



THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

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May & June 2014

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Bowdoinham Builders

By Wendy Rose

Bowdoinham has a wealth of builders to handle all of your building needs.

Aurora Timberframe Homes & Barns Kris Farris

Walking into Kris' lovely timber frame home, which he built on the River Road, you are immediately taken by the beauty of this building technique. The large windows facing Merrymeeting Bay fill the house with sunshine, and the light, pickling finish on the timbers brightens the whole interior. The visible timber structure helps you appreciate the fitted joints and shaped diagonal supports.

Kris' career as a timber frame builder came about after retiring from the Navy. He managed a similar business and went to Alaska to help build a huge timber frame barn. This started him on the road to his own business which he began about 10 years ago. The family had settled in Bowdoinham—an area they had loved when Kris was stationed in Brunswick during his Navy career--and they enjoyed the rural lifestyle.

Over the last 10 years, Kris and his crew have built a number of homes and barns, have done home renovations, and completed barn to home conversions. He usually averages 5 projects during the building season and is about to go to Indiana to do a barn. His timber supplies all come from Maine. He likes to do local projects, but often finds himself on Maine coastal islands, waterfront property, and mountain-area sites. The off-season finds him designing projects, talking with customers about their plans, and preparing for the building season.

"Timber framers often do the kind of quality work you see in a piece of furniture," Kris explains. "You need to put together the joints with oak pegs and it all needs to come together in a seamless way." His own



let them know the true costs," he says. "The fun of it all is learning new things," he adds. Each project presents its own learning curve and keeps the work interesting and fun.

You can reach Kris at 737-2874. His email is kris@auroratimberframes.com.



home is an example of his preference for green building techniques. It uses radiant heat, computer controls,

Brent Zachau, Builder Brent Zachau

Like several other Bowdoinham builders, Brent Zachau's home is a beautiful example of his craftsmanship. The intriguing interior design of the octagon structure was created by his wife, Josephine Mussomeli, and the construction uses Brent's favorite method of building, insulated concrete forms. It is interesting to see the house's shape repeated in other buildings on Brent's property from an octagon addition at the end of his workshop to an enclosure at the side of his garage.

and significant energy-saving insulation. "I am very careful about siting a project so the building can get solar gain," Kris comments.

"I really try to work with people to help them get an affordable house and to

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Bowdoinham Builders

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More whimsical structures grace the lawn in the form of giant dinosaurs which are not far from the super-sized chairs; Brent calls them the Lilly Tomlin chairs.

In the many years that Brent has been doing construction projects, he has found that the insulated concrete method solves many of the moisture and energy efficient issues of other types of construction. The insulated concrete doesn't allow any air or moisture infiltration and the completed structure saves a lot on energy expense for the customer. Plus, it is an easy process for a small crew to handle. While there are a number of insulated concrete systems, Brent uses Nudera for his projects.

Brent comes from a line of carpenters; both his father and grandfather were craftsmen. Brent gained a lot of his skills working with Dave Berry in the 1970's doing post and beam construction. He also spent a number of years doing fine cabinetry work. Right now, he specializes in constructing new homes and larger remodeling projects. These can use any type of building technique, but he loves educating people about the benefits of insulated concrete. He is very interested in energy efficient and green building methods. Most of his projects are in the Bowdoinham, Richmond, and Brunswick area, and his long experience means that word of mouth brings most of his customers. He had enough projects to keep him busy through the recession, and he is seeing an increase in interest now that the economy is getting better.

"I like to be on the job every day," Brent comments. "I am very careful with the detail and enjoy all the aspects of the whole project."

Brent is located at 39 Brown's Point Road and you can reach him at 751-4080.

Ed Fenimore & Sons

Ed & Garret Fenimore

Garrett started working with his father, Ed, when he was 19 years old and has enjoyed all the different projects he has

participated in over the last 10 years. The variety is one of the best parts of the work, houses, bigger additions, renovations, along with cabinetry, decks, bathrooms, and garages. Ed's skill at design and creative problem-solving has taught Garrett how to keep the large project in view while adapting new ideas and changes the customer may come up with.

The house that Garrett built



for himself on the Foreside Road in Topsham exemplifies his building skills. It has a beautiful design, handsome cabinetry, and an open, pleasing space. His brother lives next door in a house he built himself as well. It is all just minutes away from the house they grew up in at 467 Bay Road.

Ed first began the business in 1987. At that point his wife, Sue, was able to leave her job to raise their family. Ed had worked for his uncle in Topsham and comes from a long line of entrepreneurs so he had learned the skills that were needed. He has taken on a huge variety of jobs over the years and can do just about any building or finishing project. Ed's special talent is creating or adjusting designs for the various projects depending on the needs of the customer. They have traveled as far as Waldoboro but most of their contracts are in the Topsham, Brunswick, and Bowdoinham area.

"We like to work with the customer and accommodate what they want," Garrett says. "The customer is truly always right. Our long experience in the area has shown people that we are trustworthy and skillful," he adds.

You may have noticed that there is a new sign below the Ed Fenimore & Sons

sign at the Fenimore home and workshop along Bay Road. Garrett has added a new sign with Fenimore Landscaping Service. He has mowing equipment that can handle large acreage and has found that this aspect of the business is growing quickly.

While Ed is making excellent progress after a recent health challenge, Garrett is continuing to work on the projects they have underway and is available to take on new contracts. The skilled sub-contractors they rely on will continue to work with Garrett to move the business forward until Ed returns.

You can reach the business at 666-5668, Garrett at 837-2743 or email them at efnailbender@live.com.

J.C. Construction

Jason Caron

Jason started his building and carpentry career at a very young age; when he was only 13, he built his first tree house. After finishing school, he worked closely with Bill Paschka, a builder from Brunswick, and learned the skills he needed to do any kind of building or renovation project. They built most of the homes on the Teagan Road subdivision off the Millay Road as well as many other projects throughout the area.

Jason always enjoyed doing his own side work and finally started his own business in 2003. He specializes in large structures, roofing, siding, renovations, additions, hardwood floors, and kitchen/bathroom projects. He currently has 3 projects going and is putting in a beautiful master bathroom with all the amenities including complicated ceramic tile features.

Jason has a 3 person crew and has worked with many local sub-contractors over the years. "We are a group of local guys who are like family and can take on any job, big or small," Jason says. He especially likes to do framing and ceramic tile work.

Word of mouth has been the most effective way of attracting new customers. Jason has found that while advertising



puts his company's name out there, it doesn't result in actual customers. Things did slow down through the recession, but more projects have been coming his way through this spring. "I'm very glad to see it getting busier," he comments.

Jason has lived in this area all his life and loves the things Bowdoinham has to offer, especially the community school. He appreciates the flexibility that self-employment offers, and enjoys participating in his daughters' activities (they are aged 10 and 14). "I can't imagine being anywhere else," he says.

Jason lives at 460 Post Road, and you can reach him at 504-7815 or email him at jcaronbuilder@yahoo.com.

Lamoreau Improvements

Shawn Lamoreau

Shawn has always wanted to be a builder. He even told his fourth grade teacher that construction work was his goal. He got his actual start on his dream career at 18 when he built his own house and started his business. His first jobs were basic roofing and siding projects, but over the years, he has learned the skills needed to take on complex residential and commercial jobs. He has worked with a lot of the local builders and has grown his business to one of the larger enterprises around. Right now he has 14 full-time workers and has kept busy during the recession years including throughout this past winter.

Shawn's home and workshop are just yards away from where he grew up on the Carding Machine Road. His great grandparents bought the farm and land back in 1945 and the family has kept their homes right there ever since. The shop he built in 2000 helps to keep materials organized for the 4 crews and site trailers that are out on jobs throughout the area. While Shawn likes to work within a 50 mile radius, he was recently in Skowhegan and Bucksport doing interesting projects.

During the recent recession, Shawn stayed busy doing commercial projects and has recently found that residential contracts are picking up and keeping him

booked well ahead. He can do any type of new construction, as well as roofing, siding, and seamless gutters. One example of a recent building is the structure that now houses the Subway and Dunkin' Donuts at the top of Ridge Road in Richmond.

For some of the more distant jobs, he will do the framing, roof and enclose the structure and then turn over the finishing



work to local crews.

Shawn would like to be known for his affordable, quality work. "I like to work with my customers to meet their needs," he says. The growth of his business is a testament to his broad contacts throughout the area and the reputation for reliability he has developed.

You can reach Shawn at 666-8077.

Six Rivers Construction

Byron Bouchard

While Byron started his business just two years ago, he has been in the building trades for a long time. His grandfather was a plasterer and Byron worked alongside him and learned his first skills. Later, he was on a crew with Pat MacAlister in Brunswick and got a real itch for the building trade. Working in sales for a few years gave Byron a chance to learn about how to meet customer needs and has helped him develop a great approach to providing his clients with a reliable service.

Byron is able to do a wide range of projects from new construction and garages to remodels, windows, decks, siding, and roofing. He works from plans developed by the lumber yard that is supplying the materials or ones that the customer has chosen from the internet or an architect.

Most of Byron's jobs come through referrals from one of the Hammond Lumber Yard sites, but he is also expanding his customer base through local contacts. His wife, Christina, grew up just a couple of miles away from where they live on the Bowdoinham/Topsham line, so there are a lot of local connections.

"I feel like this has been a good time to start the business," Byron comments. "Business has been picking up from the recession, and we were pretty busy during the last season." Byron has a crew of 2 and they completed a house and a garage addition last season. He travels as far as Scarborough and Westbrook, but would like to do projects closer to home.

"I like the challenges that come with different projects," Byron mentions. "Whatever the customer needs, I'd like to be the guy they call." He and his wife love being in Bowdoinham and are building a new house just across the road from Robert's Auto Body and Sales on the Bay Road. Byron adds, "I really want my customer to be happy, and I like to work with them to find solutions."

You can reach Byron at 622-3915 or sixriversconstruction@gmail.com.

Hooper Construction

Founded in 1999 by Steve & Jill Hooper, Steve, a graduate of The University of Maine Engineering program with a degree in Construction Management and his experience includes post and beam construction, major and minor renovation work, new residential construction, interior design and millwork, custom kitchens, and waterfront construction. You can reach Steve at 207-666-8200 or steve@hooperconstructionofmaine.com

MJF Enterprises

MJF Enterprises Inc. has been operating as a business for the past 12 years. The owner, Mark Favreau has over 30 years experience in all aspects of home improvement, construction and repairs. Call Mark at 666-5692 or 798-9702 to discuss your next project.



THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

Open Studio Day

By Nicole Briand

Down East Magazine called Bowdoinham “Maine’s Creative Epicenter.” What better way to show off our “Very Crafty Town” than for our artisans and craftspeople to open their studios and workshops for us to explore?!? So come out and join us on Saturday, May 10th for Bowdoinham’s first annual Open Studio Day!

(1) Bill Stanton

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

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

(2) Creative Flow Foundation

1190 River Road

1-4pm. Meet Robert and his students and see their boat in progress., along with other boats, kites, and even a plane built of wood.

(3) Browns Point Press

496 Browns Point Road

1-4pm. See the presses in action - an antique treadle-operated Chandler and Price Press and a smaller table-top press. Enjoy the views of the beautiful agricultural fields along Merrymeeting Bay.

(4) Kate Cutko

555 Browns Point Road

1-4pm. Visitors are welcomed to “Barn of Opportunity,” to see Kate’s own projects from canvas floor cloths to handmade journals . Guests may make-and-take their own upcycled tote., made from recycled materials.

(5) Jane Page-Conway

13 Wildes Road

10am-4pm. Jane will be displaying and demonstrating both her photography and encaustic wax work.

(6) Lobster Buoy Birdhouses

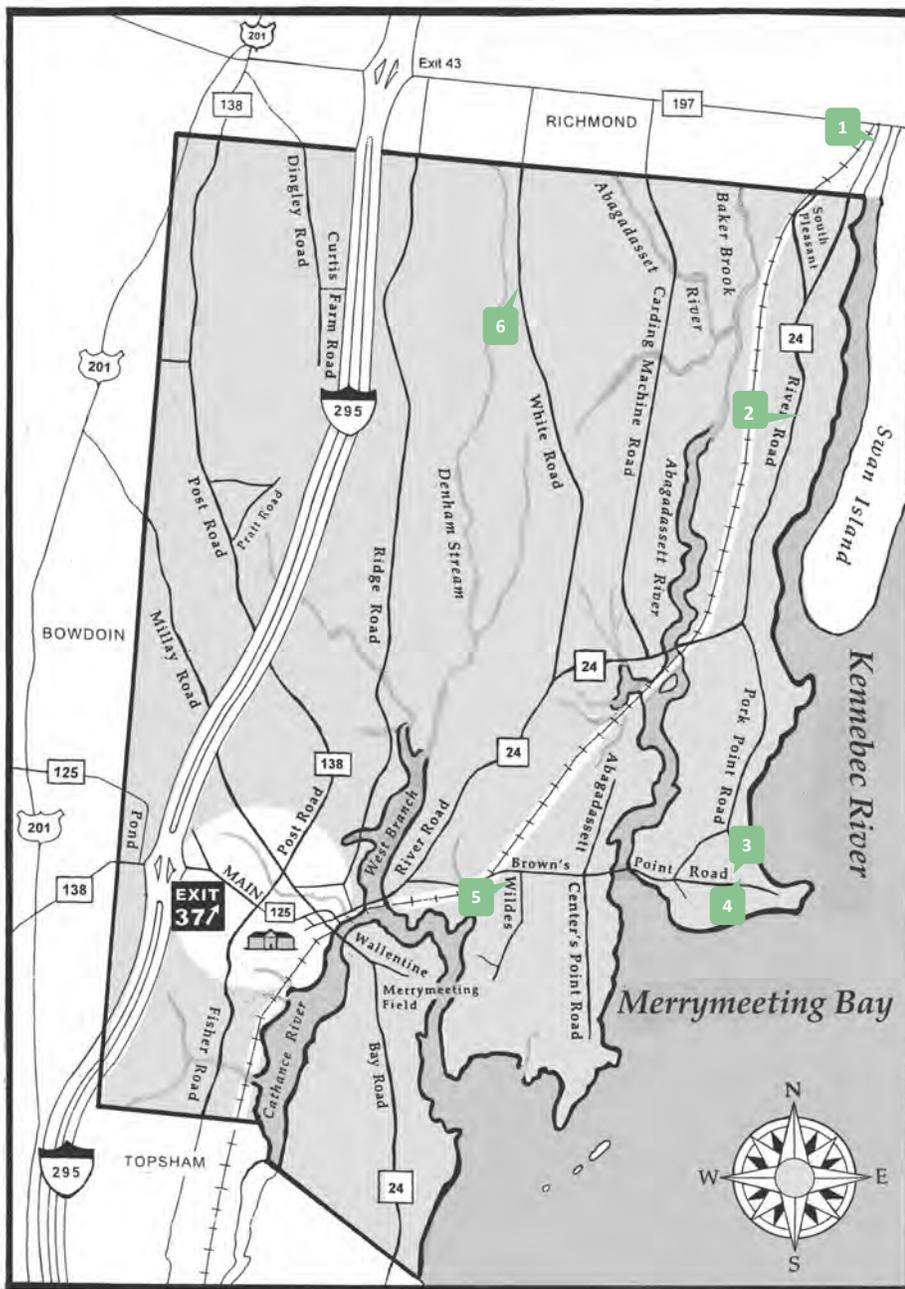
760 White Road (Please park on grass along driveway near barn.)

10am-3pm. The barn shop will be open for tours and kids are welcome to paint their own small cedar buoy to take with them. They’ll also be offering an event special -
Birdhouses - \$34 (retail price \$42)
Suet Feeders - \$18 (retail price \$24)

(7) Catmint Garden & Gallery

16 School St

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



Horse Wagon Rides

9am-2pm. Hideaway Farm will provide rides between the Open Studio locations in the Village. Stops will be made at Mailly Waterfront Park, Long Branch, Steven Thomas Bunn, Paul Baines Fine Woodworking, and Coombs School. Tips are appreciated.

(8) Paul Baines Fine Woodworking

94 Main St

9am-3pm. You're invited to explore Paul's shop where he makes stools, chairs, electric guitars, a wide variety of furniture, and other woodworking projects.

(9) Steven Thomas Bunn

Hedge Hill Farm, 22 Center St

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

(10) Long Branch General Store

20 Main St

9am-2pm. Long Branch is hosting:

Dale & Diana Mosher

Not only will Diana have her tole paintings and greeting cards (Mothers Day is Sunday!), they will also have goat soap and cheese samples from their farm, Gruff Acres Farm.

Laurel's Line

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

Morphee Creations

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

Third Chapter Films

Visit with Jeff to learn about his film projects and how he might be able to help you create that special project for your loved one.

(11) Cathance Place

9 Main St

Zoulamis Fine Woodworking

9am-3pm. Stop in and see Greg as he works on his latest pieces.

Watersong Music

10am-3pm. Come see Earl's music studio (where all the magic happens) with live music from 2-3pm.

Merrymeeting Arts Center

10am-3pm. The Arts Center's Annual Youth Show, "Vernal Pools and Fairy Shrimp" will be open. Come see all the wonderful artwork, along with the ecological information provided by the Friends of Merrymeeting Bay. The Arts Center is also hosting:

Brendan Bullock Photography

Brendan will be showing prints of his documentary and fine art photography from Maine and around the world.

M.C. Donovan Fine Woodwork

Mark's impressive collection of furniture, carvings, artwork and musical instruments will be on display while Mark demonstrates his hand carving technique.

Monique Designs

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

Winding Rose Studio

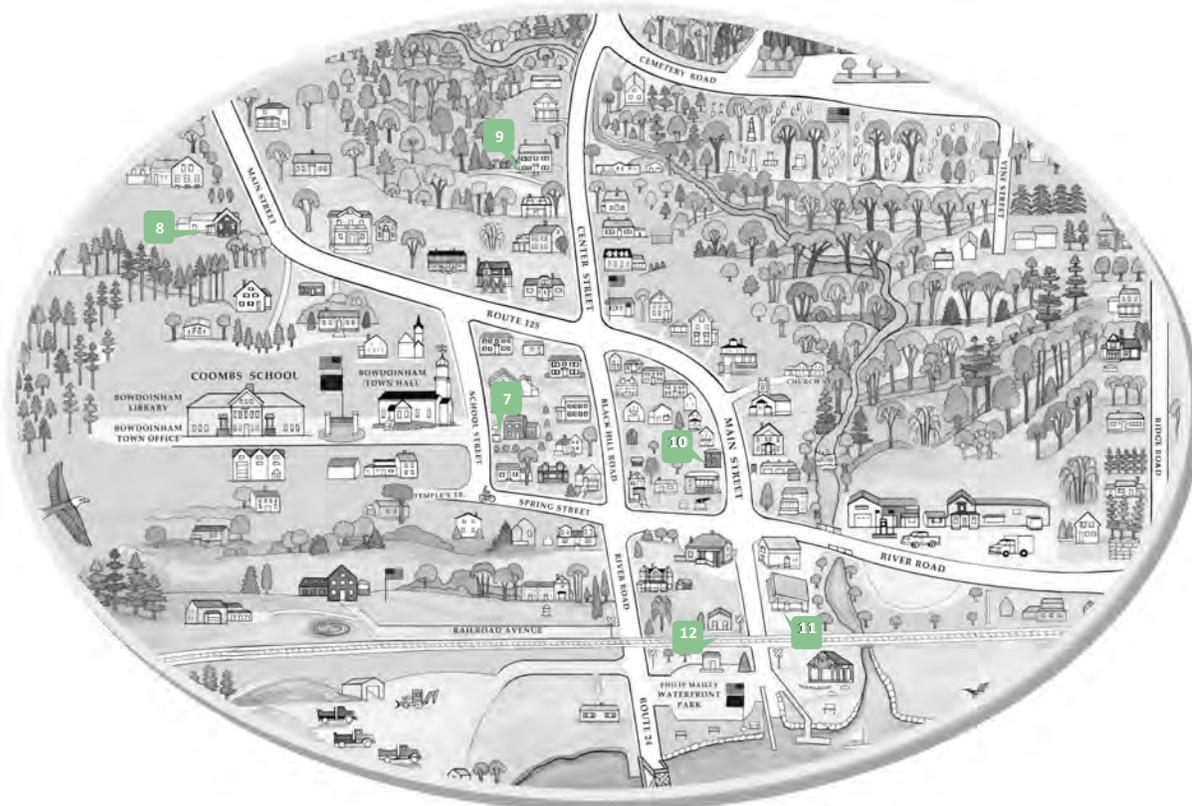
Wendy will be displaying her beautiful fiber arts, and demonstrating a unique method of applique quilting that magically makes the stitches disappear.

(12) Pottery Project

6 Main St

10am-3pm.

Delilah Pottery, Jeffrey Lipton and Matt Ahlers will be showcasing their pottery and demonstrating how it's made.



Town & Village Maps by Margaret Campbell

Open Studio Day

Continued from page 5.

Meet the Artisans & Crafters:

Long Branch School & General Store

longbranchschool.com

Long Branch School provides education in traditional skills of all kinds as well as modern innovations in renewable energy and sustainable techniques. They also have a retail store with produce from our local farmers and specialty Maine-made products.

Merrymeeting Arts Center

merrymeetingartscenter.org

Since opening in September 2007 the Arts Center has been, providing a place where children and adults can participate in and enjoy the arts. Inspired and guided by the eclectic spirit of Bryce Muir, the center encourages art, education and community, celebrating the cultural heritage and natural environment of Merrymeeting Bay.

M.C. Donovan Fine Woodwork

www.donovansbench.com

Mark Donovan has been creating art from wood for over 20 years. Projects include furniture, cabinetry, instruments, signage, and carvings; no two projects are ever the same. Figured wood is a favorite material choice, and hand tools the preferred method of shaping and finishing. Color, symmetry, shape, and reflectivity are all subtle but important components of Mark's designs.



Winding Rose Studio

www.windingrocestudio.com

Wendy Rose is a fiber artist specializing in beautiful and practical fabric products. Smaller items include cloth bowls, envelopes, and balsam sachets while larger creations range from computer tote



bags, lap quilts, crib quilts, and full bed-sized quilts. Colorful, contemporary designs are Wendy's hallmark.

H. Monique Designs

www.hmoniquedesigns.com

Heather Atwood creates two lines of jewelry. The silver and bronze line are hand carved designs in that incorporate the natural flows of life; every piece has its own distinctive personality and character. The copper line is fabricated from copper washers, and the designs are fun, simple.



Creative Flow Foundation



Robert Bedjemann is a Vietnam era veteran who knows the power of the creative process. He has been building things in

metal and wood for his entire professional life, and now teaches his skills to veterans.

Catmint Garden & Gallery

Owner and artist, Sarah Ann Stapler specializes in miniature oil, watercolor and pastel paintings. She also creates large paintings, cards and children's books.



Jane Page-Conway



Jane has been an artist photographer for over 30 years. She is an inquisitive experimenter, who now practices the ancient paint-

ing medium of encaustic wax with her photography. "Encaustic" means to burn in. Beeswax is mixed with damar resin then the hot wax is tinted with a powdered pigment and applied in layers.

Browns Point Press

brownspointpress.com

Browns Point Press is a letterpress print shop run by Maina Handmaker and Sean Hagan. They print cards, postcards, broadsides, and fine art prints; food and agriculture being a constant theme. They also work with individuals and businesses to print custom projects such as business cards, stationary, event announcements, invitations, and product labels.



Paul Baines Fine Woodworking

www.paulbainesfinewoodworking.com



Paul Baines approaches his work with a passion and love for the craft. Nothing can bring elegance and beauty to a piece of furniture like a practiced eye and disciplined craftsmanship.

After many years of honing his skills, simplicity and elegance have become an obvious statement in every piece of furniture Paul builds.

Delilah Pottery

Sara Cox has always been an artist and has explored many avenues of artistic expression including fashion design and fine art, however, her skills and talents have centered on pottery. Sara creates many functional items such as bowls, cups, and buttons, as well as larger items.



Kate Cutko



Kate is the director of the Bowdoinham Public Library as well as an adoption social worker and mother of two. She adores

the Bowdoinham Recycling Barn and finds all the supplies and inspiration she needs there to make her crafts. From fibers to bottle caps and rusty metal, nothing is safe from Kate's crafty impulses.

Morphee Creations
visit on Facebook

Hand carved and printed, Morphee Creations are inspired by local flora and fauna. Artist Manon Whitteley prints her imagery onto upcycled and re-purposed materials, from paper products and home decor to clothing. Printed on a home-made press, each piece is unique.



Brendan Bullock Photography
www.brendanbullock.com



Brendan Bullock is a freelance photographer and photography educator based in Bowdoinham. While most of his

work is focused here in Maine, he travels to make documentary pictures throughout the world, including South America, Europe, Africa, and India.

Watersong Music
visit on Facebook

Earl Bigelow created Watersong Music for the sharing and teaching of all the facets of music. Recording, performance and teaching music has become Earl's happy occupation, and in his new studio he is able to do all three.

Steven Thomas Bunn, Furnituremaker
www.stevenbunn.com

Steve crafts Windsor chairs, rockers and settees in a number of styles using traditional tools and materials



because he loves their unique fusion of beauty and utility. His handcrafted Windsor chairs, with their deeply saddled seats and flexible backs, are the most comfortable chairs you will ever sit in.

Jeffrey Lipton Pottery
jeffreyliptonpottery.com

Jeffrey has been making functional pottery since 2008. Having spent time at Watershed Center for the Ceramic Arts

and Haystack Mountain School of Crafts, he later went on to complete a three year apprenticeship at Stonepool Pottery in Massachusetts. Jeffrey and his wife Ali moved back to Maine in 2012.

Diana Mosher

Diana creates greeting cards and decorative tole paintings when she's not busy working on the farm, Gruff Acres Farm with her husband Dale. They have goats, hens, alpacas and several gardens. Diana also teaches the art of cheese making, while Dale makes goat milk soap.



Lobster Buoy Birdhouses
www.lobsterbuoybirdhouse.com



Peter & Nikki Sullivan started making birdhouses in 2008. Each birdhouse is handmade from Maine cedar, renowned for its decay resistance. The shape and rough texture simulate vintage buoys and every detail has been recreated down to the functional tapering of the rope handle hole.

Zoulamis Fine Woodworking
www.zoulamisfinewoodworking.com

Greg Zoulamis specializes in custom kitchens, furniture and architectural millwork. With clear and concise communication and uncompromised attention to detail, they create finished products that stand out from the rest.



Bill Stanton



Bill retired from a career in engineering in 2003, and has been creating his art full-time since then. Bill's art work consists of drawings and paintings, of still lifes, Maine landscapes, and people. His large paintings often tell a story.

Matt Ahlers

Matt grew up in Bowdoinham, submerged in this artistic and crafty community, and took to his own artistic endeavors. He studied at The University of Hartford Art School and refined his skills as a potter. Matt currently spends most of his time taking on fun building projects, and teaches his ceramics skills at the Merry-meeting Arts Center.

Laurel's Line

Laurel Lopez started making soaps 13 years ago. Since then she has expanded her body care product line to include lotion, chapstick, deodorant, bath fizzies, and salt scrubs. She uses natural ingredients and colors with no preservatives. She enjoys using new herbs, spices, flowers and scents.

Third Chapter Films
thirdchapterfilms.com

Making Growing Up Bowdoinham, inspired former Mt. Ararat teacher Jeff Fischer to create Third Chapter Films. Whether it's getting folks to tell old family stories or capturing a special event for a family or community, Third Chapter Films combines highquality interviews with photographs and footage, to preserve those cherished memories.

Boco Video Productions

Rebecca Conley will be shooting video at the event to



create a short video to promote "The very crafty town" of Bowdoinham.



Bowdoinham Farmers' Market

By Pete Galle

The 2014 season for the Bowdoinham Farmers' Market will again be at the Merrymeeting Grange Hall on Saturday mornings from 8:30am to 12:30pm.

Our returning vendors include:

- the anchor, Fairwinds Farm, Cathy and Pete Karonis, with locally raised strawberries, a wide wide range of mixed vegetables, their own grown and milled grains, popcorn and other fruit in season;
- Adams Family Farm, Sam Melcher and family from Bowdoin with seedlings and a mix of vegetables;
- Laurel Lopez with her home crafted

soaps and lotions; and

- Apple Creek Farm, Pete, Jake and Abby, features grass fed beef, lamb, organic goat, organic broiling chicken, organic geese, range free eggs/organic eggs, pelts, fleeces and felted items.

New to the market this year will be:



- Mini Mt Estate, Amanda offering Sugarcoated caramel, sauces for ice cream and other toppings and Sugarcoated fudge;
- Friday Pie, Charlie offers specialty foods with a focus on pie, biscuits, and their ingredients, especially lard. They emphasize using seasonal, organic, and local ingredients for their pies, tarts, turnovers and other pastries. Their lard comes from pasture raised/organically raised pigs. They will also sell biscuit dough, pie crusts, pie dough and lard.

- Good Life Farms is a mixed vegetable and herb farm in West Gardiner. Farmers Elizabeth and Nick look forward to meeting you at the Bowdoinham Farmers' market and sharing unique and easy recipes that highlight great produce.

For more information, please contact Pete Galle at 666-3936 or visit us on Facebook.

Attention Parents:

Do you have an entrepreneurial child between 8 and 14 who bakes, makes jams, picks berries, or creates crafts? If so, the **SPROUTS Table** at the Farmers' Market is the perfect place for them to hone their business skills. For more information, please contact Nicole Briand at 666-5531.



Bowdoin and Bowdoinham's
7th Annual



Red White & Blue Summer Fun Festival

Saturday, June 28th

FIREWORKS over the Cathance

Waterfront festivities at Maily Park in Bowdoinham will start at 6pm and include live performances by local musicians, entertainment, activities for kids (of all ages) and a Fireworks Display at 9:30pm.

Hosted by FHC ~ FMI or to get involved, please call
666-5651, ext. 1000



Cruise-in on the-Cathance

The Cruise 'Ins will rev up its engine for its 6th year on June 28th, 4-6pm. There is no entry fee. Everyone bringing a classic or antique car gets automatic entry into the Door Prize Raffle and anyone attending can participate in the 50/50 drawing. This year all proceeds will go to the Bowdoinham Library.

14th Annual Giant Rummage Sale

The Bowdoinham Community School Parent Partnership is having their 14th

Annual Rummage Sale at the Town Hall, 13 School St. on Saturday,



May 3rd from 9am to 3pm. The Early Bird Sale will be on May 2nd, 5-7pm and there is a \$1 donation per adult to enter. All proceeds go to the school's field trip fund.

Thank you, Mrs. Stahle!



The Bowdoinham Community School Parent Partnership is so thankful to Mrs. Stahl for all her hard work and dedication to school and

community over the last 13 years. We are both sad to see her retire this year but excited for her future as well. You are invited to come celebrate with us on Sunday, June 1st at the community school from 2-4pm in the gymnasium. There will be light refreshments.

Library Plant Sale

By Diana Mosher

It is a rite of Spring in Bowdoinham. The Library Plant Sale is something that has happened for over 40 years like the ice going out on the Cathance and the eagles nesting. This year is no different.

Specializing in heirloom varieties, the selection of perennials is impressive and the signs with information are text book. The annuals

for sale are just the ticket to shake off the last of the winter doldrums. The lovely trees and shrubs offered for sale outside the hall set an inviting and exciting tone as you enter the building.

Some other offerings for the day will be the Food Freaks table from the elementary school children and a raffle basket with a gardening theme.

A few of our dedicated volunteers have worked on this plant sale for over 40 years. Can you imagine? Many other volunteers have given numerous years to the sale also. Newcomers to town have found working on the plant sale fun, educational

and especially satisfying. In April and May, volunteers dig up the plants in the holding gardens and pot them. Others are pot plants from their own



gardens. Volunteers also print signs, solicit donations, haul plants, set up the tables, haul plants



to the town hall and bring them in, place signs in every plant, bring in food for the workers, haul in the annuals, haul in the trees and shrubs, manage the sale and take down the tables. And did I mention haul plants? We always welcome more help;

to help please contact Michelle at 666 8412 or the library at 666-8405.

So mark Saturday, May 17th on your calendar, bring a basket or box for easy shopping and come on down to the Town Hall on School Street for the Bowdoinham Library Plant Sale between 9am and 4pm. Add your dazzling and charming plants that you purchase to the beauty of Bowdoinham.



Join us for
OPENING DAY

JUNE 7TH

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

Located at the Merrymeeting Grange
27 Main St, Bowdoinham

Visit us on Facebook!

New Boy Scout Troop

By Athena Mann

With the success of our Bowdoinham Cub Scout Pack, the need has arisen to re-start a Boy Scout Troop. We are excited to bring the Scouting ideals back to the Bowdoinham community in the process of growing our boys into men. If you know a boy between the ages of 11-18 interested in campfires, stomping through the mud, gazing out from the summit of a mountain, and spending time outdoors with friends, please contact David or Athena Mann; call 737-4641 or email amannspack699@yahoo.com or dmann88napa@gmail.com.

Look for the new Troop at public events, out hiking, or anywhere that a helping hand is needed. As trained leaders of the BSA we look forward to giving and receiving support in our local community.

Meeting days and times should be announced soon. The Troop is looking forward to our first outdoor gathering, on May 16th, at the Abnaki District's Spring Camporee, Camp Gustin in Sabattus. We will be planning many more fun activities, and looking for community service opportunities in the coming weeks.

If you are an adult, interested in supporting this new Troop, we would like to hear from you, too! We plan to have as much fun, with our group of adult volunteers, as the boys will have in their Patrols.



**41st Annual
Bowdoinham Library
PLANT SALE**

**May 17th
9am to 4pm
at Town Hall**

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



(Clever folks bring boxes.)

Cheer Camp

By Christine Mecham

Mt Ararat High School Cheerleaders and Coaches will be hosting a two day summer cheer clinic on Thursday, June 26th and Friday, June 27th from 8am to 5pm at the Mt Ararat High School gymnasium.

The clinic is open to children in grades K-8th. Campers will be divided based on age and skill level. The camp will focus on teaching proper technique for motions, jumps, stunts as well as tumbling. Campers will also learn a short routine that will be performed at the close of camp.

The cost is \$125 and includes two camp shirts and a bow, along with all food and drinks. The camp will follow all MYCCA guidelines.

Registrations are due June 1st. If you are interested in more information regarding the camp, please contact Christine Mecham at 373-8009 or via email at clpm2003@yahoo.com.

Grow Your Own Pumpkin Contest

By Adelaida Gaviria

Grow your own pumpkin for Bowdoinham's Best at Celebrate. It's easy, just get Howden pumpkin seeds from the Food Freaks, grow your pumpkin this Summer, then bring it to the Food Freaks table at Bowdoinham's Best Hall during Celebrate Bowdoinham to win. Plus, Howdens make spectacular Jack-o-lanterns, so you'll be all set for Halloween!



Drawing by Olivia Cox

Contest rules. All pumpkins should be cared for by a child (with some adult help). All pumpkins should be Howden pumpkins. Seed packets for \$1 are being sold by the Food Freaks (see us at the Library Plant Sale on May 17th or contact Adelaida at 737-4149 or adelaida-gaviria@gmail.com.) All pumpkins should be brought to Bowdoinham's Best Hall on the Friday before Celebrate Bowdoinham. Prizes will be awarded to the top three heaviest pumpkins.

News from Cub Scouts

By Cathy Curtis

Cub Scout Pack 699 has been busy.

Most of our scouts have received their new rank, we had a space-themed Blue and Gold Banquet to commemorate the birthday of Boy Scouts and we held our Annual Pack Pinewood Derby at the Bowdoinham Community School gym. Our top five finishers this year were:

- 1) Owen Silsby-Belknap
- 2) Dash O'Hanlan
- 3) Chris Mann
- 4) Colby Bleau
- 5) Kyle Siebert

Jacob Haskell won Best in Show for his

Minion Car. Owen Silby-Belknap placed 4th out of 90 racers at the Abnaki District Derby.

We look forward to spending the night at the Science Museum in Boston on April vacation and having two of our scouts cross over to Boy Scouts in May.

As always, our Pack welcomes new members at any time in the year. For more information, please call or email Athena Mann at amannspack699@yahoo.com or 737-4641.



Merrymeeting Arts Center

By Peggy Muir

The Merrymeeting Arts Center has plans for a busy spring and summer season of classes, exhibits, workshops and events.

Exhibits

Annual Youth Show. “Vernal Pools and Fairy Shrimp” opened on April 11th and runs until June 8th. Open to artwork in any medium by artists age 18 and under, the show features two large murals done by the children at the Woodside Elementary School



in Topsham which depict the distinctive woods spring water holes known as “vernal pools” and their three key species (salamander, frog, fairy shrimp). Come see the wonderful artwork and ecological information provided by the Friends of Merrymeeting Bay. We are open Saturdays, 10am-1pm or by appointment.

Summer Exhibit. On June 20th the Arts Center will open “Celebrating Bay Boats” with a Gala Fundraising Evening. Artists who work in a variety of media will show works inspired by boating on Merrymeeting Bay. Gala visitors will get a first look at the exhibit and a film on the bay. Summer events on the bay to accompany the exhibit are in the works. See our website for more information.

Fall Exhibit. Photograph Bowdoinham is being launched by a young artist in town and will be part of our Celebrate Bowdoinham activities and exhibits. Please help us by photographing Bowdoinham this June.

Bryce Muir. The permanent exhibit of sculpture and paintings by Bryce Muir at the Arts Center will have works created for family members on display for the first time. A display of his work is also being created off site for the 50th reunion of his high school class at Phillips Andover Academy. His Alice in Wonderland croquet set which has been part of arts center

activities will be in use for the reunion attendees many of whom helped launch the Arts Center in Bryce’s honor.

Education

Place Based Preschool. Corie Scribner is once again offering this wonderful preschool program. The topic this spring is Wild About Water! The class will be exploring states of water, the water cycle, and bodies of water. The class is geared toward 4 to 6 year old children and includes nature based activities, art, storytelling, and songs. Families enjoy their time together while exploring a nature based topic. This session

will run 5 weeks on Thursday mornings, 9:30-10:30am starting May 1st at the Merrymeeting Arts Center. The cost of the course is \$50 per child. To register, please call the Merrymeeting Arts Center or contact Corie Scribner at 749-5410 or coriemelvin@yahoo.com

Summer Classes. In July the Arts Center will hold its morning Drop-In Art sessions two mornings a week. No sign up is necessary and materials will be provided so that people of all ages can come at their leisure and enjoy being by the waterfront as they make art. Please visit our website for more information.

Pottery Project. Pottery classes for both experienced and new potters will be starting in the newly renovated Pottery Project building across the street (come to the opening on May 10th). A full bathroom and deep sink have been completed in the newly renovated space in our small building which makes possible a range of activities and classes year round. We are excited about the possibilities in this new space!

Events

Open Studio Day. The first ever Open Studio Day for our Bowdoinham artists will be on May 10th. The Arts Center will have an Open House for several Bow-

doinham artisans and crafters and will be having the grand opening of the new Merrymeeting Arts Center Pottery Project with three local potters.

Gala Fundraiser. June 20th is our Annual Gala Fundraiser to support the Arts Center.

Strategic Planning

A grant from the Maine Community Foundation is enabling the Arts Center to carefully evaluate its first seven years of activities and to plan for the future with a series of workshops and a questionnaire for area residents. The results of discussions with teachers, artists, Board members and friends will be the basis for our future plans. We welcome thoughts and ideas for new and expanded activities.

In September, the Merrymeeting Arts Center will celebrate seven years of exhibits, workshops, theater productions, events and classes! Our small corps of volunteers is proud of what we have accomplished so far, but eager to do far more. We are grateful for their continuing support, thank you very much!

For more information about any of our exhibits, classes, events or plans, please contact us at 370-5002 or merrymeetingartscenter@gmail.com or visit our website, merrymeetingartscenter.org.

June is Photograph Bowdoinham Month

It’s as easy as...

1. Take a picture of anything you wish as long as it is OUTDOORS in Bowdoinham.
2. Email your photo to merrymeetingartscenter@gmail.com.
3. Include in your email: where the photo was taken and why you took it.
4. Please submit all photographs by July 30th.

Then come to Celebrate Bowdoinham and see the photo display, it will amaze you!

THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

Bowdoinham Historical Society News

By Betsy Steen

Did you know that the 1870s frequently saw 6 large sailing vessels under construction side by side at the landing? Imagine the pounding of hammers, the smell of tar, and the wonder in the eyes of little boys watching. In honor of our shipbuilding history, this year the Historical Society will be celebrating the "Year of the Ship."

Our next event will be 'Shipbuilding at the Landing' during the weekend of June 7th & 8th from 10am to 4pm. This will be an "Open House" event so you and your family can drop by. We plan to outline several of the vessels, and present pictures and information about each. There will be displays of ship building tools and other related items. We will replay the Around Cape Horn video that was so well received at our March showing. We could use help manning the exhibit. If you could give a couple of hours either Saturday or Sunday, please email Betsy at bayviewess@comcast.com

As we create this special year, we are seeking any ship building, sea faring, or sea captain information, photos, and artifacts. So many families in town have

roots in some aspect of seafaring, there must be more out there. We need to work together to gather, preserve, and make accessible as much of Bowdoinham's extensive shipbuilding and seafaring history as possible before it is lost. If you have a Bowdoinham seaman's diary, letters, or



At the 200th Anniversary Celebration in 1962, a float was created featuring a large model of the Sea King, the largest vessel built at the Landing in Bowdoinham.

logbook, could we copy it? We are gathering first hand accounts which we plan to make available for folks to read and then share at "Sea Captains Speak" (on October 9th).

We are also looking especially for any materials on the JACK or BROWNE families of Abagadasset (Brownes) Point. Marilyn Darnell of San Luis Obispo California will again be visiting Bowdoinham and will talk about her newly published book, Anything but Dull - The Personal letters of R.E. Jack: His Legacy from Maine to California 1856-1869. Edgar Jack, who was born and grew up on Abagadasset Point, left for California in 1863 where he became a very successful sheep rancher and an important force

for progress in the San Luis Obispo area. The Historical Society and the Library will host Mrs. Darnell's talk, Wednesday, May 28th, 7pm at the Library (the book is available in the library).

Lancaster Bishop Research & Reading Room is progressing. We hope to have it open for research in June. We now have a Kureig Coffee machine, thanks to Mary Bussey. We still need a laptop and a laminator.

Jellerson School continues to host classes. We could use overalls and button shirts sizes child's 7 & 8. Also, old fashioned looking dresses sizes girls 6-10. Does anyone have a vintage child's union suit (long underwear)?

If you are getting rid of something historical, please ask us first. Bowdoinham Historical Society: Another Way to Recycle!

BHS Memberships

Please consider joining to support the preservation and presentation of Bowdoinham's history!

\$5.00 for an individual
\$10.00 for a family

Please send to:
PO Box 101
Bowdoinham, ME 04008
www.bowdoinhamhistoricalsociety.org

Celebrate Bowdoinham

Mark your calendars, this year Celebrate Bowdoinham will be on **Saturday, September 13th**. The planning for this year's event is underway, so if you have any ideas or suggestions, please contact Nicole Briand at 666-5531 or nbriand@bowdoinham.com.

Participant applications will be going out in May, and will be due back in July.

We will once again be looking for sponsors for a fireworks show and donations for the Silent Auction. If you are interested in donating or becoming a sponsor, please contact Nicole Briand.

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FOMB - Archaeology Volunteers Wanted

By Ed Friedman

In 1654 at the home and trading post of Thomas Ashley, on what is now Thwings Pt. in Woolwich, a group of early settlers met and signed papers forming the first European-style government in the Merrymeeting Bay region.

From July 7th to 18th volunteers are invited to join Friends of Merrymeeting Bay (FOMB) in a cooperative venture with the Maine Historical Preservation Commission (MHPC) during continued excavations of this important historical site along the Kennebec River. The site has been described as possibly the most significant un-excavated historic archaeological site in Maine.

A Phase 1 survey is the initial archaeological exploration given a new site. The purpose is to quickly cover a large area in a methodical manner. Small test pits are dug, soil stratigraphy and any artifacts found are recorded, and the pits are back-filled. This was done in 2007 by FOMB volunteers and MHPC staff. Results from the Phase 1 survey indicated future and more complete excavations were desirable, and so a subsequent 2009 Phase 2 survey focused on an area of artifact concentration previously unearthed. The 2014 dig will continue homing in on the original building site, including two formerly unearthed cellar holes. Leading the dig will be retired MHPC historical archaeologist Lee Cranmer.

Friends of Merrymeeting Bay invites volunteers to assist with the project.



Volunteers are required to pre-register with minimum time commitments of a half day, though multi-day assistance is encouraged, space permitting. A \$20.00 minimum donation to FOMB is suggested to help defray the \$2,000 FOMB cost share of the \$7,000 project. Donations of at least \$50.00 from non-FOMB members will include a one-year membership in the organization. Any artifacts recovered remain the property of the landowner.

Volunteers will have the opportunity to work with and learn from trained archaeologists while making an important contribution to our knowledge of Maine history. There will be a maximum of six volunteer slots available per half day session. Donations – at levels far less than a similar field school might cost – will help support the continued work of FOMB in areas like this one. The morning time slot is 8:00am-12:00pm and the afternoon slot is 12:30-4:30pm with a lunch break at noon. Contact Dig Coordinator Sarah Cowperthwaite at 449-1450 or sarahcowperthwaite@rocketmail.com to register. Visit us on the web at www.fomb.org.



Help Still Needed

By Luke MacFayden

We would not have been able to help so many families without all your support! But the demand is still growing and we need your help.

When you plant your garden this year, why not grow a row for the food pantry? We can use any fruits and veggies! Any extra venison in the freezer? we are always in need of personal hygiene items and pet foods. Donations can be delivered to the pantry, Town Office or Town Landing, during normal business hours. Checks can be made out to Bowdoinham Food Pantry, P.O. Box 246, Bowdoinham. Volunteers always welcome!

For more information, contact us at bowdoinhamfoodpantry@gmail.com or 751-0080 or visit our Facebook page.

Open Fridays 3-6pm, 9 Main Street



Bowdoinham Food Pantry One Year Celebration

Thanks to All who have contributed during our 1st year in operation! Your contributions have helped to feed over 45 families & 125 individuals in our community. Please join us in celebrating on:

**Friday, June 6th, 5-7pm
at Maily Waterfront Park
Hot Dogs and Refreshments!**

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News from Long Branch

By The Long Branch Team

What's Cookin' at The General Store? We have two new awesome Maine vendors at **The General Store.**

Run With Soup from Baily Island delivers homemade soup to our store on Tuesdays. Owner, Charlene Tuplin does the shopping, the cooking and the running. Charlene makes different soups every week. Call Long Branch to find out what's on the menu, then sign-up for your bowl of homemade heaven by Friday and we'll have it here for you on the following Tuesday. Available in pints or quarts.

Friday Pie Club from Yarmouth offers 9 inch pies with an old fashion crust made with real lard from local pig farmers. Call or stop by to order your: Apple Crumb, Chocolate Chess or Pumpkin Patch pie. Owners, Meghan Fennell and Charles Fischman will deliver these culinary beauties on Fridays to our store. Other varieties are also available upon request. (48 hours notice is appreciated).

The **On-Line Buying Club** (Order on-line, pick-up at Long Branch. It's easy and affordable). Here's the Skinny:

- Every two weeks we offer a bounty of Maine Produce and Products.
- Once a month we offer select items from United Natural Foods. Rice, dried fruits and peanut butter, for instance.

• All items offered through the buying club have a low 15% mark-up which will be evident in your on-line "baskets".

• Our annual membership fee is \$25. New customers can try it out for free for one order cycle.

• Order windows open on a Friday and close on a Monday. Pick-ups begin on Friday.

To sign up, please go to our website, www.longbranchschool.com or contact us at info@longbranchschool.com or 666-8907

Long Branch School

This summer Long Branch is offering **Summer Camp** for students entering 6th through 9th grade. There will be two, one-week, sessions: August 11-15th and August 18-22nd. Camp will meet 9am to 4pm, Monday thru Friday. Tuition is \$305/week. There is an 8 a.m. before care and a 5 p.m. aftercare option available as well for an additional \$25/week.

Each week will feature a variety of fun activities and classes led by some of our talented local instructors. Some of the offerings will include blacksmithing, wood-working, archery, canoeing and kayaking, drawing, felting, gardening, cooking from the garden and animal husbandry.

If your child is interested in attending, please contact us to reserve your spot:

666-8900 or info@longbranchschool.com.

We are also looking for older teens (15-19) who might be interested in being a volunteer junior counselor for one or both weeks.



Sign Up at Long Branch for **Holistic Healing and Support:** We have created a new soothing and peaceful healing space and invited our local holistic professionals to provide healing and wellness

to our community, in our community.

- LaVonne Rhodes: Massage Therapy-Swedish and Myofascial
- Mary Stride: Food and Lifestyle Coaching
- Marie Tucker: Shamanic-Reiki-Goddess-Crystal Healing
- Nanette Giacomia: Intuitive Life Coaching, Transformative Art and Reiki.

The Long Branch School **Summer Course Schedule** is up and ready! We will have a variety of Holistic Wellness and Learning Sustainability Courses, including blacksmithing, wood carving, timber farming, archery, foraging, cheese making, reiki, crystal healing, chakra healing, Kundalini, Finding Your Inner Shaman Healer, Food & Mood and the Paleo Diet. Please visit our website, www.longbranchschool.com for a complete listing of courses and to register.

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News from BCDI

By David Whittlesey

The Bowdoinham Community Development Initiative (BCDI) Loan/Investment Opportunity program continues to provide a welcome service to Bowdoinham businesses and help keep local salad greens on our table, in spite of the long winter. In January, Left Field Farm received a supplemental loan for an additional greenhouse to compliment the two purchased with an initial BCDI loan.

Repayments in the loan/investment program continue the 100% on-time repayment record for BCDI loans. The Long Branch School and General Store has repaid the second tranche, again ahead of the due date, and Mary Stride has repaid her entire loan a full year in advance!

We are currently in discussion with several Bowdoinham businesses concerning their needs and how a BCDI loan might help them reach their goals. If you are interested in becoming an investor in this process, please become a Member soon!

Another piece of good news, in early April, BCDI was the recipient of a \$2,500 Common Good Grant from Bowdoin College. The student administered program chose BCDI as one of 11 organizations to receive a grant out close to 30 that originally applied.

Finally, BCDI submitted a request for support from the Town. Under the new Town policy pertaining to such social service requests, the application was vetted through the Finance Advisory Committee and the Selectboard and will now be brought before voters at Town Meeting.

Lawyers & Libraries

By Kate Cutko

Lawyers across the state will spend time in local libraries during May, to provide resources and assistance to people in need, talk about statewide legal issues and meet with library patrons. *Lawyers in Libraries: Law Day 2014* is a free event that is open to the public. It will take place at Bowdoinham Public Library on Tuesday, May 13th, from 3-6pm.

Organizers of the series are the Maine Justice Action Group Collaboration (The Collaboration) includes Maine's public libraries, the Maine State Bar Association, the Maine Bar Foundation, the State of Maine Judicial Branch, Maine's legal aid providers and other organizations interested in helping people access the legal resources they need.

The goal of the day is to provide Maine citizens with access to legal advice and information so that they are better prepared to face legal issues that arise. Participants in *Lawyers in Libraries: Law Day 2014* will have an opportunity to meet with a lawyer based in their community and receive information about free resources, low-cost legal assistance and legal referrals. In addition, some attendees will have the opportunity for a brief private consultation with an attorney about personal legal matters. Bowdoinham Public Library is pleased to welcome Attorney Jennifer Bryant and Attorney Alice Elliot who are kindly volunteering their time and expertise to members of our community. For more information call Library Director Kate Cutko, 666-8405.

Adult Housing Group

By Lynn Spiro

No one likes to think they are getting older, or that chores that were once so easy, are becoming more challenging. However, the idea of downsizing, living in a more affordable, manageable space, having time for activities, travel, being able to stay in the town that you call home? Now that sounds interesting! An Ad Hoc Committee has been formed to investigate exactly that: types of adult housing that might be appropriate to Bowdoinham. Three town residents (Theresa Turgeon, Lynn Spiro, and Pete Feeney) recently traveled to Boxford, Massachusetts to visit an adult/senior community there. They brought back extensive information on the "Boxford model." In two public meetings, people interested were asked to share some of their visions for the future in Bowdoinham with reference to our aging populations, logical residences and support systems. Some of the desires raised were: being in or near the village for easy access, affordability, options for different levels of care, and the opportunity to work with builders and organizations in town on this project. The group decided to continue as an Ad Hoc Group and to create a questionnaire which would be used in one-on-one conversations with as many townspeople as possible. Anyone interested in an Adult Housing Community in Bowdoinham and future meetings should contact Theresa Turgeon at mturgeon@gmail.com or 837-2577.

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Fishing, Fairs and Fun!

By Seth Berry

As I write this, it is only 27 degrees and it feels like spring will never come. By the time you read this, baseball will have begun, the weather will be warming up, and soon we'll be outside enjoying the summer fun our state has to offer.

Two great summer pastimes for the whole family are fishing and our agricultural fairs. If fishing and fairs are for you, below is some information you may find helpful.

Every year the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife stocks local lakes and ponds to help rebuild and maintain native fish stocks. Funded by your license fees, state biologists work to ensure larger, healthier fish for sportsmen and sportswomen. To see a list of waters most recently stocked, please visit www.maine.gov/ifw/fishing/reports/stocking. Plan ahead, and you may catch the big one!

Maine also has a proud tradition of celebrating the bounty that the state offers at its 24 licensed agricultural fairs. Agricultural fairs can be great educational entertainment for your entire family. The fair season starts in July and ends in early October. Here is a partial list:

- Aug. 3-10 - Topsham Fair
- Aug. 7-16 - Skowhegan State Fair
- Aug. 24-Sept. 1 - Windsor Fair
- July 25-26 - Richmond Days
- July 25-Aug. 3 - Bangor State Fair
- Sept. 5-7 - Litchfield Fair
- Sept. 13 - CELEBRATE
- Sept. 19-21 - Common Ground Fair
- Sept. 21-27 - Cumberland Fair
- Sept. 28-Oct. 5 - Fryeburg Fair

For the entire list of Maine fairs, please visit: maine.gov/dacf/ard/fair_promotion.

The Maine Legislature continues to work to preserve access to lands and waters and encourage fishing, hunting and hiking in Maine. I am committed to future generations having as many opportunities as possible to learn about and participate in Maine's many outdoor adventures. I look forward to seeing you on the lakes and the midways!

2014 Swan Island Events

By John Pratte

All events occurring on the Island require a reservation, please call 207-547-5322 to reserve your spot.

May 24 - Guided Bird Walk

Time: 9am – 11am

(Space Limited)

Explore the many habitats the Island has to offer from riparian flats and flood plains forest to open meadow, woodland, and interior wetlands.

May 31 - Hooked on Fishing

Time: 9am – 1pm (Space Limited)

Bring the kids for this great 'learn to fish' opportunity. The Hooked on Fishing Program offers the opportunity for children 15 and under to learn basic angling skills. All equipment, bait and tackle will be provided at no charge and volunteer instructors will be on hand to assist. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

June 5 - Evening Wildlife Tour

Time: 6:30pm – 7:30pm (Space Limited)

Join the Swan Island staff for an evening sightseeing wildlife tour to observe the abundant wildlife when they are more visible. Little to no walking as you ride in our tour truck the length of the island through a variety of habitats.

June 12 - Author Bill Bunting to Give Talk on the Sewalls and Their Ships

Time: 6:30pm – 7:30pm

Where: The Old Goat, Richmond

Fee: Free!

Author Bill Bunting's latest book is *Live Yankees: the Sewall Family and Their Ships*.



June 14 - Neighbors Day

Time: All day, four scheduled ferry trips.

Fee: Free if you live in Bowdoinham, Dresden or Richmond.

How many times have I talked with locals about Swan Island and they tell me they have never visited...but want too? Well now is your chance!

June 21 - Butterflies of Maine

Time: 11am – 1pm (Space Limited)

This is a great opportunity to learn about butterflies and spend time exploring Swan Island with Bob Gobeil. He will have a few butterfly nets but if you have your own net, please bring it with you.

June 28 - Paddle Tour with John Pratte

Time: 10:00am – 1:30pm

Bring your canoe or kayak to explore Swan Island while paddling the Kennebec River. This will be a great opportunity to see another perspective of the island and learn about this important interface for wildlife between water and land.

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Committee on Aging News

By Linda Jariz

Based on 2012 estimates from the American Community Survey, about 15%, or 432, of Bowdoinham's population is aged 65 or over, with 167 of those over 75. With the influx of retirees relocating to Bowdoinham, increased longevity, and the aging of the baby boomers, the number of older adults living in Bowdoinham is expected to triple in the next nine years.

The Committee on Aging's mission is to help older residents live healthy and independent lives while living in their own homes for as long as possible. The Committee, established in late 2012, currently has nine members (and two alternate vacancies) providing programs and services for Bowdoinham's older residents.

These programs have included the Senior Center, Exercise Plus, Walking Group, Matter of Balance course, Tai Chi for Balance, and Bridge lessons. In addition the Committee has organized speakers on a wide range of topics and provided transportation (on a limited basis). During calendar year 2013, residents participated in more than 1100 hours of programs and activities. The Committee volunteered just under 1000 hours of service. The full Committee report can be found at www.bowdoinham.com, click

on Town Business and then Committee on Aging.

We have the capability to do more but not without help! In the annual Report to the Select Board (February 2014), the activities and programs are listed in more detail along with the issues and concerns encountered and a request for some part-time staffing hours to help with all that needs to be done. So much of our work requires on-going coordination, collaboration, scheduling and outreach that we simply have reached a point where staff support is needed. The Select Board agreed and the request will be included in the annual budget for the voters to approve at Town Meeting. We hope you will support the efforts to make this program sustainable and successful. If you have talents or skills that you would like to offer to this work, please contact one of the committee members listed below.

We invite you to attend a Committee meeting, which are held on the 1st and 3rd Friday of the month at 4pm in the second floor meeting room at the Town Office. If you have questions about our work or the request for staff hours, please contact one of the Committee members.

Committee members: George Christopher (chair), Theresa Turgeon, Linda Jariz, Gracia Woodward, Kathy Pszczolkowski, Martha Cushing, Jeanine Beaudoin, Peggy Muir, Bob Curtis and Patricia Oh (advisory).

ACE Team for Bham?

By Brad Foley

An Active Community Environment Team is where people of all ages and abilities have the opportunity to live, work, and play in a safe and inviting place which enables physically active recreation and transportation, particularly walking and biking. In order for this to happen in Bowdoinham, we must support and promote physical activity for all people by having safe sidewalks, safe roads for biking, multi-use paths and trails, parks and open spaces along with facilities for recreation. It's an exciting time as Bowdoinham has gained momentum in many of these areas already. To be able to continue these efforts, Bowdoinham is looking to form an ACE Team and we need volunteers. As the Town's Comprehensive Plan comes together, there are many aspects of the plan that will need support and direction in order to implement. The ACE Team will use that plan to advise policy makers and planners, supporting and enhancing community designs that encourage all citizens to be physically active in their daily lives. If you are interested, please contact Nicole Briand at ndbriand@bowdoinham.com or 666-5531. We plan on meeting monthly starting in September.

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Plumbing Tip

Did your pipes freeze this winter?

If your answer is yes, then summer is the time to figure out why and solve the problem. It may mean insulating foundation walls, caulking holes, insulating windows, moving pipes or a myriad of other solutions. Opening cabinet doors and leaving water running are only short term solutions not an end to the problem. In fact by leaving your water dripping it is possible for your drains to freeze, which can be a much bigger problem to rectify.

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THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

Town Budget Update

By William Post, Town Manager

The Finance Advisory Committee finished reviewing and revising the Town Manager's proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2015 (July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015) on April 3rd. The budget was then presented to the Select Board on April 22nd. The next step in the process is a public hearing on the proposed budget and other town meeting warrant articles on May 6th at 5:30pm at the Coombs Municipal Building, Kendall Meeting Room.

The Town's proposed budget shows a very small increase of \$18,188 or 1.18% from the current year. The department heads and Town Manager made a concerted effort to keep the expenses as low as possible while maintaining the level of services that the town expects. Several departmental budgets show a decrease from the current year.

The Administration budget, while only

showing a small increase of \$4,489, or 1.2%, contains two changes in staff. The assessing clerk retired and the Manager chose to eliminate that position, and replaced it with a staff position that will work with the Advisory Committee on Aging. This position is budgeted for ten hours per week.

New to the budget this year are requests from two Community Service Agencies: the Bowdoinham Community Development Initiative (BCDI) and the Merrymeeting Arts Center. Both organizations have requested \$5,000 in funding from the Town. These requests will be placed in individual articles on the Town Meeting Warrant with recommendations from the Finance Advisory Committee and Select Board.

Revenues from sources other than property taxes are expected to increase by \$22,542 or 3.34%, helping to offset the small increase in expenses. Thanks to the State Legislature, revenue sharing will "only" see a reduction of \$10,940 in

FY15, instead of a much more drastic cut that was approved as part of the state's biennial budget last year. The current legislature approved a bill that restored the future reduction.

The Annual Town Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 11, 2014 at the Bowdoinham Community School at 7:00pm. The Select Board is scheduled to finalize the Town Meeting Warrant on Tuesday, May 6, 2014 in their regular meeting room.

Election

Primary and MSAD #75 Budget Referendum Election

Tuesday, June 10, 2014
8am - 8pm

Bowdoinham Town Hall
13 School Street

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Proposed Comprehensive Plan

By Cyndie Lamoreau, Committee Chair

The Bowdoinham Comprehensive Plan is complete and ready for your vote at our Annual Town Meeting, June 11, 2014.

We heard you! Collecting your input and data over the course of 3.5 years, we held 38 committee meetings and 17 public forums. We didn't stop there. We attended your committees and organizations to gather your thoughts and opinions as the plan was developed. We encourage you to review the plan, ask us for clarification and attend the final Public Forum on May 6, 2014 at 6:30pm in the Kendall Meeting Room (Select Board's Meeting Room). Following is contact information for the CPC members: Cyndie Lamoreau - 208-6133 or skelton1905@yahool.com, Joanne Joy - 446-6569 or joanne_joy@comcast.net, Heather Cox - 737-4688 or heatherwcox@gmail.com, Brad Foley - 666-3459 or bp-foley@hotmail.com, and Albert Stehle - 666-3493.

Proposed TIF District

By Nicole Briand

The Select Board has approved the proposed TIF District to go before voters at Town Meeting, June 11, 2014 at 7pm at the Bowdoinham Community School.

The new TIF District will include: a portion of CMP's property along Browns Point Road (where they are doing construction for their Maine Reliability Project); and the Town's waterfront properties (Maily Waterfront Park and Public Works property).

So what is a TIF District? A Tax Increment Financing (TIF) is a public economic development financing program, funded by the property taxes generated by the new value from a development project, in this case CMP's project. The tax revenues from the TIF district can be used for: Town economic development programs, Town events, marketing, creating a revolving loan fund, and skills development and training.

Why create a TIF District? Creating

a TIF District provides funding that is dedicated to economic development. The increased assessed value within the TIF District is "sheltered" from the Town's overall valuation, which is how the Town's share of county taxes, state revenue sharing and school budget are determined. Creating a TIF District allows the Town to capture up to 100% of the tax revenue on the increased assessed value. Whereas, if a TIF District wasn't created the Town would lose about 70% of that tax revenue to higher county and school bills and lower state revenue sharing.

The Town is NOT proposing to give any monies to CMP as a credit enhancement agreement. All tax funds from this proposed TIF district would be used by the municipality for economic development.

Thank you to Scott Benson, Senior Program Director for Midcoast Council of Governments for working with the Town to create this proposed TIF District.

For more information about this project, please contact Nicole Briand at 666-5531 or nbriand@bowdoinham.com.

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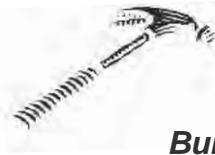
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THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

Community Calendar

May

2nd

14th Annual Rummage Sale, 5-7pm
Town Hall, 13 School St

Grange Benefit Sale, 5-7pm
Merrymeeting Grange, 27 Main St

3rd

14th Annual Rummage Sale, 9am-2pm
Town Hall, 13 School St

Grange Benefit Sale, 9am-2pm
Merrymeeting Grange, 27 Main St

6th

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

Public Hearing on Comprehensive Plan
Kendall Meeting Room, 6:30pm

10th

Open Studio Day

13th

Lawyers & Libraries, 3-6pm
Bowdoinham Public Library

17th

Plant Sale, 9am-4pm
Town Hall

28th

Author Talk - Marilyn Darnell, 7pm
Bowdoinham Public Library

June

1st

Mrs. Stahle's Retirement Party, 2-4pm
Bowdoinham Community School

6th

Food Pantry Celebration, 5-7pm
Maily Waterfront Park

7th

Bowdoinham Farmers' Market Opens
Merrymeeting Grange, 8:30am-12:30pm

Shipbuilding at the Landing, 10am-4pm
Maily Waterfront Park

8th

Shipbuilding at the Landing, 10am-4pm
Maily Waterfront Park

10th

Elections, 8am-8pm
Town Hall

11th

Town Meeting, 7pm
Bowdoinham Community School

20th

Annual Gala Fundraiser
Merrymeeting Arts Center

26th

Summer Concert, 6-8pm
Maily Waterfront Park

28th

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

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

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

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