Mason Wins Back Selectman Seat

(Lamoine) - After finishing a dozen votes short in March, ending a 3-year term on the Board of Selectmen, Nathan Mason is back. Voters selected Mason in a 2-way race to fill a vacancy created when Heather Fowler resigned in April due to work conflicts.

Lamoine saw an unusually high turnout on Election Day, June 14, 2016, as 401 ballots were cast. When the counting was over, Mason had 224 votes and challenger Wanda Whitten picked up support from 175 voters.

Mason’s term expires at the next annual town meeting in March 2017.

Town Says “NO” to Fiberight/MRC Trash

(Lamoine) - Voters at a special town meeting on May 24, 2016 rejected a question to sign on with a proposed trash to biogas plant for the next 15 years. Selectmen asked the meeting for approval of the agreement with the Municipal Review Committee (MRC) which along with a company called Fiberight has proposed the Hampden facility.

Resident Ken Smith, a retired engineer who helped to design trash incineration plants, has been skeptical about the numbers for the Fiberight option. The MRC has proposed contracts for 15 tons of trash delivered for the 15-year agreement. Smith says the towns have not received all the financial information about the plant’s costs.

Also courting the town is the Penobscot Energy Recovery Company (PERC), the incinerator in Orrington where the town currently sends its trash. The contract with PERC runs out in March 2018. The MRC currently manages that contract, and has opted to cut ties with PERC once the contracts expire. Coinciding with the contract expiration is an artificially high electrical purchase price for the electricity generated by PERC. The MRC contends that will make PERC unable to operate after 2018. PERC officials say they’ll be able to continue. The proposed price from PERC is approximately $86/t.

Selectmen are still weighing their options. Fiberight’s original goal was for municipalities to pledge 150,000 tons of trash. Lamoine generates about 550 tons per year that is sent to the PERC plant. Following the town meeting at which Lamoine rejected the MRC option, the group conceded they would not reach the 150,000 ton goal, and lowered the need and the plant size to accommodate 110,000 tons.

Mr. Smith is still analyzing data from PERC and will advise the Selectmen in July on the next possible step. Both options are a sizable increase in the current trash disposal costs at PERC.

We’re Going to Party Like It’s 2020

Sesquicentennial Committee Needed

(Lamoine) - If you like a good party, the Board of Selectmen would like to hear from you. In 2020, the town will turn 150-years old, and funding was approved at the annual town meeting to hold a big sesquicentennial (a pretty fancy word for 150th anniversary) birthday bash.

In 1995 the town threw itself a pretty good party organized by volunteers in November. The town threw an exciting event that was attended by approximately 2,000 people over the weekend. In 2020, the town will turn 150 years old, and funding was approved at the annual town meeting to hold a big 150th anniversary birthday bash.

The Board of Selectmen would like to start appointing folks to the committee this summer, with an aim to start planning a celebration beginning in the fall. Anyone who can help should contact the town hall as soon as possible.

Planning Board Considers Commercial Buildings

(Lamoine) - Lamoine’s Planning Board is set to hear testimony on a pair of commercial building projects on July 11th. Notices have gone to abutting property owners notifying them of the 6:30 PM hearing.

Up for approval is a fairly large project on Jordan River Road proposed by Michael Bradford. He plans to open his auto detailing business in a building, then construct two storage structures on the property next to his father’s business, Bradford Auto. The project has already received site plan approval from the Lamoine Planning Board, and clearing has started on the lot.

The other project will be an enhancement at Lamoine State Park to establish a public cooking pavilion and a septic system. The State of Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands submitted the plan a couple of months ago, and the Planning Board found the application complete in June, setting the public hearing for July. The plumbing inspector has also issued a new subsurface waste disposal system for the state park.

The town has seen an uptick in commercial building activity after a fairly lengthy drought. Approved a few months ago was a doctor’s office on Madison Avenue (off Walker Road) where Dr. Patricia Wyshak will be setting up shop. Construction is nearly complete on that facility approved in January. That same month, the Planning Board also approved a renewal of a permit by Richard and Steve McMullen to construct a salt/sand storage shed. The McMullens plow the town roads and state highways, storing that salt in the town’s building on Lamoine Beach Rd.

School Budget Approved, Validated

(Lamoine) - Voters swiftly passed the 2016/17 school budget in late May, taking just 37-minutes to approve the $2,523,481.91 spending plan. The budget represents a $106,610.32 spending increase from the current fiscal year, up a little more than 4.4%. However, increased state funding and use of education fund balance will mean a property tax increase of only $43,017.87, or 1.99%. Combined with the municipal and county budgets, the property tax rate should only increase by 1/10th of one mill (10-cents per thousand dollars in valuation) On a typical $200,000 property, that would mean a $20 property tax bill increase. The final rate will be set in early July by the Board of Assessors.

The validation vote on June 14 saw overwhelming approval (329-53). Voters also favored continuing the validation process (203-181).
Changes to Code Enforcement Office

State law requires that any plumbing inspector be licensed, while a Code Enforcement Officer has up to a year to become certified. Selectmen have reached contract agreements with both Gallegos and Jordan for the 2016/17 fiscal year. Each will receive a base rate on an expected amount of hours they will spend on the job. For any time beyond that, they will be compensated hourly. If they work less than the minimum hour base, they will be compensated at the base rate.

Gallegos will maintain office hours at the town hall on Mondays from 12-2, though not on holidays. The town’s website should be consulted for updated times. He will be on call as needed the rest of the week. People requiring his services are asked to contact the town hall which will relay messages. Jordan’s services will be purely on an as-needed basis. Town office staff notifies him when permit applications have come in to be processed and relays requests for inspections.

Both Jordan and Gallegos are no strangers to town government. Both serve with the Lamoine Volunteer Fire Department. Gallegos is the town’s facilities maintenance director. Jordan is one of the town’s three elected assessors, sits on the Comprehensive Planning Committee and has done a lot of maintenance work for the town.

Busy Quarter for Permits

(Lamoine) - Code Enforcement Officers Rick Gallegos and Millard Billings issued 18 construction permits from April—June.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Project</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commollari, B.</td>
<td>Amend RV, Shed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Griffin, T.</td>
<td>Deck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kilmer, Joyce</td>
<td>Deck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parkinson, J.</td>
<td>Shed, Addition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Littlejohn, R.</td>
<td>Deck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnston, W.</td>
<td>Driveway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murphy, S.</td>
<td>Driveway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seavey, K.</td>
<td>Deck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kimball, M.E.</td>
<td>Deck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baldridge M.</td>
<td>Residence, Garage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thorburn, J.M.</td>
<td>Garage/Shed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smith, Craig</td>
<td>Deck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramsaier, S.</td>
<td>Deck, Porch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Morris, Bruce</td>
<td>Deck, Steps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wyshak, P.</td>
<td>Sign</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garrison, D.</td>
<td>Residence, Barn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawser, J.</td>
<td>Shed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnston, K.</td>
<td>Garage</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition to the construction permits above, the plumbing inspector(s) issued 7 permits for new subsurface septic systems, six permits for internal plumbing and/or hook up installations, and one permit labeled as “other” for an onsite composting toilet with no water hooked up to a property in the Bar Harbor Highlands subdivision.

Town Advised to Appoint Shellfish Warden

(Lamoine) - The town’s insurance carrier has strongly suggested that each member town of the Frenchman Bay Regional Shellfishing group individually appoint a shellfish warden, even though the managing body of the organization has appointed a warden. State law reads that any town with a Shellfishing ordinance must appoint a warden to enforce the rules of that ordinance. The towns (Lamoine, Trenton, Hancock, Ellsworth, Sullivan, Sorrento and Franklin) all have adopted the same ordinance and a representative from each community makes up the joint municipal board that appointed Michael Hall of Gouldsboro as the shellfish warden. Mr. Hall is employed by the Ellsworth Police Department and is authorized to carry a firearm.

The insurance carrier (Maine Municipal Association Risk Pool) requires that armed officers be covered by a special insurance policy. The Ellsworth Police Department carries that policy for Mr. Hall. State Representative Brian Hubbell researched the matter for town Selectmen, and confirmed the legal services division of Maine Municipal Association that the town should appoint a Shellfish Warden in addition to the joint municipal board’s appointment. MMA’s legal department has advised the town an individual must be appointed—it cannot be an entity such as the Ellsworth PD. Selectmen appointed Mr. Hall.

Planning Board Approves Subdivision Expansion

(Lamoine) - Lamoine’s Planning Board members have approved addition of several more lots to the Marlboro Woods subdivision off Partridge Cove Road. Property owner Tim Ring has carved up the remaining land in the subdivision into six more house lots. The expansion required land to be set aside for common use, and an underground water tank and hydrant being installed on that lot. The Marlboro Woods subdivision has seen two expansions since its initial approval in 2003 and now has 24 house lots to go with the common lot. As of this April 11.articles have been constructed within the subdivision and another permit was pending in the new portion as of this publication date. Any new building permits that the fire tank installation be completed.

The new portion will require that Lydia’s Lane be extended by a few hundred feet and cul-de-sac at the end be constructed. The road is paved, but remains a privately maintained road by the residents of the subdivision.

The Planning Board agreed with Mr. Ring to accept 4.46 acres of land as the common lot, essentially taking one of the original subdivision lots out of play as a building lot as required by Lamoine Building and Land Use Ordinance.

New CTV Operator Named

(Lamoine) - Anyone who followed the Eastern Maine Class “B” Basketball champs, Ellsworth, will recognize Dylan Kelly. Selectmen appointed the recent EHS grad as the new Cable TV system operator. Kelly plans to attend the New England School of Communications in the fall and will work over the summer to complete his four classes. Daytime work with the Lamoine Volunteer Fire Department, EHS grad as the new Cable TV system operator.

For people living on the shore, the ordinance is quite important. Without such an ordinance, it would be difficult to obtain a mortgage for shorefront property, as lenders will often require that Flood Insurance be in place. The town requires that any structure be at least a foot higher than the base flood elevation identified on the flood maps supplied by FEMA.

Floodplain Ordinance Passes Easily

Easily

(Lamoine) - Voters at the special town meeting on May 24 swiftly and without debate approved the newest update to the Floodplain Ordinance. The State of Maine wrote the ordinance, replacing one approved about 13 years ago, and more importantly, updating floodplain maps. The new maps are in the town office and accessible at the FEMA website.

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Lamoine Quarterly - July 2016
Electronic Waste Collection Still a Hit

(Lamoine) - After a very successful first year in which collections far exceeded expectations, another electronic waste pickup day went off without a hitch in Lamoine. Electronics End in Brewer sent trucks and boxes to the Salt/Sand Shed area and residents from Lamoine and beyond brought in old TV’s, computers, cell phones, audio gear and all sorts of devices they no longer need or that are broken.

The company says this year’s load totaled more than 7-tons. The most commonly disposed of items were 132 CRT televisions, 45 computer towers, 26 CRT computer monitors, 48 desktop printers, and 16 laptop computers.

Among the items collected was an old CRT television set found alongside MacQuinn Road, illegally disposed of. That represents two fewer TVs than were found illegally dumped during the 2015 collection.

Lamoine’s Conservation Commissioners helped unload vehicles during the beautiful weather. Many people who dropped off the electronic waste also made donations to the Conservation Commission which turned in $258 for their fund.

Energy Efficiency Opportunities Available

Energy Presentation by COA Speaker Announces Opportunities

On May 4, at the invitation of the Lamoine Conservation Commission, Dr. Anna Demo, Director of Energy Education and Management at the College of the Atlantic, gave a presentation at the Lamoine Consolidated School explaining a number of programs under her leadership that aim to help individuals and businesses take advantage of financial incentives and new technologies for more efficient energy use. Two programs being run through the Community Energy Center that may be of interest to residents of Lamoine are discussed below.

COA Seeks Lamoine Residents to Participate in Discounted Energy Audit and Efficiency Upgrades

COA’s Community Energy Center is actively seeking participants in Lamoine and surrounding towns for a program that identifies groups of residents within discrete communities and negotiates bulk discounts for them on energy audits by certified auditors, which qualify participants for additional rebates through Efficiency Maine. COA students, with permission of the participants, then use audit reports to identify groups of participants who would benefit from similar services—like insulation or heating system upgrades—and for those interested, they negotiate bulk discounts on the needed services.

Again, these bulk discounts would be on top of the rebates for such services available through Efficiency Maine. If you are interested in participating in this program, or for more information, please contact Andrea Russell at the Community Energy Center: 207-801-5688 or arussell@coa.edu.

COA Grant Helps Businesses Implement Solar Projects

Local businesses considering solar electrical generation projects may be interested in a new program being launched by COA. A grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture will allow the Community Energy Center to assist selected businesses by offering planning and technical support for solar projects. Assistance to be provided might include siting analysis for a solar array, planning and technical support for solar projects. Assistance to be provided might include siting analysis for a solar array, financing, and incentives. Businesses interested in being considered for participation should contact the Community Energy Center at 207-801-5688 or ademco@coa.edu.

Members of Lamoine’s local girl scout troop placed the flags on the graves of Veterans at both Forest Hill and East Lamoine Cemetery this year. Photo Courtesy of Tiffany Davis

Selectmen Pursue Consent Agreement Conclusion

(Lamoine) - As reported in the April 2016 Lamoine Quarterly, Selectmen reached a consent agreement with the builders of a home set too close to Douglas Highway late last year. Most of the provisions in the signed agreement have been resolved except for one—collection of the fine and attorney fees.

In late June, the Selectmen authorized attorney Diane O’Connell to continue to pursue collection of the payment due per the agreement.

Gravel Lawsuit Update

(Lamoine) - A suit brought against the town by three gravel mining companies remains active following rejection of a proposed gravel ordinance last November. The suit originated shortly after voters approved a new gravel ordinance in 2013 changing the mining setback from property lines from 50-feet to 100-feet. The gravel operators, Harold MacQuinn, Inc., Doug Gott & Sons, and John W. Goodwin Jr., contend that the town has taken property without just compensation by making an additional 50-feet along their property line borders off limits.

A mediation session required by the court system is planned on July 5th in Bangor. Town officials will attend with attorney Daniel Pileggi. The town office will be closed until noon that day due to a scheduled vacation day.

Donation from Church Assists with Flag Display Costs

(Lamoine) - The town has received a $625.00 donation from the Lamoine Baptist Church in the memory of Merrill Boynton for its flag display fund. Mr. Boynton, a World War II Veteran, left a major bequest to the town on his passing a few years ago, and the church Board of Trustees felt it would be fitting that a donation was made to help keep the utility pole flags in good order. Each flag costs approximately $25.00. Weather and wind take a toll on the flags, with up to half of them being replaced annually with new banners. The flags are on display from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Approximately 48 flags are mounted on the utility poles by town staff.
Parks Commission Cleans Bloomfield

(Lamoine) - There’s something about being a parks commissioner in Lamoine that can be very satisfying—and that’s having a “hands on” say on how the town’s two recreational parks will look. This spring the commissioners focused on Bloomfield Park, which hasn’t had a lot of maintenance over the past few years. There were no major projects needed, but things just needed to be cleaned up a bit. Commission chair Cathi Goebel recruited her husband Peter while commissioner Maggie Andros got the entire household involved, manning rakes, chainsaws and shovels, and giving the park a nice, minor make over. In addition to removing fallen trees and limbs from the trail and the beach, and the wild area around the park access road, the committee also reset the sign coming into the park entrance. A call for other volunteers, alas, was only answered by one non-commissioner (your author), but a nice Saturday morning was spent in the park in May. Town staff maintains the two larger parks during the summer months.

Summer Road, Park Work Planned

(Lamoine) - With the paving out of the way, the road work for the Summer of 2016 will all be relatively minor in nature. The Road Commissioner has assigned numerous minor repair projects to the crews from Jay Fowler & Son and McMullen Landscape and Construction to complete before fall. Several of the projects have already started. In addition, Facilities Maintenance Director Rick Gallegos is working on some parks maintenance items.

The roads seeing a fair amount of shoulder work are Buttermilk Road, Mill Road, Asa’s Lane and Marlboro Beach Road. Additionally, Berry Cove Road and Gully Brook Road will be heavily graded with the shoulders / ditches shaped to promote better water runoff.

The winter sand removal contract and the roadside and landfill cap mowing contract were awarded to George Crawford this year. The two bids submitted for the mowing contract were very close—just $17.50 apart. Crawford was mowing the tall grass on the shoulders as July was starting. At the parks, a new sign graces Lamoine Beach Park advising people that overnight camping and parking are not allowed by town ordinance.

Raccoon Cove Road gets a fresh layer of pavement as the 2016 paving projects were completed in May.

Does Lamoine Have a Rabbit Problem?

(Lamoine) - The answer to the headline above is “potentially, yes”. Folks driving the roads this spring reported a lot of rabbits on the roadside. Some of them tempted fate with motor vehicles and lost, becoming a tasty meal for the ravens and turkey vultures. These are not necessarily the problem rabbits.

Animal Control Officer Shannon Byers reports domesticated bunnies are what concerns her. She found a family of 7 rabbits living in the outhouse at Bloomfield Park. She was able to capture them and took them to the Peace Ridge Sanctuary in Penobscot where they will be neutered and potentially adopted out. Byers says the intervention likely helped prevent a population explosion as rabbits will do, what rabbits do.

There is also a rabbit rescue on Cottontail Lane in Lamoine, which may have helped contribute to an increase in the popularity of pet rabbits. While they’re cute, rabbits are not necessarily the right pet for everyone, and occasionally after causing destruction to wires, wood and the like, people have been known to let them run wild. If you have questions about problem rabbits, contact Shannon (812-0168).

Summer Paving Done Early

(Lamoine) - A combination of favorable paving prices and a lot of projects taking place in Eastern Maine combined for an early application of hot top to the two roads the town budgeted to pave in the 2016/17 fiscal year. Lane Construction was the low bidder for paving services in this cycle as the town opted to put a fresh layer on Raccoon Cove Road and a portion of MacQuinn Road.

The last time Raccoon Cove Road had a new layer of pavement was in 2002, and it was showing its age pretty hard when it came up in the paving cycle for 2016. It’s not clear when the last time MacQuinn Road had a new layer of pavement. The Harold MacQuinn company has voluntarily kept the road patched up from time to time which is greatly appreciated by the people who travel that route. It was felt that a new layer of pavement from Route 184 up to the town line area would greatly enhance the road surface life.

Prior to starting the paving, Lane Construction had requested through paving consultant Roger Picard to start Lamoine prior to the beginning of the fiscal year. Lane has several large scale projects lined up, including repaving Route 1-A in Dedham and Holden as well as Route 1 in several parts of Washington County. The town will be billed for the paving after July 1st.

With a rake is Needles Eye Road resident Emma Andros. She and her brother Ivan helped the Parks Commission give the park at Blunt’s Pond a good spruce up.

These domestic rabbits were captured at Bloomfield Park by Animal Control Officer Shannon Byers and taken to the Peace Ridge Sanctuary.

Maggie Andros got the entire household involved, manning rakes, chainsaws and shovels, and giving the park a nice, minor make over. In addition to removing fallen trees and limbs from the trail and the beach, and the wild area around the park access road, the committee also reset the sign coming into the park entrance. A call for other volunteers, alas, was only answered by one non-commissioner (your author), but a nice Saturday morning was spent in the park in May. Town staff maintains the two larger parks during the summer months.

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Fire Department
Auction August 5th

(Lamoine) - The Lamoine Volunteer Fire Department’s annual auction is about a week earlier than normal this summer. It’ll be Friday, August 5, 2016 with a preview starting at 5PM and the bidding starting at 6PM.

Auction chair Joe Young and the members of the fire department are in the process of collecting useful items and gift certificates from local businesses to put out to bid. Anyone who might have something to donate is asked to call Deputy Chief Stu Marckoon at the town office (667-2242) to arrange for pickup or drop off.

Mike Hodgkins of Trenton has graciously offered his services again this year as the auctioneer. The Lamoine Grange plans to serve light dinner offerings prior to the bidding.

The auction is one of the major fund raisers for the fire department annually.

Bequest Left to Fire Department

(Lamoine) - The passing of a Lamoine resident several months ago saw a sizable windfall to the town’s volunteer fire department. The Estate of Naomi Alexander sent a check for more than $17,600. It’s the largest donation ever made to the fire department.

The bequest came as a complete surprise to Chief Skip Smith and the rest of the fire department. There are no plans to use the donation at this time. The fire department has been successfully raising funds for a new gas detector and as a possible match for a federal grant to purchase new self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA-airpacks). The department has talked in the past about installing an underground tank at the fire station for water storage with a large capacity pump in order to fill fire trucks quickly with clean water. The funding may allow that project to move forward in the near future.

Two Lamoine FFs Graduate

(Ellsworth) - Lamoine’s available firefighting force grew by two more in June as Rick Martens and Phil Richter graduated from the Hancock County Firefighter Academy. Both are now qualified as interior firefighters.

Both Richter and Martens spent every other weekend doing everything from rolling hose, climbing ladders, pounding tires and breaking out of burning buildings, along with an extensive workbook study starting in December and running through May.

Richter is a Maine Game Warden who has lived in Lamoine for more than 20-years. He joins his son Jayson who is a professional firefighter in Portland. Martens is employed with the James W. Sewall Company. He recently moved to Lamoine with his wife and two small children. Both joined the fire department in the Fall of 2016 and are great additions to the volunteer force.

Original Rescue Boat Sold

(Ellsworth) - The rescue boat used to save numerous lives off the coast of Lamoine for the past 15-years or so will be plying the fresh water lakes of Ellsworth. The city council approved of paying the Lamoine Volunteer Fire Department for the boat, motor and trailer this spring.

The purchase price was $5,000.00. The day before the fire department took delivery, Ellsworth responded to a fire on an island in Branch Lake that required water transportation for firefighters. The Orland Fire Department provided the boat for that operation—Lamoine stood by the Ellsworth fire house during that blaze.

Firefighters Get Text Calls Now

(Ellsworth) - Effective the last week of June, Lamoine and most other Hancock County Departments will get sent to fire scenes by two methods. The traditional pager activation will come first. That when a radio tone activates the pagers that fire department members carry with them. The beeping is followed by the dispatcher getting onto the radio and verbally giving the nature of the call and its location. Often that’s in a noisy environment and can be difficult to understand. Following the pager, the Hancock County RCC is now sending a text message to firefighters with cell phones giving the same information. The first few calls in Lamoine have been very successful.

LVFD Trucks Roll Often during Quarter

(Lamoine) - Motor Vehicle Accidents, wildfires, and wind storms kept Lamoine’s Volunteer Fire Department pretty busy between April and June. A huge wind storm that toppled the bleachers at Ellsworth High School’s track also was responsible for four calls on April 6th and 7th for trees on power lines and in the road.

Dry weather saw several towns request Lamoine’s crew for mutual aid, either battling wildfires or providing station coverage. Rainfall in the area was nearly non-existent, and fire danger at times was very high. There were several vehicle accidents the fire department responded to. The most intriguing response came at 3:30 in the morning on May 18th when a vehicle went off Mud Creek Road and struck a tree. The caller who reported the crash also reported that there was no one at the scene. Firefighters responded quickly and confirmed the lack of occupants, but an airbag had deployed, and State Police continue to investigate. An accident at Lamoine Corner saw significant damage but no injury when a vehicle drifted into the wrong lane and struck a large dump truck. And a teen driver suffered minor cuts and bumps when her car drifted onto the shoulder of Partridge Cove Road in June. She told investigators she over corrected and flipped the car over, and it rolled into some trees. She wore a seat belt.

The most serious fire responses were out of town. In late March, Lamoine sent a tanker and firefighters to Fletcher’s Landing Township for a structure fire that destroyed a garage. On April 15th, Lamoine sent two vehicles and manpower to Bar Harbor for a barn and wildlife. And on April 21st, Lamoine firefighters worked alongside Trenton, Hancock and Ellsworth at a house fire on Fern Gully Lane into the early morning hours.

And then there was the “deer rescue”. A Lormier Road resident reported a deer was stuck in lobster gear. Firefighters launched the new rescue boat, and when they got on scene, found the “deer” was actually a log with branches that looked like antlers from a distance.

Cell Tower Lease
Extension Nets $20K Payment

(Lamoine) - Leasing land behind the old landfill has proven profitable to the town. American Tower Company which owns the equipment recently negotiated a lease extension with a $20,000 signing bonus. The town received that payment in early May.

The Lamoine Town Meeting in March authorized the lease extension and directed Selectmen to allocate the money to three funds. The Recreation Fund, the Sesquicentennial Fund (see page 1) and the Heating Assistance fund all received $6,666 and change to bolster their fund balances.

The tower lease was originally 30-years and pays the town on an annual basis.

The town currently receives $1,150 per month which is used annually to offset property taxes.

5
Committee Comings & Goings

(Lamoine) - In the municipal government world, this is the beginning of the new year. As such, town personnel for the most part begin a new term of service, depending on when their appointments to various positions expire.

The Board of Selectmen made their annual appointments in mid-June, and all the paid staff is returning to their posts. Most of the volunteer board and committee members also agreed to serve another term as well, but there are a few exceptions.

Julie Herrick retired from the Parks Commission. She was one of the original commissioners when voters approved the Parks Ordinance. Taking Julie’s place will be Jeff Cosulich who also serves as an alternate member of the Conservation Commission.

Brett Jones has stepped down from the town’s Comprehensive Planning Committee. Alternate member Michael Jordan is taking his place, and named as an alternate was Wanda Whitener, who came up short in the race for Selectman (see page 1).

A few positions remain open, including alternate members of the Budget Committee, Parks Commission and the Conservation Commission. People interested in filling those important roles should contact the town office.

Town Office Computers Upgraded

(Lamoine) - For those who use PCs, you’ll know that Windows 10 is the latest operating system from Microsoft, and the company has been pretty persistent about having people upgrade to that system. One of the computers in the town office installed the upgrade over a weekend without prompting, and that caused a bit of chaos. The Windows 10 machine didn’t play nicely with the Windows 7 computers, and really didn’t like the Windows XP computer at all.

Lamoine’s Technology Committee proposed to the Selectmen that two computers be upgraded—one in the clerk’s office (the XP machine), and the laptop in the Code Enforcement Officer’s room will be swapped out for a desktop computer. The CEO laptop will become a scheduling computer in the Cable TV room instead. All the machines will operate on Windows 10—the free upgrade expires in late July.

As of the end of June, the new computer in the clerk’s office was up and running, and the computers were once again working well in sync with each other over the internal office network. The clerk’s office computer required a new label printer for voter registration, as the original printer is no longer made and is not compatible with Windows 10. The Lamoine School Department also supplied Microsoft Office licenses with the town office for the new machines.

New Voting Machine Available

(Lamoine) - A fancy new machine that uses a touch screen to let people vote was installed for the June 14, 2016 primary election. The ExpressVote device is designed to allow those with disabilities to be able to fill out their own ballots, but is also able to be used by any voter who wishes to try it. One person utilized it for the June primary.

The machine (shown right) utilizes a card which is inserted, and the touch screen asks for the voters choices. When voting is done, it will print the card which is then inserted into the vote counting machine and tabulated with the regular ballots.

The ExpressVote machine was supplied to all Maine towns by the company has been pretty persistent about operating system from Microsoft, and the windows XP computer at all.

cookie consent banner}

Guest Mooring Approved, Installed

(Lamoine) - Visitors accessing Lamoine State Park by boat will be able to tie up to a guest mooring for a couple of days at a time thanks to a new policy adopted by Lamoine’s Harbor Master and the Board of Selectmen. David Herrick arranged to have a large stone with an iron ring installed in the mooring field.

The policy requires boaters wishing to tie up to the mooring to contact Herrick or the Town Office to schedule their dates. There is no charge to use the mooring, and use is on a first come, first served basis. The mooring can only accommodate boats less than 30-feet in length. Herrick obtained a permit from the Army Corps of Engineers and Robert Collier of Bar Harbor installed the large stone in the mooring field.

This chunk of granite with a large iron ring was donated by Harold MacQuinn, Inc and will serve as the guest mooring at Lamoine Harbor.

Towns Collaborate on Cable TV Deal

(Lamoine) - Officials from Trenton, Hancock and Lamoine have agreed to discuss renewal of the Cable TV Franchise Agreement with Charter Communications (which just purchased Time Warner), through a common attorney. Lamoine and Hancock’s franchises expire in 2018, while Trenton was unsure when their agreement runs out. Both Hancock and Lamoine are reimbursed a percentage from cable TV subscriptions. Lamoine’s revenue from that has been used to run the local cable TV channel, and Hancock’s franchise fee has been used to purchase gear.

The towns have asked Lamoine’s town attorney if he is willing to represent the three communities in upcoming negotiations with the cable company.

Ain’t No Sunshine…..

(Lamoine) - The somewhat cryptic headline has to do with the now former manager at Lamoine State Park. Charlene Hood (better known as “Sunshine”) has left the park and the seasonal job for a year round park manager’s position at Bradbury Mountain State Park in Pownal.

Hood came to Lamoine in 2012, and is credited with helping to facilitate a major improvement in the boat launch system, including a complete replacement and extension of the boat ramp which significantly improve safety and convenience in Lamoine’s harbor. She worked with the recreational and commercial boating community, and was universally well liked by her staff.

The Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands is searching for a permanent replacement for Hood.

The new ground-out floats at Lamoine State Park were installed in the spring by the State of Maine as part of the boat ramp upgrade, making it much easier, and safer, to launch and retrieve boats.
Lamoine Community Arts Launches Major Fund Drive to Fix Grange

By Carol Korty
(Lamoine) - A lot of Lamoine residents have received a mailing to help Lamoine Community Arts raise funds to fix up the Grange Hall. The building on the corner of Lamoine Beach Road and Shore Road needs both structural and façade improvements as the Grange and LCA work collaboratively to keep the building functional.

This has been an exciting spring for LCA. Lots of activity. We now have theatrical lights at the Grange! By the end of the summer a full upgrade of the electrical system on the main floor will be complete. When you come to the fall performance, we know you'll be impressed. We're grateful to all those who contributed to this renovation expense. Most recently are:

Students from our school who performed An Evening of Jazz and Drama in May on the Grange stage. The Lamoine Drama Club had proposed this as a fundraiser to contribute to the renovation of the building. What fun it was! The Advanced Band performed works in several different styles, followed by a Readers’ Theater version of a dramatized folktale, culminating in the staging of an original script, WOLF, written and directed by 6th grader Gabriella Giblin. Many thanks to these students, their teachers Carol Duffy and Karen Hawthorne, and the packed house for raising $565! We look forward to more student uses of our Grange.

LCA Readers’ Theater of AN AMERICAN DAUGHTER, by Wendy Wasserstein, followed on May 20 and 21. This politically provocative play was an ambitious piece that stimulated much discussion afterward. Audience donations made a significant contribution to LCA’s operation expenses.

A big Yard Sale at the Grange, June 11 and 12, brought great weather, many donations, lots of sales, and much to give to HOME, Goodwill, and our Transfer station swap shop at the end. This community endeavor enabled us to meet our expense budget for the year.

What next? Auditions for the fall production of two hilarious one act plays: TREVOR by John Bowen and WANDA’S VISIT by Christopher Durang. Directors Carol Korty and Wynne Guglielmo will audition actors on Saturday, July 16 and 23, 9-noon and Sunday, July 24, 4-6 PM at the Grange. We also need volunteers to Assistant Direct and/or work on production design. Call 667-4441 or 667-5073 with questions.

Everyone’s invited to LCA’s annual meeting, Monday, August 8, 6:30 PM at the Grange. We will discuss fundraising, reports, even a little performance. Learn about the organization and many ways in which you could participate.

Community Arts Scholarships Awarded

By Bill Reynolds
(Lamoine) - The 2016 Lamoine Community Arts Summer Scholarship Program has awarded Summer Camp scholarships to four students; a fourth grader, a sixth grader, and a seventh grader attending the Lamoine Consolidated School and a sixth grader attending the Trenton Elementary school. Three of the students will be attending the Grand Summer Theater Youth Camp in Ellsworth, ME. Jul 25 – Aug 19. This camp provides the opportunity for students interested in music and drama to experience all aspects of theater production, as well as an opportunity to perform for the public.

The fourth student will attend the Summer Festival of Arts in Bar Harbor, ME July 5 – July 24. SFOA is an all-arts intensive festival offering classes in the visual arts, traditional crafts, music, dance, creative writing, theater, filmmaking and more. Artists, whose common goal is to inspire imagination and have fun, teach the classes. The three week session ends with a Grand Finale that allows the attendees to demonstrate their talents through performance, presentation, or visual displays.

Lamoine Community Arts is pleased to be able to help local students attend summer camps to enrich their lives through the arts. A special thanks is directed to Dawn McPhail and Betty Eaton of the Lamoine Consolidated School for their enthusiastic support of our program.

Garden Club Brightens Up Town

With the support of landowners Blake and Terri Hodgkins, Ellsworth Garden Club members Sandra Fenton, Monica Moeller, Larry and Phyllis Mohraten replanted the raised garden bed with a mixture of colorful annuals and perennials. The daffodils were still in full bloom on the day of planting. Blake and Terri's daughter Alida volunteered joined us and will help with watering. Sophie will supervise. Thanks to Seal Cove for the "nannyberries" used to enrich the soil.

Also, many thanks to Cynthia Donaldson and Georgia Munsell who have weeded and mulched the gardens around the flagpole and by the front entrance to the town hall. It looks fabulous!

Selectmen Recognize Honor Graduates

(Lamoine) - A relatively small class of 2016 saw three Lamoine students graduate with honors from local high schools. The Board of Selectmen signed certificates of commendation for Emma Andros, Nicole Brown, and Kaleb Payson who all graduated from Mt. Desert Island High School.

Exercise Group Meets Mondays & Wednesdays

(Lamoine) - An exercise session starts each Monday and Wednesday at 8:15 AM at the Lamoine Baptist church. The strength building workout includes an aerobic warm up, upper and lower body strength with optional weights, and a yoga cool down. More information is available from Iris at 667-5069 or Mary at 667-7083. There is no charge to attend and workouts are adapted to age and ability.

Lamoine Quarterly - July 2016

Scholarships Awarded to Lamoine College Students

(Lamoine) - The Allen & Laurene Hodges scholarships for 2016 have gone to all six college students who applied for the assistance, and each will receive $3,900 toward their tuition. Four of the students attend Husson University, one attends U-Maine Presque Isle, and one is a student at the University of New England. The Board of Selectmen appoints a subcommittee to review the applications.

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Stuart Marckoon, Adm. Asst.
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## July 2016 Lamoine Schedule

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<td>12 Town Office closed at lunch</td>
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<td>17 Town Office Closed @ Lunch 7PM -Historical Soc Presentation*</td>
<td>18-7PM Board of Selectmen</td>
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<td>20-9am-2pm Historical Society Yard Sale</td>
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