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# ◆The Lamoine Quarterly◆

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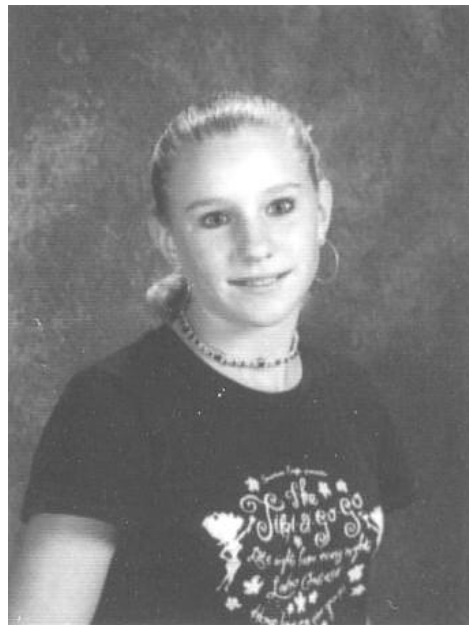
## Lamoine Teen Killed—Community Mourns

(Lamoine) - June 20th, the last full day of spring, Jina Haslam got up early (for a 14-year old girl) and took her dog for a walk to Lamoine State Park. On her way back home she stopped on the side Lamoine Beach Road to chat with her aunt Debbie who was headed toward Ellsworth. Driving toward Lamoine Beach was 81-year old Natalie Barr of Lamoine who's car hit Jina's bike, throwing the teen-ager more than 25-feet.

EMT Dustin Leyendecker of Hancock, a mechanic at Burnett's garage a short distance away, heard the Lamoine Fire Department paged to the accident. He responded and was on the scene quickly and began treatment. Lamoine firefighters were there in less than 10-minutes with County Ambulance right behind them. LifeFlight helicopter was immediately called in, a landing area established at the nearby Lamoine Beach parking area, all in the effort to try to save a young life.

Jina's injuries were too severe—head and chest trauma from where she hit the vehicle's windshield. The paramedics from LifeFlight got her to Eastern Maine Medical Center in Bangor. Later that evening her parents made the agonizing decision to remove life support and donate her organs so that others in need could live. The Hancock

County Sheriff's Department is investigating how the vehicle struck Jina, and how fast it was going. A shocked neighborhood stood by while EMT's, firefighters and police officers responded. Many of the emergency workers were deeply affected by the death—as were Jina's classmates, neighbors and her large family. More on the community reaction and Jina is on page 2.



*Janina (Jina) Haslam  
February 2, 1991—June 20, 2005*

## Town Votes on Budget Cuts Forced by Legislation

(Lamoine) — Lamoine voters sent a message on April 28th, but just whom it was directed to isn't clear. By a 110 to 70 margin, voters rejected an increase to the municipal tax commitment cap imposed by the Maine Legislature through LD-1, which passed in late January, but doesn't take effect until July 1st. The legislation, which is aimed at tax reform, limits the amount any municipality can raise in property tax to the current fiscal year multiplied by income growth and community growth. The problem in Lamoine is that for the 2004/05 budget, the town meeting approved more money in non property tax revenues than the municipal budget needed. Therefore, the starting basis for the municipal tax commitment was zero. The bottom line means that the town cannot use any property tax money to fund municipal operations until an override is approved.

The Selectmen and Budget Committee saw the vote as a clear message that the town meeting wanted budget cuts. Both boards also said the LD-1 matter was quite confusing and the town meeting was not prepared to adequately explain what had happened. With

# Town Files Complaint Following Campaign Mailing

(Lamoine) — The Attorney General’s office may investigate a complaint generated by the town office about possibly improper election activity by an unidentified party. Days before the June 28th special town meeting referendum, a flyer was mailed to select voters in town. Also in the envelope was a photocopy of the official town ballot. No return address was on the envelope and no group claimed authorship of the flyer.

The problem is the copy of the official ballot. When Deputy Town Clerk Stu Marckoon entered the town office the morning of the election, he discovered two of the ballot copies had been checked off and were sitting on the floor as if they’d been placed in the mail slot during the overnight hours. He called Maine Municipal Association who referred the town to the Secretary of State. The Hancock

County District Attorney’s Office was also contacted. Assistant DA Carlotta Bassano advised the town to proceed with the election as planned, but to isolate the ballot copies and not to count them. The polls opened as planned at 10:00 AM.

By late afternoon the Secretary of State’s office was again in contact with town officials and advised them to fax a complaint which would be relayed to the Attorney General’s Office for possible investigation. Selectman Chair Jo Cooper spoke several times to Secretary of State Matthew Dunlap—her brother and expressed her concern that people who might have thought they were casting ballots were disenfranchised by the mailing. The town office received another of the ballot copies in the mail the day after the election with votes seemingly cast.

Town Clerk Jennifer Kovacs and Deputy Clerk Marckoon report the only way they could think that a photocopy of the official ballot could be made is through the absentee voting process. That process allows people to apply for ballots to take home to family members in order to cast their vote. Three absentee ballots were cast in the manner and the list is expected to be sought during any investigation.

The Secretary of State also indicated that there might be a problem with sending out campaign material but failing to identify the source. A similar looking mailing was circulated prior to the Special Town Meeting in April.

budget cutting in mind, the two boards went to work, and came up with just over \$57,000 in reduced expenditures and increased non-tax revenues to meet the LD-1 requirements. Both also felt the measure should receive a referendum vote, and the date was set for June 28th.

*See “Budget Cuts Approved” Page 2*

## Town Loses Harbor Master Bill Pinkham

(Lamoine) — The Town suffered another shock on July 4th as friends, colleagues and neighbors learned of the death of Bill Pinkham. The 62-year old Buttermilk Road resident collapsed after running a road race in Bangor.

*See “Bill Pinkham” Page 2*



**Counting Up**  
*Ballot Clerks Marion McDevitt & Kay Bragdon tally the votes in the June 28th Referendum*



*William “Bill” Pinkham  
Harbor Master-Former Legislator  
September 20, 1942-July 4, 2005*

# Lamoine Community Remembers, Honors Jina

(Lamoine) — The life was pretty much drained from the staff at the Lamoine Consolidated School on June 20th as they heard about the accident. Six days earlier Jina Haslam and the 16 others in her class had a festive graduation from 8th grade and were just settling into their summer routines. The teachers had been at school cleaning up from the year and getting things ready to return for the fall. Principal Val Perkins suggested they stop for the day and go home—they couldn't do it. Voices were very low, and few could speak without tears welling up or choking. Generally it was agreed it was a stinky day, despite the sun being out for the first time in a while.

The community quickly swung into action. Selectman Chair Jo Cooper, who is trained in hospice, helped lead the way. Having learned of the tragedy while taking her children to appointments she and school officials arranged for the school to be open. The next day after students learned that Jina had died, her classmates showed up one by one. They left messages, brought flowers, and hugged and cried. The graduation which had been recorded and aired for the cable TV channel was copied for each who had graduated. Jina's family made the funeral arrangements and the school gym where she cheered and played basketball was deemed the most suitable location to remember her life. All the firefighters and EMT's who responded to the call gathered at the fire station the next evening to talk things over. The EMT's from County Ambulance had praise for how the

Lamoine Firefighters responded, and vice versa. Selectman Cooper said it was important for the emergency workers to know how much the community appreciates their efforts. Grief counseling was offered both to students, teachers and firefighters.

Jina was one blossom on a big family tree in Lamoine. Her mom and dad (Patti & Bob) grew up in town. Her grandparents (Bill & Enid Neleski), great grand-mother (Jennie Neleski) and numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins live here as well. She leaves two younger brothers (Kyle and Ben), an older sister Angela, and older brother Eric who all attended graduation. Besides playing for the championship basketball, softball and cross-country teams, Jina played flute in the band.



*Jina Haslam performed Pachelbel's Canon with other 8th grade band members at her graduation June 14th. Lamoine CTV recorded the performance which was played at a celebration of her life.*



## *A Difficult Day*

*The twisted bicycle was a grim site on the corner of Cos Cob Avenue as investigators reconstructed the accident that claimed Jina*

Jina was also a member of the cheering team for several years and had several state championship medals. She was consistently on the honor roll, earning all A's and B's.

Jina had a particular love of animals, and was to start a summer job at the Seal Cove Goat Farm. Her plan was to attend Mount Desert Island High School in the fall, and then attend college to become a veterinarian.

At Jina's funeral, her parents and grandmother (Enid Neleski) announced that they intend to help raise funds to build a new gym for the community to replace the current school gym which is too small to accommodate many town and school function. Donations can be directed to Duane Crawford or Bonnie Marckoon (both Lamoine residents) at *The First* PO Box 1664, Blue Hill, ME 04614. A scholarship fund in Jina's memory has also been set up at *The First*. The scholarship will be used for MDI High School graduates who intend to pursue veterinary sciences after high school.

## Budget Cuts Approved

*(from page 1)*

At the required public hearing, the three dozen or attendees were critical of the proposed cuts. Most criticized was a reduction in the public safety budget of nearly \$9,000 to renew the contract with County Ambulance, Inc. Selectmen spent several meetings with County Ambulance talking about why Lamoine should pay for service when the City of Ellsworth does not. The decision to propose the cut came before the final meeting with County, and after that final meeting, the Selectmen seemed to agree that maintaining the contract that has been in place for 33-years is a big benefit to the town.

Voters approved the budget cuts at the special town meeting referendum on June 28th. Many, though, said they were confused by the entire matter. The final vote was 210 in favor and 167 opposed to the budget cuts. Approval of the question will allow the tax assessors to make a legal commitment when the time comes later this summer.

A second referendum question asked voters to approve moving \$6,000 from the road fund to cover higher than expected paving costs on Shore Road. The price of oil increased sharply which drove up the bid prices for asphalt. That measure passed 194 to 180, which will allow the project to proceed as planned.

The Selectmen met on June 30th in reaction to the vote two days earlier. The Board voted to hold a special town meeting on July 13th to ask that the contract with County Ambulance be renewed with surplus funds.

## Bill Pinkham

*(from page 1)*

He had just completed the race and was headed into the cooling off area for a drink of water when he collapsed.

Pinkham was a familiar fixture in Lamoine. He retired as the chief of the Maine Marine Patrol and settled on Buttermilk Road with his wife Amelia. Their daughter Connie and her husband Rick built a house next door where they are raising three of Bill's grandchildren.

Pinkham served as a representative to the Legislature in the Maine House for 8-years, having been forced out by term limits. He ran for the State Senate, but came up short in his bid to current Senator Dennis Damon. He was a staunch Republican and was very active with the Hancock County Republican Party, and on the local political scene. Bill twice ran for Selectman, but was edged out on both occasions, including a 3-way race earlier this year. He was a regular at the Lamoine General Store often discussing the politics of the day.

Pinkham, though retired, never stopped going. An avid road racer, he was a constant presence on Maine's racing circuit. He ran the Boston Marathon several times, and could be seen jogging all over Lamoine. He served the town as its only harbor master since the ordinance passed in 1995, and was just reappointed to the position in late June. He drove for a courier service for many years, and most recently worked for the Hancock County Sheriff's Department maintaining the fleet of vehicles and serving civil papers. A true community leader, Bill Pinkham will be missed.

## Funds Start Arriving for "Jina's Gym"

*Town Wide Yard Sale Planned*

*July 23rd*

(Lamoine) — In what is hoped is the first of many fund raisers to get a new gym facility off the ground in Lamoine, Enid Neleski is asking if folks would be willing to have a yard sale at their home on Saturday, July 23rd, and that a portion of the proceeds be donated to the fund named for her granddaughter Jina Haslam (see article above). The finishing touches are being put on the plans and information will be available on the town's website soon ([www.lamoine-me.gov](http://www.lamoine-me.gov)).

The idea is to have yard sales at homes all over Lamoine. Donations from the proceeds should be sent directly to *The First* (see address above). Pink Yard Sale signs indicating that the sale is in support of the "Jina's Gym" fund will be available at the Town Hall and the School.

Mrs. Neleski is also looking for other creative ways to raise funds for the gym project. She can be reached at 667-8824. The school's building committee, the school committee and the Selectmen will be discussing the idea in the coming weeks as well.

Mrs. Neleski noted the while a new gym's time has come, it's appropriate that the fund drive be in honor of a young lady who spent a great deal of her school time in the current facility. More than 300-people packed the gym for Jina's funeral.

## Department of Labor Fines Town FD

(Lamoine) — The Selectmen and Fire Department have filed an appeal to a number of violations of record keeping rules cited by the Maine Bureau of Labor Standards. An inspector found inadequate training records for firefighters trained to fight interior fires and for airpack maintenance. A total of seven finable citations at \$700 each resulted in a \$4,900 fine.

In the reply to the Department of Labor, the Town promised to impose fixes by the August 12th deadline, and asked for a waiver of the fine totals.



*Lets Run It Up the Flagpole  
From left Jerry Jordan, Joe Young, Jim  
Carney & Kermit Theall install a new flagpole  
at Forest Hill Cemetery*

## Fire Dept. Auction is August 19th

(Lamoine) — The annual Lamoine Fire Department Auction will be held on Friday, August 19, 2005 at 6:00 PM at the Lamoine School. Preview and refreshments will start at 5:00 PM.

The auctioneer again this year is Chas Hare of Stockton Springs. Firefighters are in the process of collecting goods and services for the auction. The event is one of the largest fundraisers of the year for the fire department, and proceeds are used to purchase firefighting and rescue equipment to supplement the town budget.

## Firefighters Buy New Pole

(Lamoine) — The flag pole at Forest Hill Cemetery (next to the Lamoine Baptist Church) rusted out after about 30-years of service, and one day the pulleys that held the flags up came off and the flags fell to the ground. The Lamoine Volunteer Fire Department has maintained the flags which fly over the lots of two Revolutionary War Era soldiers.

The department purchased a new pole from World of Flags in Milo. Contractor Jay Fowler removed the old pole setting and dug the hole for the new pole. Fire Chief Skip Smith arranged to get the right material to set the pole into the ground, and Captain Jerry Jordan arranged for the crew to set things straight.

The department met its goal of having the new flag pole and flags in place for the Memorial Day holiday. It's hope the new, fibreglass pole will last another 30-years. The project was funded privately and cost about \$1,365.00

## Mutual Aid Renewed

(Lamoine) - The Selectmen and Fire Chief Skip Smith signed a renewal agreement on the Hancock County Firefighters Association mutual aid agreement. The contract allows Lamoine to get help from any Hancock County Town for a major fire event, and also allows other towns to call on the Lamoine Department. The updated agreement is seen as a way to help



### ***Open House Is A Hit***

*Over 100 people toured the Lamoine Fire Station and got a close-up look at the new rescue truck in May. The second annual open house saw excellent attendance on a windy, rainy Sunday afternoon. Fire Department members served up grilled food and ran out of some items. The department is looking forward to the annual auction on August 19th.*

## Fire Pond Checked

# Otis Teen Critically Injured in Lamoine Wreck

(Lamoine) — Lamoine’s firefighters knew it was bad when the fire pagers pierced their sleep at 5:10AM on May 14th—the dispatcher at the Hancock RCC reported a 10-55 PI (auto accident with personal injury). On arrival they found a compact car had run into a tree and a teen-aged boy was trapped on the passenger’s side. Within seconds the rescue jaws and cutters went into action to get Matthew Peasley of Otis free and into the ambulance. It was the first real test of the tool bought a couple years ago with donations and tax money combined. While several firefighters worked to remove the metal that pinned Peasley’s legs, others set up a landing zone for the LifeFlight helicopter at Lamoine Beach. County Ambulance crews assisted keeping Peasley breathing while the extrication took place. LifeFlight took Peasley to Eastern Maine Medical Center in Bangor where he stayed for exactly a month and recovered from his life threatening injuries. His family reports that Matthew returned home on June 14th but faces a long rehabilitation for head and leg injuries.

Maine State Troopers are investigating the accident. Alex Wentworth of Ellsworth was reportedly driving the vehicle. Wentworth, Peasley

and several others had apparently gone to Lamoine Beach to watch the sunrise after staying out most of the night. Police have not indicated how fast the vehicle was traveling, but said it looked as if the car went off the road, the driver cut the wheel too hard to get back on, and it went off the other side.

The accident occurred just about a week after several of the young people had participated in the *Every 15 Minutes* program at Ellsworth High School.



## *The Aftermath*

*The Toyota Avalon above smashed into a tree on Lamoine Beach Road as driver Alex Wentworth lost control. Wentworth’s passenger Matthew Peasley was pinned inside the wreckage. Lamoine Firefighters used the new extrication tools to free Peasley so he could be transported by helicopter.*

(Lamoine) — Firefighters checked the integrity of the hydrant at the pond across the road from Chief Skip Smith’s house. The pond still provides a good water source in the event of a major fire, but some gravel got into the tanker truck recently causing some costly damage to the pump. No visible signs of problems were found in the pond. Below, diver Brett Jones is aided by Carlton Johnson & John Karst



## Asst. Chief Eng. Oliver Aids Rescue At Sea

(Lamoine) — Asst. Chief Engineer Maury Oliver, who played a key role in a February rescue of two women in Lamoine, aided in a rescue at sea while on board his merchant marine ship, the USNS Seay. The rescue took place May 8th off the Atlantic Coast. Oliver, the chief engineer of the Seay, was cited for “leadership and can-do performance” in the operation which located a missing sailboat and rescued one of the people who had gone into the water. Another victim did not survive.

## Planning Board Slows For Second Quarter

(Lamoine) — Perhaps it's a sign that development pressure is easing a bit, but there was so little to place on the Planning Board agenda for July 5th that the meeting was canceled. One subdivision remains in process and another will ask for a renewal at the August meeting.

The Board has been busy with a number of other matters. It granted a home occupation permit to Todd Simons to build doll-houses at his Riverside Drive home. The Board finally approved an 11-unit subdivision submitted by Duane Crawford and Julie Tilden of Shore Road. A gravel pit renewal was granted to Mike Keene who purchased the former Aubrey Davis pit. Mr. Keene had been cited for failing to renew the license, but he had not been operating the pit while putting

the license information together.

The lone new subdivision on the agenda is proposed off Seal Point Road. Kevin Barbee and Timothy Ring submitted a preliminary sketch of the proposal to the Planning Board in June, but not enough information was granted to be called a complete application. No new information had arrived in time for the July meeting.

A subdivision approved for Ronald Simons which expires will be up for renewal in August. Mr. Simons has yet to make a substantial start on construction of the road.

The Board also is looking at a proposal for a home in the Bar Harbor Highlands area that would have placed a septic system on questionable land. Developer Joel Ploszaj has since withdrawn that plan.

## Alternates Named To Planning Board

(Lamoine) — Two new Planning Board members have taken seats as alternate members of the Board. Lance Landon of Walker Road is a civil engineer with Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor. He also is serving on the Long Range Planning Committee.

Realtor Enid Neleski was also named as an alternate member to the board. The Lamoine Beach Road resident has served the town in several capacities.

The vacancies were the result of a resignation and an election.

## Board Works on Shoreland Ordinance

(Lamoine) — An update to the Lamoine Shoreland Zoning Ordinance may face voters at the 2006 town meeting (or sooner). The Planning Board and Code Enforcement Officer Dennis Ford are looking at needed changes to bring the ordinance up to date. The last time the ordinance was amended was in May, 1993. State rules have changed since then, and the board is looking to make the ordinance more compatible with other town rules. A workshop meeting is planned for July 25th.

## Permits Pick Up

(Lamoine) — Code Enforcement Officer Dennis Ford report issuance of the following permits since the April 2005 edition of *The Lamoine Quarterly*:

Nbr.	Name	Project
6	Elizabeth Belch	Residence
7	Stacey Curtis	Garage
8	J. Mihalopoulos	Steps to Shore
9	Frederick Cahn	Garage/Shed
10	Joel Ploszaj	RV Pad
11	Richard Blease	Residence
12	J & N Heitert	Residence/Deck
13	Mike Ashley	Bunk House
14	Richard Willard	Addition
15	Wayne Wright	Residence
16	Seacoast Farms LLC	Steps to Shore
17	Andrew Gold	Residence



***One Hot Subdivision***  
*The old Beal home burned in order to make room for the Beal Estates Subdivision on Douglas Highway*



## State To Pave Douglas Highway Soon

(Lamoine) — The major thoroughfare through Ellsworth will soon become part of Lamoine. The town has not annexed High Street, but the Maine Department of Transportation plans to use recycled pavement from the upcoming grinding of that street to put down a major road surface on the North Lamoine section of Douglas Highway (Route 184).

The town complained loudly to the MDOT during the winter and spring, which prompted Commissioner David Cole to ride the road. Instead of a light resurface similar to the Lamoine Beach Road section done this year, the DOT decided to place a heavy shim of the recycled pavement down first to smooth out the heavily rutted, cracked and potholed surface, then put a surface coat



*The potholes that have developed on Route 184 show the layers of pavement that have gone on the top over the years*

to be performed sometime in August.

18	Douglas Leslie	Mobile Home
19	Michael Lewis	Deck
20	Wayne Wright	Residence
21	Barry Muise	Residence
22	Peter Dickey	Garage
23	Patty Wyshak	Garage
24	Paul Cirard	Shed
25	N & P Jordan	Deck
26	D & P Reid	Handicap Ramp

## State Audit Suggests Policies

(Lamoine) — A field auditor from the Maine Bureau of Audit is visiting all the town offices in Hancock County this year to look over excise tax records. A check in Lamoine found the records to be in order with all pre-numbered forms accounted for, either in cash receipts and bank deposits or in the voided box.

The audit is standard fair for Maine towns as the state suggests ways to safeguard local taxpayer monies. A number of suggested policies has been forwarded to most communities with ideas for specifying who and how cash is handled to having someone other than the excise tax collectors verify that the auto registration forms are accounted for.

Lamoine, like most small towns, does not employ the amount of staff required to implement all the suggestions of the field auditors. Selectmen will start getting a print-out once a month of the General Ledger Trial Balance. The Selectmen already receive a bi-weekly budget report showing the amounts budgeted, amounts received and spent, and the remaining budget and it's posted on-line.

***Shore Road Paved***  
*Crews used larger than usual trucks as both ends of Shore Road received a new coat of pavement in early July.*

## Voter Accessibility Project Proceeds

(Lamoine) — Crews from Harold MacQuinn, Inc. will soon lift the cement portion of the town hall ramp to bring the slope into compliance with ADA laws as requested by the Secretary of State. Carpenter Ralph Murphy has moved the sign that was attached to the front of the building and seen as a barrier to wheelchairs. Welder Glenn Crawford will build up the rails so the proper height is achieved. MacQuinn will also repave the macadam portion of the ramp and install a safety curb to complete the compliance orders. The town placed traffic cones at the handicapped parking lane during election day to designate the proper spot.

While not a perfect fix, the paving should buy some time for a major rebuild. Expect the new paving



# Tax Bills Delayed as Town Revalues Property

(Lamoine) — Don't expect your property tax bill until at least mid-September this year as the town performs what is called a factored revaluation. A team of appraisers from RJD Appraisal arrived in late June to begin work on the project that will establish more realistic property values town-wide.

Bob Duplisea, the company owner, says the tentative plan will have the initial values ready by early August. Property owners can expect to receive notices of what the new property value will be around August 15th. The appraisers will schedule hearings to be held the last week of August for people who might question the method used to determine the new value and whether the assessment is correct. Following the hearings the assessors will clean up any remaining issues and make the tax commitment around September 15th. Tax bills are to be paid in full by October 31st



*Roger Peppard, Kevin McCormick and Bob Duplisea of RJD Appraisal work on the new valuations*

per town meeting vote.

The factorization process is extremely complex. It involves tracking the property sales prior to April 1, 2005 on the property tax maps to establish trends for different areas of the town. For instance, shore property sales have seen much higher increases from the town assessments than inland lots. When the last full revaluation was performed in 1993 a formula for property values was established for the many areas of town, and that formula will be revised based on the sales for the past 12-years. In the end, the valuation of the town will rise significantly, which will reduce the mill rate used to establish the individual parcel property tax.

The appraisal team that was working around town in late June and early July was measuring the new construction completed in the past year to accurately record on the property cards what exists on the lot on April 1st. With those measurements, the new formulas can be plugged in, and the final value determined.

The project will cost a total of \$18,000 which was approved at town meeting two years ago from the revaluation fund, and carried over to this year. The factored revaluation is a much less expensive process than a full revaluation which involves visiting each property in town to measure and grade each building. The assessors have kept up with new construction, and the appraisal firm had reviewed 25% of the town over each of the past few years, so both feel comfortable the information is accurate.

*The Lamoine Quarterly—July 2005*

## New Conservation Commissioners Named

(Lamoine) — Donna Thorburn and Robert Pulver are the newest members of Lamoine's Conservation Commission. Mrs. Thorburn ran for Selectman in March and was edged out by Richard Fennelly. She lives on Clamshell Alley. Mr. Pulver is a relatively new resident of Lamoine, having built a house on Pasture Way. Both fill alternate positions on the commission.

## Talkin' Trash Again

*By Donna Theall*

(Lamoine) — On Wednesday, September 14, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. at the Lamoine Town Hall, the Lamoine Conservation Commission will present "Trash Talk III – Reducing Costs by Increasing Recycling" with Victor Horton. Victor is the Executive Director of the Maine Resource Recovery Association and is responsible for marketing for MRRA participating communities.

Trash Talk III is the third in a series of ongoing discussions being held in Lamoine to address solid waste management and recycling issues, with a goal of exploring solutions and alternatives for managing solid waste and its associated cost.

MRRA has 112 direct members (including Lamoine) and over 200 indirect member communities since some members represent multiple towns/districts (i.e. Coastal Recycling has five or six communities). MRRA

# Soggy Day Doesn't Deter Litter Cleanup

*By Donna Theall*

(Lamoine)-“Two-hundred fifty, two-hundred fifty one, two-hundred fifty, wait a minute! This is ridiculous, I'm not going to keep counting cigarette butts, there are so many!” Let's just say, it's about 350 butts per hour.” That's about how many cigarette butts you can expect one person to pick up during an hour of cleanup. If you multiply that by the number of volunteers who came out to assist with clean up, you get a rough idea of just how many cigarette butts are being thrown out on the highways and byways of Lamoine. Conservatively, volunteers picked up an estimated 3500 cigarette butts in just one day.

We don't know how many pounds of trash were picked up during the Second Annual Lamoine Town Cleanup - which was held on the first Saturday in May, a cold, rainy and windy day – but, we know a dedicated

corps of volunteers (led by Georgia Munsell) showed up to clean up and make the day a resounding success! We thank all of the volunteers who gave their time, especially with weather that was less than cooperative.

If we could encourage those who throw trash and cigarette butts onto the streets of our town to dispose of it in a receptacle or an ashtray (depending on what you're discarding), we would even have more of a success and cleaner surroundings.

No matter, we know our dedicated volunteers will be there again to clean up next time, we just ask that you think twice before you toss! Stay tuned for details on a second cleanup that we are thinking about for September.

## Committees Shelved

(Lamoine) — The work was complete, and there was no need to keep two committees active any longer. Lamoine's Selectmen officially deactivated the Public Works Study Committee and the Public Safety Study Committee in May, thanking all committee members for their service. The Public Works Committee determined that contractors should continue to do the road work in town, but felt land should be purchased for future needs. The town meeting rejected several land purchase options during the past year.

Voters also rejected the Public Safety Committee's recommendation for some more of a police presence in Lamoine, opting to rely on the Sheriff's Department and State Police.

picks up material from 75 locations. Lamoine brings its recyclables to Bangor to be picked up by MRRA. In 2004, MRRA marketed more than 30,000 tons of recyclable materials from their members.

Trash Talk I was held in July, 2004 with Ken Smith and Al Sternfield who educated the LCC on current transfer station and recycling systems in town. Trash Talk II was held on March 16, 2005 with Bob Kates, who presented on recycling and waste management in Hancock County.

## Memorial, Survey Move Forward

(Lamoine) — Lamoine's large long-range planning committee has proposed two ideas forward for consideration. A town memorial to veterans is the brainchild of committee member Reggie McDevitt. The committee met with Franklin's Fire Chief Bob Grindle who oversaw a similar project in that town. More details are expected in a few months.

The committee has also developed a questionnaire for town residents with a wide range of issues to be addressed. The committee feels if the survey is conducted, the town will have a better idea on what its priorities ought to be for controlling and responding to growth.

The committee has asked for a clear direction from the Board of Selectmen and will meet with the Selectmen on July 14th. One of the issues is committee membership. Originally at 24-members, attendance at meetings has waned in recent months. Selectmen Brett Jones has chaired the committee thus far.



### *Cleaning Up*

*Georgia Munsell, Cynthia Donaldson, Diane Sanderson and Lynda Tadema-Wielandt get their trash bags for cleanup day*

## Hazardous Waste Day is October 1

(Lamoine) — The MDI League of Towns will hold its annual Household Hazardous Waste collection day on October 1, 2005 at MDI High School. Details are still being worked out, but the program last year allowed residents to pick up permits at the Town Office to take materials to the collection point. Several Lamoine residents took part in the collection. Check the town's website ([www.lamoine-me.gov](http://www.lamoine-me.gov)) periodically for details when they become available.

## Selectmen Look At Shellfishing Rules

(Hancock) — Lamoine's Selectmen attended a meeting with officials from Hancock and Franklin as clam diggers ask for regulation of the flats in the three towns. No decisions came from the meeting. Selectmen report that diggers favor limiting the number of people who can utilize the mud flats for clamming and worming in order to give the clam, mussel and worm populations a chance to rejuvenate.

The biggest issue would seem to be how to enforce any mutli-town effort efficiently. Lamoine had a shellfishing ordinance many years ago but the town meeting voted to do away with the ordinance. The Maine Marine Patrol headquarters is stationed at Lamoine State Park and provides enforcement of state laws in town.

## Voters Reject Land Purchase Again

(Lamoine) — A special town meeting in April saw voters once again reject purchase of land behind the Lamoine Consolidated School. The question asked if the town wished to use \$40,000 in surplus funds to purchase 3-acres from the Miller family. The land abuts the athletic fields.

Selectmen were criticized for putting the matter to a special town meeting vote when voters had rejected a larger proposed purchase the previous November. Selectmen felt the town should be given the opportunity to decide if it wished to try a smaller purchase. The nearly 200 people who attended rejected the question on a hand vote.



*Voters at the April 28th special town meeting looked over a poster with pictures of the proposed land purchase. Public Works/Land Search Chair Ken Smith developed the plan.*

*Selectmen thanked Mr. Smith for his tireless dedication during the past few years to finding potential land to purchase.*

## Parks Committee Named, Gets Rolling

(Lamoine) — Lamoine's newest committee is up and running. The Parks Committee was required by the ordinance approved at Town Meeting in March. Selectmen appointed Christa Bray, Steve Valleau, Kerry Galeaz, Mary Henry, and Tom Barr as full members, with Bill Fennelly and Bonnie Moretto serving as alternates.

The committee has devised a form to utilize the parks for special events. It has also visited the two formal parks (Lamoine Beach and Bloomfield Park) as well as the Marlboro Beach area to determine just what is there and come up with ideas on what if any regulation is needed. The committee met with Hancock County Chief Deputy Richard Bishop in June to talk about regulation at the park areas. The Committee plans to meet with the Selectmen in July to help further define their role and expectations from the town.

Mrs. Bray was chosen to chair the committee, Mrs. Henry is the vice chair, and Mr. Valleau serves as secretary.

## Roads Named

(Lamoine) — Selectmen have approved "Misty Way" as the new road name for the Marlboro Mist II subdivision and "Boulder Cove Way" for the new subdivision off Shore Road. The Board also settled on "Lydia's Lane" for the road that serves the Marlboro Woods subdivision.

## We're Number 39—For School Building!

(Lamoine) - The State Department of Education has pretty much squashed any chance of receiving state grants for any major building project at the school. The door is still open, though, on an interest free loan for school construction.

The School's building committee discussed the findings from the state in late May, learning Lamoine had come in 39th out of 65 applications from across the state. At best, the state will fund about a dozen projects. The Lamoine School's application ranked high in priority for fire protection, its water and septic system, its plumbing system, the lack of program space, the portable classrooms, and the lack of space for specialized instruction, visual and performing arts.

The building committee will meet with the Board of Selectmen in July to discuss how

to proceed. The no-interest loan is available for up to \$1million. Some of the deficiencies that could be addressed with such a loan are getting rid of asbestos floor tile and mastic throughout the building, correcting condensation problems in the roof, making the entrances ADA compliant, and protecting those entrances from falling ice.

Other areas eligible for a loan are upgrades to the water and plumbing systems, upgrading the electrical system, and replacement of the heating and septic systems.

The committee recommended to the full school board that the Old Town engineering firm that did the original survey of the school be retained to update the cost estimates. Superintendent Bill Fowler will prepare an application to make the needed renovations.

## Sales Tax On Rentals

(Lamoine) - Got a summer cottage that you rent out? Sales tax (7%) is supposed to be collected on the rental fees and submitted to Maine Revenue Services. If rentals are for fewer than 15-days each calendar year a person does not have to register or collect the sales tax. Rentals to sales tax exempt organizations, and continuous rentals to a person for more than 28 days as a primary residence are exempt from the tax.

More information about the sales tax can be found at the Maine Revenue Services website ([www.maine.gov/revenue/salesuse/Bull32.pdf](http://www.maine.gov/revenue/salesuse/Bull32.pdf)).

## Welcome Packet Updated

(Lamoine) — New residents in town now have an up to date packet of material to help explain how things work with the town government. The Welcome to Lamoine packet was originally developed in 2000 to help answer a range of questions such as how to register a car, when the transfer station is open, and with a map of the town. The information changes from time to time. Selectman Cynthia Donaldson was particularly helpful in finding areas to bring up to date. Copies are available at the town office

## Time Warner Purchases Cable Company

(Lamoine) — The former owners of Adelphia are now in jail and the cable giant's bankruptcy has resulted in the sale of its assets to Time-Warner and Comcast. Lamoine's cable TV system will become part of the Time-Warner holdings.

Little is expected to change in regard to local cable service. Time-Warner has a large presence in Maine already, especially in the southern part of the state. The transaction should be complete by the 1st of next year or sooner.

Many residents have inquired about renegotiating the existing contract with Adelphia to include more areas in the buildup. The town is exploring what options are available, but the 15-year franchise agreement with Adelphia was renewed just a few years ago.

## Liens Filed

(Lamoine) — Tax Collector Jennifer Kovacs has filed 40-tax liens for the 2004/05 tax year. The value of the unpaid taxes was \$20,640.15. The number of liens is 3-higher than the 2003/04 tax year, but the value is \$357.57 lower than the last batch.

A lien is placed on a property with unpaid taxes between 8-months and 1-year following tax commitment. Lien notices were sent in late May, and over half the unpaid taxes were collected to avoid the liens.

## Jean Harris Retires From School



### *The Last Day*

*Jean Harris gets ready to sign Owen McGreevey's yearbook on her final regular workday at school. Mrs. Harris was the school's special education teacher*

*By Val Perkins, Principal*

(Lamoine) - A long time employee and very well respected teacher Jean Harris has decided to retire. She said to me last week, "Mr. Perkins, I love my job, but the time has arrived when I need to step down and spend more time with my family." Jean and husband Don are both native Smithfield, Rhode Islanders. They moved up to the Aroostook County town of Blaine, Maine nearly four decades ago where Don had been assigned as a soil scientist with the USDA office in Presque Isle. From Blaine, they went to East Machias and twenty-eight years ago the community of Lamoine was fortunate to have them relocate here.

## "Island" Music Planned for State Park

(Lamoine) — Put on a tie-dye shirt and do your hair in dreadlocks—the Flash in the Pans steel drum band will be the featured performer at Lamoine State Park. The event will take place on Monday, August 1st from 7:30 to 9PM. No admission will be charged.

The event will benefit Friends of Lamoine State Park & the Lamoine Historical Society. Food will be sold at the park, and donations can also be made. More details will be available on the town's website ([www.lamoine-me.gov](http://www.lamoine-me.gov)) when we get them.

## Eight Graduate HS with Honors

(Lamoine) - The class of 2005 was a smart one, with eight Lamoine students graduating with honors. At Ellsworth High School **Katie Good, Chad Smart, Katrina Proctor** and **Lucas Carriere** all were named honor graduates. At MDI High School in Bar Harbor, **Emma Stanley, Emily Christie, Richard Veysey** and **Josh Duym** were among those in their graduating class receiving the honor tassels.

The Board of Selectmen did up certificates for each of the honor students who will begin college in the fall.

## Help Sought



*Photo & Story courtesy of Linda Feury, Hancock County EMA*

## Students Visit Hurricane Plane

(Bangor) - Seventeen Lamoine fifth grade students were treated to a field trip to Bangor International Airport to see "Miss Piggy", a Lockheed WP-3D Orion Aircraft. "Miss Piggy" is better know as a "Hurricane Hunter" aircraft, headquartered at MacDill AFB in Tampa, Florida, when it isn't flying into hurricanes.

Students and teachers accompanied by Val Perkins, Principal and Hancock County Emergency Management Deputy Director, Linda Feury had the opportunity to attend the "kick off" of the Hurricane Awareness Tour, held May 2<sup>nd</sup> in Bangor. The Lamoine class was one of seven classes invited from Penobscot, Hancock, Waldo and Washington Counties to attend the Bangor event. The visit included a guided tour of the aircraft's data systems, radar, cloud physics, and flight director's stations, as well as a look at the Pilot

Mrs. Harris has had a number of different assignments at our school and at Ellsworth High School. She began her career as a kindergarten teacher and remained in that position for five years. The past twenty-two years has seen Jean fulfill a vital role in our Resource Room as a Special Education teacher. It is here that Jean has had a tremendous impact by helping students overcome difficulties with decoding the complexities of reading as well as provide a nice support network for understanding math concepts. She is such a patient and caring teacher. We will miss Mrs. Harris very much, but I know that her home is just around the corner from the Lamoine School and as with her many other community involvements, she can always be counted on to help out in time of need.

## Shirley Love Retires As Registrar

(Lamoine) — Registrar of Voters Shirley Love has retired from the Registrar of Voters position she has held for the past several years. Mrs. Love will move to Ellsworth for health and personal reasons.

Taking over as Registrar is Town Clerk Jennifer Kovacs. Having the registrar in the building on a regular basis will be important in the coming months as the Secretary of State's Office will supply each town with a new computer in an effort to centralize the voter registration database. The Registrar is responsible for keeping the voter list up to date and printing the list for each election.

(Lamoine) — The town is looking for employees. Vacancies include the Road Commissioner's position, which pays a \$500 annual stipend. Stu Marckoon asked not to be re-hired this year due to time constraints. The town is also looking for fill-in attendants at the Transfer Station. That position is paid hourly depending on qualifications. Interested persons should apply in writing to the Lamoine Town Office, 606 Douglas Hwy., Lamoine, ME 04605 by July 14th. The Transfer Station attendant pool is always open. More information on that job is available from Allen Sternfield at the facility.



(Lamoine) - The Lamoine Softball team (above) won the Union 92 Championship with an undefeated season. Lamoine beat Hancock in the Championship game 15-3. Team members are: (front row) **Lilly Cooper, Jina Haslam, Casey Wyman, Cara Weber, MacKenzie Curtis**, (Middle row) **Coach Joni Pinkham, Jen Eckert, Kayla Herbert, Drew Beauvais, Gabi Huebner, Danielle Hutchins, Coach Heidi**, (Back) **Alicia Lofton, Brittney Robbins, Emily Crotteau, Jen Tupper and Heather Tupper**.

and Flight Engineer's operations. Students were given an opportunity to hear from and pose questions to the pilot and flight engineer accompanying the tour group, which included Max Mayfield, Director of the National Hurricane Center in Miami, FL. They learned that the total crew on a Hurricane Hunter flight numbers as many as 18-20 on its missions into the eye of a hurricane.

## Lamoine Cable TV Has Busy Spring

(Lamoine) — Lamoine's Government Cable TV Channel enjoyed a lot of programming during the 2nd quarter of 2005. The purchase of a digital video camera and tripod allowed the town to tape the April 28th special town meeting and the June 9th public hearing prior to the referendum vote on the 28th of June. The equipment was also used to record the 8th grade graduation. The Cable TV Committee voted to make copies of the graduation and supply the families of each graduate with a DVD of the ceremonies. The recordings became of high importance with the death of graduate Jina Haslam 6 days after the event.

The Cable TV channel bid good-bye to a young man who's been a key to most of the broadcasts. Chris Bowman has left to attend the Job Corps program in Limestone (though he returned for a few weeks in the summer). Chris has been the technician for many of the broadcasts, sitting through Selectmen and Planning Board meetings. Those attending the public hearing June 9th gave Chris a nice round of applause as thanks.

# July 2005 Lamoine Town Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4-Office Closed—Holiday	5-Planning Board meeting canceled	6-7PM Parks Committee	7-7PM Fire Dept.	8	9
10	11	12	13-7PM Special Town Mtg. 7PM Consv. Cmsn.	14-7PM Selectmen 7PM Fire Dept.	15	16
17	18	19-Town Office Closed for Training	20	21-Town Office Closed for training 7PM Fire Dept.	22	23
24	25-7PM Planning Board Workshop	26	27	28-7PM Fire Dept.	29	30
31						

# August 2005-Lamoine Town Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2-7PM Planning Board	3-7PM Assessors	4-7PM Fire Dept	5	6
7	8	9	10-7PM Conservation Commission	11-7PM Fire Dept.	12	13
14	15-7PM School Committee	16	17	18-7PM Selectmen 7PM Fire Dept	19-5PM—Fire Dept. Auction @ School	20
21	22	23	24	25-7PM Fire Dept.	26	27
28	29	30	31			

# September 2005-Lamoine Town Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1-7PM Fire Dept	2	3
4	5-Office Closed, Labor Day	6-7PM Planning Board	7-7PM Assessors	8-7PM Selectmen 7PM Fire Dept	9	10
11	12	13	14-7PM Conservation Cmsn.	15-7PM Fire Dept	16	17
18	19	20	21	22-7PM Selectmen 7PM Fire Dept	23	24
25	26	27	28	29-7PM Fire Dept	30	

## The Lamoine Quarterly July 2005

Inside this issue:

- Deaths Sadden Town 1
- Ballot Questions 1
- New Flagpole 3
- Fire Department News 3
- State to Pave 184 4
- Revaluation Starts 5
- Trash Talk 5
- School Building #39 6
- Parks Committee Start 6
- Retirements 7
- Softball Champs 7

*And Much More!*

Town of Lamoine  
606 Douglas Highway  
Lamoine, ME 04605

