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# ◆ The Lamoine Quarterly ◆

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## Town Meeting Set for March 6th & 7th

(Lamoine) — The annual town meeting will be held on the first Tuesday and Wednesday of March in 2001. Selectmen set the town meeting date in late November. The Tuesday session will begin with voting for a moderator at 10:00 AM followed by secret ballot voting for town officers until 8:00 PM. The Wednesday portion is the open town meeting which begins at 6:00 PM at the Lamoine Consolidated School.

Nomination papers became available on December 11th and must be turned in to the Town Office by January 20th. Voters will select one Selectman, two School Committee members, and a Tax Assessor for three year terms. The Town Clerk/Tax Collector is elected for a one year term.

The incumbents are Selectman Arthur Alley, School Committee members Kathleen Stanley and Lori Boynton, Tax Assessor Jane Fowler, and Town Clerk/Tax Collector Hubene Brodie. Any registered voter can run for these offices, and will be listed on the

ballot provided at least 25 signatures of registered voters are presented by the nomination deadline.

The open town meeting agenda has yet to be finalized. Much of the meeting will focus on the budget. Unlike last year's town meeting which produced a spirited debate on whether the wording of budget questions should be left to the selectmen, this year's proposed warrant does not contain such procedural matters as of this writing. The warrant will be completed by mid-February.

There may be a referendum question on whether to adopt a Site Plan review ordinance, however the Planning Board has not yet completed work on that document. If a referendum is held, a public hearing needs to take place at least 10-days before the March 6th voting day.

The usual moderator, Harvey Kelley, is unable to oversee this year's meeting due to timing conflicts. The Selectmen have asked Fred Ehrlenbach to moderate this year's annual town meeting.

## Gravel Sale Proposed to Selectmen

(Lamoine) — A major cash infusion could come into the town coffers thanks to another proposed gravel purchase by Doug Gott & Sons, Inc. The same company purchased gravel from a strip of land to the northwest of the closed landfill, resulting in about \$90,000 in revenues to the town. The company has purchased a plot of land behind that strip and hopes to extend its gravel mining operation onto this land.

By purchasing the rest of the town gravel from the strip, Gott could maximize the return from the town land and its new purchase. The purchase from the town will allow Gott to use the back line of the purchased land as its slope.

Selectmen looked over the initial proposal enthusiastically in late November, noting that because the Gotts own both pieces of land adjacent to the town strip, they logically would be the only contractor that could successfully mine gravel on the narrow strip of land.

A final plan is expected for review

# Windstorm causes big problems in town

(Lamoine) — A storm packing near hurricane-force winds hit Lamoine on December 17th & 18th, bringing down countless trees on public and private lands. The storm was somewhat reminiscent of the ice storm in January 1998 in that it started with extremely warm temperatures, something unusual in December.

The first sign of trouble came late Sunday night when the Lamoine Fire Department was called to a report of a structure fire in Marlboro. It turned out to be an arcing power line spotted by a police officer across the river in Hancock.



**Just Missed!** This spruce tree came down on Meadow Point Road, narrowly missing the LeBlanc home. Others were not as fortunate.

A few hours later, the department was called out again to a burning tree on Asa's Lane. It took several hours for Bangor Hydro to clear that up, and power to the neighborhood was out for nearly a day and a half.

The hardest hit area was the Meadow Point subdivision. Residents were without power for well over 24-hours as a number of trees blew down near the Lamoine Beach area. Minor damage was reported to one home when a huge tree came down on its roof.

Another call to the fire department came from a Shore Road resident who's power was out and his cellar filled with water. The final call of the storm came on Douglas Highway near Artist's way as another tree came down over the power lines. Traffic was re-routed for about 3-hours as utility crews, the fire department, and neighbors cleaned up the mess. Meanwhile, the Road Commissioner cleaned up trees interfering with the travel way, and George Crawford and David Herrick cut and chipped up the largest problems on the local roads.

in early January. The Town and Gott would then have to apply to the Planning Board for permission to expand the existing pit operation to meet the new footprint.

## Donation Request Ordinance Passes

(Lamoine) — Voters in November narrowly approved the Ordinance Regarding Donation Requests. The measure was approved by a referendum vote of 411 to 382, a margin of 29-votes.

The ordinance provides specific guidance for the Selectmen to include requests from outside agencies in the town meeting warrant, providing such agencies with deadlines for submission and criteria the agency must meet for review by the budget committee.

The change had little impact on agencies that sought funding for the 2001/2002 budget. A few that were funded last year will not appear on this year's town meeting warrant because they either chose not to make application or did not submit the application by the November 30th deadline. Two requests exceeded the \$600 cap, and representatives who met with the budget committee say they understand they can only receive up to the maximum.

The Budget Committee met with the agencies in December, and will make a recommendation for town meeting.

# Lamoine Election Results - November 2000

(Lamoine) — Here are the official voting results from Lamoine in November, 2000.

## President of the United States

Bush/Cheney	428*
Gore/Lieberman	334
Nader/Laduke	64

(remainder had fewer than 5 votes each)

## US Senator

Mark Lawrence	239
Olympia Snowe	576*

## US Congress (Dist 2)

John Baldacci	570*
Richard Campbell	267

## Maine Senate (Dist. 5)

Jill Goldthwait	530*
Richard Hart	94
Sumner Lymburner	184

## Maine House (Dist. 132)

William Pinkham	521*
Patricia Wallace	307

## Register of Probate

Brent Gordon	381
Margaret Lunt	410*

## County Commissioner (Dist 3)

Dennis Damon	463*
Ben Worcestor	337

## Question 1 (Assisted Suicide)

Yes	469
No	352

## Question 2 (Forestry Initiative)

Yes	229
No	588*

## Question 3 (Video Lottery Machines)

Yes	272
No	588*

## Question 4 (Waterfront Assessments)

Yes	404
No	384*

## Question 5 (Voting Rights)

Yes	293
No	509*

## Question 6 (Sexual Orientation Rights)

Yes	407
No	406*

\*Indicates the winner of general election.

Lamoine's Turnout was about 75%, above the state average!

# Planning Board Member Resigns

(Lamoine) — The Board of Selectmen accepted with extreme regret the resignation of Planning Board Secretary Karen Eaton. She stepped down after the De-

lectman chair Glenn Crawford. She will be replaced by \_\_\_\_\_ who was appointed by the Selectmen at the end of November after a number of people ap-

# No Criminal Conduct, DA Rules

(Lamoine) — Hancock County District Attorney Michael Povich says no criminal conduct occurred in a confrontation between two tax assessors and between the husband of one assessor and an assessing board member. In a letter to Selectmen in mid-December, Mr. Povich said "it is clear that a feud exists between Terry Towne and Robert Sharkey".

The matter was referred to the DA's office after the Selectmen individually received a letter from Mr. Sharkey threatening that Mr. Towne would require hospitalization should Mr. Towne accost Mr. Sharkey's wife and Towne's fellow Assessing Board member Colene Sharkey. The Selectmen forwarded the letter to town attorney Tony Beardsley for advice on how to handle the matter. Mr. Towne asked the Selectmen to send the letter to the DA's office for investigation which was done in November.

Mr. Sharkey's letter was apparently prompted by a confrontation between Mr. Towne and Mrs. Sharkey at an assessor's meeting in September. Mr. Towne said he asked Mrs. Sharkey about a letter the town received from Mr. Sharkey stating the town's hired appraisers would not be allowed onto the Sharkey's property without first receiving permission. Mr. Towne ad-

ember 4th meeting citing personal and health reasons.

Mrs. Eaton has served for a number of years on the Planning Board as Secretary. She is also the mother of Se-

## Work Continues on Site Plan Review

(Lamoine) — The Planning Board has made some final edits on a Site Plan Review Ordinance, and the next step is a review by a professional planner prior to submission to voters.

The draft ordinance deals with any major project that might come before the town. It would give both the developers and the Planning Board tools to work with as projects are proposed in Lamoine. A similar ordinance was voted down a few years ago, but planners felt citizens were unfamiliar with the proposal.

Unresolved is who will review the draft ordinance. The Planning Board has gone over the proposal in very fine detail

## Building Code to Get Scrutiny

(Lamoine) — When the town revised the Building & Land Use Ordinance in 1999 a few things were overlooked. For instance, lots that have little public road frontage used to be able to locate buildings greater than 200-feet from the road and meet frontage requirements. That was left out of the new code, and may be clarified in January. CEO John Holdsworth is compiling a list of quirks to address. Town meeting will have to approve any changes to the code.

plied for the appointment.

There is also one opening on the Board of Appeals for an alternate member. Anyone interested in service should contact a Selectman or the town office.

with good input from town staff. There a heated debate between members about whether the Hancock County Planning Commission should conduct the review. Planner Don Cooper, who assisted the Comprehensive Planning Committee says he will look over the document and may offer his advice to the Planning Board. It is unclear whether the proposal will be ready for a town meeting vote in March.

## Gravel Pits Renewed

(Lamoine) — The Lamoine Planning Board renewed four gravel pit permits by Doug Gott & Sons, Inc. The renewals are

good for 3-years. During the hearing it was learned the pit inspection records were not available. The change in CEO's this spring apparently cause the oversight. The Board felt the pits probably met requirements based on past inspections, and approved the renewals.

mitted he raised his voice to Mrs. Sharkey during the initial incident.

Lt. James Willis of the Hancock County Sheriff's Department conducted the investigation and forwarded his findings to the DA's office.

Mr. Povich said "The matter does not call for prosecution, it calls for mediation". A copy of the report was sent to the involved parties urging them to settle the matter between themselves.

## Selectmen Pass on Bypass Proposal

(Lamoine) — The Selectmen voted to take no action on a request from the Town of Franklin's Board of Selectmen to support exploration of a by-pass for High Street in Ellsworth. Franklin Selectman Bruce Cater called the traffic tie ups during the summer months a serious impediment to public safety and convenience. He's written to the Maine Department of Transportation to urge the bypass and urged other towns to do the same.

The Lamoine Selectmen balked at the idea, as no specific proposal was endorsed by Mr. Carter's board. Selectmen fear any bypass could potentially impact Lamoine, spilling a lot of Bar Harbor bound traffic onto locally maintained roads. There was no immediate word whether other towns have signed on to the call for action.

## Aquaculture Lease Proposed

(Lamoine) — A Jonesport mussel raising company has proposed a modified lease in waters off Lamoine for its mussel farming operation. Ralph Smith, a 25-year veteran of mussel aquaculture, submitted a lease revision to the Department of Marine Resources (DMR) in October. Mr. Smith has seeded an area between Lamoine and Bar harbor, running parallel to the Shore Road for 14-years.

Mr. Smith submitted a new lease application based on the lease he's held.

*Ahh, the joy of being town clerk. On Election Day, clerk Hubene Brodie holds nearly 1-year old Cameron Grant while his mom casts her ballots. No dimpled "chads" in Lamoine, just dimpled babies. Cameron was very well behaved, and in 17 more years, he can vote too!.*



## Permit Issues Drop Slightly in 4th Quarter

(Lamoine) — The following building permits were issued in the last quarter of 2000:

00-51	Richard King	Sun Room
00-52	Kirk Barnes	Residence
00-53	Richard Linscott	Shed

He cultivates blue mussels on the ocean bottom that are subsequently harvested. The new lease will better reflect the area he's worked.

Each shorefront owner along the lease area was notified by Mr. Smith about his plans. The DMR will schedule a public hearing at some point in the next 6-months to a year to receive comment on the matter.

One abutting landowner contacted the town office via e-mail to express concern about the amount of mussel dragging in the area

## Dumping Complaint Resolved

(Lamoine) — The Maine Department of Environmental Protection will not take action on an anonymous complaint it received about a possible illegal dump site in Lamoine. The complainant alleged that a local carpenter was illegally disposing of shingles on a property in North Lamoine.

A check by the town's code enforcement officer found that building debris, including shingles, was stored on the land in question. The carpenter said the storage was temporary until such time as he could fill a dump truck and take a full load to the proper disposal facility in Southwest Harbor. That was accomplished a few days after the investigation, and the remaining clean wood waste was burned on site.

The DEP has very strict laws about waste disposal. A permit is required to operate a dumping area away from a construction site. Similarly, the town has an ordinance against dumping of materials generated off-site. Because of the immediate cooperation by the carpenter, neither the DEP nor the town has sought any penalties. The carpenter was advised of the local ordinance and he gave assurance that he would cooperate with the laws in the future.

<b>Per.#</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Type</b>			
00-46	Stanley Olencki	Pole Barn	00-54	Richard King	Guest Hme
00-47	Robert Schmidt	Garage	00-55	Lornie Smith	Residence
00-48	R. Weymouth	Garage	00-56	D. William Smith	Tool Shed
00-49	Steve Cowles	Residence	00-57	Alida Liberty	Residence
00-50	Jonathan Colby	Conversion	00-58	Steve Gardiner	Addition

## Automobile Graveyards Renewed

(Lamoine) — The four licensed automobile graveyards in Lamoine had renewal hearings at the last meeting of the calendar year by the Selectmen. They are owned by Barry Norris (Douglas Highway & Raccoon Cove Road lots), Clifton Bradford (Jordan River Road), and Re-

ginald McDevitt (Shore Road).

Permits are issued annually according to State laws. No complaints have been received on any of the junkyards in the past year. Anyone storing more than two non-serviceable vehicles requires a auto-graveyard permit.

## Blunt's Pond Shoreland Zone Clarified

(Lamoine) — When the town adopted its newest Shoreland Zoning Ordinance in 1993, the area around Blunt's Pond was zoned as limited residential. At about the same time, a sub-division was approved by the Planning Board on Walker Road, adjoining the pond.

The surveyor apparently used either an old Shoreland Zoning Map or a draft map from the Planning Board's work in progress, and identified the area around Blunt's Pond as Resource Protection. That eliminates all development within 250-feet of the pond.

A check on the official zoning

map on file with the Town Office shows no such zone around the pond any longer. Based on this official map that the Planning Board in December clarified that the area around Blunt's Pond is not in the Resource Protection Zone, but is indeed in the Limited Residential District. That means landowners can build within 100-feet of the shoreline on the popular swimming pond.

To date, two homes have been constructed in the sub-division, and one more is currently under construction this winter.

## HCPC Debate Sparks Possible Resignation

(Lamoine) — A debate over whether Lamoine should re-join the Hancock County Planning Commission (HCPC) prompted the abrupt resignation of Planning Board member Robert Sharkey in December. However, the resignation was not formally submitted to the Board of Selectmen, and no action has been taken.

At its December meeting, members debated whether supporting the county-wide planning organization was an idea they wished to support before the Budget Committee.

Mr. Sharkey moved not to join the HCPC, a position he's steadfastly held for many years. His motion failed on a 2-2 vote, following which Mr. Sharkey told his fellow board members he resigned. Because the motion was a negative motion, and no member moved to re-join the HCPC, the Planning Board apparently took no stand on the matter.

The verbal resignation was not followed by any formal written resignation to the Selectmen, who appoint Planning Board members. Until such time as a formal letter of resignation is received or Mr. Sharkey meets personally with the Selectmen, they do not consider the seat vacant.

## Proposed Budget Increases

(Lamoine) — The initial budget proposal for 2001/2002 forecasts a slight rise in expenditures, and a decrease in offsetting revenues. The bottom line is likely to mean a property tax increase next summer.

The Budget Committee has reviewed the non-education budgets in great detail, but has yet to make its recommendations to the town meeting. Those will be printed in the town report as part of the town meeting warrant.

The initial budget requests show increases of 6.9% for solid waste, 54% for support of the Ellsworth Library, 1% for administration, 27% for public safety, 21% for Parks & Recreation, 3% for Code Enforcement, 150% for planning, 5% for Road Maintenance, 20% for major road projects, and 22% for social services. The overall increase in the town budget is roughly 8%, but as stated earlier, the Budget Committee and Selectmen have not yet finalized that side of the budget.

## New Budget Committee Member Named

Among the possible increases in spending proposals are funding for contracted police patrols (\$5,000), paving a portion of Mill road (\$5,000 increase), and possibly rejoining the Hancock County Planning Commission (\$800). Equipment replacement at Lamoine Beach Park accounts for a \$1,000 increase, the Ellsworth Public Library has requested \$1,912 more than last year, and water monitoring at the old dump increases by \$1,000.

Not factored in yet are the Hancock County tax, which is likely to increase by 33%, and the school budget, which has not yet been formulated by the School Committee. That budget will be discussed on January 16th, and the finalization of the budget recommendations will take place in late January.

Also not factored in are revenues. Last year the town meeting voted to use \$100,000 from the surplus account. That much is not available this year, so revenues used to offset property taxes are projected to drop by 17%.

## School Committee, Budget Committee, Selectmen meet to set 2001/2002 Goals

## Selectmen Approve Mileage Rate Increase

(Lamoine) — The jump in the price of gasoline in recent months prompted a study of the mileage reimbursement rate paid to town employees who use their vehicles on the job.

A survey of towns around Maine and in Hancock County saw that Lamoine held the distinction of having the lowest mileage reimbursement of those communities responding at 22-cents per mile.

The average rate in Hancock County was 28-cents/mile, with the highest being the IRS approved rate of 32.5-cents per mile.

The Selectmen voted in December to increase the reimbursement rate to 26-cents/mile, or roughly an 18.2% increase. The change took place immediately upon approval by the Board of Selectmen to the amended mileage policy.

(Lamoine) — Robin Veysey was named to the Budget Committee by the Selectmen in November. Mrs. Veysey is a resident of Mill road, and will assume the alternate's post on the committee.

Linda Feury, the former alternate, has moved into a full-time slot on the budget committee.

The opening on the committee came when member Joe Young resigned. Mr. Young moved to New Hampshire due to a new job. The Selectmen honored Mr. Young for his many years of service to the town with a framed certificate.

## Selectmen Balk At On-line Information

(Lamoine) — Selectmen said they're hesitant about having assessing information from Lamoine being placed on the Internet. The request came from Ellsworth surveyor Kelly Bellis who wanted to place the information on his website.

The information in digital form is customarily supplied to local realtors who deal routinely with property values. The Selectmen who opposed taking the on-line plunge say they find the ease of retrieving potentially personal information to be needlessly intrusive.

(Lamoine) — The three major players in setting the town budget proposals before the voters met with each other prior to the budget season for the first time in years. All seemed to come away from the meeting with a feeling that it was a good give-and-take toward understanding what issues face the budget process.

The school committee said it is concerned about possibly replacing the septic system at the Lamoine Consolidated School. Chair Bonnie Marckoon said she would like to improve the quality of education with as little impact on the property tax as possible. She said in some cases, students are using 14-year old textbooks.

Principal Val Perkins said he would like to increase the amount of time the music teacher spends in the school. Special education costs were of great concern to the school committee. Mr. Perkins

## Did You Leave Gloves At The Town Hall?

(Lamoine) — The Lamoine Town Hall has a pair of red winter ladies gloves that were left behind by someone in September or October. Because it was so busy, the staff did not notice until well after the owner left. If these are your gloves, please come in and claim them by January 15th, or they will be discarded.

Another "find" at the town hall is

said money should also be set aside for future building needs by starting a school building fund.

The Budget Committee asked the school committee to submit its budget for review by January 5, 2001 and set the initial review meeting for January 16, 2001. They also asked for information to go behind the numbers from the school committee in order to get a better understanding of the school budget.

Mr. Perkins asked about the process to get funding for emergency purchases. The Selectmen said it would simply involve calling a special town meeting and if the emergency is well explained, the voters are likely to fund such an expenditure.

While no formal budget goal was set, all sides agreed that improvements to the school and maintaining a reasonable property tax rate need to be equally balanced.

a set of car keys that were turned in about a year ago. They've been hanging on the bulletin board for most of this time, with no one to claim them. The keys were found in the vicinity of 434 Lamoine Beach Road (near Asa's Lane). They will also be discarded by January 15th unless they are claimed.

## Lighting Up Lamoine

(Lamoine) — Before Thanksgiving Day, Dick King gathers friends and family to start running wires and checking the strands for his annual Christmas display. This year has been the most spectacular to date, quite likely the largest display in Eastern Maine, possibly the entire state.

King, who says he loves Christmas, considers this his gift to the community. People by the hundreds venture to his Douglas Highway business and home to see the lights of Christmas. It's always a work in progress. This year a star and sleigh with 8-lighted reindeer appeared the last week before Christmas. There were new Disney characters this year and most agree the themes are well planned.



### *A Winter Wonderland*

*Richard King added a few thousand more lights this winter to his ever popular display on Douglas Highway. The spectacle has become a major winter attraction to Lamoine*

King says he's had reports that pilots flying into the Hancock County Regional airport in Trenton will often circle for a landing once or twice to give passengers a birds eye view of the lights. He

Smith has a large display of lights set up. Though not as big, it's nearly as spectacular and very tasteful. King says he gave a picture of his display to one of the biggest beneficiaries — Bangor Hydro Electric!

says he'd like to see it from the air himself sometime.

According to an article in *The Ellsworth American* King has been setting up the light display since 1973 in a competition with a neighbor, and it's grown ever since. King's neighbors seem to take it well, as the Smart, Page and Payson families who live across the street all have smaller light displays up at the same time. Further down Route 184 at the corner of Lamoine Beach Road and Asa's Lane, Calvin

## Cable TV to Upgrade

(Lamoine) — Digital cable television is but a few years away for Lamoine and several other surrounding communities currently re-negotiating with Adelphia

## Computer Virus Infects Town Office

(Lamoine) — A computer virus that attached itself to incoming e-mail started to eat away at files on one computer at the Lamoine Town Hall in October. Thankfully, no data files were lost, and every-

labeled "I'm Sorry". Though the source of the e-mail was labeled with a local address, it's doubted it actually came from that sender.

Brett Jones of Ellsworth Computer

Communications. Representatives of the communities met in Lamoine in November to discuss the new technology that will be available when the contract is renewed by 2003.

Among the offerings will be dozens of new channels and an expanded basic and satellite package for a price slightly lower than the current rate. Also available will be high speed Internet access, taking away the need for a telephone line, and offering a link hundreds of times faster than current phone modems.

The system will be pretty much the same for all towns, but there are some options. The town has the right to ask for a franchise fee, which cable subscribers pay to the cable company, and is turned over to the town. Generally, communities use this fee for local cable channel services to broadcast school events, town board meetings and the like.

## LPD Gear Found

(Lamoine) — While poking through the basement, a cardboard box broke open this fall, and all the old Lamoine Police Department gear tumbled out. There are a few badges, but the clothing mostly disintegrated in the washing machine. A pair of working handcuffs with a key, a blue light, a siren, and a couple of night sticks were saved. The Lamoine Police Department ceased to exist in the 1980's after stringent training requirements.

thing was successfully backed up prior to wiping out the hard drive and starting over again.

The virus was in an attachment

was kind enough to rescue the machine and install a very up-to-date Anti-Virus program. The computer in the tax collector's office was not affected.

## Selectmen Adopt Emergency Plan

(Lamoine) — Lamoine's insurance carrier offers a good break for having written plans in place to deal with unlikely emergencies. To that end, the Selectmen have adopted such a plan for various town facilities. It spells out in writing what to do in case the town hall should catch fire, be robbed, or hit with a riot, among other things. Similar plans were developed for

the transfer station the two town parks, and the fire station.

The plan is mostly common sense, like mapping out the exits to the buildings and posting phone numbers to call in an emergency and the like. It will be incorporated into a new town policy manual that will be distributed to town employees and volunteers in early 2001.

## Landfill Water Tests Completed

(Lamoine) — The fall testing of the homes and wells around the old Lamoine landfill is finished, and the initial report was submitted to the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The results showed nothing unusual in either test, with very few categories going over recommended levels, and no hazardous categories close to exceeding the levels. Another round of tests will be done in the spring when water levels are higher. The state requires tests of the wells the DEP installed in 1999 to confirm whether the landfill cap is working.

## Desk Donated to New Museum

(Lamoine) — A desk some Lamoine residents probably used when they went to school at what is now the Town Office will likely be part of a display at the Maine Discovery Museum (formerly the Eastern Maine Children's Museum) that opens this winter in Bangor.

Display Concepts asked if the town had any old style desks available. A check of the basement found a bunch of them. One was dusted off and donated. Several others are at the historical society building and about a half dozen more remain in the Town Hall Cellar.

# Fire Department Busy Since Thanksgiving

(Lamoine) — The first structure fire in town in quite a while highlighted fire department responses for the last quarter of 2000. The December windstorm also provided a very busy period between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

On Thanksgiving Day, a Lamoine Beach Road resident reported an oven fire when the drippings from the turkey got too hot. She had the fire out when firefighters arrived. Around the corner a couple weeks later, an Asa's Lane resident lit the woodstove with a candle on top. The

glass container broke, and the wax melted filling the house with smoke. The fire department assisted with smoke ejection. Numerous auto accidents, including one in front of the light display at Richard King's, and another where a propane delivery truck lost a wheel also brought fire department responses. No injuries were reported in any of the wrecks.

The structure fire came in mid-December on Meadow Point Road at the Genevieve Gardner cottage which is undergoing renovations. Workers had lit a

fire in the fireplace. When it was built years ago, no air gap was put in between the firebox and a rock hearth, allowing the rocks to heat to the point they set the wall on fire. The workers were able to knock down the flames while firefighters dug the rest of the fire out of the walls. No one

was hurt.

The final call before Christmas came as a mutual aid request in Hancock to a house fire on the Austin Road. Ten members of Lamoine's department provided water and structural fire attack on the home that was destroyed in the blaze. An investigation by the fire marshal's office determined faulty wiring was to blame. The Kevin Page family was away on vacation at the time, and a fund was set up at Bar Harbor Banking & Trust to

## Police Patrol Discussed

(Lamoine) — The Selectmen and Budget Committee are wrestling with a possible increase in police presence in town. In the past year, the town office has received numerous requests for more patrols from the Sheriff's Department and State Police due to speeding complaints and increased numbers of burglaries.

The Selectmen wrote to both agencies to see how much a random, directed patrol in Lamoine might cost. A \$5,000 budget line to provide a 3-hour patrol per week from a Sheriff's Deputy was initially placed in the budget and the issue may have a separate question for discussion on the town meeting floor in March.



### ***A Real Barn Burner***

*The old green shingle barns were torn down in 1999 on Douglas Highway by owner Ron Simons who made a generous donation to the Lamoine Volunteer Fire Department which set fire to the debris in November. It was a huge fire, but burned quickly & completely.*

## Bangor Hydro Sale May Benefit Town

(Bangor) — The sale of Bangor Hydro Electric to Emera, Inc. has received initial approval from the Maine Public Utilities Commission, and several Maine towns, including Lamoine, should benefit. The towns that are charter communities with the PERC plant in Orrington, own stock warrants in Bangor Hydro which become cash over 7-years.

The municipal review committee which helps operate PERC estimates that the trash disposal cost will remain at \$45/ton for the charter communities for many years to come thanks to the windfall.

## New Circuit Planned

(Lamoine) — Bangor Hydro Electric has applied with the Maine DEP for wetlands permits to build a small circuit from the sub-station in Hancock to Douglas Highway in Lamoine. The new line will create a separate circuit for most of Lamoine, which should cut down on power outages. Lamoine is currently hooked to the same circuit that supplies High Street in Ellsworth, and any power interruption in the city will cut power to most of Lamoine as well. No word on when construction will start.

## Are You At Risk For Hypothermia

*By Cece Ohmart, Lamoine Health Officer*

(Lamoine) — My Dad always lowered the thermostat at night to 55 degrees to save on the heating bill. With oil and electricity prices so high this year, this practice is all the more tempting. Being too conservative can lead to hypothermia (body temperature <95 degrees), especially in older folks.

This temperature drop can occur in hours or days depending on the exposure. Older people are at higher risk because the regulatory systems by which they generate or conserve body heat may not work as efficiently as in younger persons.

Some medications including Ativan, Zanax, Haldol, Resperdal, and Catapres may inhibit the body's ability to regulate body temperature. Older people have less muscle mass needed for shivering (one way the body raises body temperature) and a thinner layer of fat to insulate themselves from the cold.

What can you do?

1. Keep an eye on elderly relatives and neighbors.
2. Know the signs of hypothermia
  - confusion
  - memory loss
  - clumsiness
  - irritability
  - poor judgment
  - sleepiness

- slow reactions
  - slurred speech
3. If you suspect hypothermia, make sure you shake the thermometer down before taking the person's temperature.
  4. Check with your doctor on the medications you are taking to see if they can contribute to hypothermia.
  5. Keep an elderly person's home at least 68 degrees, even at night.
  6. Dress in layers to trap body heat. Wear a hat inside or to bed.
  7. Do not drink alcohol to warm up.....it actually makes you lose body heat.

## Trees Trimmed

(Lamoine) — Trees along both sides of Seal Point Road and the lower end of Walker Road were trimmed this fall. Top Notch Tree Service performed the work for the town, and drew considerable praise from residents of both roads for their work.

The trimming paid off during the windstorm in December, as far fewer trees came down in the road than would have if they had not been cut earlier. More roads should see some trimming either next spring or summer depending on the crew's availability.

## Library Update

*By Marlane Rembold, Librarian*

(Lamoine) — The Lamoine Consolidated School Library has been busy spending the \$25,000 grant it received from The King Foundation. Don Harris has built new shelving which is holding many new books and the computer automation software has just been ordered. Please free to stop in and see the changes.

While you're in the Library, you may want to fill out a community card and check out a book. We would like the Library to belong to the community as a whole, not just the staff and students (although they take priority).

I am there Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays during school hours. There are wonderful volunteers who make the Library available Thursday and Friday mornings, as well. If the door is shut and the light is on I may be with a class, but if you promise to be quiet, come right on in.

## Strattons Celebrate 64th

(Lamoine) — Ashley & Ruth Stratton of Marlboro Beach Road celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary on December 8th.

## YMCA Proposes Greater Service to Lamoine

(Ellsworth) — The *James Russell Wiggins* Downeast Family YMCA has proposed to coordinate team sports for Lamoine's young people. They hope to start with basketball this winter. The "Y" will provide a staff member to help coordinate coaches and schedules, and foster volunteers for "Y" programs. No increase in the yearly town support was sought for the improved service.



***It's Never Too Early For Baseball!***  
*Members of the Lamoine Little League Team in the summer of 2000. In 2001 they'll be part of a different league. (Photo by Carleton Johnson)*

## Ballfield To Be Ready For Autumn

(Lamoine) — The new athletic field complex behind the Lamoine Consolidated School is nearly finished, but it has to grow before it's ready for sports. Ballfield Committee Chair Lori Boynton said the company that seeded the field suggests that no major activity take place on it until the grass has had a chance to dig some solid roots into the ground. By waiting, it should cut down on the maintenance needs of the field in coming years.

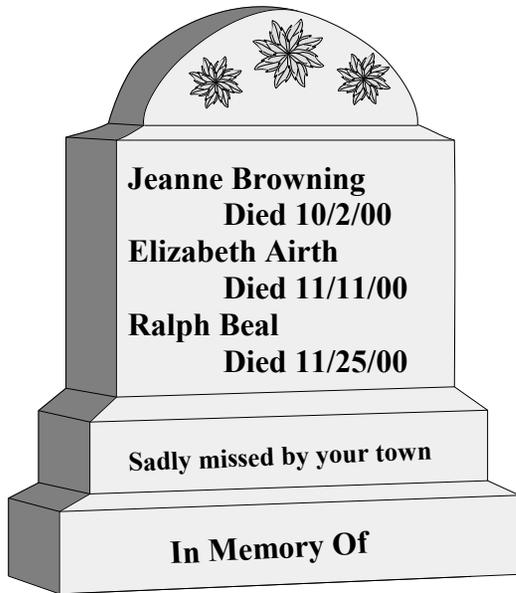
The field will sport two scoreboards, manufactured and donated by Display Concepts in Trenton. A dedication will be planned in late summer before the start of school and the soccer season.

Mrs. Boynton says the main work needed will be a good "rock-picking" in the spring, scoreboard installation, some more fence installation, and construction of bleachers. She said one more fundraiser may be needed depending on the cost of bleachers, as some maintenance money must be raised to keep the fields in good shape.

Mr. Stratton, a former Selectmen, mentioned on Election Day that his anniversary was coming up in a month. The Board of Selectmen and town staff prepared a nice certificate honoring the milestone and presented it to Mr. & Mrs. Stratton just before Christmas.

## School Settles Suit

(Lamoine) — The Lamoine School Committee settled its suit with teacher Tim Barlow this past fall. Barlow was paid \$25,683.50 in back wages. The Maine Supreme Court ordered him reinstated to his job with back pay in 1999 after a school board dismissal in 1998 over a student discipline problem.



## Vital Statistics

(Lamoine) — Marriages were the big business in the Town Clerk's office this fall. Four couples exchanged vows according to the files.

**Chris Gonyer and Linda Becker** were married on September 24th on the Buttermilk Road in Lamoine. They reside in Orland.

**Michael Standel and Kim Adams** were married October 7th in Lamoine. Mr. Standel's parents are long time residents of Quail Lane.

**Brett Jones and Dr. Patricia Wyshak** were married October 14th by Deputy Town Clerk Stu Marckoon in Blue Hill. The couple resides on Seal Point Road.

A week earlier, **Joshua Jones and Samantha Stanko** were married at the same location in Blue Hill. They reside on Douglas Highway. The bride's mom taught school for many years in Lamoine.

Some new arrivals as well. **Shian Elizabeth Hall-Bentivoglio** arrived November 9th at Eastern Maine Medical Center. She lives with her parents on Douglas Highway.

**Jacob Dana Anthony** was born on November 5, 2000 at Maine Coast Memorial Hospital. He is a resident of Fennellyville Road.



### Cub Scouts Help Birds

*The Bear Cubs of Pack 88 made eight birdhouses installed at Lamoine State Park in October. Pictured from left to right are Leader Bill Dickey, Matt Pinkham, Devin McGreevy, Zach Emeigh, Willy Dickey and Friends of the State Park President Julie Herrick.*

## Scouts Win Trophies

(Bangor) — Members of Pack 88 Cub Scouts competed in the Cub Scout Olympics in October. Among those competing were Alex & Zach Emeigh, Shawn Murphy and James Day. Alex Emeigh won a number of medals, including a gold for best in his age group. Shawn Murphy won a silver medal. They boys competed with 20 other packs from all over Maine in five events.

# January 2001 - Lamoine Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 - Office Closed (Holiday)	2 - '98 Tax Liens Due	3	4 - 7pm Fire Dept	5	6
7	8 - 6:30 School Brd. 7PM Planning Board	9	10	11 - 6:15 Selectmen 7PM Fire Dept.	12	13
14	15 - Office Closed (Holiday)	16 - 6:30 Budget Cmte @ School	17	18 - 7PM Fire Dept.	19	20 - Nominating Petitions Due
21	22	23 - Clerk Closed in Morning, CEO In	24	25 - 6:15 Selectmen 7PM Fire Dept.	26	27
28	29	30	31			

# February 2001 - Lamoine Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 - 7pm Fire Dept.	2	3
4	5 - 6:30 School Brd. 7PM Planning Board	6	7	8 - 6:15 Selectmen 7PM Fire Dept.	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 - 7PM Fire Dept.	16	17
18	19 - Office Closed (Holiday)	20	21	22 - 6:15 Selectmen 7PM Fire Dept.	23	24
25	26	27	28			

# March 2001 - Lamoine Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 -7PM Fire Dept.	2	3
4	5-6:30 School Brd. 7:00 Planning Board	6-10AM -8PM Town Meeting Vote	7-6PM Open Town Meeting At School	8-6:15 Selectmen 7PM Fire Dept	9	10
11	12	13	14	15-7PM Fire Dept.	16	17
18	19	20	21	22-615 Selectmen 7PM Fire Dept.	23	24
25	26	27	28	29-7PM Fire Dept.	30	31

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Town of Lamoine  
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