
❖The Lamoine Quarterly❖

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Davis Elected

(Lamoine) — With a higher than expected voter turnout, Richard Davis, Sr. was elected Selectman on November 4, 1997. He will serve out the term left vacant by the resignation of former Selectmen William Collier.

Davis collected 378 votes, or 94% of those cast at the election. A variety of write-in candidates each received but a handful. There was no one else on the ballot.

Mr. Davis returns to the Board of Selectmen after serving most of two terms in the 1990's. He has served the town between stints on the Selectmen as an alternate member of the Planning Board. Due to some possible conflicts of interest now that he holds the office of Selectmen, he may resign from the Planning Board.

Mr. Davis lives on Narrows Way with his wife Sheryl, the principal of the Lamoine School.

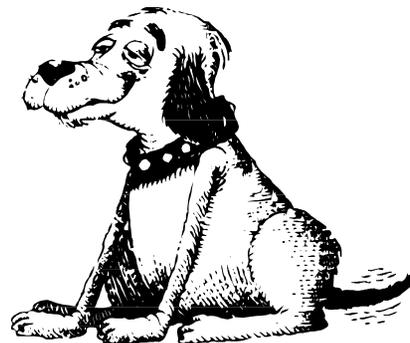
School Board, Teachers Near Settlement

(Lamoine) — After more than two years of increasingly difficult negotiations, the Lamoine School Committee and the school teachers have tentatively agreed to a new contract. The document may be signed in early January.

The frustration by both sides was evident in the fall of this year when teachers sported signs in their vehicles and wore upside-down smiley faces to class. A leaflet showing the time line of negotiations was handed out at the fall open house. The school board soon followed with an informational letter on where the negotiations stood.

The process of settling the contract took many turns. It started out with a mediation effort, which was rejected by the teachers union. The negotiations then entered a lengthy fact finding stage. It was at the release of the fact finding report to the two sides in the negotiations that the settlement was reached in a marathon bargaining session. The new pact covers the current school year. Work on the next contract has not yet begun, but is expected to get under way shortly.

Details of the new contract are not available until such time both parties ratify the document.



Time to Register your Dogs!

How the town voted on state issues

(Lamoine) — The outcome of the voting results statewide did not mirror the outcome in Lamoine. One of the big issues which drew voters was the Forestry Compact question, which lost statewide, and in Lamoine, but by a wider margin. Lamoine voters approved bond issues to pay for pollution cleanup, and road improvements but narrowly defeated a bond to make public buildings more accessible. All three bonds passed statewide. A constitutional change allowing certain mentally handicapped people to vote lost statewide, and was defeated in Lamoine. The question to widen the Maine turnpike was the closest in Lamoine, losing by just five votes. It passed on a statewide basis.

The Hancock County jail question passed rather handily in Lamoine, the margin was 311 for the new jail, and 200 opposed. The jail passed in most towns in the county, and will be constructed in the next couple of years. The bond will also mean improvements at the county courthouse to bring that building up to city codes.

Voter turnout in Lamoine was very impressive as well. Statewide, turnout was about 26%. In Lamoine, 513 people cast

(Lamoine) — If you have a dog, and you've not yet received a 1998 sticker for his registration tag, you are reminded to do so in January. State law requires that all dogs six months of age or older be registered with the Town Clerk.

The registration process is relatively simple. If your dog's rabies vaccination from the previous registration is still current, you simply show up at the town office and pay the appropriate fee to register, and you'll be issued a sticker. If the pooch has had a rabies vaccination

since the 1997 registration the clerk must see the new rabies certificate to issue the registration. If the dog has been neutered or spayed since the last registration, please bring in that certificate as well.

The cost is \$4.00 for neutered or spayed dogs. All other dogs, cost \$7.50. Late fees of \$3.00 per dog are charged after January 31, 1998. If the clerk issues a warrant for unlicensed dogs, an additional \$10 per dog is added to the charge. If you no longer have your dog, please inform the town office.

Voting Tabulations

| Question | Yes | No |
|-----------------|-----|-----|
| 1-Forestry | 184 | 325 |
| 2-Pollution Bnd | 314 | 186 |

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And Much More!

Gravel Pit Debated

(Action possible in January)

(Lamoine) — A controversial proposal to establish a gravel pit on Lamoine Beach Road (Route 184) went before the Lamoine Planning Board beginning in November. Applicant Reginald McDevitt proposes to establish a five acre pit which will be mined over the next ten years. When the gravel is removed, the area should be level with the road, and it can be sold as house lots.

Several abutting landowners showed up in opposition to the proposed pit at the December Planning Board meeting. The Board found that the application for the pit was incomplete. It is working with the applicant to spell out the needs for an acceptable application and subsequent operation.

One problem the board found was that the proposed area was clear-cut this past summer. That eliminated a buffer strip of trees between the proposed gravel removal operation and the adjoining property line, and eliminated natural screening from the road. The Planning Board has asked that vegetation be restored along the side line buffer strip. The Board



Mobile Home Park Ordinance Proposed

(Lamoine) — As part of the comprehensive plan, the Mobile Home Park Ordinance is being rewritten. A committee consisting of Charlie Major, Bob Sharkey and Terry Towne has devised a 7-page ordinance to address trailer parks. It's before the Selectmen who may choose to put the issue to town meeting in the Spring.

If adopted, the proposed ordinance will replace the current ordinance adopted in March, 1973. The proposed ordinance is 7 pages long, shorter than the present 8 page ordinance. If approved, it would require anyone proposing a mobile home park to acquire subdivision approval from the Planning Board. Trailer parks would be specifically banned from the Shoreland Zone, and over gravel deposits in the aquifer area.

Copies of the final draft are available for review at the town office.

Building Permits Issued

(Lamoine) — The following building permits were issued during the last quarter of 1997

| Permit Nbr | Name | Type |
|------------|----------------|-------------|
| 40 | Harry Bishop | Garage |
| 41 | Bangor Hydro | Entrance |
| 42 | John Alvarez | M o b i l e |
| 43 | Barry Muise | Barn |
| 44 | George Smith | Garage |
| 45 | James Day | Residence |
| 46 | Dorothy Harvey | Garage/Addn |
| 47 | James Tweedie | Rip-Rap |
| 48 | Helen Tracey | Shed |
| 49 | Mary Haslam | Garage |

Compost Storage Studied

(Lamoine) — Much time and energy has been spent in the past few months studying the issue of storage of compost in one of Lamoine's licensed gravel pits. A complaint was made by resident Robert Alvarez that such material should not be

has also asked that a screen be established between the digging and Lamoine Beach Road. The screen is proposed to be a vegetated earthen berm. The board has also requested a more detailed restoration plan from the applicant. Issues surrounding access points to the pit must also be addressed. If approved, the pit must be screened from the highway and buffered from the neighbors according to the gravel ordinance.

The Board has met on several occasions with the applicant to attempt to work out a plan which will suit the ordinance and objections from abutters. The next meeting will take place during the regular Planning Board meeting on Tuesday, January 6, 1997 at 7:00 PM at the

Some Driveways need Planning Board OK

(Lamoine) — The town's shoreland zoning ordinance requires that the Planning Board approve any driveways constructed within the Shoreland Zone. A few inquiries were made at the town office in December regarding the process. One such driveway was requested last summer and approved by the board.

The fee structure requires \$100 for the application. The resource protection area does not allow driveways.

Ten lot sub-division approved on Walker Road

(Lamoine) — The Planning Board gave unanimous approval to a ten-unit subdivision for residential homes on the Walker Road. The land on the west side of the road leads southerly starting at the Mill Road.

The subdivision was proposed by landowner T. Marie Pantani of New York. The plans were presented to the Planning Board by Ellsworth Engineer Andrew McCullough. An initial study identified many possible wetland areas along the property, but a subsequent site visit by the engineer and planning board members found that in error, so more buildable locations were identified.

Mr. McCullough said the lots would be competitively priced, though at printing time they had not gone on the market. This is the 2nd sub-division approved in the area in the last few years, indicating that part of the center of town is a potential high growth area. So far just one home has been constructed in that 4-unit sub-division.

Some concern was expressed at the hearing about the potential impact on the

allowed in the gravel pits because of its potential to pollute the underground water supply. The compost in question is produced by the City of Old Town, and uses sludge from its sewage treatment plant.

The original complaint in August was that raw sewage was being dumped into the pit. A quick investigation by the Code Enforcement Officer found it was not sewage, but the compost. The question then was asked if that was allowed under the Gravel Ordinance and the Waste Disposal Ordinance.

The CEO and Selectmen determined that to be banned under the Gravel Ordinance, the material must be shown to be harmful to groundwater. A couple of letters to the Department of Environmental Protection have asked that. The answer was that it did not appear to be harmful in the way it's being stored at this time, but the town ought to monitor wells around the pit for elevated nitrate levels. Compost is not defined as a waste in state statute or local ordinance, and is therefore not banned for storage under the waste disposal ordinance.

The pit operator uses the compost to mix with sand from the pit to make a topsoil type product which is rich in nutrients. A Planning Board subcommittee continues to study the situation and its possible effects on groundwater sources. A

Early Snows mean slippery roads, other dangers



A tree across the road on Raccoon Cove Road December 6th was removed with the help of neighbors Ralph Pinkham and Christopher Norris.

(Lamoine) — Though winter didn't start until December 21st, winter weather hit quickly and didn't let up for much of the late fall. The first storm of the season hit in Mid-November and was followed by a quick succession of small snow storms, and extremely cold weather.

The storms produced some slippery driving, and downed power lines. A few minor accidents were reported during the first few storms, mostly caused by drivers not yet used to winter conditions. No



Eagle Point now habitat area for Eagles

(Augusta) — The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife has declared part of the Eagle Point Subdivision an essential habitat area for bald eagles. A nesting pair on an island in Kilkenney Cove prompted the designation.

The declaration affects at least four pieces of property in Lamoine. The town office has been in contact with the landowners, and sent them the information forwarded by the Fish and Wildlife Department.

The biggest change for the landowners will come if they wish to construct a building in the eagle habitat area. Before the town can issue a building or shorelands permit, a fish and wildlife biologist must study the project and the area to make sure the proposed building will not endanger the eagles. The landowners are also encouraged to contact a biologist to determine which part of their land is in the protected area. Building activity could be limited, especially between February and August. The largest encroachment on Lamoine land from the shore is approximately 750-feet. The site is one of eight designated in the area.

Appeal of non-appeal heard by Board

(Lamoine) — Town government is a continual learning process, especially for Boards of Selectmen. A small, handicapped accessible entrance at the Bangor Hydro Electric Service Center on Jordan River Road caused lots of paperwork, mail, and research.

The company said it was required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to construct the entrance. However, the location put the building too close to Jordan River Road to meet the setbacks required in the Building and Land Use Codes. Initially, the Code Enforcement Officer denied the permit application because of the setback violation. The company sought a hearing before the appeals board.

A check with the attorneys at Maine Municipal Association by the CEO determined that possibly that decision was flawed. She advised the Selectmen the town could be held liable under the ADA for denial of the permit. The Selectmen gave her permission to issue the permit, based on the legal advice, and the appeals hearing was cancelled, the permit issued, and construction started.

serious injuries were reported.

This is the first year of a new five year contract with Richard King, Inc. to plow the roads in Lamoine and Trenton. The company has held the contract for the previous three years and is well familiar with the town roads.

Improvements made during the summer should help alleviate some trouble spots during the winter. Drifting snow generated the biggest problems, especially in the Pinkham's Flats area (Route 204.)

Forestry Ordinance Possible

(Lamoine) — Part of the comprehensive plan calls for study of a forestry ordinance in town. Several sample ordinances were sent to the Selectmen by the Hancock County Planning Commission. An ordinance from Liberty may be looked at closely, as it simply requires that anyone cutting notify the Code Enforcement Officer and follow state laws.

Residents request lower speed limit

(Lamoine) — The Selectmen have asked the Department of Transportation to approve a lower speed limit on Birchlawn Drive. The residential subdivision off Buttermilk Road has no posted limit, so presumably cars can legally travel 45 miles per hour on the densely populated road. A resident wrote to the Board of Selectmen requesting the lowered limit. The Selectmen felt, given the density of the neighborhood, that it would be wise to seek a lowered limit.

The town is powerless to set speed limits according to state law. The Maine Department of Transportation and the Chief of the State Police must set the speed limit, even on town owned and maintained roads.

A similar request to lower the limit on Route 184 near the Lamoine General Store was granted last Spring. It's not known how long it will take the MDOT to lower the limit on Birchlawn Drive.

The neighborhood's request noted that it would be highly impractical for a vehicle to reach 45 miles per hour on any section of the road. The paved stretch is only 4-tenths of a mile long, but contains approximately 20 homes.

If the speed limit is lowered, enforcement is the next issue. The town will contact the State Police and the Hancock County Sheriff's Department to ask about stepped up speed enforcement once the lower limit is approved.

Appeals Board member, and deputy CEO Terry Towne then filed an appeal of the permit's issuance on the basis that the Planning Board should have issued the permit, not the Code Enforcement Officer. The building code is quite specific that any commercial buildings must be approved by the Planning Board.

The Appeals Board met with Mr. Towne (who abstained from the proceedings as a member of the board). He explained that he was not upset that the company was allowed to build the entrance, but that the proper procedure had not been followed.

The Board found that because Mr. Towne was not an abutting property owner, and he had not gathered four other appellants, he did not have proper standing in the case to bring an appeal. At the same time, the board also discussed how the process should work, and wrote to the Selectmen advising that commercial building projects should be handled by the Planning Board.

Mr. Towne also met with the Selectmen and explained that ADA issues have started to arise in many communities. He said the proper way to handle such cases is to deny the building permit because of the local ordinance, and then refer it to the Board of Appeals which should properly issue the permit. The Selectmen thanked him for the input.

Town loses a real treasure in Betty Harding

(Lamoine) — Depending on how you first came to know her, Betty Harding was either the lost and found lady, the tea party lady, or the voter registration lady. No matter who you were, though, the lasting impression of Betty was that she was possibly the most pleasant person you had ever met. Betty died on Veteran's Day following a sudden heart attack a few days earlier. She was 67.

Betty worked for 27-years in various capacities at the Lamoine Consolidated School. If someone found a piece of clothing left behind, Betty would make sure it got into the lost and found pile, but it would be clean before it was put there. Scrapes and boo-boos, tears and laughter, little ones and big teachers, she handled it all at the school.

Betty was also well known for her tea parties with friends and family. Her grandchildren remembered them fondly in a touching tribute at her funeral.

To the town, Betty was our Registrar of Voters, carefully guarding the voter cards and constantly updating the list. She was also a good friend, always ready with a story of what her children and



Dartha Reid and her mother, Dorothy Warriner, prepare the mailing to find out needs of Lamoine Residents over 55 years

Opinions & Facts sought by committee

(Lamoine) — The new Housing and Elderly Needs Committee has mailed a survey to households with voters who are over 55 years old. The committee is attempting to find out what the needs of the older population of Lamoine might be, and if there are any appropriate ways for town government to respond to those needs.

The survey asks questions regarding housing, driving, shopping, companionship, health care, and existing program availability. The questions were mailed in early December, and are due back by the

Unusually Quiet Autumn for fire department

(Lamoine) — No fire calls were received by the Lamoine Fire Department this fall, although a few other type of response calls were received.

In early November, the department responded to the drowning on Walker Road (see related article, this page). Firefighter Joseph Young, Jr. assisted with the CPR efforts, and Assistant Chief Stu Marckoon drove the ambulance to the hospital.

Early the next morning, the fire department was called to an automobile accident on Partridge Cove Road (Route 204). A teen-age driver apparently fell asleep at the wheel and ran into a utility pole, snapping the pole in two. She escaped with minor injuries, despite the fact the pole fell on top of her car. Firefighters assisted with traffic control (there wasn't any at 2:00 AM), and with Bangor Hydro's effort to remove the pole and vehicle.

Minor injury accidents on Buttermilk Road and Douglas Highway brought out firefighters to assist with traffic control. And the fire chief assisted Ellsworth's Fire Department with a vehicle fire on the Ellsworth side of Douglas

Lamoine man drowns on Walker Road

(Lamoine) — The Maine Warden Service reports that George “Wes” Carr drowned after suffering an apparent heart attack at a trout pond in front of his home on Walker Road on November 5, 1997.

Mr. Carr was found by a daughter who called County Ambulance. The ambulance crew and volunteer firefighters attempted to revive him for several hours, as did doctors at Maine Coast Memorial Hospital.

Investigators say it appears he was feeding the fish in the small pond when he suffered the fatal heart attack. There was fish food near him when he was discovered.

Mr. Carr was an estimator for a local contracting corporation. He had lived on the corner of Walker and Mill Road for several years. His passing preceded his wife, Jodie, who died five days later following a lengthy illness. They are survived by three daughters, including Rachel Budwine who lives a short distance from their home on the Walker Road.

end of the month. The initial response rate has been very good, with approximately 50 surveys returned in less than a week. Approximately 220 surveys were mailed out.

Once the surveys are tabulated, the committee will be better able to gauge the needs of the over 55 population in Lamoine and suggest possible ideas to deal with the issues to the Town Meeting.

Members of the committee include Tammy Dickey (chair), Nancy Ford, and Dartha Reid. In addition to looking at the elderly needs, the committee also plans to

Fire Dept. Supper another success

(Lamoine) — The annual fire fighter’s supper was held in late October, and was another rousing success as a fund raiser and community gathering event. The department raised about \$1,500 from the supper, and served approximately 300 people a complete clam chowder dinner.

Chef Albert Herrick was rewarded a few weeks later by the fire department on his 73rd birthday. The firefighters voted to make Albert a lifetime member. It was to have been a surprise supper, and nearly was, but the substitute chef had to call Albert for help on the chowder recipe.

Benefit supper aids Lamoine family

(Lamoine) — A spaghetti dinner brought people by the hundreds to the Lamoine Consolidated school to help the Gordon McIntyre family. Mr. McIntyre is still undergoing treatment for brain cancer, and is unable to work. His parents and in-laws both live in Lamoine.

Several organizations helped serve the dinner at the school. Over a thousand dollars was raised by the dinner.

Underground power entrances approved

(Lamoine) — A pair of requests to run electric lines under town rights-of-way were approved by the Board of Selectmen in recent months. The requests, through Bangor Hydro Electric Company, came from John DesJardins on Walker Road, and Fred Hutchinson on Lorimer Road. The utility needs permission from the town to place the cable in the right-of-way.

The Selectmen granted permission in both cases provided the cable area is flagged and operation Dig-Safe is notified of the underground placement should any road work be done in those areas.

Budget Work nears completion

(Lamoine) — With town meeting still three months away, the Lamoine Budget Committee has been hard at work reviewing preliminary budgets submitted. The largest portion of the budget, the education expenditures, has not yet been submitted, and will be reviewed in January.

The initial proposal on the non-school and non-county portion of the budget shows an approximate decrease of \$70,000. Much of that is attributable to no portable classroom project for the coming year, and the lack of need to buy out a gravel agreement. Those two items in last year's budget totalled over \$102,000.

Thanks to the decrease, and steadily increasing revenues in excise taxes and interest, the non-school, non-county portion of the budget could be funded entirely without property taxes! An initial proposal to help further reduce the reliance on property tax would use \$90,000 of the town's surplus which stood at slightly over \$397,000 on June 30th. The town appropriated \$76,000 in surplus use for the current year.

In February, the budget committee will make its recommendations to the town meeting, and they will be printed in the town report.



Another festive season in Lamoine

(Lamoine) — Some of the brightest holiday light scenes in all of Eastern Maine were right in Lamoine, again. The King of them all is Richard King, Inc. on Douglas Highway (Route 184) with over 60,000 bulbs creating a glow in the December skies. It's literally a traffic stopper.

Not to be outdone, though, is the Cal Smith/Mima Grindle residence on Asa's Lane. This display has grown in candle power in the last few years, and is a must see on a light tour of the area. Not far up Asa's Lane, James Curtis has an extremely impressive display in the front of his home facing Blunt's Pond.

Others in town with nice light displays included Richard and Connie Wallace, Charles & Lynda Gray, and Bill & Amelia Pinkham on Buttermilk Road, and David & Victoria Smallidge on

Town Meeting planned for April 17th & 18th

(Lamoine) — The annual town meeting to elect the municipal officers and decide the budget and other pressing issues of the town will take place on Friday, April 17, 1998 and Saturday April 18, 1997. Last year, the town report included a survey on when people would like to hold the annual town meeting. Very few surveys were returned, so no significance could be put on the results. Attendance at last year's town meeting in mid-April was very good, so the Selectmen felt similar timing would be appropriate. It also falls on the Patriot's Day holiday weekend.

Voters will elect a Selectman, two school committee members, a town clerk and tax collector, and two members of the board of assessors. Nomination papers will be available February 1, 1998 and must be returned with at least 25 signatures and no more than 75 signatures by March 13, 1998 to be on the April 17, 1998 ballot.

Selectman Arthur Alley's term expires at the next town meeting. School Board members Richard King and Steve McMullen will also come to the end of their terms. Town Clerk and Tax Collector Barbara Bartosenski will retire at the end of

Portable Classroom Work Completed

(Lamoine) — Work on the new Portable Classroom at the Lamoine Consolidated School was completed with the installation of three air exchangers in October. The school reports the classroom meets their needs and the quality of the construction was quite satisfactory.

The Selectmen and contractor Bill Walker have been negotiating final payments during the last quarter of the year. A fourth air exchanger was specified, and that was delivered to the town office in late November, and is stored in the basement for future use. It was not needed at this time in the classroom because one room is configured into a large classroom.

The project saw some extra costs for installation of propane and electrical components due to being moved from the front of the school to the rear. Those costs will be paid by the town. An additional railing for a handicapped accessible ramp and other minor additions to the project cost \$1,000. A small buffer was built into the budget to take care of any over-runs.

The final payment will come once the site-work bill is received by the contractor. Some savings may be realized then.

Planning Board reviews land use ordinance

(Lamoine) — When the Planning Board isn't tackling gravel pits and subdivisions, it's hard at work on revisions to the Land Use and Building Ordinance. The changes are dictated by the Comprehensive Plan adopted in 1996. The plan calls for changes to be proposed to Town Meeting in 1998, so time has started to become a factor.

One of the big issues will be zoning. While it's not as restrictive as many surrounding towns, it's somewhat new to Lamoine. We've had a Shoreland Zoning with 3 or 4 sub-zones for many years now, but the inland areas have not been zoned. If approved, the new ordinance will have a commercial zone and a residential zone in addition to the rural/agricultural zone. Most of the town will fall into the latter category.

The format of the current building code will stay pretty well intact. Additionally, the Planning Board is working on a Site Plan Review code which won't be ready for this Spring. A similarly named code was rejected in 1996. The new site plan review is in a draft stage.

her current term, and the town will need someone to fill her position. Anyone interested in finding out what the job entails is encouraged to inquire at the town office. The term of Assessor Jane Fowler ends and the unexpired term of Joan Bragdon will appear on the ballot as well.

Be prepared as well for some referenda questions. One is likely to involve the issue of assessing (see article next page) and the future of the Board of Assessors. The Planning Board is working on some major ordinance changes to comply with the comprehensive plan. This may include a new land use and building ordinance, will definitely include a new Mobile Home Park ordinance (see page 2), and other possible ordinances. In recent years, the Selectmen have felt that a referendum on major ordinance changes is the proper way to settle things. It allows for more town input at the voting booth. Public hearings on all referenda questions will be held at least ten days before the town meeting. The discussion from those public hearings will be available to review before election day.

During the open town meeting, the annual budget expenditures will be set. The Selectmen are also contemplating other issues for open town meeting, including the sale of land the town owns off Shore Road and Lamoine Beach Road. More details about town meeting will be in



More
new

Lamoiners

(Lamoine) — Since our last issue, we've had some more new faces arrive in town.

Ryan Raymond Allain was born on September 14, 1997 to Ryan and Jill Allain. Dad is frequently heard on the radio and television, as a public affairs officer with the Coast Guard in Southwest Harbor. The Allains rent on Lumberjack Lane.

Whitney Peyton Watson was born October 13, 1997 to Scott and Julie Watson. Dad works for Able Marine, and mom expects to return to work soon at the Eagle's Lodge. Whitney has a big brother named Logan who starts school next year. They live on Partridge Cove Road.

Jared Roger Brown arrived on November 22, 1997, the son of Paul and Karen Brown. The Browns live on Jordan River Road. Dad owns the Pizza Place in Ellsworth. Jared has a brother and a sister who attend Ellsworth High School. Mom and Dad have added another bedroom in the house to accommodate the larger

Selectmen explore new opportunities in Tax Assessment

(Lamoine) — For many years, few people have actively sought the elected position of tax assessors. In the past three years, two of the elections saw no one take out papers. The two assessors remaining on the Board of Assessors were elected by write-in campaign. While there is no problem with a write-in candidate winning the post, the Selectmen are concerned there will come a day when no one will run and be willing to serve this very important town function.

With that concern in mind, and the need for continued high quality in tax assessment, the Selectmen are exploring possibilities of hiring out the bulk of the assessing work. In January, the Selectmen will hold a workshop meeting with the current assessors and Bob Duplisea, who has acted as the town's appraiser for many years. Mr. Duplisea has offered the town his company's services to act as an assessing agent for Lamoine.

Several other towns in our area employ part time assessor's agents and report good success. A few towns in Hancock County employ full time assessors on the municipal government staff, and some share the function of Code Enforcement Officer with the assessing function. The Selectmen wish to study the assessing agent arrangement further.

In December, the Selectmen and the current assessors met to initial discuss their concerns. Jane Fowler, the current chairman of the Board of Assessors said she feels the board can function adequately under the present arrangement. She said the mapping of property splits has been taken over by S.E. Downey, which will include that function in the tax mapping process. She said that has taken a big burden off the current board, and makes the job much more attractive.

Both the Selectmen and assessors agree that a quarter review should be done starting in the 1998/99 fiscal year. This process would update the property records as appraisers would review 25% of the town each year for four years. When it comes time to place new values on Lamoine, the data to work with will be quite current, at the most, 4-years old. That will significantly cut down on the cost of a revaluation.

Should the change to assessor's agent be recommended by the Selectmen, it will ultimately be put before the town meeting in April. Among the options are to include the Board of Assessors function with the job description of Selectmen, or continue to elect assessors to oversee an agent.



Weddings galore in Fall of the year!

(Lamoine) — The fall has been a very busy time for marriage licenses in the town office. Congratulations to all the couples who exchanged their vows this fall and winter.

Peter McDevitt and Tracey Rice were married on October 11, 1997 in Ellsworth. Mr. McDevitt works for the Maine Department of Transportation and has his own business doing various jobs. The bride is a hair stylist. They make their home on the Shore Road.

Vincent Moyer and Deborah Ashmore had their wedding in Lamoine on October 18, 1997. Debbie is a native of Lamoine, growing up on Clamshell Alley and graduating a few years ago from Mount Desert Island High School.

John Gilpin and Lynn Smith were married on October 29, 1997 in Tremont. They rent a home on Douglas Highway. He works for the Maine Shellfish Company in Ellsworth.

Lewis Abbot and Christina Tracey were married on the 16th of

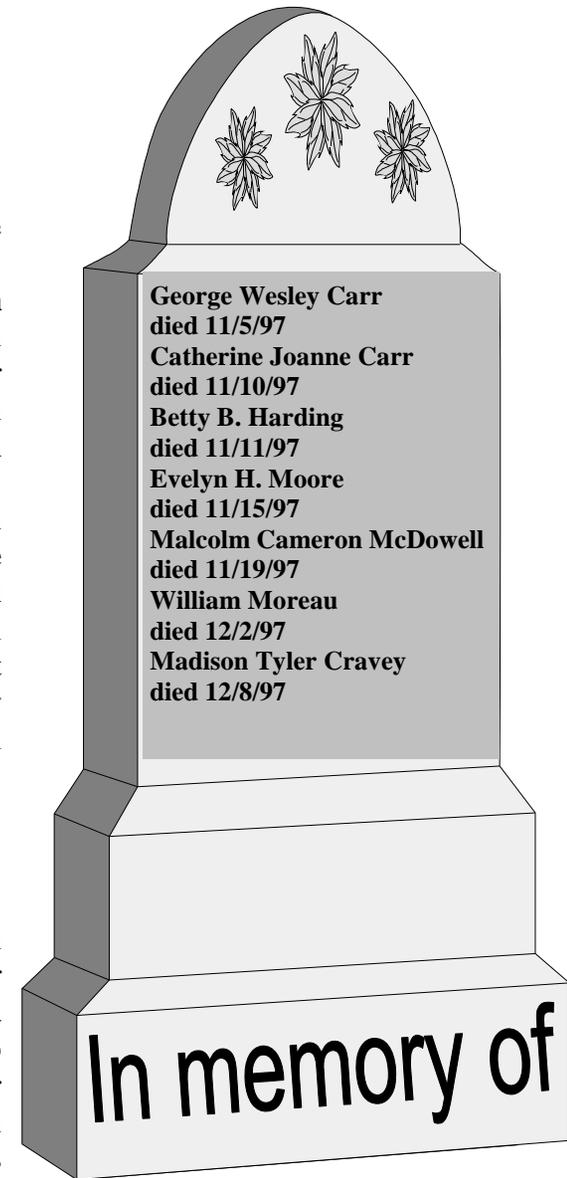
November in Ellsworth. The young couple makes their home on Lamoine Beach Road.

Brian Dyer and Lisa Hodgdon were married on the 29th of November in Ellsworth. Basketball fans will remember Lisa as the star player for the Eastern Maine Championship team at Ellsworth High School a few years ago.

Our newest newlyweds have known each other for many decades. **Leurene and Harlan Hodgkins** became husband and wife on December 13th in a civil ceremony. Both were widowed in the past couple years. They found they immensely enjoy each other's company. They'll reside on Lamoine Beach Road.

Assessor resigns

(Lamoine) — Assessor Joan Bragdon resigned from the board in order to care for her husband who's recuperating from a serious illness. She donated her pay to projects at Lamoine Beach Park. Her position will be filled at the regular town meeting next April. The town will miss



George Wesley Carr
died 11/5/97
Catherine Joanne Carr
died 11/10/97
Betty B. Harding
died 11/11/97
Evelyn H. Moore
died 11/15/97
Malcolm Cameron McDowell
died 11/19/97
William Moreau
died 12/2/97
Madison Tyler Cravey
died 12/8/97

In memory of

Patrons of the Arts active in School

by Kathy Stanley

(Lamoine) — The students of the Lamoine Consolidated School are fortunate to have a group of parents, teachers, and community members who are actively supporting the visual and performing arts in their school. This small group (a branch of the Lamoine PATRONS) has been active within the school for the past three years. Their primary goal is to support the performing and creative arts in the grammar school by providing opportunities for the students to become actively involved and by bringing performances and visiting artists to the school. Some of the projects have included the entire School Union, and other have been exclusive to the Lamoine School. The group has raised money for these activities by auctions, craft sales, and raffles. The Maine Arts Commission has matched some of the money raised.

Last year, Amy Duym and June Sproule, both teachers at the school, were co-chairs of a union-wide performance held at Ellsworth High School. Seventy-five Lamoine students participated in Lamoine's segment, a performance of the Hungry Giants.

Grades K to 5 attended a performance of the Magic School bus at the Maine Center for the arts in Orono. Guest artists have included Antonio Rocho, a mime, Michael Wingfield and Cabildo, an

African drumming and dance group, and the Robinson Ballet. It is planned this year to again have a visiting artist. A cabaret of local talent was held in the winter of '96 and an amateur performance is again planned for February 7, 1998. A Young Author's Day for the spring is also in the works.

At this time, raffle tickets for a Polar Bear sculpted by Dan Falt and donated by the principal Sheryl Davis are being sold. This particular fund raiser is a union wide project and the money earned will go towards this year's visiting artist.

Participation in the Patrons of the Arts is open to anyone, whether or not they have a child in school. Contact people who are artists or know of artists in the area are most welcome. Amateur performers are welcome to participate in the February Cabaret. For information about the next meeting, please call the school at 667-

Voters pass PERC deal authority, split on school busing



Firefighters shuttle and pump water while a Seal Point Road building is razed.

Dangerous Building Removed

(Lamoine) — The need to remove a dangerous building and a desire to see if a lot of water could be moved to a remote location in town proved to be a beneficial need. In November, the Lamoine, Hancock, Trenton and Ellsworth Fire Departments set fire to an old home on Seal Point Road. The floors had collapsed, and the building was condemned by the Selectmen last summer.

Neila McIntyre gave permission to the fire department to use the old building for the training. The goal was to remove the building and demonstrate that at least 250 gallons per minute could be delivered to the scene.

Tanker trucks shuttled water from a dry hydrant on Davis Lane. The water was



A scene from "The Hungry Giants" performed during the Patrons of the Arts Union 92 plays last Spring.

Foreclosure Notices to be sent

(Lamoine) — In early January, notices of impending foreclosure will be sent to people who have not yet paid their 1995/96 property taxes. Liens were placed on the properties in August, 1996. Those liens automatically foreclose in February 1998. Under state law, notice must be given to those taxpayers at least 30-days prior to the foreclosure date.

Only a handful of taxpayers still owe on the liens. In the past few years, all taxpayers have settled up before foreclosure, and no change is expected this year. If a property forecloses, the town may sell it.

(Lamoine) — Voters gave the Selectmen authority to alter the trash disposal contracts with the Penobscot Energy Recovery Company (PERC) at the election in November. The move was sought by Selectmen as the incinerator's owners, a consortium of towns and cities including Lamoine, and Bangor Hydro Electric seek to re-finance the plant. By doing that, PERC can sell electricity to Bangor Hydro less expensively, and lower its debt payments. The Finance Authority of Maine is also in on the deal.

The extremely complex matter is still in negotiations. Lamoine hosted a meeting of area towns to seek further explanation of the matter. It appears to be in the best interest of all, as trash disposal

Transportation Still Up in the air

(Lamoine) — With no clear mandate from the voters on whether to continue a busing contract or the purchase a fleet of busses and run them ourselves, the Lamoine School Committee is still debating the issue. The vote was 229 in favor of staying with contract busing, and 257 favoring running the fleet ourselves. Debate on the matter was quite informative during the public hearings prior to the November 4th vote. The current bus contract expires next

pumped from a deluge gun attached to engine 403, the 1958 American LaFrance. For an hour, the tankers dumped water in a portable tank, and when it was counted up, over 300 gallons per minute had been pumped on the scene.

It took about an hour for the house to completely burn, though it smoldered for a couple of days. Mrs. McIntyre has been asked to fill in the basement area to further enhance safety on the property.

Two other buildings condemned by the Selectmen remain standing, and further action will be taken to assure their removal. A fourth building was torn down on Douglas Highway during the condemnation

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If you have a different summer and

January Meeting Schedule - Town of Lamoine

1998

| <i>Sun</i> | <i>Mon</i> | <i>Tue</i> | <i>Wed</i> | <i>Thu</i> | <i>Fri</i> | <i>Sat</i> |
|------------|----------------------|----------------|------------|-----------------|------------|---|
| | | | | 1-Office | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5-6:30 School | 6-7:00 | 7 | 8-6:15 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12-6:30 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19-Office | 20-6:30 | 21 | 22-6:15 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31-Nomination Papers Available |

February Meeting Schedule — Town of Lamoine

1998

| <i>Sun</i> | <i>Mon</i> | <i>Tue</i> | <i>Wed</i> | <i>Thu</i> | <i>Fri</i> | <i>Sat</i> |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|------------|
| 1 | 2-6:30 School Board | 3-7:00 Planning Board | 4 | 5-6:15 Selectmen | 6 | 7 |
| <p><i>Other meetings will be held, consult town office for details. Check our website http://home.acadia.net/govt/lamoine</i></p> | | | | | | |

March
1998

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

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Sat

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|-----------|----------------------------|------------------------------|--|--------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|
| 1 | 2-6:30 School Board | 3-7:00 Planning Board | 4 | 5-6:15 Selectmen | 6 | 7 |
| | | | <i>E-mail us: lamoine@acadia.net</i> | | | |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13-Nomination Papers Due | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19-6:15 Selectmen | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

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