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# ❖ The Lamoine Quarterly ❖

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## Thieves, Vandals Target Lamoine Homes

(Lamoine) — Two 18-year olds and a 17-year old boy are accused of theft, arson, and vandalism in crimes that may spread far and wide in Lamoine and other parts of Hancock County. State Trooper Alden Bustard arrested Brian Lennon of Ellsworth and Michael Tibbets of Lamoine and the unidentified juvenile after he encountered them in a gravel pit in Otis. The trio had claimed to Trooper Bustard that a man had pulled a gun on them. It turned out the man was a burglary victim, and the three teen-agers were riding in a stolen vehicle. Police think that vehicle was the 5th one they had stolen the same day.

The crime spree went on for a few weeks, and the District Attorney's office is compiling evidence against the boys for the grand jury. A lot of the crime was in Lamoine, much of it in the neighborhood where Tibbets lived.

The following is a compilation of reports received at the town office of crimes committed around the time the three are believed to have gone on a spree. They've not been formally charged with all of the crimes, and until such time as a court or jury convicts them, they are considered innocent:

- Fox Run—Home broken into, fixtures damaged, computer & CD player stolen.

building.

- Lamoine—Street signs stolen from Last Resort Lane, Dick's Rock Road, Kelley Lane and Ice House Lane.

According to newspaper reports, Lennon, Tibbets and the juvenile have admitted to their roles in the car fire and the vandalism at Lamoine State Park. The State Fire Marshal's Office has accused them with two counts of arson in connection with the General Store and at a gravel pit in Otis. Several other burglaries in the Otis/Mariaville area may be linked to the trio.

The crime victims were quite upset by the activity. One Fox Run resident said it struck her that complete strangers were going through her personal belongings, and that she felt invaded by the thieves. She said her neighbors with the water damage were in tears when they called to find out what had happened.

Others in town reported feeling very uneasy after the crime spree. The Board of Selectmen discussed the situation and agreed it would be a good idea to hold a community forum with the Hancock County Sheriff's Department and/or the Maine State Police to help people prevent crimes. The town will make arrangements with the Sheriff's

## Town Completes Anderson Home Purchase

(Lamoine) — The Selectmen, Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and former landowners Nathan and Marti Anderson have closed a chapter on the capped Lamoine landfill. On December 18th, the Andersons signed a deed selling their property to the town for \$100,000. A special town meeting earlier in the year approved the purchase as the best long-term alternative for fixing a contaminated well on the Anderson property.

The Andersons have long been plagued with bad water. The DEP and town have monitored their well for years, and scientists determined it was leachate from the old landfill that was causing the poor water quality. Initially, the DEP planned to work with the town to install an off-site well for \$25,000. A re-figuring of the costs drove that price up to \$50,000 with no guarantee the problem would be solved. The DEP committed to provide 90% of the costs of the new well, and the Andersons offered to sell the house and land to the town for \$100,000. The DEP said they would contribute 90% of the well cost toward the purchase, along

Thermostat turned up all the way.

- Kitt's Crossing—Newly finished home broken into, sink torn from wall and water gushed into home for several days causing possibly \$200,000 damage to walls, floors, furnishings
- Fox Run—Home broken into, videotape camera stolen, homes and car vandalized.
- Meadow Point Road—Home broken into and vandalized, TV stolen, fire started on table failed to ignite
- Lamoine Transfer Station—Fire extinguisher and 1st aid kit stolen. Fire extinguisher found at Lamoine Beach Park emptied into outhouse
- Lamoine State Park—Door to ticket booth kicked in, booth vandalized
- Lamoine General Store—Car stolen in Ellsworth set on fire within 20-feet of

Department in January and inform residents about when and where.

Chief Deputy Richard Bishop of the Sheriff's Department said it's a matter of people watching out for one another and then reporting things that are out of the ordinary to law enforcement officials. Reacting to several mailbox thefts reported in December, Bishop said somebody surely saw something, and probably didn't realize criminal activity was taking place. He said when the community forum takes place, they will distribute materials to assist in stopping crime.

A public safety committee formed in 2001 had recommended the town look at contracting for a few hours of patrol weekly, but the idea was rejected as not cost effective at the time. Others have suggested a volunteer watch patrol as was done years ago.

with associated legal and appraisal costs. Selectmen asked the town meeting which option they would prefer, and by a narrow margin, the purchase was approved.

Selectmen obtained an appraisal on the property prior to closing, and assuming potable water, appraiser Jennifer Jones put the value at \$122,500. The DEP said it would send the town a check in late December for its share of the costs.

Up next is what to do with the property. The town will have to insure the property. Besides the Anderson home, there is a good sized garage, a storage shed and a wood shed on the lot. The well will have to be capped off per the agreement with DEP. Selectmen will begin soliciting ideas (*see page 3*) for the property's use during this year, and might present various options to the March Town Meeting.



### *Crime Spree Victim*

The burned remains of a 1988 Chrysler New Yorker stolen from Ellsworth sit near the Lamoine General Store. The fire department put out the blaze quickly after arriving on scene at 3:45 AM. According to newspaper reports, three teen-aged boys stole the car and got it stuck behind the store. While one watched from the Town Hall the other two stuffed a rag into the gasoline tank and lit it on fire. Upon arrival the gas tank exploded, placing

firefighters in peril. A passing police officer from Mt. Desert spotted the blaze as he was headed home from his shift on the Island. (*Photo by Maury Oliver*)

## Town Meeting March 4th & 5th, 2003

(Lamoine) — The annual town meeting will take place on March 4th & 5th 2003. Voting for municipal officers and on any referendum questions will take place on Tuesday the 4th from 10am to 8pm. The open town meeting takes place on the 5th at 6:00 PM

Nomination papers became available at the town office on December 10th. There are two openings on the school committee, one for Selectman, and one for Tax Assessor. Petitions must be turned in no later than Tuesday, January 21, 2003 for a candidate's name to appear on the ballot. The Town Clerk/Tax Collector's position is no longer an elected office as of this year.

## Stump Grinding Proposed Off Mill Road

(Lamoine) — The Lamoine Planning Board is reviewing an application to locate a stump grinding operation on land owned by Doug Gott & Sons, Inc. off Mill Road. The land is located in the area of an old gravel pit, and behind several gravel mining operations.

The preliminary application indicated that the stump grinder would be moved to the property from time to time where stockpiles of stump materials would be left for grinding operations. The finish material would be a mulch material suitable for fill and/or

landscaping purposes. Company president Tim Gott said it's a potentially very costly matter on building projects, as stumps are either buried on-site or have to be hauled to a licensed landfill in Southwest Harbor. Mr. Gott has owned a large grinder for several years and moves the huge portable machine to a few centralized locations to process the materials. The Board visited the proposed site in December and may consider the application again at its meeting in January. Neighbors will get a chance to express their opinions.

## Building Permits Shatter 1-Year Record!

(Lamoine) — Any effects from the supposed recession seem to have worn off in Lamoine during 2002. Code Enforcement Officer John Holdsworth issued 88-building permits by mid-December, and more are expected soon. The lack of affordable housing on Mt. Desert Island is one of the reasons realtors cite for people's interest in Lamoine.

The previous record for permits issued in a year was 72, which occurred in 1999. The number issued this year represents a 44% increase from the number of permits issued in 2001. Not all permits are for residences, but of the 30 permits issued since October 1st, half were for residences. The estimated market value on each home according to the numbers listed on the building permit application shows very high quality construction as well, with the average estimate at just over \$209,066. Realtors report no problems selling land and homes in



*This house on Pasture Way is one of four building permits issued in the new Saltwater Farm Subdivision. Construction takes place year round.*

Lamoine, especially as the Jackson Laboratory and several boat builders hire more well paid and highly skilled workers.

## The Permit List

Nbr.	Name	Type
54	Art Carey	Shed
55	Nelson Durgin	Home
56	Nelson Durgin	Garage
57	Billy Griffin	Garage
58	Peter Meyer	Addition-Deck
59	Richard Wallace	Addition
60	Elizabeth Belch	Residence
61	Lynda McIntire	Residence
62	James Gallagher	Residence
63	Harold Boynton	Deck
64	Bruce Parlee	Addition
65	Richard King	Utility Building
66	Bruce Oleson	Garage
67	Robert Pulver	Residence
68	Aaron Brown	Garage
69	Lynda Tadema-Wielandt	Residence
70	Michael Field	Addition
71	Charles Cobb	Addition
72	Robert Whigham	Addition
73	Brenda Johnson	Residence
74	Charles Swanberg	Garage
75	Maury Oliver	Addition
76	Michael Jordan	Residence
77	Sara Hurd	Residence
78	Bruce Wiltse	Garage
79	Hannah Wallace	Residence
80	Sno-Drum LLC	Residence
81	Hollis Fickett	Residence
82	Steve Joy	Residence
83	Tony Belch	Residence
84	Richard Fennelly Sr.	Storage Bldg
85	Raymond Weymouth	Greenhouse
86	Sandra Gray	Residence
87	David Grasso	Residence
88	Heidi Crowley	Residence

# Building & Land Use Ordinance Changes Proposed

(Lamoine) — The Planning Board will try again this spring to institute changes designed to protect the large underground water resource in town. Last year, restrictions on the aquifer were soundly defeated in a referendum vote by the Town Meeting.

The new changes would again add a zone to town called the Aquifer Protection Zone (APZ). While the proposal last year would have barred commercial development in the APZ, this year's version does not. Certain commercial activities would be banned under this proposal, such as campgrounds and trailer parks, car washing establishments, and mineral exploration. Sand and gravel pits would be allowed only by people who currently own licensed pits being allowed to expand to their present boundaries. Subdivisions would be limited to 12-units.

The minimum lot size in the new zone would be 60,000 square feet up from the current 40,000 square foot minimum. There are some grand-fathering provisions in the ordinance for current owners.

The Planning Board would like to hear public comment on the proposed changes on January 14th prior to writing the final draft to go before a town meeting referendum vote on March 4th. A formal public hearing on the final product will be scheduled at least 10-days prior to the town meeting vote. Copies of the proposed ordinance are at the town office.

# Appeals Board Considers Lobster Pound Permit

(Lamoine) - The Lamoine Board of Appeals will meet January 6th to listen to testimony on separate appeals filed by Seal Point Road residents against the issuance of a Shoreland Zoning Permit to Anthony & Josette Pettegrow. The Pettegrows operate the Seal Point Lobster Pound, and received permission to restore lot coverage on a parking/road area to the amount of lot coverage present at the time they purchased the land.

Abutting landowner Paul Frederick was the first to file an appeal of the decision. In his filing, Mr. Frederick claims that the approved parking area requires approval under the Site Plan Review Ordinance. He also claims there are several areas of the Pettegrow application that remain incomplete or incorrect. Mr. Frederick also states that the parking area constitutes a change of use, and such change of use did not go before the Planning Board.

Also filing an appeals was the other abutting landowner, Robert Alvarez, a former owner of the lobster pound. In his filing, Mr. Alvarez claimed the Planning Board did not

follow proper procedure and failed to come to a finding of facts on the project. He has requested that the Board of Appeals send the matter back to the Planning Board for further hearing, including matters related to increased truck traffic and noise from the lobster pound operation.

The Pettegrows and their contractors failed to obtain the Shoreland Zoning Permit when they enlarged the parking lot in the summer of 2001. A complaint from Mr. Alvarez prompted the investigation of the parking lot expansion and resulted in a stop work order from the town's code enforcement officer. After receiving the complaint, the Board of Selectmen came to a consent agreement with the Pettegrows to pay a \$1,000 fine, reasonable attorney fees and seek approval from the Planning Board for a Shoreland Zoning Permit. The Pettegrows have complied with all aspects of that consent decree and the violation is considered fully prosecuted and that aspect of the matter is closed. The Board of Appeals meeting is open to the public.

# Compilation of All Ordinances Completed

(Lamoine) - In an effort to save costs and paper, all the ordinances currently in effect in Lamoine have been combined into one computer document. The new compilation is indexed and has a table of contents that will allow computer users to easily jump to pertinent sections of each ordinance with a mouse click.

The compilation was completed by

Town Administrator Stu Marckoon in November and enthusiastically endorsed by the Planning Board in December. Printed versions are over 400-pages long and will be made up in January for the Planning Board. CD-ROM versions will be available for the general public starting in January at a cost of \$2 each and made upon request. Users must have Microsoft Word to view the file.

## Town-Wide Revaluation In 2003

(Lamoine) — With property sales soaring and the sky apparently the limit for what people will pay for land in Lamoine, the Board of Assessors has determined that it's time to update the property values for everyone in town. A full revaluation was last done in 1993, and resulted in a near doubling of the town property values. While every property will have its value reviewed and adjusted to meet current market conditions, the town will conduct what's called a factored re-valuation.

RJD Appraisal of Pittsfield, the town's hired property appraiser, has reviewed the property cards of all the lots in Lamoine in the past five years. Therefore, the need to measure each home and other extremely time consuming work on individual properties is already on file. Bob Duplisea, the owner of RJD, estimated the cost for the revaluation to be \$18,000. The town has already put away approximately \$28,000 in an account in anticipation of the next revaluation, and the Assessors have recommended this money be used for the factoring project.

The latest report from the State of Maine looked at property sales in 2000 and compared them to the town's local valuation and determined the town stood at approximately 77% of full value. An informal analysis of sales since April 1, 2002 shows the average usable sale price for property in Lamoine is now at 65% of market value. State law requires a revaluation when the ratio falls below 70%.

## We Own A Home—Now What?

(Lamoine) — With the purchase of the Nathan and Marti Anderson property (see page 1), the town has completed phase 1 of an ongoing task. The next part is to determine what to do with the property. The Board of Selectmen would like the public to help.

The property consists of a modern, modular home set on a fully finished foundation, a single vehicle garage, a 12' x 16' storage shed and a small woodshed. An appraisal from Jennifer Jones of Ellsworth placed the fair market value for the land and buildings at \$122,500, but the appraisal presumed that there was potable water for the residence as per the town's request. Electricity to the home has been turned off and

the water pipes drained and a propane tank for heaters was turned off. The Andersons have turned the keys and garage door opener to the facility into the town office.

The Selectmen are looking for viable options for the house, and the deadline will be Thursday, January 30th. No option will be considered that uses any sort of water supply as the town must shut down the well per the requirements of the Maine DEP. Suggestions can be mailed to the Lamoine Town Office at 606 Douglas Highway, Lamoine, ME 04605 or sent via e-mail to [lamoine@acadia.net](mailto:lamoine@acadia.net). The best suggestions are likely to be presented at the Annual Town Meeting in March to see if voters wish to implement one.

## Septic Systems Make Progress

(Lamoine) — Two properties cited by Local Plumbing Inspector John Holdsworth have made significant progress toward correcting problems. One system on Francis Drive (see October 2002 Lamoine Quarterly) is nearly completed to the point it will pass inspection. The homeowner had been pumping effluent into metal drums instead of the septic system approved for the home.

Another system on Seal Point Road was cited for failure last summer. After prompting for repair, the homeowner has installed the tank and awaits the contractor to finish the leach field.

## Pole Permit By Rule Accepted

(Lamoine) — The Board of Selectmen approved a plan by Bangor Hydro Electric Company (Emera) to have utility poles proposed for public rights-of-way automatically approved under a permit application. The Board can still veto any pole placement it finds would be contrary to the public good, though such permits have been routinely granted for decades.

The permit-by-rule authority should greatly speed up the process for the electric utility when it wishes to establish a new service line or move other lines. It will also significantly cut down on paper work for both the utility and the town office.

## Town Seeks Offers For Banking Business

(Lamoine) — The Board of Selectmen voted to seek new proposals for the town's banking and investment needs. Requests for proposal went to all banks with branch offices in Ellsworth after a number of banks approached the town in recent years seeking to make such proposals. The request for proposals includes checking account services and costs for investment services, along with other related banking activities.

The bids are due in on February 13, 2003 for the Selectmen's meeting where they will be opened. The Selectmen may opt to study the various proposals before accepting a bid. Service will start on July 1st and run for at least 3-years.

The town currently has checking account services through Union Trust Company and investment management services through Bangor Savings Bank.

## Boat Storage Building Appeal Dropped

(Lamoine) - A Lamoine man has given up on a court case to dispute a decision by the Lamoine Board of Appeals which upheld a Planning Board Decision. Carlton Johnson's attorney had asked the town for a 60-day continuance on the matter and the Selectmen agreed, then informed the town the filing would be withdrawn.

Mr. Johnson had proposed a 2nd large storage building on his Shore Road property. At least one neighboring landowner had strong objections to the project, and the Planning Board found that it did not meet the town's land use requirements, and turned down the request. The Board of Appeals found errors in reasoning by the Planning Board on two of the three reasons for which the matter did not receive approval, but upheld the decision on a third point. Mr. Johnson says he is pursuing other parcels of land more conducive to his operations.

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discussion is needed among all residents to identify the important issues before us.

A library of resource materials is growing at Town Hall. Have a look – and read!

Two new members were appointed to the Commission in November: Raymonde Dumont and Susan Wuorinen. They join Fred Stocking, Chair; Nancy Pochan, and Pat Wallace as the five voting members. Associate members and visitors are welcome. The Commission generally meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM, Town Hall.

## Conservation Commission Tackles Parks, Pits

(Lamoine)-The Lamoine Conservation Commission made progress on the request from Selectmen to look into use and abuse of the town's three parks. Bloomfield Park at Blunts Pond, Lamoine Beach, and Marlboro Beach are widely used and enjoyed. The Commission has talked with residents who have been troubled by disruptive behavior there and is studying park ordinances of other towns. The commission plans to draft an ordinance outlining acceptable usage and prohibited behavior at its February 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. Various suggestions include establishing a citizen's watch group, installing some kind of gate, hiring patrol during heavy usage months of July and August. Input is welcomed

Two productive work sessions focused on the Planning Board's request to formulate an ordinance for reclaiming finished gravel pits. Community members contributed valuable ideas and perspectives.

A Commission member and an associate member are studying forestry issues, reading ordinances from other towns and reviewing an ordinance drafted by the Planning Board years ago. This topic will be on the January 8<sup>th</sup> agenda.

Barbara Charry of Maine Audubon will speak about important wildlife habitats in Lamoine at the February 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. She'll bring slides and a wealth of information to share.

Lamoine Grange was asked to consider undertaking a project to enhance or protect Lamoine resources. Members agreed to work on creating a nature trail that could be used for walking, cross-country skiing, and snowmobiles.

Development is the next big task facing the Conservation Commission. How do we want our town to look ten, twenty years from now? A new Comprehensive Plan for Lamoine is due in less than two years. Much



## Mock Election Vote Mirrors Actual Outcome

(Lamoine) - The outcome on Election Day among the “real” voters of Lamoine came out eerily close to how 6th, 7th and 8th grade students voted a week before Election Day. In a project planned and executed jointly by 7th grade teacher Tim Barlow, Deputy Clerk Stu Marckoon and Town Clerk Hubene Brodie, students ran all the aspects of their own election, from selecting officials to administer the voting to actually setting up the portable voting booths, to counting the ballots in the same manner as done by the town. The

students showed great interest in the election and a lot of exuberance when it came to mock Election Day. Their parents showed the same interest on the real Election Day, with nearly 64% casting ballots for Governor, Congress, and the Legislature along with County Offices. There were no local issues on the November ballot. The results in Lamoine were:

Office	Actual Vote	Student Vote
<i>US Senate</i>		
Collins, Susan	509	35
Pingree, Chellie	265	10
<i>Governor</i>		
Baldacci, John	354	29
Carter, Jonathan	53	2
Cianchette, Peter	340	14
Michael, John	12	2
<i>Congress</i>		
Michaud, Michael	312	16
Raye, Kevin	429	27
<i>State Senate</i>		
Damon, Dennis	255	11
Hart, R. Davis	34	2
Pinkham, William	472	34
<i>Legislature</i>		
Bierman, Leonard	383	20
Stone, William	349	24
<i>Prison Bond</i>		
Yes	258	19
No	494	26



7th Grader Rebecca Anderson casts her ballot as Heather Young mans the box for the Lamoine School's mock Election Day.  
Digital Photo by Tim Barlow

## Bierman Replaces Lamoine's Pinkham

(Augusta) — Sorrento resident Leonard “Earl” Bierman is Lamoine’s new State Representative, replacing resident Bill Pinkham who was barred by the constitution for seeking a 5th term. Bierman campaigned extensively in the area as did his opponent, William Stone of Hancock. Bierman was a firefighter for the US Navy base on Schoodic Point until the facility closed down. He and his wife Jenny have 3 children.

Pinkham, a Republican who serves as Lamoine’s Harbor Master, ran for the State Senate in Hancock County, but came up about 1,400 votes short in a 3-way race, losing to Democrat Dennis Damon of Trenton. The campaign turned particularly nasty in the final weeks as outside groups such as Maine Unlimited started advertising heavily against Damon. Pinkham said he had nothing to do with the ads and was very upset that they appeared without his knowledge. He said he was just as glad that Damon won the race given the tactics employed that were beyond his control.

After serving 8-years in Augusta, Pinkham may look locally. He has taken out papers to run for Selectman at the March Town meeting against incumbent Selectman Josephine Cooper. Mrs. Cooper is finishing up her first term as a Selectman and has turned in her nomination papers that will ensure her a place on the ballot on March 4th. She currently serves as the chairman of the Board and was instrumental in creation of the new Conservation Commission.

## Recounted Ballots Returned

(Lamoine) — A recount request of the District Attorney's race in Hancock and Washington County forced the State Police to pick up ballots from all the towns and bring them to Augusta. The race wasn't close as incumbent Michael Povich easily defeated write-in candidate Steven Juskewitch by over 19-thousand votes. Mr. Juskewitch asked for the recount to clarify what constitutes a write-in vote.

Ballot directions and state law clearly state that a write in vote consists of the candidate's name, municipality of residence and a checkmark in the box next to that written-in information. Mr. Juskewitch disputed a number of ballots that wrote in his name but failed to check the box to the left of it indicating a vote for him. The town's ballot clerks did not count those as votes for him, nor were votes counted on election night that did not meet the legal requirement of the municipality of residence. It's believed the

### *2nd Bond Issue*

Yes	369	23
No	377	23

### *Constitutional Amendment*

Yes	364	26
No	363	18

### *County Sheriff*

Clark, William	462	20
Cole, Terry	281	16

### *County Treasurer*

Crowley, Sally	349	17
Reed, Wallace	357	26

### *District Attorney*

Povich, Michael	477	42
Juskewitch, Steven*	73	0

\*(Write In Candidate)

recount did accept those ballots that wrote in the name but failed to identify the municipality of residence. Overall, Mr. Juskewitch picked up about 700 votes. It's not been reported to the town how many he picked up in Lamoine

## No Town Report Delivery This Year

(Lamoine) — Door to door delivery of the annual report has ended as of this year. Liability concerns for delivery people confronted by mud, dogs, and suspicious property owners convinced the Selectmen to consider other methods for distribution. The reports will be available at the town office by February 15, 2003. A good supply of reports

will come to the town meeting, and school children will each bring a report home to their parents. Anyone can pick up a report at the town office, and if you are not able to get in during business hours, call or e-mail the town office, and a report can be mailed to your home. Postcards will be mailed to let folks know the reports are available.

## No Fix Up For Bloomfield Park Rd.

(Lamoine) — Deep ruts and pot holes will remain on the road leading into and past Bloomfield Park on Blunt's pond, and the folks who live on the road couldn't be happier. The Selectmen met with Stuart and Lisa Branch to discuss the road condition. The Branches say hoodlums have frequented the area the past couple summers and speed down the narrow dirt road, so the pot holes seem to slow them down significantly. Selectmen said they didn't want to spend any money on something the lone residents of the road didn't want fixed up. The park is still accessible by vehicle, but those using the road are advised to take it slowly.

## Metal Pile Is Gone

(Lamoine) — The transfer station was reconfigured following final removal of scrap metal by Grimm Industries. Ironically, the final haul resulted in the first payment for scrap metal to the town since the transfer station opened.

Special thanks goes to Bill Fennelly who sometimes substitutes as the station attendant. Mr. Fennelly did a superb job cleaning up around the cement pad, making it look much nicer than it has in years. The town will have to wait until warmer, dry weather and remove some contaminated dirt around the cement pad as fluids leaked from illegally dumped material. Meanwhile, the Selectmen are working to reconfigure recycling bins to sit on the pad.



## Committee Recommends Land Purchase, But No Public Works Department

(Lamoine) — The committee studying the public works needs and the feasibility of establishing a public works department within town government recommends that things stay the way they are, for now, but that the town look toward the future. Ken Smith, chairman of the 15-member Public Works Study Committee issued its final report to the Board of Selectmen in December.

The committee studied the present system of maintaining the roads, disposing of solid waste, and parks and building maintenance in town. It also studied the way other towns of similar size perform the same functions, and what possibilities might work for Lamoine.

After months of meetings, research, and site visits, the committee concluded that establishing paid town positions to carry out road maintenance, and winter snow plowing would be significantly more expensive than using contractors. Mr. Smith's report to the Selectmen outlined five alternatives to the present setup, including a public works department with the existing transfer station, a public works department with a new transfer station, a department using new recycling facilities, a public works department utilizing the crew to collect trash and recycling door-to-door, and a highway department only, with contracted door-to-door trash pickup.

The committee put together current costs and projected costs, and found that road and solid waste cost the town about \$240,000

per year. The committee then projected the costs under the five potential options, and found operating costs without any capital outlay for equipment would jump to at least \$304,000 per year, an approximate 25% increase. When equipment costs amortized over 10-years were added in, the lease expensive option was approximately \$400,000 per year, or nearly double the present cost.

### **Land Recommended**

Though the committee did not recommend establishing a public works department, it did strongly recommend to the Selectmen that the town pursue purchase of land for future public needs, whether they be a school building, fire station or public works department, or some combination thereof. The committee felt strongly that as the town grows, there will be municipal needs to meet and a suitable piece of land, centrally located, and not over the aquifer would be needed to try to meet those needs. None of the property presently owned by the town is big enough and all are located over the aquifer or in environmentally sensitive areas.

The Selectmen are studying the land purchase proposal, and a report on several pieces of potentially available land. The town meeting will have to approve any potential purchase, and the Budget Committee recommends that such a purchase be bonded over at least 5-years to lessen the budget impact. Any town meeting vote on land purchase will be by secret ballot referendum.

## Building Repairs Bid

(Lamoine) - The Board of Selectmen hope to perform some needed repairs at the town office this winter and spring. Bids were mailed to in-town carpenters and advertised in a local newspaper for the projects which would repair the front-door entrance to the building and put new siding on the front portion of the town hall.

A couple years ago, the Selectmen saved out \$5,000 for building repairs for the door entrance and the siding project. The front door entrance has started to rot, and the metal parts deteriorate with rust. The transom window has holes in it, and the door itself does not have an automatic closer. The siding on the front portion of the building is an estimated 35-years old, and has become brittle and cracked in places.

In addition to the new siding, the project asks for replacement of any rotted lumber underneath the siding, and for placement of a waterproof barrier between the lumber and siding. Bids are due January 16th.

## Cable TV Changes

(Bangor) — Adelphia Cable has made two changes to the local system. CMT will broadcast on Channel 32, replacing GAC network. NickToons is available on Digital Channel 154.

No word yet on when the wiring will be complete to allow local broadcasts from the town hall. Electrical boxes required to amplify the cable signals are on the power poles, but not yet completely hooked up to electricity.

## Maine DOT Explains Rebuilding Plans

(Lamoine) — Dozens of Lamoine residents listened in October as officials with the Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT) outlined their plans to re-build Jordan River Road, a portion of Douglas Highway and a portion of Lamoine Beach Road. The project will begin at Route 3 in Trenton and cover the entire Jordan River Road (Route 204). At the intersection with Route 184 (Douglas Hwy.) the project will head southeast and end at Latona Lane.

Douglas Sargent, a designer with the MDOT said the project will rebuild the roadway and extend the travel lanes further out with 3-to-4 foot shoulders. This should make the road a great deal stronger and safer as traffic headed from Route 1 to Mt. Desert Island increases. The route is also home to large truck traffic hauling gravel from

Lamoine's many pits to MDI.

There will be some road re-shaping. A knoll that limits site distance near Artist's Way will be removed, and some fill put in at a dip near the same location. The result should be greatly improved visibility in that area, as well as at the 204/184 intersection.

Sargent said DOT officials would contact landowners whose property might be affected by the project, but most of the right-of-way issues are not too serious.

The DOT hopes to start construction sometime in May and have the project complete by September. Residents who listened asked why the poor section of road in North Lamoine was not included. Sargent said there was not enough money in the budget, and the section to be fixed will bring the most bang for the buck.

## School Facility Still Under Study

(Lamoine) — A team from the Joseph Sewall Company in Old Town is preparing its report on the Lamoine School Facility. The report is seen as a pre-cursor to a major construction project that might be eligible for state funding.

The School's Building Committee has been dormant for several months awaiting the report from the engineering firm. The study is looking at the school's program, the space needs for the current programs, and the present building setup. The Building Committee stressed that a larger gym and more parking are one of the big needs at the school as the current gym is not big enough to house fans and the teams for basketball games and other activities. A report is expected sometime in the coming months.



### ***They Survived Thanksgiving!***

*A good-sized flock of turkeys has turned a lot of heads on Pinkhams Flats.*

## Turkey Hunting to Include Lamoine

(Lamoine) — Despite the "official" maps included with the new batch of turkey hunting permit applications, Lamoine and much of Downeast Maine will be open to turkey hunting during the 2003 season. The map included in the permit application was incorrect, and a corrected map is located at the Town Hall.

There may be plenty of birds to choose from. A

large flock of birds has taken up daily residence in the large hayfields on Pinkhams Flats. Motorists report seeing up to 40-birds at a time in the fields, and they're not all that shy about cars, often flying across the road in a spectacular display.

The turkeys may be part of a flock that was released by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife several months ago to aid reintroduction efforts. They seem to have thrived in the area, but are not real keen on human contact, as they tend to walk away from people who approach them to get close up pictures.

## Fire Department Handles Record Numbers

(Lamoine) — For a year without a major weather event, the Lamoine Fire Department has found itself quite busy. For the first time, the department may exceed 50-calls. The previous record was 41-calls.

The most serious call was to a car fire at the Lamoine General Store (see related story, page 1). Twenty fire department members were on scene within minutes of the call from a passing off-duty police officer, and quickly extinguished the fire using foam. A number of firefighters stood by to preserve the scene for the State Fire Marshal's Office.

The department has responded to a number of motor vehicle accidents and medical assist calls. On November 2nd a teenage driver left the road on Pinkham's Flats and hit a tree and a road sign. He was not seriously injured. On November 14th, a Gouldsboro woman said she saw a deer as she was nearing the Jordan River Road intersection on Buttermilk Road. She swerved and her pickup truck landed in a ravine off Jordan River Road. Twenty firefighters were on scene in 4-minutes as it was meeting night! She suffered facial lacerations and possible broken bones. On November 18th, Budget Committee member Robin Veysey suffered a broken foot when her vehicle drifted off Buttermilk Road and hit a tree.

Lamoine provided mutual aid to a house fire in Hancock on November 11th, sending a number of firefighters into the burning building with airpicks and pumping foam onto the structure. On December 10th, Lamoine's firefighters covered calls for the

City of Ellsworth as their fire department and several others battled an apartment house fire on the Bucksport Road. The Lamoine crew assisted by refilling air bottles and repacking hose on fire trucks. Lamoine's lead pumper suffered minor rear-bumper damage when Asst. Chief Stu Marckoon backed into a cement block wall at the Ellsworth Fire House.

During the quarter the department responded to 2 false alarms, a gas detector going off, three medical assists a tree in the road, two minor mutual aid calls and a flooded basement for a total of 17-runs during the quarter.



*The Lamoine Fire Department hopes to raise enough money for a rescue tool.*

*Photo from Holmatro Website*

## 911 Goes Online in February

(Ellsworth) — The equipment was being installed at year's end at the Hancock County Courthouse, and all of the County should have access to Enhanced 9-1-1 telephone service by February 4th. That's the target date from the new Regional Communications Center director Linda Dunno (a new Lamoine resident!).

Once the new service is in place, anyone with an emergency should dial 9-1-1 instead of the old phone numbers (police 667-7575, fire 667-2327, ambulance 667-3200). The phone will ring at the RCC and the address from which the call is placed will be displayed on the operator's computer screen. From there, the operator will dispatch the police or fire department, or transfer the call the County Ambulance if an ambulance is needed.

Besides the RCC Manager, the operation as strong Lamoine connections through the RCC Board chairman, Stu Marckoon, and Technical Advisory Committee Chairman Ralph Pinkham.

## Stolen Camels Recovered

(Lamoine) — Ruth Saliba's camels are back. Thieves took the heavy camels from her gate on Gilpatrick Lane in October. Appleblossom Lane resident Mildred Davis and Seal Point Road resident John Larson both spotted the camels dumped at the Marlboro Cemetery while walking. Mrs. Davis arranged to return the camels to Mrs. Saliba's family in Bangor. Several stolen street signs were also recovered. The Sheriff's Department is investigating.

## Rescue Tool, Truck Next Project for LVFD

(Lamoine) — Lamoine's Volunteer Fire Department hopes to purchase a \$9,100 heavy duty rescue tool in the coming year. The department plans to utilize money from fund raisers during 2003 to raise half the funds and seeks the other half in its annual town budget.

The tool is a cutter and spreader and can be used to tear apart cars to extricate accident victims. The need for one became evident last summer when a Lamoine woman was trapped for about a half hour while firefighters waited for a similar tool to arrive from the Ellsworth Fire Department.

Chief Skip Smith told the Budget Committee that accident calls now make up the bulk of the runs for the fire department, and time is of the essence in getting victims

into an ambulance and to a hospital. The Holmatro Combi-Tool (pictured above) is compatible with other fire departments in the area.

Chief Smith also reports the department is seriously thinking that the next truck purchase will be a rescue vehicle instead of a pumper truck. The department has raised enough money to be able to purchase the chassis for a rescue truck, but lacks the funds to put the "box" on it that would carry the various rescue tools and other gear. Chief Smith said they'll look into grants for the remainder of the vehicle and he hopes to not have to raise tax money for the purchase. The estimated total cost for such a vehicle is about \$110,000.

## Firefighters Get Checks

(Lamoine) — It costs money for the town's volunteer firefighters to offer their services to their community. They have gas and vehicle expenses for every meeting, every training and each fire call. Sometimes, clothing gets ruined in fires.

For the first time in its 54 year history, members have received an expense check from the town. Fire Chief Skip Smith and the Selectmen worked up a policy to clarify that the checks were for reimbursement of expenses, and not a "paycheck". Each active adult member received \$200 and the two junior members with vehicles received \$50. Some members have donated their checks back to the fire department organization.

## Complaint Dismissed

(Lamoine) — Selectmen received a complaint from Assessor Terry Towne that a Seal Point Road man had failed to obtain a Shoreland Zoning Permit to replace a crumbling structure. The Selectmen determined that the man had sought the permit, but was told by the town's former Code Enforcement Officer that the work was a repair of the structure and therefore no permit was needed. The repairs were complete a couple years ago. Towne contends that the structure held no value before the repairs and the work increased the value by greater than 50%, and therefore should have required a permit. The Selectmen said because the property owner relied on the former CEO, there was no violation.

## More Street Signs Swiped

(Lamoine) — The fall turned into a brutal time for street sign thefts all over Hancock County. *The Bangor Daily News* did an article on the problem of sign thefts and the potential danger of not being able to find a road by public safety agencies.

Signs stolen in Lamoine during December included Deer Run, Rabbit Run, Shore Road, Lamoine Beach Road, Cove Road, Mill Road, Walker Road, Last Resort Lane, Dick's Rock Road, Ice House Lane and Kelley Lane. Several signs stolen from Bar Harbor and Mt. Desert were recovered by Selectman Glenn Crawford while deer hunting near the old landfill and were returned to the proper towns.

## Tax Receipt Forged

(Lamoine) — A Buttermilk Road man questioned why he received a tax lien notice when his ex-wife claimed she paid the property tax bill. He brought the allegedly receipted bill into the town office as proof. After an examination, it was quickly determined the receipt was forged. The tax collector's signature was not authentic, and the date of the receipt was before the taxes were even committed. Additionally, the man said his ex-wife could produce no separate written receipt which the tax collectors always make out.

The man said he has referred the matter to his attorney. The District Attorney's office was contacted, but because there was no theft from the town, there is no prosecution.

## Two More Eagles

(Lamoine) — Two more Lamoine boys have earned the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout from the Boy Scouts of America.

Richard McMullen of Shore Road and Hank Fenton of Marlboro Beach Road both received their honors in the Autumn of 2002. Richard is the son of Stephen and Jane McMullen and built the Welcome to Lamoine signs as his Eagle Scout project.

Hank is the son of Griff and Sandra Fenton. He built the concession stand at the new ball fields behind the school. He's a student at St. Mark's school in Southboro, Massachusetts.

## Artists Plan Next Show

(Lamoine)- A group of Lamoine based artists has begun planning next summer's art show after its 3rd successful event last August. Arlyss Becker reports the group meets on the 3rd Friday of each month at the Lamoine Fire Station meeting room. They encourage any Lamoine resident with interest in the arts to join the planning group which also shares art concerns and critiques each others work.

Upcoming meetings are planned on January 17th and February 19th at noon-time at the fire station. Anyone with questions can contact Joan Bragdon (667-7956) or Arlyss Becker (667-6905).

## Bird Carver Featured

## Audit Complete, Town Compliant

(Lamoine) — The town books for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2002 are now audited, and the town is one of the first in Maine to come into compliance with GASB 34 earlier than required. Auditor James Wadman of Ellsworth reports no weaknesses or irregularities in the town books for the year. Wadman urged the town make the conversion to the more complex auditing report that will be required for all municipalities in a couple years. The Selectmen agreed to pay Wadman \$450 and the town treasurer provided the needed inventories to generate the report. The extra money is a one-time expenditure.

The new audit report is available for public inspection at the town office and excerpts will appear in the town report. The new auditing standard requires values for infrastructure including road which raises the town's book value to over \$10 million. The town ended the fiscal year with a \$299,000 surplus.

## No Foreclosures

(Lamoine) — The town sent notices to eight property owners who had not paid their 2000/01 taxes notifying that automatic foreclosure would take place on December 28th. All the property owners paid the outstanding taxes, and no property automatically foreclosed to town ownership this year.

## Cheerleaders Get New Tumbling Mats

(Lamoine) — Those bottle drives have paid off for athletes at the Lamoine School as \$3,500 worth of tumbling mats arrived in November. The Lamoine Cheering Squad raised the money and will have a safer surface to practice their stunts, dancing and tumbling.

The mats presented a bit of a problem at first as they were a lot bigger than anyone had anticipated, and took up a lot of space in the gym. The fire department housed three of the big rolls for a couple weeks until the school could come up with a storage plan for the mats. Principal Val Perkins is still looking for a longer term storage solution for the mats and other gear in the school. One possibility is the storage shed on the Anderson property purchased by the town (see page 1).

Meanwhile, the cheerleaders report the mats work well and they hope to put together another state championship season with them.



***The New Mats**  
Cheerleaders lift Katie Murphy as they practice on their new top quality tumbling mats*

(Lamoine) — Congratulations to Sugarbush Drive resident Steve Valleau who was featured in the Style section of *The Bangor Daily News* on Thanksgiving Day. Valleau is the resident bird carver at the Wendell Gilley Museum in Southwest Harbor, and the BDN did a story on bird carving techniques. Steve is also a volunteer firefighter with the Lamoine VFD.

## Vital Statistics Report

(Lamoine) — The quarter was relatively quiet as far as life changing events in town. Three young couples were married during the quarter.

**Greg Gleason and Theresa Bieri** were married at Lamoine State Park on October 6th. They've purchased the Berry Cove House.

**Daniel Farrenkopf and Sharma Buell** were married in the town of Mt. Desert on October 12th. They reside on Shore Road.

**Todd West and Anne Ward** were married November 10th in Orland. They've purchased a home on Douglas Highway.

**Beth Boland and Timothy Levesque** were married Christmas Day. They live on Pasture Lane.

We welcomed three babies to town. **Adeline Angela Barstow** of Shore Road was born October 10th. **Ivan Maxwell Andros** arrived at his Needles Eye Road home shortly after his birth on October 31st. **Paul Prescott Taylor** of Heather Lane arrived December 20th.

We sadly note the passing of **Alvah Rich** who died at the age on 93 on November 23rd. Mr. Rich was a military veteran who lived on Jordan River Road.

## Poetry Corner

### *The Key to the Sea*

*By Katrina Fennelly (Age 10)*

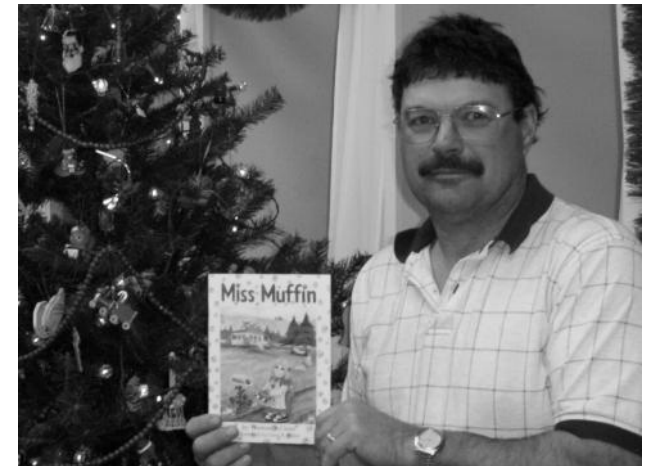
Out of all the treasures in the sea,  
I may be the key,  
Me, the key, to the sea,  
I may open all the treasure chests,  
I may unlock the unlocked,  
I may find the sea serpent,  
I may unlock the mystery of the deep,  
Out of all the treasurers in the sea,  
I may be the key.

Thanks to Katie's grandmother,  
Donna Fennelly, for submitting  
her poem.



### *All Lit Up—Still*

*Richard King (below) and Cal Smith (above) put up their usual fantastic light shows for the holiday season. Many folks from throughout Eastern Maine traveled to see the displays.*



*Author Tom St. Claire shows off his latest work*

## Lamoine Man Writes Children's Books

(Lamoine) - When you see Tom St. Claire at work, it might be at the controls of some of the biggest cranes in Maine, or it might be on the deck of a sailing ship. He might be pounding nails on the home he's building, or it just might be at a desk with pen and paper in hand working on a book for children.

St. Claire, who lives on Kitt's Crossing in Lamoine, has published his 2nd children's story called "*Miss Muffin*". The story features animal characters who fear others because of their species and teaches important lessons about tolerance.

St. Claire said he hopes to publish a hard cover version with color pictures. The book is illustrated by Gene Fuller. The book sold well for the Christmas season, and St. Claire said he's got a 3rd book in the works, and may re-work his first to incorporate a recurring character.



# January 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1-Office Closed, New Year's Day	2-7PM Selectmen 7PM Fire Dept.	3	4
5	6-7PM School Cmte. 7PM Appeals Board	7-7PM Planning Board (Town Office closing at Noon)	8-7PM Assessors 7PM Conservation Cmsn.	9-7PM Fire Dept.	10	11
12	13-7PM Budget Cmte.	14	15	16-7PM Selectmen 7PM Fire Dept.	17	18
19	20-Office Closed, State Holiday	21-Nomination Papers Due	22	23-7PM Fire Dept.	24	25
26	27	28	29	30-7PM Selectmen 7PM Fire Dept.	31	

# February 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3-7PM School Cmte	4-7PM Planning Board	5-7PM Assessors	6-7PM Fire Dept.	7	8
9	10	11	12-7PM Conservation Cmsn.	13-7PM Selectmen 7PM Fire Dept.	14	15
16	17-Office Closed, State Holiday	18	19	20-7PM Fire Dept.	21	22
23	24	25	26	27-7PM Selectmen 7PM Fire Dept.	28	



# March 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3-7PM School Cmte. 7PM Planning Board*	4-10am to 8pm Town Meeting Voting	5-6PM Town Meeting at School	6-7PM Fire Dept.	7	8
9	10	11	12-7PM Conservation Cmsn	13-7PM Selectmen 7PM Fire Dept.	14	15
16	17	18	19	20-7PM Fire Dept.	21	22
23	24	25	26	27-7PM Selectmen 7PM Fire Dept.	28	29
30	31	*tentative schedule				

## The Lamoine Quarterly January 2003

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 House Purchased  
 Permits Galore  
 Ideas Needed  
 Election Results  
 No Public Works  
 Land Recommended  
 Camels Recovered  
 Fire Dept. Very Busy  
 More Eagle Scouts  
*And Much More!*

Town of Lamoine  
 606 Douglas Highway  
 Lamoine, ME 04605

