merrymeeting Bay Pioneers Project as guests. Chris Gutscher, Bruce Bourque, and Alan Bowes met Steve Lamoreau, who is familiar with an area on the Abagadasset River bank where there may be a 1600's burial plot of 15 – 20 stones. This was described by Marilyn Hinkley in the late 1970's as was told to her by Ed Webber, who said these stones were no longer visible and would need to be probed for. This may be easier with new technology.

The largest family group was Curtis', eight of them! These are just a few of the guests. Many new people have signed up as Keepers and general volunteers. We had planned a Cemetery Clean-up at the Village Burying Ground for the weekend of April 12, 13 and 14, but had to postpone to April 26, 27, and 28 due to snow storms and wet and muddy conditions.

And finally, a huge thank you to the Bowdoinham Historical Society for catering a delicious meal, and for working so hard to get Merrymeeting Hall ready for its first big event.

For more information or if you have any questions, please contact Elaine Diaz, Cemetery Volunteer Coordinator, at 666-8255.



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666-8953

HARDWARE

Bowdoinham Historical Society News

By Betsy Steen

2019 Theme: Bowdoinham from 1880 to 1930: Fifty Years of Change

Please Join Us in this Adventure

Research an area of life (transportation, occupations, art, literature, music, childhood, crafts-hobbies-games, etc.) for the timeperiod (1880-1930). Or help present a program! Read books of or about 1880-1930, a booklist will be available at the Library.

Do you have photos, documents, diaries, scrapbooks, artifacts relevant to this period you would be willing to loan?

Please contact Betsy Steen at 737-9460 or bayviewess@comcast.net for more information.

Now that it is warmer, the research activity has picked up in the BHS room at the top of the stairs. Do your own research (we can help). We also have lots of ways you history buffs can help us get organized. We very much appreciate the interesting Bowdoinham-related materials we are being given. "That box" of 'Bowdoinham stuff' you (or your parents) have been stashing away are gold to us.

Even items from the 80s and 90s are history now.

UPCOMING

- Sunday, June 23, 3:00 BHS Meeting House (River and Browns Point Roads) Denham Ward will present Medical Education 1880-1930 and The Life and Practice of Dr. Irish, Bowdoinham's Doctor.

- Sunday, June 30th 6:00 Concert Supper BHS This waterfront event will be a fundraiser for Merrymeeting Hall.

Dates to be Announced:

Kathy Savoie The Kitchen - 1880-1930
Bowdoinham Fashion Show: Garb from 1880-1930

Merrymeeting Hall

We are looking at between \$8,000 and \$12,500 for Merrymeeting's half roof. We would very much like to have the standing seam roof and are working to fund it with donations from people who feel strongly that that is the better course of action. We have the promise of \$1,500 to be used to match such 'metal roof' donations, and we have raised \$1,000 besides the matching money.

The electrical work is nearly finished on the ground floor and main floor, we should be close to having a real ADA

bathroom on the main floor, and the theater will have had the damaged walls fixed with sheetrock.

Come join us - Merrymeeting Monday Crew will be there Monday mornings and the Ground Floor Gentlemen's Group are there most Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings.

We still need: wooden chairs, sturdy wooden folding chairs, folding tables, a stainless steel rolling table, a clock for the kitchen, table linens, Hi-Rise ADA toilets and grab bars, dish drainers in good condition, dishcloths, loam, compost, and basic garden tools.

Our June hope is that the Town will vote to help Merrymeeting Hall; a Community Center for Bowdoinham with utility bills (\$6500). In return MMH is providing a community center for people of ALL ages with NO FEE charged for Town and other Bowdoinham activities of a public/community nature. We would charge for catering, special set-up, and clean-up for town events if needed and we would charge for private parties (weddings, birthdays, etc) and money-making activities.

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-2pm

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News from Merrymeeting Arts Center

By Jan Marks

The Merrymeeting Arts Center held its first annual spring fundraiser, Equinauxion: An Art Auction, on March 30, 2019. The event included live music, refreshments, a silent auction, and a live auction conducted by auctioneer extraordinaire Jim Talbot, who donated his time for the event. Artists from all over the area donated original works of art to be auctioned, along with generous donations of pieces of art from members of the community. Donating artists received 50% of the sale price of each piece, the other 50% going to MAC to support its programming throughout the year.

We also received generous donations and support from many wonderful sponsors. We encourage everyone in the community to thank those sponsors by patronizing their businesses whenever possible. A full list of sponsors can be found on our website at: merrymeetingartscenter.org.

This year's Equinauxion was a great success, thanks to the many artists and others who contributed pieces to be auctioned, our auctioneer Jim Talbot, Watersong Studio who provided the hall for the event, all who volunteered their time, and everyone in the community who came out to attend the event and support the Merrymeeting Arts Center. We look forward to seeing you all again next year for Equinauxion 2020.

Call For Artists - The Heron

As many of you know, Bryce Muir's Local Myths collection was generously donated to MAC by Peggy and Seth Muir. Each year we will highlight one of the Myths, displaying it in the gallery, and centering some of our programming around it.

This is the year of The Heron. The Merrymeeting Arts Center will be holding a community show of art with The Heron as its theme. Pieces can be any medium (painting, drawing, sculpture,

photography, mixed medium, etc.) and can be submitted by anyone, young, old, professional or amateur alike. The only requirement is that the piece relate to the theme of

The Heron, however loosely interpreted. For additional inspiration, The Heron sculpture is on display at the Gallery, and Bryce's book, Local Myths, which includes the Heron Returns the Gift myth, is available for sale from MAC.

The show will open in late August at the Gallery and run through Celebrate Bowdoinham in September. All artwork must be submitted to MAC no later than August 15, 2019. Stay tuned for more details.

All submissions are welcome - come be part of this community show and tribute to Bryce Muir's Local Myths collection. For more information, visit our website at: merrymeetingartscenter.org, or contact us at: merrymeetingartscenter@gmail.com.

We look forward to seeing all of the art and interpretations of The Heron.

Coming up at the Studio: Discover Your Inner Artist

Classes and workshops at the Studio are in full swing again. Classes/workshops will include: Cyanotype Workshop with Brendan Bullock, Found Object Jewelry Workshop with Louise Roy, Terrarium Building for Middle Schoolers with Debra Lonergan, T-Shirt Quilt Workshop with Kate Cutko, and Paper Flowers Workshop. A full list of classes can be found on our website at: merrymeetingartscenter.org.

The Heron Fund and our new fee schedule will be in effect and apply to all classes and workshops. If you are able to pay the full fee, as listed in each class/workshop description, we encourage you to do so. Otherwise, you may pay what



you can, and the Heron Fund will make up the difference. Everyone, regardless of ability to pay, is encouraged to sign up for a class or workshop. Pre-registration is required for all classes/workshops, and fees should be paid prior to the start of the class. All questions regarding classes/workshops should be addressed to merrymeetingartstudio@gmail.com.

Loom: A Tribute to Luke MacFadyen

We are pleased to announce the opening of Loom, a textile exhibit highlighting a lifetime of weaving by Luke MacFadyen. This exhibit will feature Luke's own designs; hand-woven vests, shawls, and a wall hanging, as well as blankets Luke wove for Brahms Mount textiles, where he worked as a sample weaver for many years. Also included in this show will be weaving by Delaney Bullock of Bowdoin College, class of 2022.

As much an exhibit as an educational display on the art and practice of weaving, novices and experts alike will be inspired by the artistry and functionality of Luke's creations.

The show will open with a reception on May 4th, 5:00 - 7:00pm at the MAC Gallery. (Note that we will not be open during our regular Saturday hours, 10:00am - 1:00pm, on that day). Loom can be seen during our regular gallery hours on Saturdays, 10:00am - 1:00pm, through August 17th, and during Luke's Celebration of Life on Sunday, May 26th, from 3:00 - 6:00pm.

Coming Up at the Gallery

*Loom - A Textile Exhibit & Tribute to Luke MacFadyen; May 4 - August 17.

*Heron Returns the Gift Community Art - late August/September through Celebrate Bowdoinham, exact dates to be announced.

How Does BCDI Work With The Town?

By Andy Cutko, BCDI Board Member

Now in its seventh year, Bowdoinham Community Development Initiative is still a relatively young organization. BCDI is a registered non-profit with a paid Program Manager and an active, engaged, and rotating Board of local citizens. Many town residents first learned about BCDI through our innovative loan program, while others gained some exposure to us through our Village Community Conversations in 2017.

As more town residents hear of BCDI's various activities, some ask, 'What's the relationship between BCDI and Bowdoinham's municipal government?' BCDI was founded by local citizens who recognized a need to support private sector enterprises, such as small farms and entrepreneurs, in a way that complements the Town's important role in bolstering economic development. Our 'Neighbors Investing in Neighbors' loan program fills



that unique niche and is a cornerstone of BCDI. As an independent organization, BCDI is also well positioned to bring together residents to discuss key issues (farmland, village development) in a variety of settings, from informal kitchen table discussions to broader public meetings. BCDI recognizes that alignment and support of Town functions, plans, and committees is vital, including the Community Development and Advisory Committee (CDAC), Town Comprehensive Plan, and Waterfront Committee. To

this end, BCDI representatives meet regularly with Town staff and committee members to ensure that our efforts are complementary. While BCDI has received town funding in a few past years, BCDI currently receives no public funding; our financial support is provided by membership contributions, local businesses, and private grantors including the Sewall Foundation, Maine Community Foundation, and New England Grassroots Fund.

Above all, BCDI is here to support a healthy and thriving community, and we are always open to new ideas and creative inspiration. If you have specific questions or feedback about BCDI, we want to hear from you! Feel free to contact Ingrid, our Program Manager, or one of our Board members, who are listed at <https://www.bcdimaine.org>. We look forward to crossing paths in town.

Save the Date!



Annual Victorian Tea
May 22, 2019
1pm to 3pm
at the home of Laurie Look
27 Tegans Way
Bowdoinham, Maine

This year we are raising money to help the Bowdoinham Historical Society in their restoration work at Merrymeeting Hall.

We hope to see you there!
Laurie Look & Joanne Savoie

Loans for Bowdoinham Businesses

- ~ Are you a small business owner?
- ~ Do you have limited capital for growth?
- ~ BCDI's loan program can help!



We're a group of Bowdoinham neighbors who have come together to help fund local businesses. Since 2011 Bowdoinham Community Development Initiative has coordinated and administered over \$100,000 in loans from Bowdoinham residents to small businesses in town. The funds for these loans come from your Bowdoinham neighbors; it's Neighbors Investing in Neighbors!

Loan amounts range from \$500 up to \$20,000. To find out more about applying for a loan, or becoming an investor, contact BCDI online or by email.

www.bcdimaine.org

bcdi.maine@gmail.com

For Your Consideration

By Wendy Rose, CDAC Chair

Bowdoinham's wise use of its resources brings many enrichments to our community. For the last 20 years, we have been able to fund a part of the town's Planning and Development Office, The Bowdoinham News, Celebrate Bowdoinham, the Summer Concert Series, and special community development projects with the Natural Gas Pipeline TIF (Tax Increment Financing) program. We now have an opportunity to extend this program for 10 more years at Town Meeting on June 12th.

A little background on this TIF may help in your consideration. The fund was set up when the natural gas pipeline was installed in 2000. Because the land was improved with this new addition, Bowdoinham was able to collect additional taxes on the property. The usual property taxes collected before the TIF continued to go to the Town's General Fund. The additional taxes, based on the new value of the land, went into a TIF fund each year. The plan for the TIF fund was approved by the needed State agencies and the by the town at a Town Meeting. Depending on the mil-rate each year, the amount of the additional taxes have been about \$70,000 to \$75,000 per year.

If the town does not extend the Pipeline TIF when it runs out in 2020, then there will be some big shifts. The full value of the property will get added into the overall valuation of our town. (Under the TIF, the additional value of the prop-

erty is not included in our town's valuation.) This additional value of the town means that now the School District will be able to bill the town for more money. Sagadahoc County will be able to collect more money as well. The state will look at the higher valuation and will give us less money in revenue sharing. After all of these shifts have happened, Bowdoinham will only get to keep about \$20,000 for its General Fund. Unfortunately, that won't come close to funding our existing programs and it also won't help to lower the mil-rate.

Basically, our choice is whether we want to keep the \$75,000 that comes to us through the TIF for needed town activities as outlined in the TIF plan or whether we want to let go of that plan and collect only \$20,000 for General Fund use.

The Community Development Advisory Committee has examined this issue very closely and has delved into a detailed report prepared by the town's intern last summer. The report outlines the specifics of the hit the town will take if our valuation goes up. As a result, we are unanimously recommending that the town approve an extension of the TIF. The opportunities this fund provides will continue to enrich our town's future.

Help Bring High-Speed Internet to Bowdoinham!

By Nicole Briand

The Town will be partnering with Lincolnville Communications, Inc. (LCI) to apply for a ConnectME Infrastructure Grant this spring in hopes of bringing high-speed internet to the unserved areas of Bowdoinham. LCI has successfully completed 12 ConnectME projects. To make our best case to win the highly competitive ConnectME grant, we need to show that the service is wanted by residents. Residents can sign up for LCI's internet service by submitting a signed pre-application with LCI. Residents who submit a signed pre-application will not be obligated for any payments unless we are selected for the ConnectME grant and not until LCI's fiber optic broadband is connected directly to their home. A special website and simple on-line application has been set-up specifically for the Bowdoinham project at www.GoLCI.net or at the Town Office.

LCI is a family owned business headquartered in Nobleboro, Maine. You can learn more about LCI, including their Pledge in support of Net Neutrality at www.lcifiber.net.

To learn more about this project, please join us on **Wednesday, May 15th at 6pm at the Bowdoinham Fire Station**. For more information you can also visit the Town's website or contact Nicole Briand at 666-5531 or nbriand@bowdoinham.com.

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Comprehensive Planning Committee News

By Joanne Joy, Chair

Are you interested in visiting the proposed waterfront park location? The site has largely been unexplored territory for generations, first as an industrial site, then as the home of the Public Works Department. For many of us our familiarity with the Waterfront is with Maily Park and an occasional winter visit to the sand pile. **On Saturday, May 18th from 11:00am to 1:00pm and Monday, May 20th from 5:00 to 7:00pm** members of the Comprehensive Planning Committee (CPC) invite you to join them so you can get a closer look at the waterfront location. There will be copies of the Site Plans to guide your visit, and the CPC members will do their best to answer your questions.

There have been two public forums, March 27 and 30, sharing the final Site Plan that was delivered at the regular CPC meeting on February 12, 2019. The presentation includes historical uses of the waterfront, the process for planning for the Waterfront use once Public Works moved to a different location, and a view of the Waterfront in the future. CPC members are also providing the same presentation to Bowdoinham organizations and committees in April and May. Please reach out to Nicole Briand, Director of Planning & Development at nbriand@bowdoinham.com or 666-5531 if you would like to host a presentation at your meeting.

As always, the CPC meetings are open to the public and are held on the second Tuesday of each month in the Coombs Building at 6:30. Please feel free to join us, we welcome your perspectives and insights. And see you at the Town Meeting on June 12th at 7pm at the Bowdoinham Community School.

Master Site Plan Update

History

Community members have had lots to say about the Waterfront Re-development over the years. The process started back in 2005 when the Town adopted the Waterfront Plan. Then in 2014, through both the comprehensive planning process and CMP/Waterfront TIF District process, we heard that the townspeople wanted to see the Waterfront Plan implemented. The Comprehensive Plan, adopted in 2014, recommends that the Town implement Waterfront Plan. Also adopted in 2014, the CMP/Riverfront TIF Program allocates money for the transitioning of the property, as it is underutilized given the area's potential for recreation-based economic development.

With final approval of the move of Public Works in March on 2018, the Comprehensive Planning Committee issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for landscape architects to provide more details to the great ideas from the community. The Town hired Richardson & Associates in partnership with Baker Design Consultants to develop a Master Site Plan for the redevelopment of the public works waterfront property!

It is interesting that the input collected through the Master Site Planning processing has been quite consistent with the recommendations from the 2005 Waterfront Plan.

Master Site Plan

Let's take a look at the park.

- There is convenient parking that maximizes foot traffic to the waterfront, and provides overflow parking for boat trailers.
- The non-motorized boat launch allows a safer point of entry for smaller boats.
- Accessible trails opportunities allow people of all abilities to get exercise in a beautiful outdoor setting.
- A natural playground offers a safe and fun place for our youngest citizens to explore.
- A pavilion provides shelter and a gathering space for events like family reunions, weddings, and informal picnics. An extensive trail network just steps from downtown

provide access to unique marsh and field habitat.

This plan meets the goals of:

- Improving waterfront access.
- Increasing opportunities for recreation for all ages, and abilities.
- Improving connectivity to and within waterfront for greatest economic impact.

OVERALL CONCEPT



- Promoting and protecting natural and historic resources along the river.

Next Steps

The Comprehensive Planning Committee will be holding two Site Walks for the public to explore the property and discuss the project on:

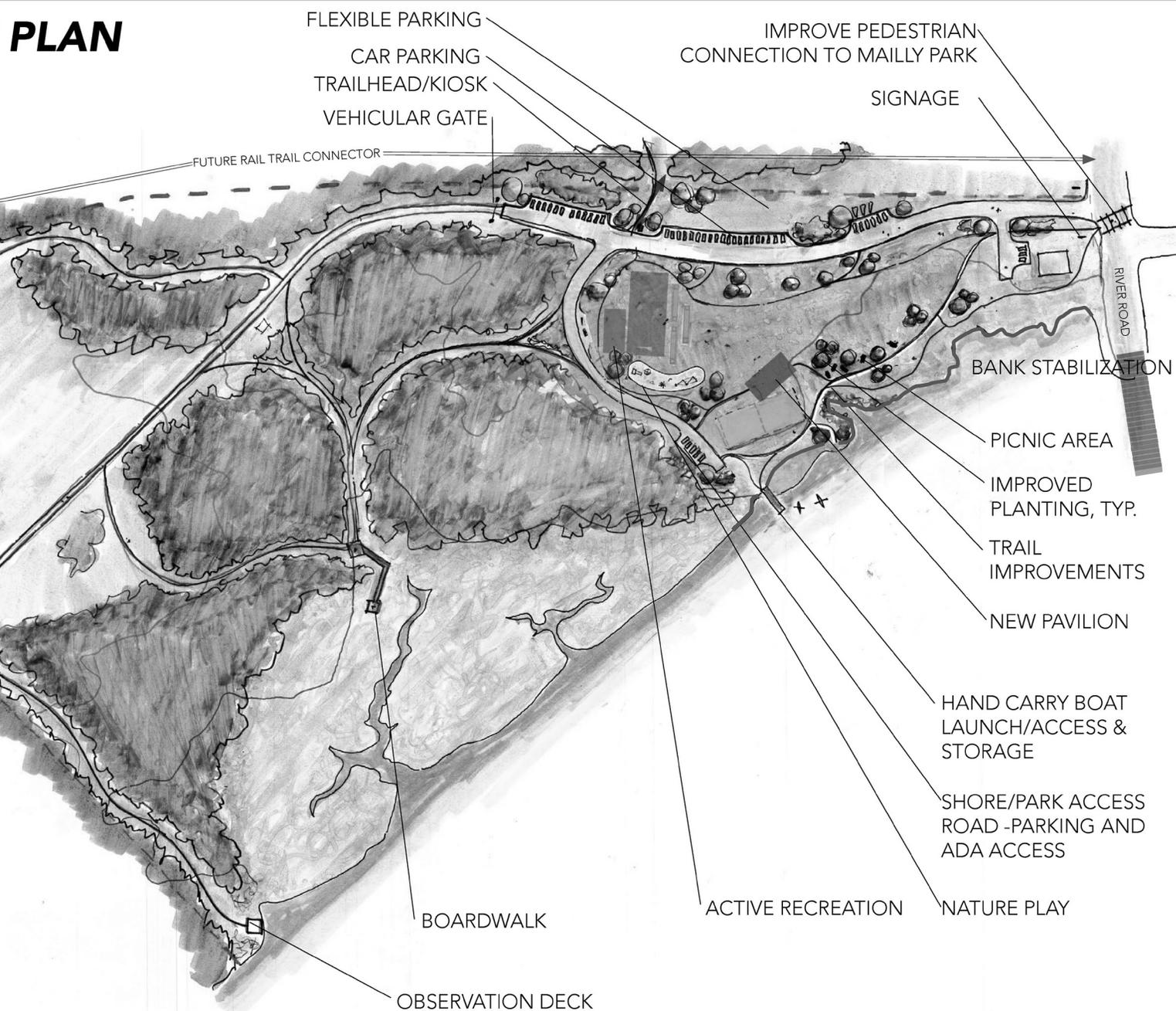
- **Saturday, May 18th from 11:00am to 1:00pm and**
- **Monday, May 20th from 5:00 to 7:00pm.**

The Master Site Plan will be before Bowdoinham residents at Town Meeting on Wednesday, June 12th at 7pm at the Bowdoinham Community School. At Town

Meeting, the Town's approval is only for the redevelopment plan concept, not funding. There is no request at this time for appropriation of funds. Any funding for the future implementation of this concept plan would need to be approved at that time.

There are grants available that the Town could use for implementation of phases of this Master Site Plan.

PLAN



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.

Previous residents receiving this honor include:

- 2013 – Susie Uhle
- 2014 – Leslie Anderson
- 2015 – Lynn Spiro
- 2016 – Nancy Curtis
- 2017 – Doug Tourtelotte
- 2018 – Besty Steen

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

2019 Summer Concert Series

We're excited for the upcoming 2019 Summer Concert Series! For the fourth year the Town has hired Watersong Music to produce ten Sundays of concerts on the gazebo in the Maily Waterfront Park. The series starts on June 29th and ends on August 31st. 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 or website (www.bowdoinham.com). 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!

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Young Minds Solving Problems

By Chris Lajoie, Principal,
Bowdoinham Community School

Since 2014, third-through-fifth graders at the Bowdoinham Community School have chosen to come to school early on Friday mornings as computer scientists. This year's Coding Club is comprised of nearly twenty boys and girls who use programming sites - like Scratch from MIT - to create animations, games, and challenges for other students to solve. When a programmer has completed a project he or she hooks up to the projector and shares it with the others.

In addition to staff advisors Kathy Stack and Trish Suthers, the Club has been lucky this year to have the support of two experts in the field. Mechanical engineer, Alec Mackenzie, has been working with students to design projects on our new 3-D printer. The printer was purchased with a grant from the non-profit Society of Manufacturing Engineers, for which Mr. Mackenzie is a Board member. After some initial tutorials and experiments, students will soon have the capacity to create 3-D projects independently.

Chris Scerbo has also volunteered his time to the Club. Mr. Scerbo, a Bowdoinham parent and software engineer, has spent time talking through projects with

students and offering technical and moral support. He has also created mini-lessons of code "parcels" to explain new coding concepts to students. "I see young minds solving problems many adults could not," reports Mr. Scerbo after a recent Coding Club session.

One of those engaged young minds is third grader Violet, who happens to be Mr. Scerbo's daughter. Violet has worked on several coding projects that include cat characters, where colors and sounds change. A recent project of hers involving a disappearing taco has also gotten some attention. Violet says that she focuses a lot on backdrops for her games, because as Violet tells me, "those require code too." When asked what it has been like for her father to be a part of Coding Club, Violet smiles. "It's been really nice. He likes that he gets to help students. I told him once that he's like a teacher!"

Bowdoinham's Coding Club was extended into April because of high interest, and many projects still to be worked through, collaborated on, and celebrated. "The group is lively and supportive," reports Mrs. Stack, with "friends helping friends with questions and ideas." Mr. Scerbo, for his part, is excited to see where this scientific learning leads our students. "I know these kids will end up doing things I've never dreamed of," he says. "I hope we all continue to help them realize those dreams."

Have you heard of the Town's Tax Club?

By William Post, Town Manager

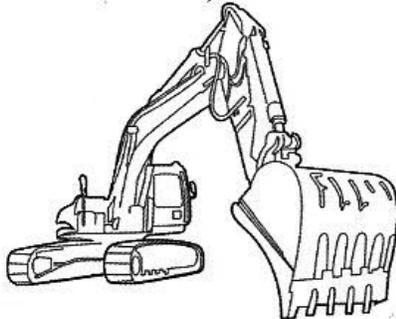
The Town of Bowdoinham now offers a "Tax Club Plan" that allows property owners to pay their annual property tax bill in monthly installments without incurring interest. This plan was first authorized by a vote at the town meeting in June 2014 and is expected to be offered again this July after town 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, 2019 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 2020 Tax Club Plan, please contact the Town Office at 666-5531, or email the Town Manager at wpost@bowdoinham.com or Melissa Halsey at 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.

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☆ **BOWDOINHAM!** ☆
☆ Along the ☆
☆ **Cathance** ☆
☆ **River** ☆

Celebrate Bowdoinham will be on **Saturday, September 14th**. The planning for this year's event is underway, if you have any ideas/suggestions, please contact Nicole Briand at 666-5531 or nbriand@bowdoinham.com.

Age-Friendly News

By Joanne Savoie & Rachelle Tome

It's spring in Bowdoinham! The weather is getting warmer and the season for planting is here. This is a perfect time to highlight Not Your Mother's Garden Club (NYMGC). This dynamic group began to blossom in June 2017. AARP, as part of their Age-Friendly Communities work, offered a "Quick Challenge Grant" to see what communities could do to create greater change and improve the quality of life at the community level. Quick was right, as the grant application was due by Oct. 31, 2017! That gave the group just 4 months. There were 1200 applications from across America. Bowdoinham's Advisory Committee on Aging (ACOA) submitted an application. We were thrilled to learn that the ACOA was one of the 87 that won!

The proposal submitted by the ACOA was to use funds to purchase 6 raised garden beds for people who have difficulty gardening on the ground but who still want to raise some of their own vegetables. The overall goals: increase food security and decrease social isolation. The intent was to create a pilot project that could be continued in the future. Two people from the Bowdoinham, Richmond and Bowdoin were chosen to receive the beds. The Handy Brigade of the Bowdoinham Mason's Lodge generously assembled and delivered the beds. Country Fare donated the soil which has been tested.

One requirement of the grant was to hold one Garden Club type of meeting,

open to the public, to see if there was interest in forming a garden club for our 3 communities. In September 2017, a group of interested gardeners from the 3 towns agreed to go ahead with a garden club. The first meeting was held that October and provided information on "Raised Beds Basics" by the Maine Cooperative Extension Service. In November we gave ourselves a name- "Not Your Mother's Garden Club" because we are not your typical garden club. We focus mainly on vegetables and herbs, some flowers, basics of gardening such as tools and their care, pest management, starting plants from seeds, i.e. We are open to the public and welcome anyone who is interested in gardening.

Meetings generally feature a speaker, sometimes from the knowledgeable club members. Examples of our programs for the past year include "Discussion of Maine Seed Companies," "Favorite Garden Tools and How to Maintain Them" by Brett Thompson, "Companion Plants," "Timeline of Vegetable Planting" by Nan Curtis, "Perennials" by Betsy Steen and Leslie Anderson, "Native Shrubs," "Flower Arranging," "Bulb Basics: Garlic and Spring Flowers," "Sharing of Ideas on Critter Management," and in March of this year there was an Entomologist came to discuss insect control, including the brown tail moth.

NYMGC meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month in rotating sites (Coombs Municipal Building in Bowdoinham and Enterprise Grange in Richmond.) The meeting starts with a "Social" and refreshments at 12:30, with the program starting at 1PM. NYMGC advertises on

the ACOA calendar and the Facebook pages of Age Friendly Bowdoinham and Bowdoinham Friends and Family. In December the club celebrated its first year! Many group members have remarked on the amount of useful information they have learned at the meetings and one lady said she wish she "had met Nan Curtis 30 years ago to learn from her." One of our favorite quotes was from Brett Thompson, "Buy tools you swear by, not tools you swear at." For more information, or to be added to our e-mail list for reminders and meeting minutes, contact the Town Office. We hope you'll consider joining us for an upcoming meeting!

ACOA works 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. Please check the links at the end of this article for more information.

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 or have an idea for an activity or presentation, 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 Bowdoinham Public Library, and at the Town Office.

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Brown Tail Moth News

The browntail moth caterpillar has tiny (0.15 mm) poisonous hairs that cause dermatitis (skin rash) similar to poison ivy on sensitive individuals. People may develop dermatitis from direct contact with the caterpillar or indirectly from contact with airborne hairs. The hairs become airborne from either being dislodged from the living or dead caterpillar or they come from cast skins when the caterpillar molts. Most people affected by the hairs develop a localized rash that will last for a few hours up to several days but on some sensitive individuals the rash can be severe and last for several weeks. The rash results from both a chemical reaction to a toxin in the setae and a physical irritation as the barbed setae become embedded in the skin. Respiratory distress from inhaling the hairs has been reported (11% of the population in one health survey) and can be serious.

The following precautions may help people living or visiting browntail moth infested areas during June through August:

- Avoid places heavily infested by caterpillars. Campers should plan their stays on un-infested islands.
- Take a cool shower and change clothes after any activity that might involve con-

tact with browntail moth hairs.

- Dry laundry inside during June and July to avoid having the hairs become impregnated in clothing.

- Wear respirator, goggles and coveralls tightly closed at neck, wrists and ankles when performing activities that stir up caterpillar hairs such as: mowing, raking, weed, whacking, and removing pupal webbing from eaves and boats.

Perform the above tasks above on damp days or wet down material with a hose as moisture helps keep the hairs from becoming airborne there by minimizing contact.

Use caution cleaning debris left by caterpillars because the toxin is extremely stable and remains a hazard for a number of years. Summer residents should bear this in mind when opening cottages that have been closed all winter as the hairs frequently settle over the winter and may be contacted when spring cleaning. Wet mopping prior to vacuuming or dusting is advised.

Consult your physician if you develop a severe reaction to the browntail moth. Be aware that the chances of contacting browntail hairs increases during dry windy conditions.

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.

If you may any questions please contact me, Darren Carey at 666-5531 or dcarey@bowdoinham.com.

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.

June 11, 2019 Election

Maine School Administrative
District No. 75 District
Budget Referendum Election
will be held on

Tuesday, June 11, 2019
at the Bowdoinham Town Hall,
13 School Street
from 8:00am to 8:00pm

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Food Pantry News

By Lily Montgomery, Program Coordinator

Spring is an exciting time for the pantry as the weather warms and we begin to receive more fresh vegetables from local farms. We also continue to receive generous donations each week from the hard-working team of Merrymeeting Gleaners- are so grateful for all of this beautiful produce!

The pantry is bustling with activity each week as our dedicated volunteers work tirelessly to keep all of our programs running. Through the backpack program,

our regular pantry distribution hours, and the Little Free Pantry (Greenleaf Apartments) and Margie's Market (Bowdoinham Estates), we are able to provide food for dozens of families each week. We couldn't do it without the many, many people who volunteer and donate to the pantry- THANK YOU for everything you do!

Our annual meeting is right around the corner: please mark your calendars for 6pm on May 15th at Merrymeeting Hall. Join us for updates, a review of the year, and learn about all the services and programs the pantry provides. If you are interested in volunteering with the pantry, this is a great opportunity to come out and learn about how you can get involved!

We are also looking forward to partnering with Midcoast Hunger Prevention Program and the Summer Food Service Program this year, and are eager for more volunteers to join us! Following the release of school in June, this program will provide free lunch and activities for all children under the age of 18 each week. Meals will again be hosted by Bowdoinham Estates (located on Preble Rd) on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 12-1pm. Please stay tuned for more details and get in touch if you are interested in volunteering!

The Bowdoinham Food Pantry is open every Wednesday from 4-6pm and the first and third Saturday of each month from 9-10 am. We welcome all Bowdoin and Bowdoinham residents with no income verification required. Please email bowdoinhamfoodpantry@gmail.com with any questions or if you are interested in volunteering with the pantry or the Summer Food Service Program.



BOWDOINHAM SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM



Free lunch + activities
for children age 18 and under and
accompanying adult.



Every Tuesday and Wednesday through the summer.

....

Located at Bowdoinham Estates, Preble Rd
More details coming soon!

FMI and to volunteer, please contact
bhamsummerfood@gmail.com



Bring a favorite dish,
a story about Luke,
your musical instrument,
or just yourselves.

Where: Maily Waterfront Park in Bowdoinham
When: Sunday, May 26 (Memorial Day Weekend), 3-6pm
Questions? Please contact: reeve.wood@gmail.com

TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM WASTE HANDLING GUIDELINES

Barn is open Thursdays and Saturdays 8:00am to 4:00pm

MATERIALS ACCEPTED AT THE BOWDOINHAM RECYCLING BARN

Recyclable Materials: Picked up curbside or delivered to the Recycling Barn

(Must be clean, dry and separated into the following categories):

- Corrugated Cardboard** – includes brown kraft (grocery) bags. Please break down boxes.
- Newsprint** – includes anything that comes with the newspaper
- Magazines** – including catalogues and other similar glossy print
- Mixed paper** – any and all clean paper not included in previous categories (Corrugated, Newsprint, Magazines) including cereal and soap boxes, pasteboard containers, tissues, toweling, window envelopes, paper plates, cups, etc. **NO PLASTIC PLEASE**
- Comingled Containers** – any **clean** household containers of glass or metal. Any plastic marked #1 - #7. **#2 oil bottles must be completely drained. CAPS MUST BE REMOVED FROM ALL CONTAINERS.**
- Styrofoam containers and packing are not picked up curbside but may be brought to the recycling barn (please bag peanuts separately).

OTHER MATERIALS ACCEPTED – Delivered to Barn only (no curbside pickup)

- Food waste** – all kitchen and sink waste, including bones, and meat scraps. Please deliver food waste in your pail or bucket which can be dumped and taken home. Please do not bring food waste in plastic bags (**NO PLASTIC**).
- Oversize Bulky Waste (OBW)** – mattresses, chairs, couches, TV sets, etc. A disposal fee based on item's size and weight is required.
- Waste Oil and Antifreeze** – deliver in 1 or 2 gallon capped containers. No oil filters or quart containers please.
- Waste Wood** – used to heat Recycling Barn. Please deliver in lengths 48" or less, under 15" width. Boards and dimension lumber suitable for reuse may be delivered full length.
- Leaves and Grass Clippings** – may be left on pile next to Post Road. **No brush** please.
- Tires** – car tires 16" or smaller \$2.50 each; Pro rata fees for larger tires.
- Scrap Metal and White Goods** – (appliances, etc.) \$14.00 processing fee for appliances utilizing Freon coolant. 20# propane tanks \$1.00, other sizes \$20. No charge for tanks with valve removed.
- Household Hazardous Waste** no charge for oil-based or latex paint, lawn and garden chemicals, mercury-containing devices, florescent light bulbs, ballasts and rechargeable batteries.
- Asphalt shingles** – small amounts of asphalt shingles (less than a wheelbarrow load) can be received at the Barn. For larger amounts, please call 666-3228 or 751-2809 for further information

CURBSIDE PICKUP OF TRASH & RECYCLABLE MATERIALS

- Trash and recyclable material are picked up at curbside on Thursdays.
- Trash must be in securely tied bags **no larger than 30 gallon capacity, weighing no more than 25 pounds** and must have a trash tag attached.
- Recyclable materials, properly separated and bagged, are picked up at no extra charge.
- Corrugated cardboard must be securely tied in bundles no larger than 2' x 3'.
- Recyclable materials must be in clear plastic bags for curbside pickup. Bags must be securely tied
- Tags and recycling bags are available at the Town Office, the Bowdoinham Hardware Store and the Town Landing.

For more information, call 666-3228.

THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

Community Calendar

May

7th

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

15th

Internet Meeting, 6pm
Bowdoinham Fire Station

18th

Library Plant Sale, 9am-4pm
Town Hall

Waterfront Re-development Site Walk
8 River Road, 11am-1pm

20th

Waterfront Re-development Site Walk
8 River Road, 11am-1pm

22nd

Annual Victorian Tea, 1-3pm

27th

Town Office Closed
In observance of Memorial Day

June

11th

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

12th

Town Meeting, 7pm
Bowdoinham Community School

15th

Farmers' Market Opening Day
Maily Waterfront Park

29th

Summer Concert, 6-8pm
Maily Waterfront Park

Town Board & Committee Meetings

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

Select Board Meetings

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

Planning Board

4th Thursday of Month at 7:00pm

Committee on Aging

2nd Monday of Month at 2:30pm

Community Development Advisory

1st Tuesday of Month at 6:30pm

Comprehensive Planning Committee

2nd Tuesday of Month at 6:30pm

Town Office

Hours:

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

Wed: 9am-6pm

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

Phone: 666-5531 Fax: 666-5532

Website: www.bowdoinham.com

Visit us on Facebook

Save-the-Dates

Open Farm Day & Art Trail: Sunday, July 28, 2019

Celebrate Bowdoinham: Saturday, September 14, 2019

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

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