

◆ The Lamoine Quarterly ◆

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April 2013

Town Meeting Swift, Civilized

Voters approve gravel ordinance, fire truck purchase

(Lamoine) - Town Meeting Moderator Harvey Kelley apologized for having concerns. As he opened the annual town meeting, he cautioned folks that if they had differences and it got heated, they could take it outside, and not to bother to return. And there were concerns about the proposed gravel ordinance that replaced the one that had been in place and amended numerous times over the years. But, it never got heated. Kelley said he should have known better.

In fact, the more than 140-voters in attendance spoke politely, asked great questions, received informed answers, and took care of business in short order.

The gravel ordinance concerned local pit operator Perry Fowler. The only issue operators had with the new ordinance was the minimum setback from property lines which increases from 50-feet to 100-feet. Fowler says that will greatly diminish the life of the pits he and his father operate. Fowler is an alternate member of the Planning Board, and did not endorse the larger setback line.

Voters cast secret ballots on the ordinance, and it passed by a 75-to-61 margin. The voters also approved of removing the requirement of obtaining a simultaneous Site Plan Review permit when permitting a gravel operation—the new gravel ordinance incorporated the Site Plan Review requirements, making both permitting processes redundant.

The town, without debate, approved a \$230,000 budget for a new tanker-pumper fire truck. The fire department is contributing \$25,000 to the cost, and the fire truck reserve fund will utilize \$9,000 while the town borrows the other \$196,000 for the truck. The fire

chief and Selectmen will meet in April to discuss the timeline to make specifications and bid requests for a chassis and the body on the new truck.

The only change to the printed warrant was an increase of \$600 to Maine Coast Memorial Hospital under the social service appropriation. A town ordinance limits the amount that can be recommended for any one organization to \$600.00, but nothing precludes the town meeting from approving a higher amount through the amendment process.

Voters approved changes to the Regional Shellfishing Ordinance and the town budget with few questions and little debate. The Regional Shellfishing Amendment will allow the Board of Selectmen to appoint a member to the joint municipal board which oversees operation

of the Regional Shellfishing program. Several other municipalities in the 7-town region will consider the same amendments. Outgoing Selectman Richard Fennelly Jr. has said he would be happy to continue his service on the joint municipal board, having chaired it for several years. The other amendments included granting power to that board to amend the ordinance rather than having to wait for six town meetings and action by the Ellsworth City Council. Major amendments would still require that action. Finally, the members of joint municipal board would no longer be precluded from having a commercial clam digging license.

As the meeting ended, Fire Chief George “Skip” Smith urged the Planning Board to devise a way to treat small gravel operations differently than the large pits. A couple of Planning Board members said they would look into possible changes to accommodate the request.



The Ayes Have It

Voters hold up their official cards to pass one of the 34-articles at the annual town meeting on March 13th.

Mason, Johnson Elected to Selectboard

(Lamoine) - When the specimen ballot was published for the annual town meeting, more than a few people were surprised. The most often heard comment was “Who are these folks?”. Three people sought the two open seats. Incumbent Richard Fennelly Jr. did not seek re-election after serving for 8-years as a Selectman.

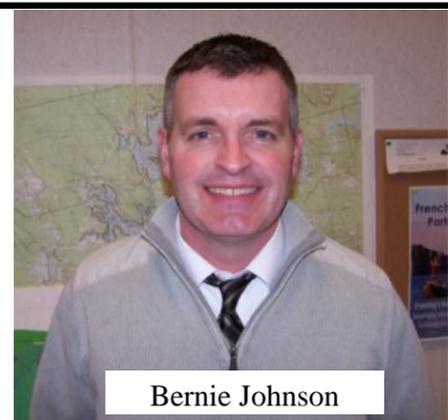
The new Selectmen are Bernie Johnson and Nate Mason. Each received 109 votes while Pro Auto Shop owner Chris Norris came in third in the balloting, just six votes behind. Fennelly received 10 write in votes.

Folks did have a chance to meet the candidates prior to casting ballots as the Lamoine PATRONS group hastily arranged a candidate’s night at the Lamoine School. Because of the short notice, only a handful of people showed up, but the event was recorded by the

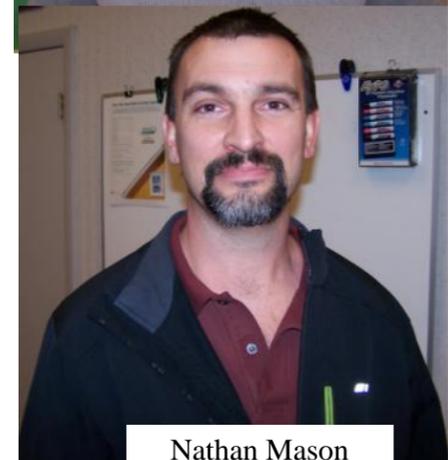
Lamoine Cable TV Channel and played back numerous times between the session and Election Day. At least one voter who does not have Cable TV service viewed the session at home via DVD.

Mr. Johnson (46) is a resident of Walker Road, and has a wife and young daughter who is a student at the Lamoine Consolidated School. He’s a Lieutenant in the Lamoine Volunteer Fire Department and is a sales representative for Pine State Beverage.

Mr. Mason (43) is a resident of Pasture Way and has a wife and three children, two of whom are students at the Lamoine School, and one who will be soon. He has served on the Lamoine Parks Commission and on the Local School Advisory Committee and is the Downeast Regional Property Supervisor for Allen’s Blueberry in Washington County.



Bernie Johnson



Nathan Mason

RSU 24 Withdrawal Agreement Reached

Next steps include hearings, public vote

(Lamoine) - An extremely complex agreement with RSU 24 that has taken months to negotiate was signed in late March and as of the publication deadline for *The Lamoine Quarterly* awaits approval from the Education Commissioner Stephen Bowen. The City of Ellsworth and Town of Hancock have also negotiated withdrawal agreements. Late word from the RSU withdrawal committee is that a vote is most likely to occur on November 5, 2013. Chances are all three towns will vote that same day.

Between the time of approval and the voting date, the town will have to hold a public hearing on the withdrawal agreement. The withdrawal committee, consisting of RSU 24 Representative Brett Jones, Gordon Donaldson, Selectman Gary McFarland, and Douglas Stewart

plans to have a couple of information meetings prior to the public hearing. Dates will not be known until the election date is set.

The withdrawal committee will also start to put together an estimate of the cost for Lamoine to run its own school department should the resources from RSU 24 no longer be available. That would include costs for a Superintendent, business manager, the cost to run the Lamoine Consolidated School, tuition for high school students, special education and transportation costs. Those costs are unknown at this time.

A minimum of 451 voters must cast ballots when the election is held, representing 50% plus 1 of the number of voters who cast ballots in the 2010 Gubernatorial Election.

Workshop Planned on Gravel Rules

(Lamoine) - Lamoine's Selectmen and Planning Board will meet jointly on April 16, 2013 at 7PM to discuss the just passed Lamoine Gravel Ordinance following an outcry that the new rules discriminate against small pit operators.

The biggest change has to do with mining setbacks from property lines. Under the former ordinance, the setback was 50-feet, but it could be reduced to 10-feet with written permission from the abutting landowner. The new ordinance increases the setback to 100-feet with no provision for reduction with two exceptions. One is for an abutting, permitted pit where the setback line can be the common excavation level. The new ordinance also gives current permit holders 3-years to excavate to the 50-foot setback line.

Pit operator Jay Fowler said the new rules appear to want to put small pit operators out of business. He said operations such as his are not big enough to complete the 50-foot setback excavation in the 3-year time frame, and puts a proportionally greater amount of gravel off limits compared to a large operation.

Other areas to be discussed are pit renewals, grandfathering of older pit operations, and an escrow account to be administered by the town for restoration of pits.

Pit Proposal Packs Gym, Decision on Hold

(Lamoine) - Passions are running deep as Lamoine's Planning Board methodically deals with a proposed expansion of a gravel mining operation to over 100-acres. A public hearing on the plan submitted by Harold MacQuinn, Inc. packed the Lamoine Consolidated School gym in January. So many people testified that the applicant was asked to hold off on its oral presentation of the proposed plan until the Planning Board's February meeting.

The so-called Kittridge Pit encompasses land owned by MacQuinn and currently by abutters Ralph and Mary Miro. There is a purchase and sale agreement between MacQuinn and Miro to greatly expand the gravel mine. Many years ago the land was excavated by Mr. Miro without a permit resulting in significant fines and costs paid to the Town of Lamoine.

A majority of those testifying at the public hearing in January opposed the proposed mining expansion, citing the



The Proposed Gravel Pit
Harold MacQuinn, Inc. is proposing to expand its gravel mining operation to encompass the area shown above. Present operations are shown on the left side of the plan.

potential for groundwater contamination, dust, noise and increased truck traffic. The water issue appears to be the major discussion.

The Planning Board has asked for a peer review of the hydro geological work submitted with the mining plans, and that process, at the expense of the developer, could take several months. No final decision on the expansion is expected before the summer months.

Gravel Permit Sought Again

(Lamoine) - The Lamoine Planning Board once again will consider whether to issue a gravel extraction permit to Doug Gott & Sons, Inc. on a parcel of land the company purchased several years ago. A revised application for the property that abuts a pit on Lamoine Beach Road was submitted in time for the February meeting but did not get off the table at that time due to the pending decision on the MacQuinn application (see article above).

It's not the first time down the road for this parcel (map 3 lot 8), Gott, and the Planning Board. The Board denied a permit a few years ago based on

the adverse impact on surrounding properties following public testimony. While the new proposal is different, Planning Board chair John Holt says the first task for the board will be to decide if the difference is so significant that a different decision might be reached.

Gott appealed the denial, first to the Board of Appeals and then to Superior Court. The Appeals Board upheld the Planning Board decision, as did a Superior Court justice. Gott did not appeal the court ruling, but instead submitted a new application. The company has also purchased one of the abutting homes.

Few Permits Issued

(Lamoine) - Code Enforcement Officer Michael Jordan has issued the following permits since the first of 2013:

Nbr	Name	Project
1	McMullen, Steve	Deck
2	Stanwood, Robert	Shed
3	LeBlanc, Ronald	Addition
4	Conti, Donald	Landscaping

Only one plumbing permit has been issued for 2013—an internal permit at the Habitat for Humanity project on Misty Way.

Boat Shop Proposes Expansion

(Lamoine) - A boat building company that located in North Lamoine is now proposing another building on its land. The Planning Board has received an application from Stewart Workman (S.W. Boatworks) for a 2nd large building to be located off Douglas Highway.

In July, 2011 the Planning Board approved the first Site Plan Review and Commercial Building applications for Workman who had a shop located across the street next to his home. The proposed 2,760 square foot building would be the same size as the present structure.

Mooring Permit Fees Due by May 15

(Lamoine) - Folks who moor their boats off Lamoine State Park are reminded that renewals are due by May 15th, or you risk losing your mooring. Reminders were mailed out to all mooring holders in mid-March. Once payment is received, the town office staff will issue three stickers to each mooring holder—one for the boat, one for the mooring ball and one for any tender boat used to get the boat owner from shore to the mooring.

People who have a boat and are looking for mooring space are encouraged to submit an application to the Lamoine Harbor Master. There are several open permit spaces available as previous mooring holders have given up their spaces. There had been a significant waiting list until last year.

Moorings cost \$50/year. A new mooring application also requires a \$15 fee. Application forms are available at town hall and on the town's website.

Dog Licenses Long Overdue

(Lamoine) - State law gives folks until the end of January to register dogs with the town. After that time a late fee of \$25.00 (in addition to the dog registration fee of either \$6 or \$11) must be charged.

Selectmen declined having a late registration amnesty day which was suggested by the State Animal Welfare Department. Several people had already paid the late fee voluntarily and it was felt an amnesty day would be unfair.

Letters to dog owners who had not re-registered and to folks who have never registered their animals went out in late March with a deadline of April 15, 2013 to register as required by law. Those who fail to comply with the deadline can expect a visit from the Animal Control Officer with an official warning.

DMR Looking for Septic Problems on Shorefront

(Lamoine) - Maine's Department of Marine Resources will conduct a shoreline survey of Lamoine to see if there are any malfunctioning septic systems. Town officials received notification this winter of the plans which are extremely important to shellfish harvesters.

The survey team will walk the coastline and make observations about potential pollution sources. The team will also meet with property owners for a brief interview regarding septic systems and/or animal waste storage. The town's plumbing inspector will also be contacted to assist with the survey. If the DMR can find pollution sources, it can lead to reopening closed areas for clam harvesting.

New Door Installed at Town Hall

(Lamoine) - Voters at the 2012 town meeting approved spending \$1,500 to replace the front door and a broken piece of molding at the town hall. The old door was partially constructed of steel and the bottom part became quite rusty over the past few years, with pieces falling off and some pretty jagged edges.

After putting the bid out last summer and getting no offers, Selectmen assigned the job to Code Enforcement Officer Michael Jordan who is also a carpenter by trade. He and son Matthew installed the new door on a sunny day in December for far less than the budgeted amount.

The door still has to be painted to match the colors of the town hall. That will wait until warmer weather on a weekend in the spring in order for the paint to dry

without people getting wet paint all over themselves.

The new door is working quite nicely after some initial adjustments. The lockset is different, though, and instead of needing a key to lock all the locks, a push button can be engaged on the handle.



Michael and Matthew Jordan carefully measure the new front door for the town office in order to install the related hardware.



Wanted—Comprehensive Plan Committee

(Lamoine) - Lamoine's Board of Selectmen are charged with forming a committee to start work on an update to Lamoine's Comprehensive Plan. Town meeting voters strongly supported the formation of a committee to start the process of updating the plan that was last approved in 1996. State recognition of that plan expired at the end of 2012.

The first task of the Comprehensive Planning Committee will be to formulate a budget for coming up with a new

documents. The former State Planning Office has offered its

assistance to get the committee going. The budget will be due by the end of 2013 for consideration at the town meeting in 2014. It's expected that the committee might start some preliminary work while waiting for the budget.

The Selectmen hope to appoint 7 members to the committee by June 1, 2013 (if not sooner). If you would be interested in serving, please contact the Lamoine Town Office so your name can be forwarded to the Selectmen.

Open Space Report Released

(Lamoine) - Lamoine's Conservation Commission has released its first comprehensive report on the lay of the land in town. One of the original members of the Commission, Fred Stocking, devoted many hours of work to compiling the information in the Open Space Report and Inventory. It makes for interesting reading, and gives a thorough look at what kinds of lands make up the town.

The report was released in March, 2013 and is available for review at the Lamoine Town Hall and is posted, in its entirety on the town's website. This will be one of the valuable planning tools as the

town begins work on a new Comprehensive Plan.

Check full of information, the report has been transmitted to the Board of Selectmen, the Planning Board and the Lamoine Parks Commission to reference as those bodies make decisions about land uses in town.



OPEN SPACE REPORT AND INVENTORY
Lamoine Conservation Commission
March, 2013

The Simons Win Conservation Award

(Lamoine) - Congratulations to Gerald and Iris Simons, the 2012 winners of the Conservation Award from the Lamoine Conservation Commission. The Partridge Cove Road residents received their award at the annual town meeting on March 13. The citation credited their work with the

Frenchman Bay Conservancy, which Mrs. Simons now chairs. They have placed a conservation easement on 65-acres and developed a nearly 1-mile trail on the property for the public to explore. Trail access is on the Partridge Cove Road.

Court to Decide Abatement Jurisdiction

(Lamoine) - A judge in Kennebec County will decide whether the Hancock County Commissioners or the State Property Tax Review Board will decide on a tax abatement case. Both entities have declined to hear the appeal by Old Point Inc. which owns a large tract of land located on Shore Road with 2,600 feet of frontage at Mt. Desert Narrows. A portion of the property is enrolled in the tree growth program and there is a conservation easement on the property. The Board of Assessors has valued the 94 acre parcel at more than 1-point-6 million

dollars. Old Point contends that the tree growth enrollment and conservation easement substantially lowers the value of the shorefront lot to \$147,500.

The County Commissioners contend that the case belongs to the State Property Tax Review Board because it involves land enrolled in tree growth. The State says tree growth valuations are not the issue, and the case should go before the county because of the valuation question on the land that is not enrolled.

Attorney Ed Bearor is representing the town in the matter.

Tax Acquired Property Sold Back to Former Owner

(Lamoine) - One piece of property that automatically foreclosed to the town through the tax lien process has been sold back to the former owner, even though she did not submit the highest bid. Selectmen had opted to place the parcel on North Road out to bid after the former owner informed the town she would not be able to raise the back taxes, fees within the 30-days after the foreclosure. Selectmen placed a \$3,000 minimum price on the property and placed it out for bid in February, with the bid opening in early March. During that time the owner apparently was able to line up financing to cover the minimum bid price.

When the bids were opened, the highest bid was for \$18,575. There were five other bids, including the \$3,000 bid from the former owner. The Board voted 3-to-1 to accept the lowest bid, and signed a quitclaim deed in late March. Selectman Gary McFarland said the bid ad states that the town can accept or reject any bid, and the town is not in the business of taking people's land. Selectman Richard Fennelly cast the lone dissenting vote, saying the others who bid did so in good faith.

Fowler Re-Elected As Assessor

(Lamoine) - Jane Fowler has easily won another three year term on the Board of Assessors, gathering 175 votes from the 202 folks who turned out for the municipal election on March 12. Mrs. Fowler has served the most consecutive terms of any current elected town official. Her present streak of service dates back to 1995, but she served as an elected assessor in the 1980's. She has hinted that she might retire after this term, which expires on July 1, 2016. She is presently the chair of the Board of Assessors.

Selectmen Reject Cell Tower Buyout

(Lamoine) - An unsolicited offer to purchase the land lease for the Verizon Wireless cell phone tower on town property was rejected outright by Selectmen. There are more than 20-years left on the lease which currently pays \$12,000 per year and escalates every five years. A speculator from Atlanta, GA offered the Selectmen \$100,000 cash to purchase the lease. That figures out to less than 40% of the overall worth of the lease, and the town does not face any sort of cash flow crisis that would merit consideration of the offer.

When Will Lamoine Revalue?

(Lamoine) - For nearly 20-years, the town has set aside a few thousand dollars to fund the next revaluation. The last time the town was fully reassessed was in 1993. A factored revaluation was performed in 2005 which boosted land and building values on a percentage basis to better reflect current market value.

Those 2005 prices have actually held up fairly well, given that the housing market peaked shortly thereafter and then dropped dramatically starting in 2009.

After the March 2013 town meeting, the revaluation reserve fund will have over \$100,000 available to fund the new effort. It's hoped that will be close to enough when the time comes, which may be within the next three years, depending on real estate market forces.

Drug Takeback Day is April 27

(Lamoine) - The Hancock County Sheriff's Department will be present at the Lamoine Town Hall on Saturday, April 27, 2013 from 8am to Noon to collect prescription drugs that are no longer needed. A deputy will supervise the collection and the medications will be safely and securely disposed of.

People should not flush unneeded medication into septic systems, as they can eventually migrate into groundwater. This is the first time the Town Hall has participated in the popular program.

Recycling Numbers Compiled

(Lamoine) - The recycling figures for 2012 are now part of the states records. According to data submitted to the Maine DEP, the town shipped 579 tons of trash to the PERC incinerator in Orrington.

Materials recycled according to the Maine Resource Recovery Association totaled nearly 68-tons. About 15 tons more went through the transfer station swap shop.

Turnout Not Bad for Vote, Open Meeting

(Lamoine) - It's no secret that a municipal election doesn't have the drawing power of a Presidential election. There are no incessant TV ads, usually no campaign signs plastered at key intersections. No robo calls (and that's refreshing). So, when 202 voters turned out for the election in March, compared to 1,063 in last November's Presidential vote, that was to be expected. That's a 13.81% turnout compared to over 70% for the November vote.

Selectmen, for years, have discussed ways to try to draw more voters both to the secret ballot election and the open town meeting. There has been talk of changing the timing of the town meeting to a different day and month, but after trying various options, a Tuesday and Wednesday in March seem to draw the biggest crowd. Other discussion involved incentives to attend, such as a raffle.

The attendance at open town meeting this year was 141 registered voters and some guests from out of town. That's a bit higher than previous years when nothing controversial was on the town meeting warrant. And while some potentially contentious issues were discussed at the 2013 town meeting, the debate never heated up, and the meeting was over swiftly.



Moderator Harvey Kelley supervises Carol Korty and Kathy DeFusco as they count the town meeting ballots

Maine DOT to Pave Routes 184, 204

Skinny Mix Planned for Both Roads This Summer

(Lamoine) - The good news is, the ride into and out of town on the state highways might be a bit smoother after the summer of 2013. The bad news is, it won't last all that long.

The Maine Department of Transportation has informed the town that it intends to put a new layer of pavement down on both Routes 184 and 204 this year. A check with the paving supervisor confirmed that a 5/8 average layer will go over both roads, but there are no plans for a shim layer that would go a long way toward smoothing out the base of the pavement before a final travel layer was placed on the roads.

The DOT explained that both roads are considered minor collector highways which means they are the lowest priority road for state maintenance. Motorists have complained a lot in the last three years about the deplorable state of sections of Douglas Highway and Lamoine Beach

Road, with some saying they have suffered major car damage just from hitting the bumps, pot holes and frost heaves.

Crews from the MDOT have been working for the past several months, digging ditches and replacing some cross culverts on Route 184 to attempt to better drain the road, and that has met with some success. When there is less water in the base material of the road, it doesn't freeze up and cause the humps and dips, and the pavement doesn't crack and disintegrate as quickly.

The paving supervisor says they try to put on a coat of macadam that will last about 7-years. That is far less costly, apparently, than completely rebuilding a road to modern standards, even though the rebuilt road would last significantly longer. The last time the state roads were paved was in 2005, and the surface cracking started the next spring. The drainage work may help prevent that a while longer.

Snow Plowing Contract Up for Bid

(Lamoine) - Want to become the next snow plow contractor for Lamoine? Bid documents are now available at the town office with a deadline of May 2, 2013. The 3-year contract with Richard McMullen expires after this snow season, and the Selectmen are required to bid the job again.

There are some proposed changes—one being the potential to extend the contract from 3-to-5 years provided the contractor and the town are willing to reach an agreed upon price. Several years ago the town built an escalator clause of up to 5-percent in case the number of storms or the price of fuel became unreasonable. A better definition of how that escalator would work in built into the new contract.

McMullen also plows Route 184 for the Maine DOT, and should he not win the new town contract, would have to store salt at his own storage shed. Several bidders made offers 3-years ago when the contract was last bid out.



Members of the Class of 2013 burn a vehicle at the Hancock County FF Academy



Richard McMullen plows Pinkhams Flats in December, 2012

Two Enrolled at Firefighter Academy

(Lamoine) - A couple members of Lamoine's Volunteer Fire Department are enrolled in the Class of 2013 Hancock County Firefighter Academy which should end in May. Rick Gallegos of Douglas Highway and Lance Bishop of Cardinal Drive are both excelling in their training. Many other firefighters from Lamoine have assisted with the training by running fire trucks at practice burns and the like.

The Academy meets every other

weekend for about 4-and-a-half months covering the full gamut of firefighter training. When both graduate, they will be certified in both Firefighter I and II standards.

Firefighter Gallegos moved to Lamoine in 2012 and joined the fire department last October along with his wife Connie Bender. Firefighter Bishop is a senior at Mt. Desert Island High School who has already passed his EMT certification course and is also a member of the Hancock VFD. He's been a junior member of Lamoine's Fire Department for several years and finally turned 18 so he could take the courses.

Fire Department Busy In Winter

(Lamoine) - For a 3-week stretch in late January and early February, the volunteers at the fire department were kept hopping with some pretty serious calls. Lamoine sent crews to Sullivan and Trenton to assist during a pair of structure fires that saw families lose their homes in the middle of winter. The most serious in-town call came on February 10 when local snow plow operator George Crawford's truck caught fire in his yard. He was not injured, but the truck was fully engulfed when firefighters arrived, and little could be saved.

A wind and rain/slush storm on January 31st produced 7 of the 18 calls the fire department responded to—all involving trees across roads with power lines involved in many cases. Three other calls also involved trees and power lines. Generally there is little the fire department can do in such situations other than to mark the hazard and wait for the power company to respond.

Two chimney fires were also reported, neither one caused any significant damage.

Fire Truck, Gear Grant Approved

(Lamoine) - At the Lamoine Fire Department's weekly meeting on March 20th Fire Chief Skip Smith said, this has been a pretty good week.

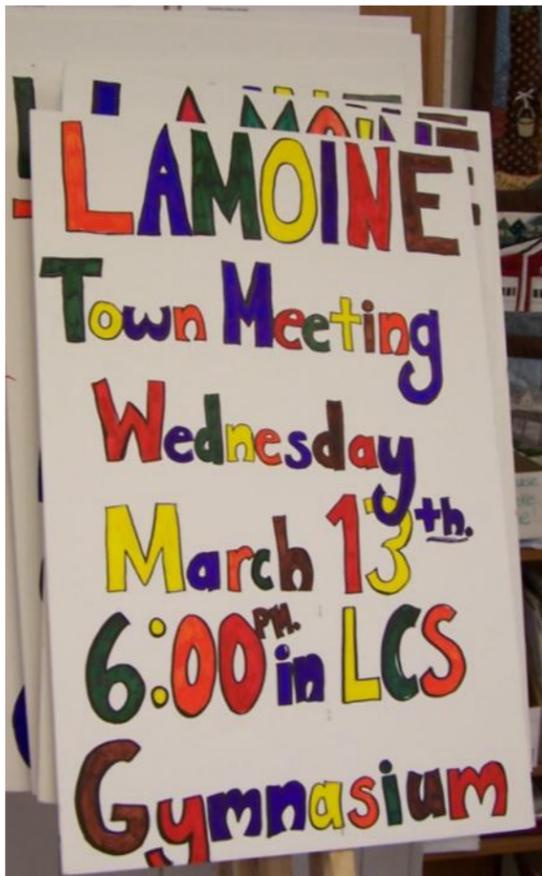
At the annual town meeting, voters swiftly approved the budget and borrowing plan that will add a 2,000 gallon tank truck to the fleet. The purchase is about a year ahead of schedule, recommended by both the fire department and budget committee before truck chassis prices rise significantly thanks to new EPA standards. The department will now begin the task of specifying the type of truck to send out to

bid. Chief Smith will meet with Selectmen to set out the time line. The department is contributing \$7,000 to pay the previous truck loan, and \$25,000 toward the new truck.

A week after town meeting, the department received word from the Stephen and Tabitha King Foundation that purchase of new turnout gear was approved. The foundation will send the department \$16,000 to outfit 8-firefighters who either have no gear or old and damaged gear that needs to be upgraded.

Students Help Promote Meeting

(Lamoine) - The annual town meeting got a bit of a boost, when signs promoting the date and location were placed at key intersections. Selectmen wrote thank-you letters to Samantha Mason, Erin White and Jacqueline Goebel who constructed 9-signs



(seen above) on large, white cardboard. Unfortunately, the signs were placed on a very windy day, and quickly blew over—two of them disappearing completely before a better plan could be hatched up. Town office staff got some nuts and bolts and attached them to street signs, which stood up better, but the day before town meeting saw a heavy rain and high wind event, and all but two of the signs were destroyed. The town office received several favorable comments on the signs.

Vault Project Planned for Springtime

(Lamoine) - Voters at the annual town meeting approved an additional \$1,000 to add to the budget already approved for 2012/13 to complete a shelving project inside the vault at the Lamoine Town Hall. Selectmen have authorized entering a contract with a Massachusetts firm that provides movable shelves that will be installed in the vault in the next few weeks. During that time, the vault will

have to be completely cleaned out, and the town records temporarily stored either in the town hall or off site, depending on space requirements. A time schedule has not yet been set up for the new shelving.

The project will give the town office staff a workout in determining what materials should be retained and what should be disposed of.

Address Number Signs Prove Popular

(Lamoine) - An article in *The Ellsworth American* has helped to boost orders for address number signs. The Fire Department is administering the program where folks order their house number, either with or without a sign post. Once there is a good sized batch, the order is sent to the Penobscot County Jail where an inmate program makes up the blue and white number signs. The fire department picks up the signs from the jail and contacts the folks who ordered them to pick them up at the town hall. All orders are pre-paid.

Signs cost anywhere from 7 to 13 dollars—the most expensive being a two sided sign mounted on a post that is pounded into the ground. The first batch of signs was ordered and received in mid February. Forms to order signs are posted on the town website or available at the Town Hall.



The first batch of address signs arrived in February. Order forms are available at the Lamoine Town Hall or on the Internet at www.lamoine-me.gov

Town Opts “No” on MUBEC Enforcement *Voters confused at best by question*

(Lamoine) - By just one vote, an advisory question on whether the town should provide inspections according to the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code (MUBEC) failed to win support. Mostly, the question failed to win understanding.

The MUBEC standards have been in place for a few years, and buildings are supposed to meet the code regardless of whether the municipality inspects to that standard. Because Lamoine’s population is less than 4,000 (1,602 at 2010 census), the town is not obligated to inspect to the MUBEC standard.

The problem is that the Building and Land Use Ordinance contains some fairly minimal building codes. According to Code Enforcement Officer Michael Jordan, it’s either all or nothing when it comes to building codes. He requested

guidance from the town on whether the MUBEC inspection should be required.

Voters were offered two options—enforce MUBEC or not. By a 94-to-93 margin, voters opted not to require the MUBEC inspection.

Comments heard during Election Day by town office staff indicated a great deal of confusion about the question. Many say they guessed correctly about the passage as it potentially adds several thousand dollars to already high construction costs.

The Planning Board is now directed to offer up an amendment to the Building and Land Use Ordinance to remove the local building code standards. Town meeting must approve the change.

Steel Drum Show—June 3

(Lamoine) - The Lamoine Fire Department is sponsoring a performance by the Flash In the Pans Steel Drum Band on Monday, June 3, 2013 at Lamoine State Park. When the new park manager is named, more details will be available on the event. The fire department will be selling dinner and snacks. In the event of rain, the performance will not be held. Check the town’s website for more information.

Community Café at Church

(Lamoine) - For \$4.00, folks can get a good meal every other Wednesday at the Lamoine Baptist Church. Eastern Area Agency on Aging opened the Community Café in December and reports excellent attendance with an enthusiastic crowd. A volunteer group led by Mill Road resident Terry Latchaw serves up the meal, and fun activities are planned to make the occasion festive. On January 9th the diners had a New Year’s Party and about 40-folks attended.

Everyone is welcome, but a reservation is required. Those wishing to join in the fun should call 669-6395 to reserve a spot. Lunch is served at noon time. The hope is to expand to every Wednesday in the near future.



The New Year’s Party at Lamoine’s Community Café

Former Selectman Fennelly Honored

(Lamoine) - Surprising former Selectman Richard (Dick) Fennelly, Jr. is no easy task, and it took a rare meeting that he missed for the rest of the Board of Selectmen to decide that he would be Lamoine's 2012 Citizen of the Year. Fennelly finished up his 8th year on the board and opted not to run for re-election.

During his service as Selectman, Fennelly was instrumental in formation of the Frenchman Bay Regional Shellfishing Coalition and has chaired the Joint Municipal Board since its inception. His service on the Board of Selectmen was also exemplary—from thoroughly editing the meeting minutes to being prepared for meetings and making informed votes, he was second to none. Fennelly even picked up several write-in votes on March 12th.



Selectboard Chair Jo Cooper reads the proclamation honoring Dick Fennelly as Lamoine's 2012 Citizen of the Year

Cheer Squad Wins 13th Straight Title

(Lamoine) - In a streak that extends back to when current pee wee cheering coach Kimberly Tupper was a 6th grader on the squad, a team representing Lamoine has once again come in with the top score at the state middle school competition in Bangor. The school population has fallen off in recent years, so a pee wee squad with members from Lamoine and beyond competed in the tournament on March 9th at the



Bangor Auditorium, where they finished atop their division (again). The week before the pee wees were tops in their division at a competition held at the Ellsworth Middle School.

The Lamoine program has been very beneficial to Ellsworth, MDI and John Bapst High Schools, as several alumna have cheered at the schools.

Lamoine Community Arts News

By Diane Sanderson

(Lamoine) - Even with snow and icy driveways, Lamoine Community Arts friends have met in various homes during the winter months to enjoy evenings of recreational readings including scripts considered for production in the future. In January, we read John Bowen's farce *Trevor*; February, Shakespeare's *King Lear*; and March, Bruce Norris' drama exploring racism *Clybourne Park*. These winter readings are open to anyone -- come read, just listen, or join in discussions.

We will be a travelling troupe in April when we and other acting groups from around the state go to MeACT (Maine Association of Community Theaters) in Waterville and perform a play. We're taking a play we performed here at the Grange in 2011, *A Blooming of Ivy*, starring Sharon and Tom St. Claire. It is a delightful, tender and funny play by Garry Williams about falling in love late in life.

And as we move into spring, members of LCA who really enjoy working with children will be helping Kathy McGlinchey who is directing *Beauty and the Beast* at the Hancock Grammar School. Performances May 2nd in the

afternoon for the school, 6:30 PM for the public.

Our next event will be our annual Readers' Theater occurring mid-May. Selection of the script is underway. Watch the sign board in front of The Grange for exact date, time, and show. There will be flyers and email announcements as well. We hope to see you there!



Tom and Sharon St. Clair ham it up for a recent Lamoine Community Arts Production.

Flat Top 5K

(Lamoine) - Results from the Annual Flat Top 5K will be published in the July 2013 Lamoine Quarterly due to space limitations.

Jennifer's Back

(Lamoine) - Town Clerk Jennifer Kovacs has returned to work after becoming a mom, again. Show below with daughter Kali Elizabeth, Jennifer returned to work on Monday, March 11, the day before the municipal election, making for a very busy first week back after nearly 2-months off.

Many thanks to Nancy Jones who filled in during the time Jennifer took for maternity leave. A former manager at the Lamoine General Store, Nancy was able to navigate her way through most of the routine transactions at the town office, though some of the more complex items were a bit baffling. Customers were very kind during the interim period.



Vital Records

(Lamoine) - A pretty quiet quarter for the Town Clerk's office. Just two birth certificates were recorded in the first three months of the year—one boy and one girl.

Our condolences go to the families of **Sally Moore** who passed away on February 20, 2013 and **Walter Covey Sr.** who died on February 8, 2013

No marriage certificates were filed during the quarter.

Bikers Choose Lamoine Route

(Lamoine) - Lest the headline cause concern, these bikers won't make much noise at all—these are pedal bikes, not motorcycles. The Bike Coalition of Maine expects 350-riders from all over the world to come to Maine between September 7 and September 14 this year for its inaugural ride.

Those riders will likely hit Lamoine during the day on Friday, September 13th, using the popular cross over of Route 204 from Trenton, out the Mud Creek Road to Route 1 in Hancock. It is anticipated that Route 204 will be newly repaved by event time. During that day bicyclists will pedal from Bar Harbor to Camp Jordan in Lucerne.

The coalition's website has some pretty detailed information about the ride which begins and ends in Orono. No stopover is planned in Lamoine. The event is described as moderately difficult and cost is \$875 for the week.

April 2013—Lamoine Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2-7PM Planning Board	3-8:30 AM Assessors	4-7PM Selectmen	5	6-Town Office Open 8-12
7	8-6:30 PM RSU 24 Withdrawal Cmte.	9	10-7PM Conservation Cmsn	11	12	13
14	15-Town Office Closed (Patriot's Day)	16-7PM Workshop Meeting (Selectmen, Planning Board)	17-7PM Shellfish Conservation	18-7PM Selectmen	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27-Town Office Open 8-12 –Drug Take Back Day
28	29	30	School Vacation is the week of April 15th.			

May 2013-Lamoine Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1-8:30 AM Assessors	2-7PM Selectmen	3	4-Town Office Open 8-12
5	6	7-7PM Planning Board	8-7PM Conservation Cmsn	9	10	11
12	13	14	15-7PM Shellfish Conservation	16-7PM Selectmen	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25-Town Office Open 8-12
26	27-Town Office Closed—Memorial Day	28	29	30	31	

June 2013-Lamoine Schedule

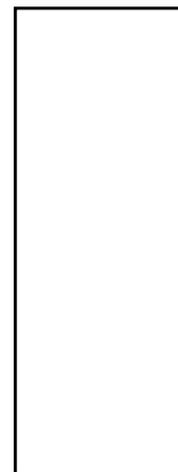
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1-Town Office Open 8-12
2	3-Flash in the Pans @ Lamoine State Park	4-7PM Planning Board	5-8:30 AM Assessors	6-7PM Selectmen	7	8
9	10	11-8am-8pm School Budget Validation*	12-7PM Conservation Cmsn	13	14	15
16	17	18	19-7PM Shellfish Conservation	20-7PM Selectmen	21	22
23	24	25-10AM MDI League of Towns	26	27	28	29-Town Office Open 8-12
30-Fiscal Year Ends	*tentative date—possible simultaneous vote on RSU Withdrawal. Last day of school for students is June 19th.					

The Lamoine Quarterly April 2013

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Town of Lamoine
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