



THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

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September - October 2024

East of Eden Flower Farm

By Wendy Rose

Julia Baecher loves flowers. No matter what types farming she has done, she has always returned to flower farming. “I can’t stay away from growing flowers,” she says.

After working at numerous farms throughout New England as well as Six River Farms in Bowdoinham, Julia and her husband, David, leased some land on Brown’s Point Road and did flower farming full-time until 2020. At that point, Julia became pregnant and they moved into their home on Main Street across from Harvest Tide’s farm stand. Julia concentrated on her young family, David got a job, and they took a break from farming for a couple of years. In 2023, she had an opportunity to take over the farmstand from Harvest Tide, and she jumped at the chance to market her flowers once again. “You can see how deep my love for flowers is by this leap to doing the stand,” she says. “This version of the farm accommodates my family demands and lets me do what I love.”

Over the last year, Julia and David have brought a new shed to the property, owned by Brian Smith, put in air conditioning and heating, installed coolers, and insulated the building. Julia has planted beautiful gardens around the stand and across the street in the field in front of their home. The stand is now able to accommodate Julia’s wide array of flowers along with farm goods from Bluebell Farm, Harvest Tide, Apple Creek, and bread from Counterpoint Bread. Customers can find eggs, lettuce, all kinds of garden produce, and Green Bee soda. “I would like folks to be able to stop by and be able to buy fresh ingredients for a nice meal,” she says.

Located on Main Street near the entrance to I-295, the farmstand is in a great location for folks headed in or out of town. This visibility, along with Julia’s Instagram postings, is bringing in a good flow of customers. Knowing how much to have on hand is an evolving process.



Julia has a lot of hopes for the future. “My goal is to grow the business so that I can support myself and one other person who works with me,” she says. “I would like to grow more flowers so they are available every day. I also want to provide a market for the producers in the area so it will provide a positive financial impact for them.” Now that her two young children are letting her sleep through the night, Julia is ready to see what steps she can take to keep the business growing.

“I am so grateful that people have continued to support my efforts with East of Eden Flower Farm through all the iterations it has taken,” she says.

For those of you who recognize the name, East of Eden, as the title of one of John Steinbeck’s books, you will be interested to know that Steinbeck is one of Julia’s favorite authors. When Julia first dreamed she would have a farm, she thought it would be in California. Instead, she ended up in Vermont and then Maine. It seemed fitting then, that her farm, located in the east, would be East of Eden.

You can reach Julia by emailing her at eastofedenflowerfarm@gmail.com or by stopping by the farmstand since she is there several times a day.

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Village Partnership Initiative

In response to reports of speeding traffic along Rt. 24 and concerns of pedestrian safety at the Rt. 24/Main Street intersection, the Town applied to MaineDOT to install a temporary crosswalk and gateway demonstration project at the intersection in July 2023. Through this process the Town gather feedback from over 100 residents where we heard support for a permanent solution at the intersection. Moreover, there were several respondents suggesting additional measures to improve safety in the greater footprint of the village center which was outside the scope of the project. With the development of the new waterfront park and potential rail trail we are expecting a significant increase in recreational use on both sides of Rt. 24. Taking a wholistic approach to this entire village block will create a more cohesive vision for and appeal to our community.

To advance the planning process for addressing the additional concerns for the area a the Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC) applied for and received a Maine DOT Village Partnership Initiative scoping grant. MaineDOT works in partnership with local officials to reinvest and revitalize one of the distinguishing features of New England: our iconic village centers. Depending upon the vision of each individual municipality, they can look to make once-in-a-lifetime investments in the lower-speed areas where people meet, shop, and do business. These village areas need to be built on a human scale: walkable, bicycle-friendly, and business-friendly. In sum, this can be bigger than just transportation; it is potentially place-making.

Upon award the Town issued a Request of Proposals this spring for professional services for this planning study. CDAC in partnership with the Advisory Committee on Age-Friendly Bowdoinham (AF) selected Gorrill Palmer's proposal.

The goal of the planning study is to create publicly vetted designs for pedestrian safety improvements around the intersection of Rt. 24 and lower Main Street, between the two waterfront parks, and other possible project elements along lower Main Street. At the initial kickoff meeting on July 2, CDAC and AF members reiterated important goals for the project including mobility improvements and accessibility for



all users, opportunities to rest, pocket parks, incorporate street amenities and public art, calms traffic, enhances on-street parking, expands pedestrian connectivity, and encourages economic development.

On July 17, committee members and area business representation had a site walk with the consultant team and DOT staff in the project area. The goal of this site visit was to help the consultant better understand the current uses, as well as the concerns and desires for the area to better inform suggested solutions.

Additional community feedback will be sought at a public meeting held on Tuesday, 10/15 at 6:30 PM in the Kendall Room as well as through a survey, where we will request feedback on elements presented in two concepts drawings. These drawings will also be on display at the Age Friendly booth at Celebrate as well as access to the survey. Please stop by and give us your input!

The tentative schedule for this project continues as follows:

- **Public Meeting 1 – Tues. 10/15 @ 6:30 PM, Kendall Room at the Town Office** (Gain input on the elements provided in two concept drawings)
- **Online Survey:** Fall 2024 (Survey to gather impressions on project elements suggested in the two concepts)
- **Public Meeting 2:** Late fall 2024 (Meeting to reveal the final concept

developed from the feedback gathered at the first meeting and through the survey).

- **Draft Report:** December 2024
- **Final Report:** January 2025

Future Steps

Upon completion of the planning process the Town can reapply to Maine DOT's VPI program to fund the drafting of design plans for the publicly vetted project elements. These plans can then be used to provide bid documents for the actual construction of the project.

These are complex projects and will take several years to develop. Once the project is scoped and an adequate amount of public outreach and design work is complete, MaineDOT and the community will develop a strategy for applying for special federal allocations such as earmarks or BIL grants for the actual construction. The application may be bundled with other communities across the state to make the package more competitive on the federal level. Once a grant or earmark is secured, MaineDOT and the municipality will enter into a construction agreement.

FMI please visit our website: www.bowdoinham.com/project/village-center-planning-study.



Community Announcement

By Lisa West



Kim O'Leary

~ FHC/Cathance Fitness Center now has a Physical Therapist treating patients here in our training room.

We are excited to have Kim O'Leary here at 1201 Main St Bowdoin on Thursdays offering her services to our FHCers and the community!

~ A Physical Therapy evaluation consists of asking questions & performing movement screenings. This is to determine the cause of pain, muscle imbalance and loss of function. She takes payment at time of service & provides a "super bill" for you to submit to insurance. Contact Kim for more information & to schedule time with her.

~ Does your discomfort or pain disrupt your normal activities?

Kim O'Leary of Kim O'Leary Physical Therapy, LLC has 30-plus-years of

experience as a physical therapist. She graduated from UNE in Biddeford, Maine and has practiced PT in many states as well as overseas. She specializes in manual therapy and believes you need to get to the source of the discomfort before you can "exercise" it away. Some of these trainings include Integrative Manual Therapies, Strain Counter Strain, Muscle Energy techniques, Visceral therapies, Orthopedic Manual Therapy (OMT), and Cranial Therapy. Other tools in her tool box include Kinesiotaping and LLLT (laser therapy). She has treated a wide range of diagnosis from strokes to back injuries to pediatrics.

Kim enjoys empowering folks to understand their bodies while helping them recover from injury or managing chronic issues. Physical therapy should be functional and fun addressing the cause as well as the

rehabilitation. The body doesn't function well or strengthen when the tissue is tight and unbalanced whether it's muscular, nerve or joint pain. Work station habits, recreational pleasures or just everyday life can add to the stress our bodies are under. She feels meeting folks where they are in their lives and following their lead is the best way to a successful outcome.

Kim lives with her husband in South Paris where they enjoy everything outdoors especially running, hiking, biking and cross country skiing. They have two young border collies which also keep them very busy!

Out of network provider - payment expected at time of service: cash, check or Zelle (through your bank or using Zelle app). Super bill will be provided. HSA and FSA qualified. Kim can be reached at 603-547-5970 or kim.winkinpony@gmail.com.

New Waterfront Park Needs a Name

The hand carry boat launch is now open, construction is underway on the remainder of the park, so now the big question on everyone's mind is:

"What will we call this new park?"

We need your help naming our new park. If you have an idea for a name to be considered submit it along with a brief explanation as to why you think this will be a good name for the park. Email your nomination to adminassistant@bowdoinham.com. You can also mail your nomination to or drop it off at the Town Office and please mark your nomination 'Attn: Lisa: Park Name Nomination'.



If you are interested in serving on a group to help with the naming selection process, please email your name and contact information to adminassist@bowdoinham.com or call and ask to speak to Lisa, ext. 109.

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THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

“Not Your Mother’s Garden Tour” a Great Success!

By Wendy Rose

The Bowdoinham Public Library’s recent garden tour event was a new experiment. I met with Kate Cutko, the Library’s Director, to find out how the event went. (Edited for clarity)

Question: What led you to try doing a Garden Tour event?

Kate: We knew that after doing the plant sale for 50 years, it was time to shift to a different fundraiser. We wanted to highlight all of the plants that were now growing out in our community, many of which came from selling perennials all those years.

Question: Who participated in the event?

Kate: Marla Blake offered to help chair the event, and we quickly secured a few important gardens that we felt were going to be our highlights. The first gardens included Sarah Browne Findley, Sarah Stapler, and Jennifer Foley. That number grew to include Denham Ward, Darcy Thirlwall, Josephine Mussomeli/Brent Zachau, and “Peary’s Garden,” the community garden.

Question: What were the highlights of the event for you?

Kate: I was touched by the generosity of people who helped me with graphic design and maps - Monty Lewis and Rodney Kloberdans - and by the support of the town staff. The pizza buffet at the Peary’s community garden was a highlight. Brian Smith and Lily Montgomery made 40 brick oven pizzas throughout the day.

I didn’t know what to expect for attendance, but we had 100 people come through. Half of them came from out of town. This came from our good advertising. I’d like to think that some people were curious to see what we were going to do. They had been plant sale shoppers, and they wrote or called to ask, “what are you doing next?”



Question: What kind of feedback did you get from the people attending?

Kate: People were so complimentary. They compared us to other garden tours throughout Maine and told us that we were one of the best. They used words like “well-organized, friendly, creative, and welcoming.” The pizza was a huge hit with everyone who came. One tour goer circled back to me after she toured 5 of the gardens and wanted to tell me how impressed she was with the Library’s fundraising efforts, which always seemed to build community. This was from her outside-of-town point of view. We were told that the tour was the right length, it didn’t feel rushed, and the gardens were beautiful.

Question: Was it worth the effort?

Kate: Yes! There were some up-front costs this first year which we wouldn’t have to spend again in future years. We expect to do it again. We know we can do better with attendance as more people hear about it. We learned from this one how to do it better. We have a sense of what’s required with volunteer hours and procedure. We might move it earlier in the summer to catch more blooms. Financially, it brought in about a third of the plant sale income. Together with our dahlia sale however, we did very well.

We welcome more feedback. People who are interested in being a garden on the tour in the future should please let me know.

Comprehensive Planning Committee

By Dave Asmussen, Chair

A big thank you to the citizens of Bowdoinham for passing the update to the Comprehensive Plan at Town Meeting in June! All of your input over the years has been built into this plan to reflect the vision and values of our community and will help guide our Town to 2034. But! The plan calls for doing a bunch of stuff, and we can’t do it all at once. What items in the plan do you feel are most important to work on first? The committee has considered all of the action items in the plan, and has narrowed down to some particular areas that have achievable goals, make a real impact and are timely. We hope to get to all of the items in the list, but we have to start somewhere! The update to the plan has a bunch of new ways to engage, and we look forward to continuing conversations about what you care about most.

Please take a moment to complete our two-minute survey by using the QR code, or visit: <https://forms.office.com/r/Xfm8Jrg6Qw>



Tax Year 2024 Property Tax Liens

Tax Liens were applied August 22, 2024 on all outstanding 2024 real estate property taxes

If you have not paid your property tax, please do so as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please contact our office at (207) 666-5531.

Only Guaranteed Funds (i.e., cash, money order or pre-paid bank check) will be accepted for:

- Payment of real estate taxes within thirty (30) business days of the anticipated date of lien filing or impending foreclosure.
- Payoff or Discharge of existing lien or foreclosure.

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À La Carte

Thoughts on Food and Cooking - "Don't Quash the Squash"

By George Oliver



THOUGHTS ABOUT FOOD

Summer produce is at its peak now, and we're all anxious to start harvesting and buying ripe tomatoes, eggplant, onions, peppers, and corn. These will make great salads,

sautés, and tacos. And of course, the classic French ratatouille.

Oops, I forgot something for that dish...

...Summer squash. If there's ever a vegetable at the bottom of some people's list of least favorite summer produce, it's squash. Even the name sounds awful. "Squash" is something you do to bugs, like ticks or mosquitoes, with the same connotations as smash or splat.

(Note: a lot of locals call yellow squash "summer squash" but I'll use it as a generic term for all of the summer varieties of squash.)

You could avoid the word and call the types their own names: zucchini, yellow crookneck, pattypan ... yeah, that's about it. There are a lot of shapes and colors of summer squash, but they all boil down (pun intended) to these three.

One local cook I talked to will only eat zucchini if it's battered and fried or grated (and hidden) in another dish. Why? Their yucky watery texture.

Even so, its culinary fame comes from its use in ratatouille, that French Provençal vegetable stew, which can include some combination of eggplant, onions, tomatoes, bell peppers, and summer squash.

Its cinematic fame comes from the animated movie *Ratatouille*, whose main character is a French rat called *Ratatouille*, who saves a restaurant's reputation by making a version of ratatouille. Art imitates life. Rat imitates chef.

Its local fame comes from its use in Celebrate Bowdoinham's zucchini races, wherein the afore mentioned vintage, large squash is saved from the glue factory, and garners cheers as a be wheeled racer. No eating necessary.

Actually, I have a use for a giant zucchini besides a racecar - cut a large slice, hollow it out to a ring, griddle it, and fry an egg in it. Like egg-in-a-hole without the toast.

Of the three types, pattypan is the least known. Its scalloped edges make it the "cutest" of the varieties. It's necessary to peel pattypan if it's large because the skin is tougher, but I don't mind because I love the distinct flavor. Because pattypan is a little sturdier, you can use it for kebabs, as suggested by Rich from Tender Soles Farm.

All summer squashes stir-fry quickly, and you can easily control the texture by giving it as little as 3 minutes on high in a wok or sauté pan.

A lot of people grill squash slabs, which lends its mildness some nice flavor. To others, braising it with lots of salt, pepper, butter, and a favorite herb is all you need. A couple of locals even spiralize summer squash (special device needed) to make it more interesting as a kind of "pasta."

In all cases, overcooking summer squash creates that watery "squashiness" off-putting to many.

Their taste is another issue. Summer squash may be too mild for some. If you have sensitive tastebuds, the differences among the types might be clear and enjoyable. If not, you'll have to do something to make them distinct.

As a taste test recently at the Bowdoinham Farmers Market, David Asmussen let customers nibble some crookneck and zucchini raw to see if people could tell the difference. Everyone could, although describing that difference was not easy.

Most thought the yellow crookneck had more flavor, described as more vegetable-y, mineral-y, or in one case, with a subtle flavor of the sea. (High marks to Jess of Pleasant Pond Orchard for her sensitive palate.)

Whatever your reaction to the raw flavor, you can help offset cooked summer squash's reputation for being tastelessly mushy by adding little or no liquid, not cooking it until it's mush, giving it a bit of browning, and throwing in flavorings like dill, scallion/garlic, and a squeeze of citrus.

Squash. It's not just for insects anymore.

Town Hall Preservation

By Rachelle Tome

Keep your eye on the Town Hall! Exciting changes are underway! The building is lifted, and a new foundation is being poured. Once this work begins, we'll have a clearer scope of work for the support system. Stay tuned for more details. Once the foundation work has started, planning will begin for repairing the roof and then siding. Bids will then go out for these projects. The goal is to have the building weather tight by next summer.

As the work proceeds on repairing the Town Hall, there will be many opportunities for the community to get involved. We'll need your help with fundraising to support internal projects, like heating, lighting and plumbing improvements. If you have ideas or are aware of grant opportunities, please reach out to the committee. In the meantime, you can support our fundraising efforts by participating in our Silent Auction, held during Celebrate Bowdoinham. There is still time to donate an item for sale. Contact Lisa-Marie at the Town Office if interested. Auction items will be posted on the Town's website, providing a preview. If you are unable to attend Celebrate and have an item(s) you would like to bid on you may either email Lisa-Marie at adminassistant@bowdoinham.com or stop in at the Town Office to register for a Bidder Number and place your bid on the item(s) you are interested in.

There may be some volunteer opportunities as we continue sprucing up this grand old building, such as cleaning and painting the inside. The Town and Committee will be considering ways to improve the inside to better serve our needs as a community. For example, did you know that the original Town Hall building did not have a stage? Once outside repair work has been completed, we'll need to decide how to proceed inside. Should the stage remain, or should we consider other options? What is your vision for the Town Hall? Do we want a performance space? The Committee will be reaching out for your ideas.

We hope you'll consider joining the committee or attending our meetings. The Committee usually meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 3:30pm in the Kendall Room of the Coombs Building. Meeting times can be found on the Town's website and calendar. We hope to hear from you soon.

THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

The Loose Ladies Book Club invites YOU to a program on Maine's own **Martha Ballard - American Midwife and Healer**

by Maine State Librarians Alison Maxell and Kelli Burnham

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

October 17, 2024 at 1PM

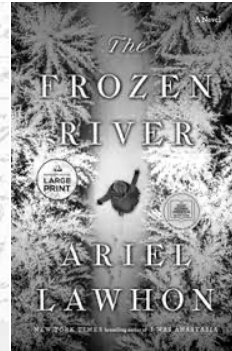
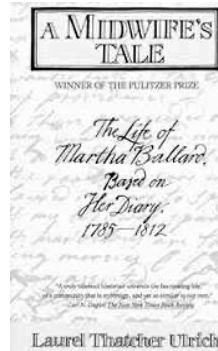
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Free and Open to the Public - Refreshments
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On October 17 at 1PM, Maine State Librarians, Alison Maxell and Kelli Burnham, will present a lively and engaging talk on Maine's own Martha Ballard. Martha Moore Ballard was an American midwife and healer. Unusual for the time, Ballard kept a diary with thousands of entries over nearly three decades, which has provided historians with invaluable insight into colonial frontier-women's lives. The Maine State is the steward of the original Ballard Diary, donated to its care in 1932 by Ballard's great-great granddaughter, Dr. Mary Hobart.

The speakers will engage in Martha's world through the seminal work "A Midwife's Tale: The Life of Martha Ballard Based on Her Diary 1785 - 1812 by Pulitzer Prize Winner Laura Thatcher Ulrich. Midwife and healer, Martha Ballard kept a diary that recorded her arduous work (in 27 years she attended 816 births) as well as her domestic life in Hallowell, Maine. On the basis of that diary, Laurel Thatcher Ulrich gives us an intimate and densely imagined portrait, not only of the industrious and reticent Martha Ballard, but of her society.

From here we will then delve into present day with New York Times bestselling author, Ariel Lawhon's new novel, The Frozen River, a gripping historical mystery inspired by the life and diary of Martha Ballard. The renowned 18th century midwife finds herself at the center of a shocking murder that unhinges



her small community of Hallowell, Maine. Lawhon paints a picture of a community of recent immigrants making a life in an unforgiving landscape as public opinion shifts over the course of the unfolding trial. According to the author, "The Frozen River" marks a departure of sorts from her usual practice where the book is inspired by real events rather than based on them.

Many themes and topics will be discussed, a brief overview, history, domestic life in 18th century, women's role in patriarchal society, post revolutionary legal system, rape, murder, midwifery, medical practice 18th century, Martha's enduring legacy, importance of her diary and relevance to today. We will also be treated to exhibits of 18th century women's clothing, such as were worn in Martha's day, along with artifacts of the time and her midwife-healer work.

Alison Maxell is the Director of Public Services and Outreach, Research & Innovation at the Maine State Library. She holds a master's in business administration from Bryant University, a master's in library and information science from the University of Rhode

Island and a bachelor's in business education from the University of Maine. Alison has been actively working in the library field since 1993 having served as the Director of Richards Memorial Library, North Attleboro, Massachusetts, Executive Director of the Consortium of Rhode Island Academic and Research Libraries (CRIARL), and Executive Director of the Providence Athenaeum, Providence, Rhode Island.

Kelli Burnham joined the Maine State Library in 2022 as a reference librarian and prior to that served as director at the public libraries in Turner and Greene. She has a BA in History from Gettysburg College and an MSLIS from Clarion University and worked in a variety of jobs before finding her home in reference work. In her spare time, Kelli also researches and makes historical clothing from a variety of time periods but is particularly interested in the 18th century. While much of her research is done by studying paintings from the time period, she has visited a number of museums to study original garments and uses that research to create reproductions.

Bowdoinham Public Library has copies of both books for patrons to borrow. Call 207-666-8405 to get your name on the sign up list.

- "A Midwife's Tale: The Life of Martha Ballard, Based on Her Diary, 1785 - 1812," by Laurel Thatcher Ulrich; Knopf, Mar. 1990

- "The Frozen River," by Ariel Lawhon; Doubleday, Dec. 2023

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BOWDOINHAM



SNOWBIRDS

Fall is just around the corner, and it's time to get excited and ready for upcoming winter activities in Bowdoinham! This time of the year, the Snowbirds are getting our trails ready for snowmobiling. The trails are often appreciated by other winter enthusiasts for cross country skiing, snowshoeing, dog sledding, and fat tire biking. If you enjoy any of these activities and would like to help with the trails or administration, please contact us at info@mesnowbirds.com. A family membership is only \$25, and all proceeds go to fund our trail system in town and throughout the state of Maine. We meet on Sundays at 8am at the town landing and work until noon clearing debris, placing signage, repairing or replacing bridges. This is a fun social activity that also provides good exercise. We maintain over 40 miles of trails around Bowdoinham – all of which would not be possible without our generous landowners who allow us to have a trail on their property. We would like to extend a big thank you to them!!

For those who were wondering, anybody can become a member of the Snowbirds even if you don't participate in snow sports. This is another opportunity to meet a group of nice people in our town of Bowdoinham. We meet at the Fire Department September through April on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 6:30pm for potluck, and the meeting begins at 7pm. We are looking forward to seeing some new faces this season!!

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THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

Merrymeeting Arts Center

by Jen Kelley

"And all at once, summer collapsed into fall"
– Oscar Wilde

Can you believe that we're already on the other side of 2024? And now as the days grow shorter, we're savoring every last moment of summer. Hibernation will have to wait because we've got a lot more up our sleeves!

First up, we'd like to welcome our newest board member, **Lisa Shannon** – or rather, welcome back! Lisa has served on the Merrymeeting Arts Center board previously where she managed the studio classes. Lisa has been with Microsoft as a remote employee for over 25 years. She has two daughters both attending UMaine this fall. She's married to a potter and they are currently building their home and studio in Bowdoinham. We're so pleased she has joined us and can't wait to see what her capable hands bring to our team!

Now, get those calendars out and start marking!

EVENTS

We have some exciting exhibits and workshops coming down the pike, but before we get to all that, let's talk **ZUCCHINI RACES!** We hope you all are saving those zucchinis and designing your submission because the race is about to begin! They will once again be held on 9/14 during **Celebrate Bowdoinham**, in the Matthew Townsend Parker Memorial Skatepark, located behind the Merrymeeting Arts Center. "We expect this to be the biggest race to date!" says pretty much everyone.



And speaking of Celebrate Bowdoinham, MAC will be having a **SILENT AUCTION** fundraiser featuring local artists and artisans. With one bid, you support two great causes – Merrymeeting Arts Center AND a local artist! It's really a win-win. Keep your eye out for more information when the auction goes live.

MAC's Open Mic Sunday is BACK!

September 8th & October 6th (4 - 6pm)

We hope you've been practicing because we're back at Watersong Music for Open Mic Sunday! Got a song, poem, stand-up routine you'd like to dust off in front of a live audience? Or perhaps a story to share? All the world is a stage. Come join us as a performer or as an audience member!

EXHIBITS

The Artist in Residence Exhibit

with Dana Bateman

Opening Night - September 27th

(5:30 - 8pm)

Saturday 9/28 & Sunday 9/29 (10 - 2pm)

Dana Bateman is a multimedia artist living in Brunswick, Maine. Her artistic interests combine a love of nature, drawing and painting outdoors, the color orange, and imperfect printmaking. Dana's professional career has been in education, and she is a community activist with a focus on anti-poverty work. She graduated from Syracuse University a long time ago.

Artist statement: *My approach to creating art is embracing imperfections, abstracting the many beautiful subjects to be found in Maine, and a love of bright colors. I have always loved David Hockney, and spent years as a teenager recreating his paintings and drawings to teach myself about color, composition, and landscapes. I work in a mixed-media environment, and I find inspiration and excitement in how different mediums can be changed and altered when they interact. I am happy to find out in the moment if I used a water-based ink or not - and embrace whatever happens next to see if it bleeds, stays put, makes a mess or turns into something beautiful. While trained in communication design, that was never my real interest. A recent perusal of my college transcripts reminded me that I might have sorted that out sooner had I followed some clues - with grades reflecting my interest in drawing, ceramics and printmaking, but nothing to write home about in the courses for my actual major. It has been great fun to return to my early loves and embrace how much more there is to learn.*

Mask Play – A collaborative exhibit between visual artists Andrew Elijah Edwards and Jose Rodriguez Jr.

Opening Night - Friday, October 25th

(5:30 - 8pm)

Saturdays, October 26th & November 2nd

(10am - 2pm)

In their second collaboration at Merrymeeting Arts Center, Andrew and Jose continue exploring themes that delve into the intricacies of the human condition by exposing the existential realities we confront in our lives - internally and as a community. With 'Mask Play,' a re-imagining of the Hans Christian Andersen fairy tale *The Nightingale*, Andrew and Jose create a visual landscape that leans into their sculptural and digital practices to tell a new story that is both reflective and timely.

WORKSHOPS

Intro to Macrame: Hanging Planter Class

with Chickpea Creative

Saturday, September 7th (1 - 4pm)

Macrame a plant hanger! In this class you'll learn a few basic macrame knots and how to put them together to make a unique and functional plant hanger. All materials will be provided and you will come away with a knowledge of basic knots and how to use them to create your own macrame hanger. They make excellent gifts, and of course you can never have just one in your own home so this is a skill that you will be glad to acquire! \$30 suggested donation + \$5 materials fee.

Wire Wrapped Rings Workshop

with Elise Marie DeSigns

Saturday, September 21st (2 - 4pm)

Come join us for a fun and creative event where you can learn how to make your very own wire wrapped rings! It's a great opportunity to unleash your inner artist and create unique jewelry pieces that you can wear or gift to loved ones. All materials and supplies are provided (and are hypoallergenic). You get to pick your beads from a variety of gemstone, glass and metal beads and make your rings unique. \$50 suggested donation

Block Printing with Ruthanne Harrison

Saturday, October 19th (2 - 4pm)

Join us as Ruthanne Harrison returns to the studio for an exploration of block printing on fabric. Learn several techniques and leave with at least two completed projects! \$35 suggested donation

**Registration for all our workshops can be found on our website at Merrymeetingartscenter.com.*

continued next page

Yoga Classes at Merrymeeting Hall



Yoga will resume this fall beginning on September 12 at 8am. Normally taught by Ann Flannery there will be a guest teacher for the first four Thursdays from September 12 through October 3. Ann will resume teaching on October 17. The cost per session is \$15.00.

This is an intermediate yoga class, so you should have a basic working knowledge of common yoga poses. For questions you may contact Peggy at: peggyannchristian@gmail.com.

Select Board & School Board Nomination Papers

Nomination papers for 1 Select Board position and 2 School Board positions are available to pick up at the Town Office. These papers must be returned to the Town Clerk by Thursday, September 5, 2024, for the November 5th Election.

If you need more information please contact the Town Clerk, Tina Magno at (207) 666-5531, ext. 101.

Neighbor to Neighbor Program in September

Imagine that you are living alone in the cozy home that you have lived in for most of your adult life. You retired a few years ago, and recently, you had a hip replacement. Even so, life has been okay. After all, as a Mainer, you have learned how to be strong and self-sufficient.

But lately, you've noticed that your memory isn't what it used to be. It's getting harder to keep track of the bills. And driving to the grocery store has become a real chore. Your son calls once in a while, but you don't say anything, because you are proud of the life you have made, and don't like admitting that you could use some help now.

This scenario is all too common in our aging community. Bowdoinham's Age Friendly Committee has long wished for a way to reach isolated community members who might benefit from a helping hand.

A program called Neighbor to Neighbor is becoming a reality in Bowdoinham thanks to a statewide pilot funded by the Governor's Cabinet on Aging and administered by UMaine. Bowdoinham is one of about 12 sites participating in the pilot.

Neighbor to Neighbor consists of an Outreach Coordinator who matches volunteers with community members. The goal is for the volunteers to build relationships with community members that foster the exchange of information. As the volunteer learns more about an individual's specific situation and needs, the individual learns more about services that might make life easier. The volunteer helps the community member to make direct connections with the relevant social services, with the help of the Outreach Coordinator.

There are still details being worked out, and the official kick off of the program is not until September 1. If you want to volunteer



a helping hand through Neighbor to Neighbor, please contact Jason Lamoreau at the Town office, 666-5531 or age-friendly@bowdoinham.com.

MAC

continued from page 8

Pottery Open Studio (ON-GOING)

Monday & Wednesday (6 - 8pm)

with Zachary Fields

Saturday (9 - 11am)

with Catherine Scanlon

\$10 suggested donation covers studio use, clay, kiln firing, and glazes. Open to the public, no experience necessary! Bring your ideas and we can help make them a reality. There is no traditional instruction offered during this time, only an attendant available for suggestions and answering questions.

MAC is always accepting contributions to The Heron Fund. The Heron Fund is our scholarship fund for all MAC organized studio programs and events which allows us to remove financial barriers for program participation and ensure art is for everyone. It is made possible by the generosity of the Muir Family and donations from MAC friends and supporters like you. Donations can be made on our website at merrymeetingartscenter.com. As always, thank you!

We hope to see you at the studio or gallery!

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Bowdoinham Public Library

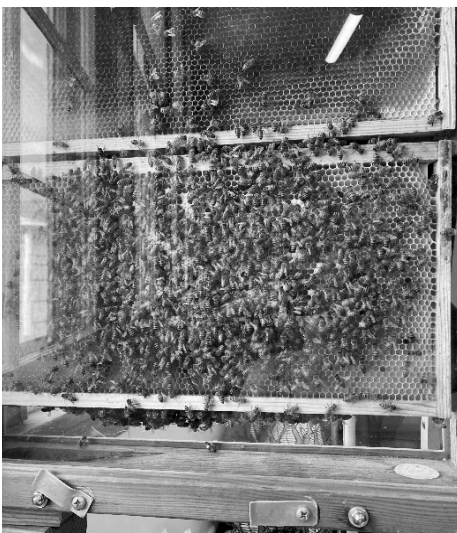
By Kate Cutko



New residents move into free group housing offered by the library

On a hot July afternoon, two volunteers, along with Library Director Kate Cutko, moved a group of new residents into a quiet corner of the library on the second floor of the Coombs Municipal Building.

It was a colony of live honey bees, and their new queen.



The observation beehive that now houses this active bee colony was donated and installed in the library by Frank Drummond, retired professor of Insect Ecology from University of Maine. Frank purchased and maintained the hive at the University for 15 years where students and faculty observed and studied the bees. After he retired in 2019, Frank noticed that the observation hive was no longer being used in the biology building in Orono. He received permission from the faculty to install the hive in the Bowdoinham Library for the purpose of public awareness and education. Our hive is two "frames" deep and five "frames" high. It is two-sided, and stands about 4 feet tall with glass on both sides for observation. The entire hive pivots and swings 180° on a plastic pipe where the bees can come and go to the outside. The small initial colony that Frank installed will grow and expand into the empty frames where the bees will rear young year-round and also produce and store honey.

Here are a few questions that Kate Cutko asked Frank Drummond on a recent interview:

How many bees did you install to start out our observation hive?

It was probably between 1,500 and 2,000 bees, one of them being a queen. Maybe 5-10% are drones (males) and the rest are female worker bees. It's a very small colony to start out. When a honey bee colony is strong it can be between 60-80,000 bees. ... This observation hive is the equivalent to a "deep hive" or a large brood hive, made up of 10 "frames."

Do you expect that our small colony will continue to grow and survive, barring any disease or pathogens?

Well, that's the key! It will survive barring any disease or pathogens. In September, I will come and remove the hive to work on it outside. I'll sample the bees and test for parasites. A parasite called Varroa Mite is a deadly parasite that can kill the bees unless you treat the hive and bring the mites to a very low number. If necessary, I will treat the hive with a naturally-occurring chemical called oxalic acid, before the winter comes... So long as they have enough stored pollen and honey in the observation hive they'll make it through. But the library is a new environment and we'll see how it goes!

In addition to testing for the parasites, what else do you do to maintain this hive for us at the library?

The main thing to do is inspect them and make sure the queen is still there and is healthy... we'll ensure there are young larvae and capped larvae and that the colony has plenty of space to rear their young and to store honey and pollen. When they start to outgrow the hive, we can add more boxes. I'll check in September to make sure they are putting away a lot of nectar that they'll turn into honey. Let's say there's a drought and in September they seem to be eating more than they are collecting... I'll make sugar syrup and feed them to supplement the honey they've stored.

Can you explain why it's so important to protect honey bees and other pollinators?

A back-of-the-envelope statistic is that 85% of the foods that we eat are a result of insect pollination. So that is clearly



important to humans! But if you think of the flowering plants - the wildflowers and some of our trees - many of those are also insect pollinated. Wildflowers and trees - that is the basis of a healthy, functioning ecosystem. So really, our whole environment is dependent on pollination as the first stage of plant reproduction.

What do you hope to accomplish with this observation hive at our library?

I hope, in general, it will provide public awareness of the importance of wild creatures in our world - an awareness that we share the world. More specifically, an awareness of bees as pollinators and that we shouldn't just think of bees as something that stings us. Sure, they will sting us if we interfere with them... but if we observe them and watch them without interfering, we will learn about them. They do a really important job - that's the main thing. Honey bees are just one type among the almost 300 species of bees, but they are a very special type because they live in this giant family - a society - where all the workers are sisters, and there are brothers, and they all share one mother... it's a very special kind of family system! I hope the observation hive allows people to learn about that as well. And can you remind people? Please don't tap on the glass!

Please come to see the hive any time the library is open: Tuesdays, Thursday and Saturday 10-2, Friday and Wednesday 2-6.

Merrymeeting Trail Community Conversations



Help build the vision for the future Merrymeeting Trail!

In October, each of the four Merrymeeting Trail towns will be holding a community listening session about the trail. All are invited to attend these meetings to share thoughts about how the trail can be designed to best serve the community and be well used and loved by residents. The meetings will provide a space to share your interests, ideas, concerns, and recommendations about things like types of trail uses, parking, and connections. Attend a meeting to share your thoughts!

**Bowdoinham: Wednesday, 10/9
6:30pm - Bowdoinham
Community School**

Richmond: Wednesday, 10/16
6:30pm - Enterprise Grange

Gardiner: TBD

Topsham: Tuesday, 10/29
6:00pm - Topsham Public Library

Learn more:
www.merrymeetingtrail.org

Fly Killer was a unique Bowdoinham Product!

By Frank Connors

The honorable James H. Ames, attorney, Judge and entrepreneur was a dynamic figure in Bowdoinham in the early 1900's, and Eureka Fly Killer was one of the reasons why. A "stinky, stinging liquid," it came in bottles and unsealed cans, and its sole purpose was to help farmers remove pests from their stock and farm buildings.

"Shake thoroughly," the directions say, "always apply in a mist or spray. For destruction of flies on stock, apply morning and night. After several applications, once a day may be sufficient. Entirely harmless if applied according to directions," the directions say,

And then comes a caution, "like any good article (Eureka Fly Killer) should not be used excessively."

Intended primarily for large stock such as cows and horses, directions also talk of Lice and other vermin. "For lice on cattle," directions say, "spray thoroughly on the animal once a week. For vermin in poultry houses, spray the roosts and whole interior of the building every two weeks, or until rid of the pests."

In his book, "Bowdoinham Was My Hometown," John Wallace Ames, (son of James Ames) reports the Eureka manufacturing plant, painted yellow, "to excite business," was located near the shore of the Cathance River, where the Kendall Brothers built their Fertilizer plant. The Town now owns that site as a recreation area. Ames moved his business upriver

about a quarter mile when the Kendall's proposed their Plant. The product was distributed nationally. John Ames often described the Eureka Fly Killer formula as a "family secret, to die with me," but he often added, "it smelled a lot like kerosene!"

James Ames was appointed municipal judge for Bowdoinham in 1917 and kept that position nearly two decades. He was twice a candidate for Governor of Maine as a Prohibitionist. He and his wife Nettie raised seven children in their Main Street home.



Tax Year 2025 Property Tax Bills

2025 Real Estate and Personal Property Tax Bills will be mailed out soon. Please look for an envelope from the Town of Bowdoinham. If for some reason you do not receive a bill contact the Town Office for a copy.

Your tax bill is divided into 2 payments. The **first payment is due Nov. 1st** and the **second payment is due May 1st**. Interest begins accruing on November 2nd for the first half and May 2nd for the second half.

Bills are only sent out once, there are two coupons at the bottom of your bill, one for each payment due date. You will NOT receive a bill for the second half due in May. For anyone whose taxes are not paid through escrow, please mark your calendar for both due dates.

If you owe back taxes, your payment will be applied to the oldest year first. If you are unsure of how much you owe, you may contact our office at any time.

Morning Jo

By Jo Werther

Time to Make Some Music!

"If you can walk, you can dance. If you can talk, you can sing."

I love this saying from Zimbabwe. Isn't it lovely? Research studies are increasingly proving what people have known since the beginning of time: music is good for our health. Our mental health, our spiritual health, and even our physical health, all benefit hugely from making music.

Music stimulates new connections in the brain. It helps sharpen cognitive functioning and improves mood. It can reduce heart rate and lower blood pressure. It decreases the presence of cortisol and other stress hormones in the bloodstream. And it increases the presence of serotonin, oxytocin, dopamine, endorphins, and other "happiness chemicals."

Simply put, music makes us feel better. Stress relief, mood regulation, a boost in motivation, and an overall feeling of improved emotional wellbeing? As my mom would have said, what's not to love?!

"But I'm not a musician."

Not ready for Carnegie Hall? Or even the Bowdoinham gazebo? That's okay. It's not about being ready to take the stage and perform. That's fine too, of course! But it's not required. If you sing in the shower or when you're driving alone in your car (or any other time, for that matter), if you tap your

feet or drum your fingers, if you turn up the volume when a favorite song comes on, you're in. And that's all of us.

Music: an antidote to disconnection.

We're living in a time of unprecedented interpersonal disconnection. For so many reasons, from the personal to the global, loneliness is at an all-time high. And its negative health impacts are being increasingly well-documented. A complex problem requiring a multi-faceted solution for sure. But one thing we know is that music connects us with each other. And perhaps most importantly, music can re-connect us with ourselves.

Now is the right time!

Make a cozy campfire and invite people over to sing. Create a playlist and share it with your family and friends. Have a music

listening party. And of course, keep singing in the shower!

Happy fall!

Questions/Comments? Email me at jowetherlcsw@gmail.com.



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Make a difference as part of our school community!

Contact: Chris Lajoie, Principal
(207) 666-5546 lajoiec@link75.org

Trash Tickets:

Trash Tickets can be purchased at the Town Office during regular business hours. They are sold in bundles of 5, 10 & 50 tickets, or you can purchase individually at \$3 each.

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday:
8:30 am - 4 pm

Wednesday: 11 am - 6 pm

Trash Tickets are also available at the Recycling Facility at 121 Pond Road during regular hours of operation.

Tuesday: 12 pm - 6pm

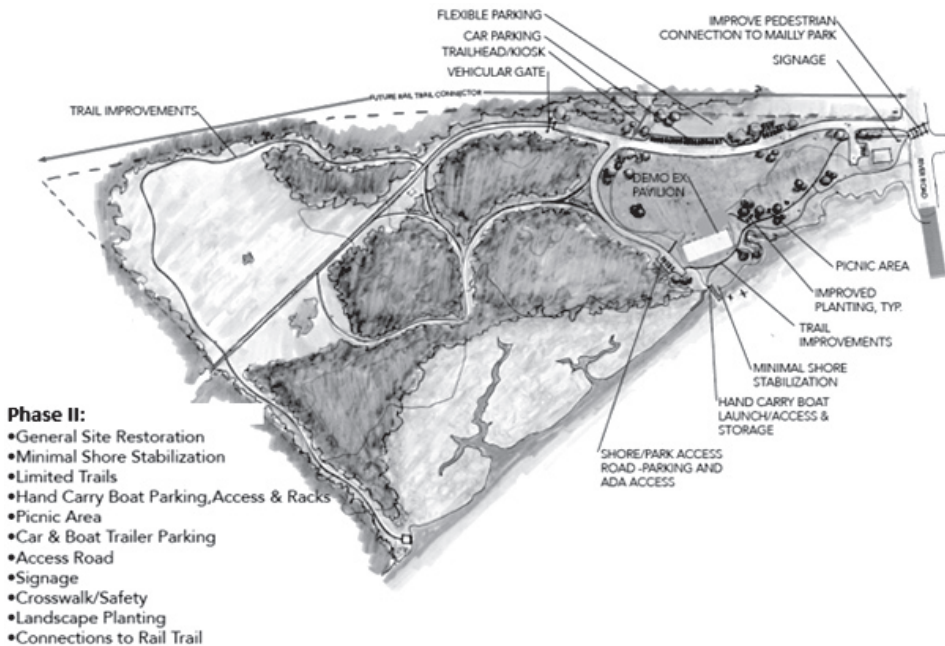
Thursday & Saturday: 8 am - 4 pm

Occasionally, The Bowdoinham Country Store will have trash tickets for sale on a first come cash basis.

Note: Trash is picked up on Thursday morning, bags must have a trash tag tied to them. If Thursday is a Holiday, trash will be picked up on Saturday morning.



Planning & Development Department Updates



Waterfront Redevelopment Project Update

Work continues implementing the Waterfront Master Plan at the new park. Upon the receipt of a \$420,833 grant (#23-00909) from the Land and Water Conservation Fund which is managed by the US Department of the Interior, with stateside oversight jointly provided by the NPS & DACF's Grants & Community Recreation Program work began on Phase II. This included grubbing, filling, and grading, stormwater management,

landscaping including removal of invasive species and shoreline stabilization.

Most notably Bedard Excavation wrapped up the shoreline stabilization portion of the project which includes approximately 200 linear feet (lf) of vegetated wall, 115lf of tree root wad, 75lf stone armor, and 140lf of double coir log rows. Additionally, approximately 4,000sf of freshwater coastal wetland was restored.

Road and parking improvements, utility

installation, planting new native trees, and the installation of pedestrian pathways have been put out to bid and the work should begin this fall and be completed by June 2025. We are seeking grant funding for additional native tree planting and park signage.

Community Resilience Partnership

With the help from the Comprehensive Plan Committee, the Town reenrolled in the Community Resilience Partnership (CRP) in August of 2024. The CRP is the State's program for implementing the State's Climate Action Plan. Benefits of this program include access to grant writing assistance and to the program's biannual no-match Climate Action Grants (CAG). To date we have secured \$37,991 in no-match grant funding to update our town office lights, park lights, and streetlights to LEDs, saving the town an estimated \$9,082 a year in electricity savings. And another \$50,000 toward the shoreland stabilization project at the new park. For more information on the CRP program please visit: <https://tinyurl.com/m6cedd8h>.

Sidewalk Extension on Main Street

Right of Way work on the sidewalk extension along Main Street from its intersection with School Street to Fisher/Post intersection through the DOT BikePed grant has begun with DOT sending notifications to abutters requesting more information. A kickoff meeting with DOT is anticipated to discuss the timing of the work and their public input process in the coming weeks. Stay tuned.

If you have any questions about these projects, please reach out to the director of Planning & Development, Yvette Meunier, at planning@bowdoinham.com or 666-3096.

Chicken Run!

The Bowdoinham Community School 5k Chicken Run and Kids' 1-Mile Fun Run is happening Friday, September 13th at 5:30pm. As always, this is sure to be one of the most fun community events of the year! We'll have cool t-shirts, great music, free pizza, and wonderful farmers market boxes for the winners. Registration through our website is open until Thursday, September 12th at 6pm. Just visit <https://runinarace.com/BowdoinhamCommunitySchool/>. In person registration starts at 4:30pm on race day. All proceeds benefit the Bowdoinham Community School. We hope to see you there!



THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

Solid Waste Ordinance

The Solid Waste Committee is working to have an updated Solid Waste Ordinance (SWO) on the November 5 ballot for approval and we wanted to take this opportunity to walk you through the process used to develop this Ordinance for the citizens of Bowdoinham.

Q. Why are we revising the existing Solid Waste Ordinance?

A. Like many towns in Maine, Bowdoinham adopted a Solid Waste Ordinance 30 years ago (1994) and the Town never voted to amend the Ordinance. Maine law dictates the only way to change any Ordinance is by Town vote. Like any Ordinance that was written so long ago ours was showing its age; there are provisions in it that Bowdoinham no longer complies with, and other provisions not aligned with State law. The revised Ordinance was developed under the direction of the Select Board to address these concerns and to position Bowdoinham for the future.

Q. What are the goals of the revised Solid Waste Ordinance?

A. In addition to updating outdated language our goal was to develop an Ordinance that supports our current solid waste processes. We are NOT advocating process changes in this document. In addition, we wanted a document that was flexible enough to support Bowdoinham in the future. We did that by focusing on the 'what' and not the 'how' of solid waste processes in the Ordinance. How to provide solid waste services is covered in Solid Waste and Recycling Rules (Rules), a separate document that supplements the Ordinance. The Rules are meant to be more flexible and allow the Select Board to make changes, but only after a public hearing at least 30 days prior to any changes. You will always have a voice.

Q. What process or due diligence did the Solid Waste Committee follow to ensure a quality Ordinance?

A. The process started, as it should, with input from Bowdoinham residents. The prior Solid Waste Committee conducted an extensive survey in late 2020 and we updated that through an informal survey in 2023. From there the direction was clear, the residents like our current approach to trash collection and overwhelmingly (91.3%) support recycling.

Our next step was to explore what other towns were doing. We reviewed Solid Waste Ordinances from 17 other Maine towns looking for best Ordinance practices. We also researched what makes a good Solid Waste Ordinance, including reviewing a several lengthy legal papers on the subject. Lastly, we reviewed a couple of Solid Waste Ordinances from across the country. Some of them had good ideas, others not so much.

Using all these inputs we constructed a starting draft, and revised it 12 times. Along the way we conducted two public input sessions (thank you to all who participated, it was very helpful) and had two complete legal reviews by the Town attorney.

This November 5 you will get to vote on this. The current draft of the Ordinance and Rules are available on the Town's website. For more information on the process you can find recordings of our Solid Waste Committee meetings on the Town's YouTube channel and minutes from those meetings on the Town's website. You can also view our presentation to the Select Board during their August 12 meeting in the Town Hall Stream. And, of course, you are always welcome to attend Solid Waste Committee meetings, either in person or on Zoom. Check the Town calendar for meeting information.

Thank you so much, your Solid Waste Committee: Wendy Cunningham, Chair, Paul Denis, Vice Chair, Pat McDonough and Paul Tabor and lastly Bryan Benson, Bowdoinham's Solid Waste Director.

Town of Bowdoinham Fall Bulky Waste Day October 5th, 2024

We will be holding our Fall Bulky waste day on October 5th from 8am to 2pm at the Public Works facility located at 121 Pond Rd.

The following items will be accepted on this day for a fee.

Box spring/Mattress each piece:

| | |
|-------|---------|
| Twin | \$5.00 |
| Full | \$8.00 |
| Queen | \$10.00 |
| King | \$15.00 |

Carpet:

\$2.00/foot, priced at the lesser of the size i.e., 5'x8' = \$10.00

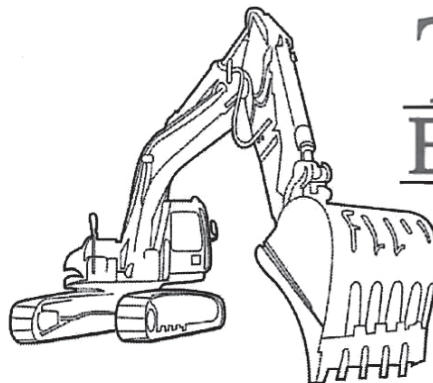
Furniture:

| | |
|------------------|---------|
| Chair | \$5.00 |
| Chair - recliner | \$10.00 |
| Couch - small | \$10.00 |
| Couch - large | \$14.00 |
| Couch - recliner | \$15.00 |
| Couch - pull out | \$15.00 |

Construction debris including sheetrock, insulation.

| | |
|------------------|---------|
| ¼ yard of debris | \$40.00 |
| ½ yard of debris | \$80.00 |

Large and/or heavy quantities of construction debris should be taken to one of the following locations: Grimmel Industries in Topsham, Pine Tree waste in W. Bath, Maine Waste to energy in Auburn.



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Cemetery News

By Elaine Lamoreau Diaz

Hello again! This column will cover May through August of this year. Work completed this summer includes the following:

- Sydney Stone Gr 62 on Bay Road. See "Stone Stories" by Frank Connors in the July -August News.
- Pratt Cemetery Gr 1, Wildes Road. Fencing materials, approved for funding by the Town for Sam Tome before his death, were purchased and delivered by Tobey Frizzle, Public Works this spring, and installed immediately by the Keepers, who added flowers. Looks lovely, Sam would be so pleased.



- Hall Cemetery Gr 18, River Road. Tree removal and clearing of ROW by Public Works and William Oh, BCAC and brush and debris removal and stone cleaning by William and Patricia Oh, Nina and Peter Mendall, Linda Temple, Frank Connors, Max Legassie, Sophie Mitchell. Right on a hill near the road and overlooking the Abbagadasset River. Very impressive!



- Curtis-Aderton-Jennings Cemetery Gr 56, Dingley Road. Alan Acker and his family went in cleaned out brush and saplings and left it looking very nice.

The following cemeteries were visited and are being assessed for future work needed:

- River Road: Pratt Cemetery Gr 48, Purington Cemetery Gr 49, Thomas Cemetery Gr 26. All are in very rough shape, but Keepers were found for each, so that is encouraging. And the Hill-Getchell-Hatch Cemetery Gr 19, which was visited last fall, also needs much work, as well as a Keeper.
- Post Road: Spear Cemetery Gr 28, Webber Cemetery Gr 15, Jack Family Cemetery Gr 42.
- Pork Point Road: Preble-Grant Cemetery and Bay Road: Patten Cemetery.

Nina and Peter Mendall made a slide show of these cemeteries and presented it at the July BCAC meeting. They are indeed in dire shape, but most all have Keepers now.

New Keepers:

- Nancy Hunsberger, Purington Cemetery Gr 49, River Road.
- Dennis Jones, Thomas Cemetery Gr 26, River Road.
- Ian Jerolmack, McFadden Yard Gr 38, Old Dump Road, Off Carding Machine Road.
- Anne Kellett and Dave Chapman, Pratt Cemetery Gr 1, Wildes Road.
- Andrew Skolfield, Pratt Cemetery Gr 48, River Road.
- Jon Maguire, Sydney Plot Gr 62, Bay Road.
- Kathryn Wille, Stuart-Work Cemetery Gr 44, Spring Street.
- Sophie Mitchell and Max Legassie, Jack Family Cemetery Gr. 42, Post Road.
- Brooke Babb Davis, Campbell Cemetery Gr 50, River Road.

New BCAC Members: Brooke Babb Davis and Amy Babb (who is also a Keeper for the Whitmore Cemetery Gr 21) have applied to be on the Cemetery Committee and have been attending meetings, showing much enthusiasm. We are eager to welcome them as members.

Our plans for August through October include Work in the Brown Cemetery Gr 24 on Sept. 8, the Curtis Family Cemetery Gr 43, and the Curtis- Aderton- Jennings Cemetery GR 56. BCAC members will be joining keepers and other volunteers. We also hope to host a supper program for the Keepers and other volunteers in October.

You may contact the following for questions, concerns complaints or offers to help with our cemeteries:

- Nina Jewell Mendall, BCAC Chair 207-666-8838, njmendall@comcast.net
- Peter Mendall, BCAC Secretary 207-666-8838, pjmendall@comcast.net
- Linda Temple, Volunteer Coordinator 207-6663343, wwells9@myfairpoint.net
- Elaine Lamoreau Diaz, Volunteer Coordinator 207-666-8255, elainediazhome@gmail.com

Thank you. Be well and enjoy the rest of late summer and early autumn.

THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

Le Tour de Bowdoinham



On Saturday, August 17 a charity ride to support the Bowdoinham Food Pantry (BFP) was held. A total of 92 riders joined from Portland to Augusta, up from 70 last year and included members of four area bike groups. They raised over \$1,085 and 310.2 pounds of food, which was 10 pounds more than last year! About 35 stayed after to dine at Three Robbers and several also attended the Farmers' Market. Thanks to Merrymeeting Arts Center and Three Robbers Pub for the keepsakes and post ride snacks! And a big thanks to Bowdoinham's very own Ken Sandoin for organizing this event again. We look forward to hosting the fourth one next year!



Stones Telling Stories:

Bank Teller buried at Sampson lot, in Bayview

By Frank Connors, Cemetery Sexton

It was June 21, 1866, when three dastardly men, under the cover of night, gained entry to the home of Robert Butterfield, then the manager of the National Village Bank of Bowdoinham. They crept into his bedroom, clubbed him senseless and bound his family in their beds. They dragged Butterfield to the bank, forced him to open the safe and stole more than \$73,000, making good their escape in a closed, two-horse carriage. Eventually caught in New York City, all three were convicted, and went to Maine State Prison.

The robbery was a gut blow to Bowdoinham, as none of the money was ever recovered. Mr. Butterfield, who suffered long from his injuries, would be dead at the age of 60 in less than seven years. Butterfield was married to Henrietta Sampson and was buried in the old Sampson lot (1846) off Bay Road. Henrietta died in 1893, and is buried beside him under a monument shaped like a Christian cross. The couple's son, Robert C. Butterfield, also a victim on that terrible night, died in 1886 at the age of 27, and is buried beside his parents. When Bay View Cemetery was established in 1909, it was developed around the Sampson lot.

Find the grave? Bayview Cemetery is located at 333 Bay Road, a mile from the Topsham line and less than a mile from

Bowdoinham village. Enter the cemetery at the main gate under the iron arch, proceed to the flagpole and turn right. Straight ahead of you (perhaps 100 yards) will be several large spruce trees, sheltering a nearly square, old cast-iron fence. Looking inside the fence, the three Butterfield stones are easy to find.



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The Second Baptist Church

The Second Baptist Church of Bowdoinham continue our mission to bring the truth and love of God



into our community and world through the lives of committed and growing followers of Jesus Christ.

We continue to be blessed by the ministry of Pastor, David Clark, and his wife, Wandah. Our Facebook page includes his weekly sermons - we invite you to check one out: www.facebook.com/bowdoinhamsecondbaptist.

In July, we held a potluck church BBQ with lots of great summer food and a waterfront service in August. We cordially invite the public to our third Sunday luncheons held after the service at 11:00AM for a time of fellowship and great food.

On August 18th, Ryan Sweet, our pianist, treated the public to a summer piano concert of praise music, including one of his own compositions. It is a pleasure to witness Ryan's musical gifts to our church.

Weekly worship opportunities:

- Worship Service at 10:00AM on Sunday
- Communion is held on the first Sunday of the month.
- Midweek Prayer and Bible study at 6:30PM on Wednesdays
- Men's Breakfast at 7:00AM on Saturdays

- Women's Bible study at 9:00AM on Sundays
- Also, AA Meetings are held each Monday and Thursday evening at 7PM.

We extend an open invitation to the community to come and hear God's word.

Acts 2:42 and they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

For more information, visit the church's website at: www.bowdoinhamsecondbaptistchurch.org or visit our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/bowdoinhamsecondbaptist.



Gathering on the church steps this summer

New Code Enforcement Officer

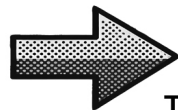


Meet Jason Lorrain, our new Code Enforcement Officer. Jason brings a lot of experience to the table having worked as a CEO for 8 years for both the towns of Vassalboro and Boothbay. Jason, a native Mainer grew up in Boothbay Harbor, after moving away for a while settled back into his hometown with his family. He enjoys the outdoors, partaking in many activities such as camping, hiking, fishing, and hunting.

Jason looks forward to working with and getting to know the residents of Bowdoinham. He wants the residents to feel they can approach him with their questions or discuss issues that arise. His goal as Bowdoinham CEO is to help property owners with maximizing the potential of their property by helping them navigate The Town of Bowdoinham's Land Use Ordinance.

We are building homes for downsizers in Bowdoinham.

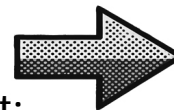
If you are homeowner who is thinking of downsizing, and you want to stay in Bowdoinham, but cannot find a place to move. Then we can help.



- * New home built before you move.
- * Stay in Bowdoinham.
- * Preserve your equity.

To learn more contact:

Rob Weisman - 207.522.4482
rob@realpropertyteam.com



exp
REALTY

THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

Farming In Bowdoinham

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BLUE BELL

SIX RIVER

STONECIPHER

Bonus words:

GREENHOUSE

HARVEST

APPLE CREEK

CAMPO DI FIORI

FAIRWINDS

BARN

SEEDTIME

DANDELION SPRING

HARVEST TIDE

KENNEBEC FLOWER

COMPOST

ORGANIC

EAST OF EDEN

ENTERPRISE

ANNANDALE

LIVESTOCK

FARMSTAND

Please Keep Our Parks Clean

Sadly, there have been several instances where people have vandalized the restrooms, discarded trash and soda bottles on the grounds and left dog poop where it fell. The bathrooms must be closed until they can be scrubbed and repaired, people are stepping in poo and trash invites unwanted vermin as well as gives an unsightly mess to our beautiful waterfront. These handful of vandals ruin the park for everyone.

The dog feces issue and trashing restrooms has reached the point that the Select Board is considering taking measures to ban dogs from the park and locking bathrooms that have been vandalized.



There are a few things we can all do to keep our parks enjoyable for everyone.

Carry in, Carry out: this means if you bring food, beverage or trash into the park take it with you.

Pick up after your pets. Bring a bag with you and dispose of it properly, not in the bathroom trash cans or in the bushes.

If you see any vandalism report it to the Town Office so it can be addressed.

Be respectful, the waterfront parks belong to you, would you want someone littering your back yard?

Recreation News

Fall Fun in Bowdoinham: Exciting Activities Await!

As the leaves change color and the air turns crisp, Bowdoinham is gearing up for an exciting fall season! Whether you're a longtime resident or new to the area, there's something for everyone. Here's a sneak peek at the upcoming activities around town this Fall to get outdoors and stay active:

Fall Foliage Hikes: Lace up your hiking boots and explore our scenic trails. From easy strolls to challenging treks, our town offers breathtaking views of autumn foliage. Don't forget your camera and wear orange! Check out our website for more details on Cathance Meadow Trails, Red Rose Preserve, Abagadasset River View Trail, Kennebec Land Trust Trails and more!

Chicken Run: The Bowdoinham Community School 5k Chicken Run and Kids' 1-Mile Fun Run is happening Friday, September 13th at 5:30pm. As always, this is sure to be one of the most fun community events of the year! They will have cool t-shirts, great music, free pizza, and wonderful farmers market boxes for the winners. Registration through the website is open until Thursday, September 12th at 6pm. Just visit <https://runinarace.com/BowdoinhamCommunitySchool/>. In person registration starts at 4:30 pm on race day. All proceeds benefit the Bowdoinham Community School.

Farmers Market: What better way to spend a Saturday morning in the fall months of September and October than at beautiful Maily Waterfront Park visiting the Farmers Market. Get yourself to the waterfront park for a galaxy of delicious and beautiful provisions right close to home! Let them tempt you with fresh baked bread, crisp organic veggies, grass fed meat, milk and cheese, tasty snacks, beautiful flowers, vivacious seedlings, fresh fruit and a rotating selection of incredible creativity.

Celebrate Bowdoinham: Saturday, September 14th, 2024. Join us in celebrating Bowdoinham's 262nd Birthday! Rain date of Sunday, September 15. Celebrate is back with fun for the whole family. Come on out and enjoy the festivities. This year will feature lots to see and do, with a parade, fine art displays, kids activities, games,

demonstrations, fireworks and more!

Cross Country Youth Running Club: 1st – 6th grade runners descend on Cathance Meadow Trails in September and October to train and compete in the Coastal Running League. Bowdoinham will be hosting a meet at the new waterfront park on Wednesday, October 2nd! Come by and cheer on these young athletes. Registration is on the Recreation website www.BowdoinhamRec.com.

Youth Basketball: Fall is the time to gear up for a winter filled with Basketball. Keep an eye on the Bowdoinham Rec website for registration to open soon (if not already when you are reading this!)

Open Gym, Silver Striders Walking Group and Indoor Pickleball: Crisp mornings and fall rains begin the migration back into the gymnasium with lots of fun activities for all ages. Keep an eye on the Recreation Calendar for dates and times!

Remember to check www.BowdoinhamRec.com for detailed schedules, registration information, and any updates or call 207-666-3101. See you at the next event! ✨🍂

Winter Is Coming

The Town has two options for residents who need emergency assistance with their heat bills.

- General Assistance (GA) – is a program administered by the Town in coordination with Maine DHHS. Applicants must qualify financially and show that they are in need of assistance.
- Heat Assistance Fund – the Town of Bowdoinham has a donation-based program for heat assistance. This is usually used in emergency situations for anyone who does not qualify for General Assistance.

You can use the General Assistance application to apply for both programs. The applications can be found in the office and in the green mailbox by the front door to the Town Office.

The Town is always happy to take donations for the Heat Assistance Fund so that we can continue to provide this vital resource to our residents in need.

Bowdoinham Municipal Directory

Town Office

13 School Street
Phone: (207) 666-5531
Fax: (207) 666-5532
Website: www.bowdoinham.com
Hours:

Monday: 8:30am-4:00pm
Tuesday: 8:30am-4:00pm
Wednesday: 11:00am-6:00pm
Thursday: 8:30am-4:00pm
Friday: 8:30am-4:00pm

Recycling & Solid Waste

121 Pond Road
Phone: (207) 666-3228
Website: www.bowdoinham.com/SWR
Hours:

Tuesday: Noon-6:00pm
Thursday: 8:00am-4:00pm
Saturday: 8:00am-4:00pm

Trash Pickup: Thursday Morning
(or the following Saturday if Thursday is a Holiday)
Trash Tags can be purchased at the Town Office

Bowdoinham Public Library

13 School Street
Phone: (207) 666-8405
Website: www.bowdoinhamlibrary.org
Hours:

Tuesday: 10:00am-2:00pm
Wednesday: 2:00am-6:00pm
Thursday: 10:00am-2:00pm
Friday: 2:00am-6:00pm
Saturday: 10:00am-2:00pm

Animal Control

(207) 666-3127

Fire & Rescue

(207) 666-3503 (non-emergency)

Public Works

(207) 666-3503

Sagadahoc Sheriff Dept.

(207) 443-8201

Water District

(207) 737-4721

THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

Community Calendar

September

- 2 Office Closed - Labor Day
- 13 Chicken Run 5:30pm
- 14 Celebrate Bowdoinham
(Rain date Sept. 15)

October

- 1 Village Pedestrian Improvements
Public Meeting, Kendall Room,
Town Office - For more info
see Town Website
- 1 Request Absentee Ballots -
For more info see Town Website
- 2 Youth Cross Country Track Meet
- 5 Bulky Waste Day 8am - 2pm
- 14 Office Closed -
Indigenous People's Day

November

- 5 Elections - Office will be closed
- 11 Office Closed - Veterans Day

Town Board and Committee Meetings

*All meetings are open to the public.
For more information please visit:
www.bowdoinham.com/calendar*

Select Board

2nd & 4th Tuesday of month

Planning Board

4th Thursday of month @ 6 pm

Advisory Committee on Age Friendly Bowdoinham

2nd Monday of month @ 1:30 pm

Cemetery Advisory Committee

1st Monday of month @ 4 pm

Comprehensive Planning Committee

2nd Tuesday of month @ 6 pm

Community Development Advisory Committee

1st Tuesday of month @ 6:30 pm

Solid Waste Advisory Committee

2nd & 4th Wednesday @ 6 pm

Town Hall Committee

4th Wednesday of month @ 3 pm

Town Office Hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri 8:30am - 4pm • Wed 11am - 6pm

**Town of Bowdoinham
13 School Street
Bowdoinham, ME 04008**

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