

◆ The Lamoine Quarterly ◆

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Youngsters Honored for Mom's Rescue

(Lamoine) - Shore Road resident Christine Rosales found herself in a predicament November 25th. She'd gone up on her roof to string Christmas Lights and clean out the gutters, and was unable to safely get back on the ladder to get down. She waved to a passing car. Lamoine's a friendly town—the driver waved back. She tried hollering for neighbors. No luck. Her daughters 5-year old Sophia and 3-year old Natalie were home. The last resort—have the girls call 9-1-1. Natalie found the cell phone. Sophia, who is learning her numbers in Kindergarten dialed. It worked.

Hancock County Regional Communications Center dispatcher Anastasia Dayhoff-Osage picked up the

other end and heard Sophia's voice and asked where her mother was. Sophia answered, "on the roof" and gave the address. Dayhoff-Osage used a computer program to detect the cell phone signal and confirmed that it was in that vicinity of Shore Road and dispatched the fire department. Capt. Mike Jordan and Lt. Brett Jones were working at the fire station and were on scene in less than 5-minutes. The crew set up a big ladder, sent up firefighters and helped Mrs. Rosales down from the roof.

Sophia and Natalie were very excited—still holding the phone in their doorway. They got high 5s from the firefighters and a week later Chief Skip Smith and RCC director Renee Wellman honored the two with a certificate, a coloring book and stuffed kittens. Dayhoff-Osage said a lot of adults don't use the 9-1-1 system correctly, so to have two small children do so is a big deal. The event was covered by two Bangor TV stations, local radio and newspapers.



Above—Fire Chief George "Skip" Smith presents Sophia (rear) and Natalie (front) Rosales with certificates recognizing their proper use of 9-1-1. Mom Christine is very proud of her daughters.

Below—firefighters get in position to get Mrs. Rosales down from the roof.



Just What Does 30-Days Mean?

(Lamoine) - The devil is often in the details when it comes to ordinances an enforcement. For years, Lamoine's Building and Land Use Ordinance has regulated the placement and use of Recreational Vehicles on lots with the following language: *Recreational Vehicles used as dwelling units on a lot for more than 30-days must obtain a construction permit.*

Last summer a Lorimer Road property owner park his large RV next to their home and allegedly rented the home for a week at a time while they resided in the RV. Code Enforcement Officer Michael Jordan interpreted the ordinance language to mean that if one inhabited the RV for 30 **consecutive** days, a permit was required. This would allow the RV owner to vacate after 29-days and the clock would start ticking again. The neighbors

complained that this was not the correct interpretation of the ordinance language. In a filing with Lamoine's Board of Appeals, the neighborhood submitted comment that the Building and Land Use Ordinance should be interpreted to mean 30-days per year.

The Board of Appeals heard the case in early November. It agreed with the interpretation of the appellants—30 days per year.

The appeal also questioned issuance of a 2nd road entrance permit to the property without a required waiver from the Planning Board. That waiver was granted after the appeal was filed. The Appeals Board agreed that the ordinance contained no guidance on how the "one entrance per lot" variance should be determined. Both sides agreed it was not a major issue.

Nomination Papers Available for Town Elections

(Lamoine) - Did you ever think it would be great to serve your community as one of its elected officers? Now is your chance to have your name on the ballot. Nominating petitions are available at the town hall for the March 10, 2015 municipal election for Selectman, School Committee Member and Assessor.

To get ones name on the ballot, a candidate must collect at least 25-signatures of registered Lamoine voters (and no more than 75). Those must be turned in no later than January 24, 2015 at noon time (that's when the town office closes that Saturday).

There are two Selectmen seats to be filled, currently held by Jo Cooper and Gary McFarland. The Tax Assessor position held by Michael Jordan and the School Committee seat held by Michael Bran are also on the ballot for March 10th. All the terms of office run 3-years in length. The Selectmen and School Committee members elected take office immediately after town meeting, the Assessor assumes office on July 1, 2015.

Absentee ballots become available on February 8, 2015.

Recreation Department Formed

(Lamoine) - The Board of Selectmen has responded to numerous requests to sponsor in-town recreation programs by forming a Recreation Committee. Four members of the committee were appointed at the Selectboard meeting in December.

Tim Jordan, Becky Mason, Greg Stone and Elizabeth Stanley will make up the initial board—there's still one opening on the committee. It's expected the board will get to work in January with an organizational meeting.

In early November, the Selectmen held a public meeting at the Lamoine School Gym after putting out the word that they would like to hear from folks interested in town sponsored recreation. A very positive and lively discussion took place at the meeting and a Recreation Committee policy was drafted up and approved to form the committee.

The Downeast Family YMCA, which town taxpayers have supported for years, will likely remain a partner in program offerings. The new policy establishes the 5-person committee and lays out a general process for offering programs and collecting user fees to cover the costs. The new committee will have a fair amount of legwork to do before initial town program offerings.

Selectmen Hire Animal Control Officer

(Lamoine) - The new Animal Control Officer in Lamoine hit the ground running. Shannon Byers told the Board of Selectmen this is something she has wanted to do for years. Her first week on the job was spent at Animal Control School at the University of Maine—she took a vacation week from her full time job at the Jackson Laboratory.

Shannon grew up in Hermon dealing with wild Animals and accompanies her father who helps relocate nuisance wild animals. You might recognize one of her other passions—she and husband David operate a mobile dog washing business from a small, brightly painted box van. And if that’s not enough, she also is training doves to be released at special events like weddings and are supposed to fly back home.

Mrs. Byers has been quite busy the first few weeks on the job. She has dealt with a reported animal abuse situation, working with the Town’s Code Enforcement Officer on a complaint, and issuing a warning for unregistered dogs. The alleged offenders have since moved away from town. She’s also dealt with loose horses and some strays.

The new ACO can be reached on the town’s cell phone at 812-0168, or by e-mail at animal@lamoine-me.gov.

Backup Server Purchased

(Lamoine) - Lamoine’s new Technology Committee recommended, and the Selectmen approved, of a new backup server purchase in case the town’s current web server fails. Committee member Brett Jones has actually purchased a pair of servers which pretty much mirror that machine that hosts the website. He will install them sometime in the next few months.

Jones hopes that web problems experienced last spring and early summer are behind the town office now. Hackers, most likely from the Far East, raised havoc with the town’s e-mail and DNS system, flooding the outgoing modem with so much data that things would not work. That shut down the e-mail addresses for town officials and created quite a problem in the town office.

Since the failure, the town has contracted with Time Warner Business Class to host the e-mail addresses (which remain the same).

Town Selectmen each have an e-mail account now—you can e-mail them directly by using the first initial, a period, and the last name @lamoine-me.gov. An e-mail to one Selectman is copied and sent to all board members. You can also just use selectmen@lamoine-me.gov and which goes to all Selectmen—someone should respond. The general e-mail address remains town@lamoine-me.gov. The town clerk is clerk@lamoine-me.gov, and code enforcement officer is ceo@lamoine-me.gov.



*Lamoine’s New Animal Control Officer
Shannon Byers*

Dog Licenses Overdue

(Lamoine) - Want to save \$25? If you have a dog, make sure they are registered with the town clerk for 2015 no later than January 31st. On February 2, 2015 a mandatory late fee of \$25 in addition to the either \$6 or \$11 registration fee takes effect.

Can’t make it in to the town office to register? No problem. If you have internet service, dog registration can be done on the town’s website. This option is only available through January 31, 2015.

To register a dog, you do need to have proof of a current rabies vaccination. For the first time registration of a neutered dog, the neutering/spay certificate is also required. The cost for a neutered dog is \$6, a dog capable of reproducing is \$11.

Owners of dogs that are not registered after January 31 will get a friendly reminder to do so. Serious procrastinators are likely to get a visit from the animal control officer with a warning in hand, and a 10-day limit to get the registration done or face a possible court summons.



Restoration work is complete on the “mini” East Lamoine Baptist Church building right next to the real one.

Delinquent Taxpayers Face January Deadline

(Lamoine) - Folks who have yet to pay the property taxes due in 2012/13 have received certified letters informing them they face possible automatic foreclosure from the town in January. As of late December, a dozen taxpayers had yet to pay their taxes in full.

On July 12, 2013 the town filed liens at the Hancock County Registry of Deeds on those parcels that had not paid. By state law, those liens automatically mature and the town assumes ownership of the property if the liens are not discharged within 18-months.

The annual town meeting voted last year (as it does every year), to authorize the Selectmen to offer foreclosed property back to the former owner for payment of all back taxes, fees and interest. Two parcels foreclosed upon last year were disposed of by that method. If the former owner rejects the offer to re-purchase the property, the Selectmen have the right to auction off the town’s interest to the highest bidder.

Those property owners who have been unable to afford their property taxes for the entire 2-and-a-half year window may apply to the Board of Selectmen for a confidential poverty abatement. That process is rarely utilized in town. Questions about the lien/foreclosure process should go to the town treasurer.

2015-16 Budget Takes Shape

(Lamoine) - The town’s budget committee is wrapping up its work on the municipal budget recommendations for the March 11, 2015 open town meeting. Final recommendations are expected in mid-January.

Departmental submissions showed a decrease of more than \$10,000 in spending on municipal services. However, revenues expected will likely decrease by about the same amount, so little change is expected in the municipal property tax need. Those submissions are subject to change in the recommended amount by the Budget Committee and/or Selectmen.

Among the highlights beyond the normal governmental operational needs are paving of the western portion of Buttermilk Road, estimated at \$120,000. The Fire Department and Budget Committee have talked about replacing the department’s rescue boat with a larger and more reliable craft, and borrowing money for 5-years to pay for that project. There is also discussion about putting a better foundation under the town office building and replacing the front steps at the entrance which have started to decay.

The School Department advises that the Education Budget will not be ready for the March town meeting.

Selectmen, Building Owner Reach Consensus on Property Condition

(Lamoine) - The owner of a Marlboro Beach Road property is expected to sign an agreement with the Board of Selectmen laying out conditions to bring the property into minimum safety compliance, though it remains unoccupied for now.

The property at 91 Marlboro Beach Road belongs to the Estate of Pauline Barnes, and was once one of the more stately homes in Lamoine. Her son, Harold Barnes Jr. (better known as Jay), is the estate's personal representative but has not lived in the house for many years. Neighbors contacted the Board of Selectmen in the summer of 2014 requesting that the main house and surrounding buildings be declared dangerous. The Selectmen referred the matter to Code Enforcement Officer Michael Jordan and Health Officer Cece Ohmart. They visited the property, observing from the road that the outbuildings were in a state of collapse, a porch on the house was also collapsing, and that there were many broken windows that allowed wildlife to infiltrate the premises. Jordan and Ohmart reported back to the Selectmen with a recommendation that the Board begin with

the dangerous building process.

The Selectmen set a hearing date in November and contacted Town Attorney Tony Beardsley to serve notice to the estate. The hearing was continued until December in order for Mr. Barnes to have a chance to consult with his attorney and evaluate what should be done to bring the building up to a condition where it does not pose a public danger.

At the hearing, one neighbor expressed concern about the potential for a spill from the heating oil tank. Another suggested the town stay out of the matter all together.

On the suggestion of Mr. Barnes and his attorney, the town drafted a consent agreement that will require demolition of the collapsed outbuildings, removal of the collapsed porch, as well a new cover be installed on a dug well. By May 15, 2015 the house is to be inspected, floor jacks installed, and the Estate is to evaluate a further plan of action. Selectmen signed the agreement in December, and Mr. Barnes has indicated that he is agreeable to the conditions that will be monitored by the Code Enforcement Officer.

Citations Draw Quick Response

(Lamoine) - It's not often that folks are grateful to receive a notice of violation from a town's Code Enforcement Officer. In October three Asa's Lane property owners expressed relief that a violation notice was issue in regard to placement of occupied travel trailers for more than 30-days.

Acting on a complaint filed by the interim Animal Control Officer, CEO Jordan ordered the landowners to cease having the small trailers occupied. Apparently neither party occupying the trailers had permission to be on the property for any specified period of time. The landowners notified the occupants and called the Hancock County Sheriff's Department to assist with making their point, and the property was swiftly brought into compliance.

Another citation for an illegal scrap yard in the same location is also being dealt with. Several loads of metal have been removed, and both the Board of Appeals the Board of Selectmen have agreed to extend the deadline to clean up the lot to mid June because of potentially poor weather conditions during the winter. Property owner Russell Boynton Jr. makes a living hauling scrap metal from property and had accumulated an extremely large amount of material. He explained that he was waiting for the market price for scrap to increase before hauling it away.

Boynton and family members will look at options to permit him to continue in the scrap hauling and temporary storage business in the zone where his property is located.

Auto Graveyards Discontinued

(Lamoine) - Lamoine is no longer home to any licensed automobile graveyards. The former Pro Auto Center which has ceased operations, cleaned up both properties it had used to store vehicle parts and opted not to renew the required annual permits. Code Enforcement Officer Michael Jordan inspected both the Douglas Highway and Marlboro Beach Road properties and found that the vehicles had been removed.

Under state law and local ordinance, more than two unserviceable vehicles stored on a property require the landowner to obtain an automobile graveyard permit. Both yards had been licensed in Lamoine for more than 20-years.

Permits Issued

(Lamoine) - CEO Michael Jordan issued the following permits in the last quarter of 2014:

Nbr	Name	Type
35	Raymond Apel	Garage
36	Thomas Collins	Residence
37	Steve McMullen	Shed

CEO Jordan also issued four internal plumbing and one septic permit. The Planning Board renewed a gravel permit for RF Jordan and Sons for a small pit located between Walker Road and Mill Road. Selectmen issued a utility pole permit to Emera for a new pole to be located on Walker Road to serve a residence currently under construction.

Citizen Group Files Complaint, Appeal

(Lamoine) - Lamoine's Board of Appeals will decide in January whether to hear a complaint by an informal citizens' group that the Code Enforcement Officer should cite a contractor for failing to obtain a gravel permit to construct a large commercial building.

The Planning Board, following an Appeals Board hearing and ruling, issued a Site Plan Review and Commercial Building Permit to Doug Gott & Sons, Inc. to build a storage and maintenance garage on property the company owns next to a gravel pit on Lamoine Beach Road. To minimize the visual impact, Gott proposed altering about 70,000 cubic yards of earth material.

A group calling itself Friends of Lamoine filed a complaint with Code Enforcement Officer Michael Jordan with copies to the Board of Selectmen and Planning Board, that the project should obtain a permit under the Gravel Ordinance. Jordan replied that both the Planning Board and Board of Appeals were well aware of the amount of material that would be moved for the project from the construction applications. He also noted that no appeal of the Planning Board permits was filed within the appeal window available under the Building and Land Use and Site Plan Review Ordinances. He did not file a notice of violation.

The group, which is not listed as a corporate entity with the Secretary of State, has filed an appeal of Jordan's response with the Board of Appeals. In response to the filing, the Code Enforcement Officer is challenging the authority of the Board of Appeals to hear the case on a couple of grounds. Jordan states that the citizen's group has no standing, as none of the signers are abutting property owners. He further notes that the appeal process in the Gravel Ordinance only applies to actions taken by the Planning Board. Any other appeal under that ordinance must go directly to Superior Court.

The Board of Appeals meets on January 7, 2015 to consider the matter.

Lawsuit Dismissed, For Now

(Lamoine) - A property owner who filed suit against the Town of Lamoine just prior to a vote to prohibit new gravel permits in the Rural and Agricultural Zone in June 2014 has asked that the suit be dismissed without prejudice, which means it could be revived at a future date. The Ames Family Trust filed the suit, claiming the zoning change renders land they own off Douglas Highway nearly worthless as the gravel underneath is off limits to excavation. Selectmen had no objection to the suit's dismissal and made no promises to seek further zoning changes to the property.

Heating Assistance Donations Sought

(Lamoine) - The town's newly formed Heating Assistance Committee has started soliciting for donations to a fund that will be used to help folks who need immediate assistance with heating fuel. The Selectmen formed the program last year and appointed Jane Fowler, Kathie Gaianguet and Walter Grenier as the committee that will administer the program. Their first order of business was to plan how to raise funds to be distributed.

The Heating Assistance program is designed to assist people who need financial assistance with the purchase of oil, propane, wood, or electricity to keep warm during the winter. It relies entirely on donations—no tax dollars are involved. The program is not a replacement for the town's state mandated General Assistance program. It's meant to help those who do not qualify for General Assistance, but do not have the means to purchase heating

fuel during the winter.

As of this writing the fund raising efforts are just beginning. Fowler, Gaianguet and Grenier will be calling on local businesses and individuals for donations to the program. Assistance cannot be granted until there are funds to donate.

Folks who might qualify will apply through the Lamoine Town Office. The treasurer will supply the application information to the committee and the committee will decide swiftly if assistance can be granted. Qualifying applicants will be eligible for a one-time grant of up to 100-gallons of heating oil, or the equivalent in propane, wood, or electricity. Payments will go directly to the vendor supplying the heating fuel source, and the amount granted is dependent upon whether any donated funds are available at the time of application.

Selectmen Sign Cemetery Contract *Another Contract Pending*

(Lamoine) - The East Lamoine Cemetery Association will provide maintenance for graves of Veterans under an agreement with the town's Board of Selectmen. The town has agreed to pay \$30 per year per Veteran's grave in return.

A relatively new state mandate requires municipal care for Veterans' graves, regardless of whether they are located in a privately owned cemetery. The two largest cemeteries in Lamoine, East Lamoine and Forest Hill, are both run by non-profit corporations which arrange for maintenance and manage trust funds. In 2014 the East Lamoine Cemetery submitted a large bill to the town for care of Veterans' graves which would have exceeded the budgeted amount. Because the town has no written agreement with either cemetery, and no authority to exceed the budget, negotiations for a formal agreement began with both entities.

East Lamoine agreed to terms after some negotiation between the Selectmen and the association. Forest Hill Cemetery has made a counter offer to the Selectmen which the board found unacceptable.

Grave maintenance includes periodic mowing and repair of headstones for veterans graves. The town has paid for mowing at Marlboro Cemetery for several years, awaiting reformation of a Marlboro Cemetery Association.



Here's Your Sign (posts)
A forklift at the Maine Department of Transportation facility in Hancock loads up posts to go with about 30-street signs that will be installed next spring on Lamoine's Roads. The town took part in a sign replacement program through the MDOT and paid roughly \$160 for \$1,600 worth of signs. The new signs arrived in December.

Town Officials Eye Land Parcel

(Lamoine) - With an eye toward municipal needs of the future, the Board of Selectmen is looking across the street from the current town hall at a large parcel of land. The estate of Lawrence Collier owns the 49-acre parcel and has listed it for sale for just under \$100,000. The town has the parcel assessed for \$70,700.

The attraction of the parcel is its size and central location. The land border both Douglas Highway (Route 184) and Jordan River Road (Route 204) and is located in the Development Zone. It is not known if any portion of the land will pass a soils test to support a septic system.

Selectmen authorized town staff to inquire about the land in December. The Board of Selectmen also expressed a desire to have an idea in mind of possible land uses for the parcel.

One idea informally floated is the possibility of a future municipal building to potentially replace the current town hall. As the town grows, space in the present town office is limited. Parking is also a difficult problem, especially during larger board meetings, as folks have to park alongside Route 184 in the dark when the parking lot is full. The Selectmen will discuss this issue January, and potentially could ask the annual town meeting for authority to make an offer.

Gravel Ordinance Revisions Elusive

(Lamoine) - The most discussed issue in town government over the past two years has been the ordinance regulating gravel removal. Major changes to the ordinance at the 2013 town meeting resulted in one lawsuit, while a change to the Building and Land Use Ordinance in 2014 generated another suit, both of which have been dismissed, but could be revived.

The Board of Selectmen appointed a committee to review the ordinance closely and gather input from as many stakeholders that cared to share their thoughts. A report from that effort was delivered last summer, and since then the Selectmen have worked on potential ordinance changes to offer to voters. That is not likely to happen in time for the March 2015 town meeting.

The Planning Board has also been discussing possible changes to the ordinance and has a separate draft going. The Selectmen have requested that an effort be made to come up with a process to develop a document to present to voters in the not too distant future. The two boards have not jointly discussed the ordinance in many months, and while each board has seen the drafts from one another, a single document remains elusive. Both boards will discuss the process during meetings in January.

Turnout Strong for November Election

(Lamoine) - The lack of municipal issues on the ballot did not deter Lamoine citizens from casting ballots on November 4, 2014. More than 930 voters cast ballots, or 62.7% of those registered to vote. It's believed the gubernatorial election, a close congressional race, and a referendum about bear hunting attracted many voters.

The outcome pretty much mirrored the statewide outcome on many of the issues. Incumbent Governor Paul LePage outpolled challenger Michael Michaud by 97-votes. Voters also chose incumbent US Senator Susan Collins over challenger Shenna Bellows, despite Bellows local ties—she grew up next door in Hancock.

The only outcome in Lamoine that was contrary to a final vote was for State Representative as Lamoine Republican Maurice "Joe" Marshall outpolled Democrat Brian Hubbell by 110 votes. Hubbell won in the two other towns in the district, thus winning the two year seat. Their race was, by comparison, quite civilized. Both candidates exchanged pleasantries at the town office on Election Day as they greeted citizens coming to vote.

Early Storms Lead to Quiet December

(Lamoine) - You might forgive plowing contractor Richard McMullen if he muttered a lot in November 2014 and said "here we go again" a lot. Generally, he doesn't have to plow much until late in the month, or even until December. No so this time. A fierce storm that dropped a lot of heavy snow brought his crews out the very first weekend in November. That wasn't the worst problem though. A lot of people had flashbacks to December 2013 when a major ice storm knocked electricity out for over a week in some places.

The storm caused thousands in Emera Maine to lose power, and for a few hundred folks off the main roads in Lamoine, the outages lasted for up to 5-days. Then, it happened again, later in the month, around Thanksgiving time. The outages were less widespread and power restored a lot faster this time. In fact, the town's fire department didn't have to respond to any calls during the second storm (the first one had firefighters cutting trees out of the road if they did not involve power lines.).

Then - nothing. December saw very little precipitation fall in Lamoine. Christmas Day was the warmest in modern weather keeping records. There were a couple of mornings that a small amount of ice built up on road ways, and that got the salt/sand trucks out for a quick treatment.



A crew from Emera Maine's Lamoine maintenance facility repairs the lines on Douglas Highway during the November 2, 2014 storm.

McMullen was able to attend a Maine Department of Transportation class on treating roads with straight salt as opposed to using a salt/sand mixture. He may present an proposal to the Board of Selectmen over the winter for such a program, which could be more effective for storm cleanup, and leave no messy street sweeping needs in the spring.

Fire Department Deals with Tough Calls

(Lamoine) - Lamoine's firefighting corps had to deal with some pretty serious injuries during the final quarter of 2014. Most of the calls, though, were for assistance in neighboring communities.

Lamoine twice responded to assist the Trenton Fire Department with serious accidents. In mid-October, the fire department closed down Route 3 at the Route 204 (Jordan River Road) intersection and attempted to re-route traffic up Buttermilk Road and across the Bayside Road in Ellsworth while police dealt with an accident with serious injuries. Firefighters from Lamoine were also first on scene to an accident just across the Trenton town line on Jordan River Road in late November. A head on collision claimed the life of 53-year old Brenda

Woods of Hancock. Investigating deputies from the Hancock County Sheriff's Department said the vehicle Woods drove was on the wrong side of the road when it struck an SUV driven by 24-year old Jennifer Richter of Lamoine. Miss Richter is recovering from serious injuries. The Lamoine and Trenton firefighters worked cooperatively to re-route traffic and with heavy duty cutting tools to assist with victim removal.

The most serious in-town call involved a Lamoine Beach Road man who fell in his home, bringing a hot wood stove down with him on top of a leg. John Wuorinen's wife Susan was able to lift the stove up enough for him to get free and then called 9-1-1. The fire department was on scene within 4-minutes and provided first aid treatment to Mr. Wuorinen until County Ambulance arrived. He spent many days at Maine Medical Center in Portland for treatment of severe burns. The State Fire Marshal's Office concluded that the incident was an accident—it is mandated to investigate all incidents that involve a fire injury.

Firefighters also responded to Ellsworth to assist in a fire that damaged the Morton's Moo building on School Street. A fire alarm call in the early morning hours at the school saw the boiler in a portable classroom fail.

The final day of 2014 brought firefighters to a chimney fire on Lamoine Beach Road at 1AM. No one was injured, but the chimney suffered some damage in the incident on a cold December night.



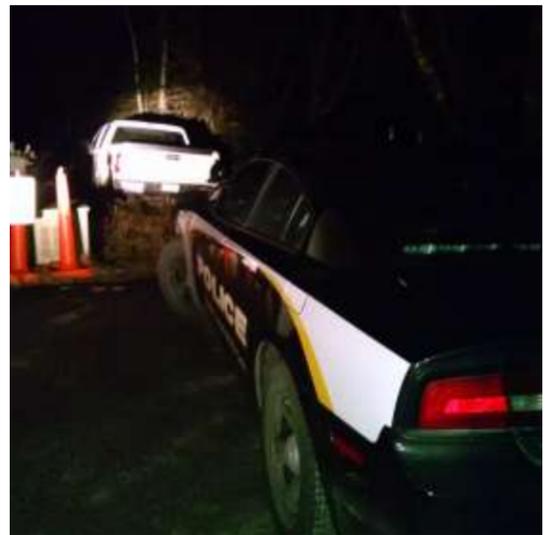
Grim Duty

Lamoine's firefighters assist at the scene of a fatal accident on the Jordan River Road in Trenton, just across the town line.

Bar Harbor Chase Ends in Lamoine

(Lamoine) - A lot of police cars descended on Sunday night, November 23, 2014. A chase that began when a Bar Harbor police officer attempted to stop a vehicle because the driver was allegedly texting, ended at the Lamoine Fire Station when the driver ditched the pickup truck (seen below) and ran off.

Officer Judson Cake, who *Lamoine Quarterly* readers might recognize as a multiple winner of the Flat Top 5K, attempted to catch the driver on foot, but waited for a State Police dog to arrive. A passing motorist apparently



picked up the driver who was from Beals Island and gave him a ride to Ellsworth. Police found him at a motel in Ellsworth and charged him with numerous violations.

Fire Departments Compare Trucks

(Ellsworth) - It might seem odd, especially because the fire departments in Ellsworth, Hancock, Trenton and Lamoine all work pretty closely together on the most serious calls, but none of the departments fully realized what equipment that the other departments have on hand. Lamoine resident and Ellsworth Fire Chief Richard Tupper organized a "show and tell" of sorts for all four departments in November to compare trucks and equipment. Lamoine brought five of its six trucks to the event at the former Lowe's parking lot in Ellsworth.

Besides having a good look at each other's gear, it was also an information sharing, and a few inexpensive ideas from other departments have been implemented by Lamoine. One example is a "chimney fire periscope" that Trenton's department devised. Lt. Chris Bean has made a similar device out of drain pipe and a mirror for Lamoine. The department has also purchased an illuminated stop/slow paddle for traffic control and signs that sit on traffic cones for detour routes.



Boat Ramp Upgrade in Design Phase



(Lamoine) - Lamoine State Park is pretty quiet in the winter months. The campground is closed, the pleasure boats have been hauled out, and just a handful of fishing boats remain moored at the park. The lobster fishermen like Harbor Master David Herrick (truck above) have hauled in their traps for the season. Even Park Manager Charlene “Sunshine” Hood is off for a few weeks. That doesn’t mean there is nothing happening, though.

State officials are preparing a design to greatly improve the boat launching facility at the State Park—something the folks who use the boat ramp on a regular basis have requested for many

years. The current ramp is practically unusable at mid to low tide, and the facility is not exactly user friendly for those who don’t launch all that often.

The initial idea discussed a year ago is to extend the launch ramp area further out into Frenchman Bay to give trailer access at low tide. A string of finger floats will potentially be located adjacent to the launching ramp, making it much easier to board and load boats.

Engineers will work on the design to get state and possibly local approval. Work is likely to take place after the summer tourist season according to the park manager.

All Recycling Still OK, For Now

(Hancock) - Coastal Recycling remains in business and accepting recyclable materials from Lamoine as usual. A couple of scares, though. The Town of Gouldsboro is pulling out of Coastal, opting for a single-sort operation instead. Gouldsboro was a major supporter of the Coastal Recycling operation. Manager Joyce Levesque also reported that the facility might not take glass any longer because it could not get rid of it. Maine Resource Recovery Association has since informed the town that glass can still be accepted. Lamoine still collects newsprint, plastic, cardboard, tin cans, mixed office paper and box-board (cereal type boxes) and glass at the transfer station. When containers are full, they are hauled to Coastal Recycling on Friday mornings.

Comprehensive Plan Update

By Fred Stocking

(Lamoine) - The Comprehensive Plan Committee has been meeting through the fall to educate itself about the process, gather material and plan on how to proceed. Starting with the January meeting on January 15th, we will go through one or two sections of Lamoine’s existing Comprehensive Plan (passed in 1996 and now too old to be in compliance with Maine rules). For each section we will review the existing text and data, look at the data provided by the State, and decide what further information is needed and how to get it.

We will also devote part of the next meeting to design on a simple questionnaire, designed to update opinions in the community for comparison with questionnaire results from 1993 and 2005. Ideally we would begin to distribute the questionnaires at Town Meeting. In March.

A bit later in the year, the committee will be asking each town committee and active community group to put the Comprehensive Plan on its agenda. Members of the Comprehensive Plan Committee will then attend to solicit views on Lamoine’s future from each committee and group.

The Comprehensive Plan Committee is composed of Fred Stocking (chair), Kathie Gaianguet (Vice-Chair), Bonnie Marckoon (Secretary), Valerie Sprague, Brett Jones, Richard McMullen, Bob Christie, and Andrea Ames (alternate). Mike Jordan and Cynthia Donaldson have also attended meetings and volunteered to help and more volunteers will be needed over the course of the process, which is likely to take at least another 18 months.

Conservation Commission Activities

By Anne Labossiere

(Lamoine) - A public meeting was held by the Lamoine Conservation Commission (LCC) on October 8 at the Lamoine Town Hall. Bruce Connery, Wildlife Biologist, Acadia National Park provided an excellent presentation re: “What Has Happened to the Bats of Hancock County, Mount Desert Island and Maine?” Nearly 30 people attended. A public presentation sometime in March will focus on birds and climate change.

The parking lot for the Simon Wood Trail has been. Volunteers will clear trees and branches that have fallen during our recent storms.

Work continues to place materials from the LCC Archives on the town’s website which would make them easier to access.

Linda Penkalski of the Lamoine Conservation Commission, John Peckenham of the University of Maine and Carol Duffy, teacher at Lamoine Community School have been working on the details of setting up this year’s **GET WET! Project**. In January Students will bring in a sample of their home’s water which they will evaluate.

LCC member, Doug Stewart met with Megan Facciolo, District Manager of Hancock Soil and Water Conservation District, at Blunts Pond. The Conservation Commission was interested in understanding the health of the pond and plans to contact the Park Commission to see if they might be interested in having our support in any future activities related to the information obtained by Facciolo.



The Conservation Commission Crew works on the Simons Trail Project—Fall 2014

Community Arts Group does Chekov

By Diane Sanderson (Lamoine) - Lamoine Community Arts had a terrific Fall play season, with four sold-out crowds during our five-day run of Chekhov plays, staged in the Lamoine-Bayside Grange. We enjoyed sharing the plays with new and old friends and loved being in period costumes for the event. We were delighted to receive many compliments and much support.



Kathy McGlinchey (left), Jim Pendergist, and David Schick (seated) perform one of the acts from the Fall 2014 Lamoine Community Arts production at the Lamoine Grange.

During the winter, we will stay busy with play readings at various members' homes as we search for just the right plays for our readers' theater in May, and for next Fall's full production. We are also planning to be in the Lamoine school on Fridays in January and February to work with the children in various art projects which may

include art projects, dramatic skits, baking, sewing, dancing, etc.

LCA has an active Facebook page with many pictures and comments as well as a web site (www.lamoinearts.org) with information about our organization including photos, highlights, and upcoming events. Call 667-6564 for membership information.

Play Group Up & Running

By Cynthia Donaldson (Lamoine)-The Lamoine's Little Children group is happy to announce that the Lamoine preschool play group is in full swing. The play group first met on November 8 and has continued to meet on Thursdays from 9:00-11:00 at the Lamoine Baptist Church. Thus far six families have participated with seven children engaging in free play, a snack, a craft project and a reading/singing circle while their parents/grandparents/great grandparents are enjoying an opportunity for coffee and conversation.



The group is open to all Lamoine families with preschool aged children (babies too!). Please call Brenda Clough at Special Children's Friends (667-2430) or Cynthia Donaldson (667-2382) for more information.

Lamoine School Excels At Robotics

By Dawn McPhail

Our school is privileged to be a member of the First Lego League (FLL), founded in 1998. FLL robotics program for 9 to 16 year olds is designed to get children excited about science and technology -- and teach them valuable employment and life skills. Teams, composed of up to ten children with two adult coaches, compete in yearly challenges. Students do the work of programming an autonomous robot to score points on a thematic playing surface. They then create an innovative solution to a



problem, all while being guided by the FLL Core Values. These three elements - the Robot Game, Project, and FLL Core Values - make up the yearly Challenge.

This year we sent two teams to the FLL Championship in Augusta on Saturday, December 13th. Both teams competed in day long challenges and performed extremely well. The 7th and 8th grade team took home the 1st place trophy for Mechanical Design, while the 5th and 6th grade team brought home the 2nd place trophy in the same category. The 7th and 8th grade team also placed 4th in the robot table challenges out of 70 teams, allowing them to proceed to the quarter finals where they placed 5th. The 5th and 6th grade teams placed 15th out of 70 teams in the robot table challenge.

Mitten Tree Warms Hearts, Hands

Each year, the Hancock Woman's Club visits Hancock Grammar School for the Mitten Tree. Last year, they expanded the tradition to include Lamoine Consolidated School. The members of the Woman's club knit mittens for all the students in kindergarten through third grade. They visit the school one morning in December and read two mitten-themed books to students - The Mitten by Jan Brett, and The Mitten Tree by Candace Christiansen. Students are then able to select a pair of mittens from the tree and keep them. The teachers and students at LCS are so grateful to have this rich experience. The Hancock Women's Club is seeking volunteers from Lamoine to help with the knitting. If you are interested in helping out please contact Dawn McPhail. She will put you in touch with the Hancock Women's Club.



The PATRONS held their first ever Snow Ball dance on December 5th. All Students (K-8) and families were invited to attend from 6:00-7:30 with the 5th through 8th grade taking over from 7:30 - 9:00. Students came dressed in their finest holiday outfits, with parents sporting their best "ugly" sweaters.



Dictionaries Distributed

(Lamoine) - Third grade students at the Lamoine Consolidated School received new dictionaries thanks to the Lamoine/Bayside Grange. Members Linwood and Yvonne Brann (pictured below with the class), discussed stewardship with the students and made their annual dictionary delivery. Mrs. Brann reports they discussed what trees produce, how birds help humans by eating bugs, and the importance of bees, both in pollinating crops like blueberries and in honey production. She said the 13-students kept the discussion quite lively for the half hour they were able to spend together. She was impressed by their knowledge and what they already knew about Grange matters.

January 2015—Lamoine Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1-Town office closed	2	3-Open 8-12
4	5	6—7PM Planning Board	7-8:15 AM Assessors	8-7PM Selectmen	9	10
11	12-6:30 PM Budget Cmte	13-6:30 PM Appeals Board	14-7PM Conservation Cmsn	15-6:30 PM Comprehensive Plan	16	17
18	19-Town Office Closed	20	21-6:30 PM Shellfish Conservation	22-7PM Selectmen	23	24
25	26-Nomination Papers Due	27	28	29-7PM Parks Commission	30	31-Open 8-12

February 2015-Lamoine Schedule

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

March 2015 Lamoine Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3-7PM Planning Board	4-8:15 AM Assessors	5—6:30 PM Comprehensive Plan	6	7-Open 8-12
8	9	10—Election Day 8am to 8pm	11-Open Town Meeting 6PM	12-7PM Selectmen	13	14
15	16	17	18 -6:30 Shellfish Conservation	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26—7PM Selectmen	27	28-Open 8-12 Flat Top 5K
29	30	31				

The Lamoine Quarterly
January 2015

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Town of Lamoine
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