

# The Bucksport Enterprise



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VOLUME 29- NUMBER 46 • NOVEMBER 19, 2020 • BUCKSPORT, ME 04416 • \$1.00

## RSU 25 gaining big gift

*Five-year effort  
seeks to bolster  
grads' success*

BUCKSPORT – The local Regional School Unit 25 has qualified for almost \$1 million over the next five years to help achieve the district's long-term plan to improve the future success of all of its 1,050 students.

The renewal of the award is subject to an annual review, but it will allow for a major and continuing investment in the careers of all of the students in the four-town district.

The money for what has been - dubbed "Aspire Golden Bucks" is coming from a partnership between the MELMAC Education Foundation and Generation US. The two groups want to build the district's ability to better prepare its students for career success after graduation.

The RSU has worked with both groups in the past, but the award announced on Tuesday is the largest one received here.

After an initial year of planning how best to achieve its own goals in Bucksport, the project will begin to impact classes in the next academic year. It will supplement, not replace, any of the current curriculum.

The local effort will be overseen by two employees of JMG Inc., the company that operates Generation US.

The goal is to help each student identify his or her career goal, and then help them achieve it.

In the process, the students will be encouraged to learn how their current education can play a practical role in succeeding in life. The program will be introduced in pre-kindergarten and continue throughout the entire school system. It will provide continuing support for parents and others to help the student or students in their lives.

PLEASE SEE RSU 25, PAGE 2

**IN THE WORKS  
column on  
Page 5**

THE BUCKSPORT ENTERPRISE  
105 MAIN STREET  
BUCKSPORT, ME 04416



A DAY at the Buck Memorial library when you can't go inside. REACH students groom the grounds at the temporarily closed library.

## Many hands/light work



More  
on  
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## Officials ponder a \$3,277,000 Town Dock plan

BUCKSPORT – The Town Council has begun reviewing a proposed \$3,277,000 expansion and revamping of the Town Dock.

The preliminary plan to, in essence, refurbish the town's access to Bucksport Bay, drew rave reviews from Michael Ormsby, the manager of the town's marina and Bucksport's long-time harbor master.

"This would really put us on the map" when it comes to attracting recreational boaters and small cruise ships, Ormsby said.

The town councilors appeared impressed with the consultants preliminary proposal, but several urged patience and caution before proceeding with such a major expense.

Mayor Peter Stewart told his colleagues he'd like to sample public opinion on how much and what sort of activity the town should be encouraging along the

waterfront.

At the councilors' request, copies of the many pages of documents prepared by GEI Consultants of Portland were sent to each councilor this week.

The key to proceeding is expected to the level of outside financial help the town can garner from federal, state and others sources to offset most of the expense.

Daniel Bannon, a waterfront engineer with GEI, suggested possible sources of cash. These included potential grants of up to \$1.5 million with 75 percent of that coming from the federal government, and the rest locally.

One Maine agency is offering up to \$250,000 to successful applicants. The consultant went on to list several more sources of potential money to reduce the town's share.

PLEASE SEE TOWN DOCK, PAGE 2.

## Last Call for Port O' Call! . . . Not just a number

BUCKSPORT – It's the announcement the owner of every small business dreads having to make, but Meg Keay knew it was the message she had to share.

The weekend before last, Keay sent an e-mail to her "fellow downtown Bucksport business owners, informing them, 'It's with a heavy heart I write to you all tonight. We had a very good year here last year after relocating from Eastport, and were enthusiastically looking forward to 2020. Then along came covid.'"

She went on to report, "It's been a very stressful year, and I've decided to close Port O' Call. Our last day will be Dec. 28. We begin our closing sale..."

There was no bitterness. Indeed, she said, "I've enjoyed working with all of you these last couple of

seasons. I wish you all the very best, as we all move forward. Thank you all for being wonderful business neighbors. Bucksport is a really nice town, and I've enjoyed living here."

She and her husband, Darrell, then signed the brief e-mail.

To some, it was but another one added to a growing statistic: the number of businesses ravaged by the pandemic. For many, the virus was the final burden.

Like other small businesses Keay was aware she was competing in a world already favoring the buying power of giant enterprises over the personal touch and service of business people simply trying to keep the doors open and lights on along the main streets of America.

However, in relocating here from Eastport to Bucksport several years ago, Keay came with a zeal, and soon mobilized her own marketing efforts, as well as her downtown business neighbors. However, a store like Port O' Call relies on customers coming through the door to see and touch the merchandise before making a purchase. The Covid-19 precautions all but ended that.

A survey early this month by Goldman Sachs, entitled, "Sinking Lifeboats," the owners of 10,000 small businesses reported they are losing confidence in their ability to survive. The survey was conducted before the latest round of local and state restrictions imposed on mobility and business activity.

PLEASE SEE PORT O' CALL, PAGE 8.

## Bucks Bucks effort continuing

*'It was a super nice deal for the people of Bucksport, and encouraged them to spend a little more than they would have. BookStacks alone handled \$3,500, all of which stayed in local circulation.'*

– Andy Lacher at BookStacks.

*'I absolutely loved the Bucks Bucks program. I was closed for three months during the quarantine and my business suffered because of it. I was so grateful when reopening to have this program. This program was exactly what we needed as a town. I thank all who were involved.'*

– Kim Preble at Bush Salon.

*'The Bucks Bucks program brought in enough revenue to cover one month of my lease. Very much appreciated.'*

– Diane Stimpson at Huckleberries.

*'Bucks' Bucks was such a gift at a really rough time for me as a shop owner and for customers.'*

– Patty Rowley at Bolt.

BUCKSPORT – In an effort to aid small local businesses struggling with the continuing realities of the pandemic, the Town of Bucksport and Main Street Bucksport are collaborating on a second round of "Bucks Bucks" coupon incentives to buy or dine locally.

In the previous round, 23 businesses participated and 44 donors contributed to an account that underwrote coupons that generated an estimated \$32,000 to the local economy.

About 200 people purchased Bucks Bucks for half of the listed value, and the coupons were redeemed at local businesses.

The Bucks expired at the start of November, but thanks to a \$10,000 contribution from the town, and a similar amount being raised privately, the project now is being repeated.

Main Street Bucksport already has about \$1,000 toward its \$10,000 goal to sustain the effort. Checks, payable to the Bucks' Bucks fund, can be sent to Post Office Drawer P, Bucksport, ME 04416. Questions can be sent to Brook Ewing Minner at brook@mainstreet-bucksport.org. She can be reached at 479-3933.

## Bucksport responds to Orland's request for firefighting costs

ORLAND – Bucksport's town manager reports Orland officials have asked what it might cost to contract with Bucksport to provide fire protection instead of having their own on-call department as their primary fire responder.

Susan M. Lessard said she provided "a ballpark only figure based on our contract with Verona Island. However, given the fact that Orland is four times bigger than Verona – I am unsure that we have the ability to take on responsibility for another 92 fire calls a year without additional staffing and equipment."

She told the Bucksport town councilors she may return to them after she hears the initial reaction to the information she provided to Orland.





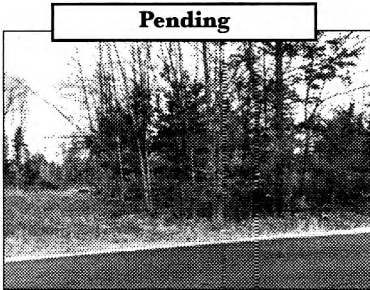
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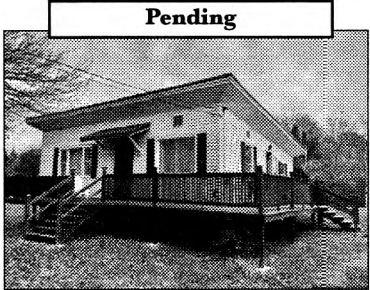
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**Bucksport**—Beautiful 57+/- acre parcel has been regularly harvested as a wood lot. Easily accessible, a great recreational property and a perfect opportunity to enjoy nature or possible building sites.

Call Doug Burpee 207-735-5366 \$80,000



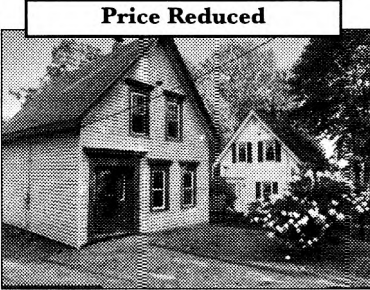
**New Listing**  
**Bucksport**—Tastefully updated with a fresh feel, welcome to 109 Main St. in downtown Bucksport. Sit & enjoy the water views of the Penobscot River from an elegant living room w/ re-finished hardwood floors & a grand bay window w/ southern exposure. Recently renovated, this 4 BR 1.5BA home features updated windows, interior & exterior paint, LED light fixtures, appliances and more. A spacious first floor w/ large open kitchen complete w/ laundry hookups, formal dining room & workshop area. Second level offers 4BR's, full bath & large south side master w/ water views. A great opportunity for your coastal Maine getaway, rental property or year-round living. Home shares common wall w/ neighboring home.

Call Dan Burpee 207-735-5337 \$129,900



**Pending**  
**Bucksport**—Enjoy one-floor living and convenience to Bucksport's downtown, as well as surrounding towns of Bangor, Belfast, & Ellsworth. Home is on .34 acres with a private backyard, 3 bedrooms (one BR now has a laundry hookup) and one full bath. An excellent starter home or great for investment rental.

Call Kathy Coogan 207-632-5246 \$119,900



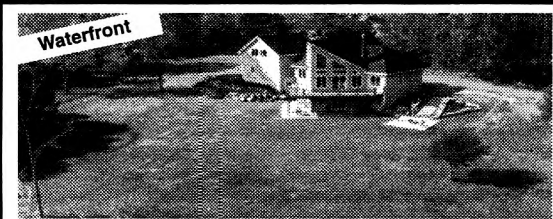
**Price Reduced**  
**Bucksport**—Check out this renovated 3BR/1.5BA cape in downtown Bucksport. Renovated in 2019, this home features a new kitchen, flooring, windows, roofing, appliances, electrical & more. First floor laundry, large pantry, living room w/ built-ins, den & new 2nd floor 1/2 bath. Modern touches with a classic feel w/ the benefits of a deck, large backyard, 2-car garage & paved driveway.

Call Dan Burpee 207-735-5337 \$179,900

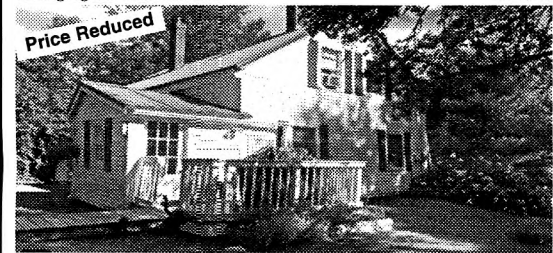


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Mark Eastman, Wendy Carpenter, Daniel See, & Lorrinda Connolly.



**Waterfront**  
**Orland**—Beautiful contemporary home with frontage on the Orland River. This 3/4 Bedroom, 3 Bath home was constructed in 2010 and sits on a 3 acre lot. Enjoy open concept living with large windows. The home affords complete privacy without a neighbor in sight and yet just minutes to the village of Bucksport. The finished basement provides space to entertain with an attached patio or use the expansive deck for warm weather gatherings. Claim additional living space above the garage. High speed internet is onsite for those looking to work remotely. Discover peace and quiet on Leaches Point!  
Listing Agent: Mark Eastman \$479,000



**Price Reduced**  
**Orland**—Lovely Cape in Orland Village! This 3 to 4 Bedroom 1 Bath home is within walking distance of the Orland Community Center and only 5 minutes from Bucksport. Amenities include first floor laundry, an eat in kitchen, storage shed and potential for a first floor bedroom. Nice corner lot with room for the kids to play. Come take a look!  
Listing Agent: Mark Eastman \$151,900



**Bucksport**—Looking for a building lot within walking distance to Main Street? This lot is just under an acre and is cleared with public water available at the street. Bring your building plans and ideas. This is a rare lot located in the village of Bucksport. Walk to the movies, dinner or take a stroll on the waterfront.  
Listing Agent: Mark Eastman \$48,000



**Verona Island**—This wooded 16.2 acre lot is located on very desirable Verona Island. Build your new home and be centrally located to Belfast, Bangor, Blue Hill, Castine and Ellsworth. This parcel has frontage on both West Side Drive and the Verona Park Road. Land has been recently surveyed.  
Listing Agent: Wendy Carpenter \$45,000

## — Town Dock

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1.

The consultant suggested a possible multi-year timetable for getting the dock built.

That schedule suggests filing this year for State and federal permit applications.

• A final design could be ready by next summer, and next winter would bring the complicated process of lining up as much outside money as possible, he said.

If the cash can be found and the local voters approve the project, the earliest potential for construction would come late in the winter of 2021 or the spring of 2022, according to the consultant.

All of the planning is aimed at increasing the town's capacity to serve recreational boaters and the small cruise boats plying Maine's coast. The bottom fell out of the cruise industry as a result of the pandemic, but the

plan is to be ready when the ships start moving again.

The other goals outlined by the backers of the plan are to improve the safety, stability and performance of the dock to serve more overnight visitors and make the dock compliant with the Americans With Disabilities Act requirements.

A new design would keep the dock in the water year-round, eliminating the need to install and remove the floating sections each spring and fall.

The suggested design would strengthen the moorings for boats and make for easier loading and unloading. It also includes upgrades of the utilities, including adding pedestals for power and water hook-ups.

The design meets Coast Guard security requirements to accommodate small foreign-flagged cruise ships.

## The Bucksport Enterprise

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## — RSU 25

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1.

A key component for some will be recognizing that not all students do need to go to college to succeed, said RSU 25 Supt. of Schools James Boothby. Instead, the students, their parents and the school staff should be focusing on what skills and education they'll need to do the best they can in whatever field they opt to pursue, he said.

This school year the local staff, guided by the consultants paid for by the grant, will develop a plan they believe is best-suited for the students in this area. The plan then will be introduced to the students and their parents next fall.

Initially, the idea is to introduce students to all sorts of options available to them in the "real world" and then increase that exposure at the middle school and, finally, helping each student

as they enter high school to begin getting practical about what they want to do after high school.

The supplemental program is based on the idea that if a child sees what they're learning now will contribute to their success in life, they will make better choices and have more enthusiasm for gaining the knowledge and skills they'll need to achieve the goals they've set for themselves.

"I'm thrilled and excited" about the possibilities, Boothby told the School Board on Tuesday. Now, Boothby wants that enthusiasm to sweep through the entire RSU 25 system.

Preliminary work already has been going on "behind the scenes" as members of the RSU 25 staff and the visiting personnel who will coordinate the project got to know one another, and begin developing strategies for launching the effort.

## Schools prepared for Covid-19 issues

BUCKSPORT — After several students at the Bucksport Christian School and the RSU 25 reported indirect contacts with persons who had tested positive for Covid-19, the self-quarantining periods have passed, and all seems to be well.

Still, RSU 25 Supt. of Schools James

Boothby said there are strict protocols in place to cope with any such encounters. He previously has reported that under the circumstances of daily life, such passing contacts probably are inevitable, so the schools are well-prepared for such situations.

## The Bucksport Enterprise

— Every page is chock-a-block full of local news —



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## Friends & Family

SPREADING JOY – and books!  
The **Buck Memorial Library** may be closed, but the trustees are carrying on a three-decade practice of providing free, new books to children.

That's how long ago that **Gerry Spooner** initiated the library project. "Share the Joy of the Holidays" will remain part of the legacy of Spooner's stewardship of the privately operated library for three dozen years.

The project remains a partnership between the Buck Memorial Library and **Bucksport Community Concerns**, which will distribute the donated volumes provided by people throughout the area.

Picture books for young children and more challenging books for older children are welcome.

The **BookStacks** book shop is offering discounts for those purchasing books for donation to the project. Also, gift certificate can be purchased at

BookStacks for the effort, and the volunteers with the Bucksport Area Christmas is for Kids project will do the selecting!

Books or gift certificates may be dropped off on Nov. 28 between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. at the Port O' Call shop at 72 Main Street. Or they can be left on Dec. 5 and Dec. 12 between 10 a.m. and noon at the Buck Memorial Library. A table will be set up outside to receive books.

And books, clearly marked as gifts for the program, may be placed anytime before Dec. 16 in the book return slot at the library.

**AT THE RSU** – The RSU 25 School Board this week approved severing of new personnel:

They include **Cody Davis** and **Michelle McElligott**, as ed techs in special education. Also confirmed was the appointment of **Donna Short** and **Alison Braley** as the advisors to the

Bucksport Middle School Student Council; **Stan Pelletier** as the advisor to the middle school's chess club; and **Hannah Bailey** as the advisor to the middle school's civil rights group.

**SPRUCE UP – REACH School** students recently performed the fall clean-up at the **Buck Memorial Library**.

While the Main Street landmark remains closed because of the continuing Covid-19 restrictions, the trustees are completing some major interior renovation projects. They still must recruit a new person to staff the library once a reopening date is set.



PHOTO BY  
SANDY HOLMES

**SHOPPERS** donated groceries to pack a trailer provided by the Police Department for distribution to food sharing efforts throughout the area. Here's the scene outside the Hannaford Bros. supermarket on U.S. Route 1 on Saturday.

**DIAPER BRIGADE** – Seventy+ packages of donated diapers, both for children and adults, were donated yesterday (11/18) to **Bucksport Community Concerns**. All of them were collected as a community service by **Solidarity Bucksport**, the group which conducts weekly "Black Lives Matter" events on the Dr. W. Edward Thegan Memorial Bridge.

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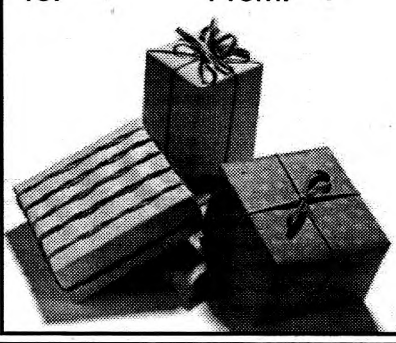
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# On the waterfront

This newspaper never has shied from suggesting big solutions to big problems, based on the experience of seeing many less ambitious proposals achieve little or nothing because someone or some group was afraid to take bold steps. This brings us to the major plan to revamp Bucksport's waterfront with an emphasis on a year-round Town Dock the consultants say should endure for at least half a century. The projected cost: \$3,270,000.

We'll pause to let the sticker shock sink in.

Such a massive effort during a confusing economic and Covid-wracked time may seem a tough sell just now, but that should not scuttle the effort. It just should cause the powers-that-be to proceed with extreme caution and only after a thorough cost/benefit analysis for what such a project can be expected to achieve. This is especially true given the town's continuing dismal record when it comes to buying, selling and managing real estate.

Still, we're heartened by the calls from some town councilors to get this community's residents involved in the decision that eventually is going to need a voter referendum if it is to move ahead.

The town's Portland-based consultant provided a detailed first look at what might be done to make a new Town Dock the focus of major recreational boating activity, including an added enticement to small cruise ship operators that have been operating here sporadically for the past few years.

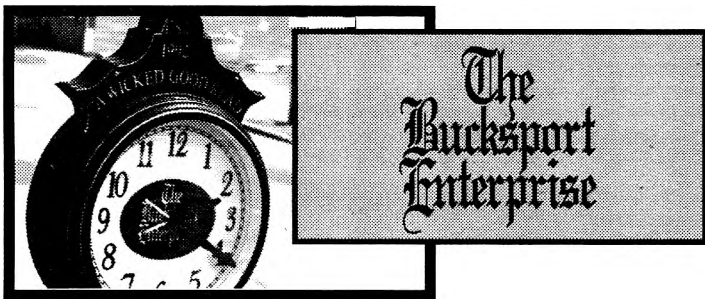
The unanswered questions include what does this activity actually contribute to Bucksport, and what will an expansion of it do to Bucksport. We know the town's marina at this point is, at best, a break-even sort of operation, but it does bring people here who spend money. The small cruise ships, not so much. They flit in and out for overnight stops, look pretty at the dock and leave not much behind other than a few bucks in dock fees. They also put wear-and-tear on the Town Dock, for they tend to arrive only during stormy weather. Their passengers are bused elsewhere and all their meals are served on-board.

However, we can't get caught up in the conundrum of they-will-come-and-then-we'll-build-it during our brief summer season. People go where the things that they need, want or just enjoy already have been built.

This is not a time to rain on a bold idea. To their credit, the councilors talked themselves away from an earlier study proposing the spending of over \$2 million to renovate the tiny train depot. And, over the years, they also endorsed more than \$1 million on the wonderful Penobscot River Walkway, which remains a small town jewel.

Like the walkway, most of the money for the waterfront project would come from other than local taxes, so let's not rush to conclusions. Let's just ask town officials to keep everyone informed, and always acknowledge both the pros and the cons as the analysis of the idea plays out.

In the meantime, we welcome all public comment.



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Don Houghton  
Editor & Publisher

Sandy Holmes  
General Manager

# LETTERS . . . to the editor

## For the 'book lady'

To the Editor:

This letter is offered in thanksgiving for Geraldine Spooner, Buck Memorial Library librarian Emeritus:

*The librarian is busy, getting out  
the inky pad and the lined cards.  
I pace back and forth in the line,  
hungry for the fresh bread of the page,*

*because I need something that will tell me  
what I am; I want to catch a book,  
clear as a one-way ticket, to Paris,  
to London, to anywhere.*

from "Bookmobile"  
by Joyce Sutphen

Respectfully submitted,  
Patricia Ranzoni  
Bucksport Poet Laureate

## Guns, plastic and real

To the Editor:

On Saturday my family and I carried a large number of garish and evil looking plastic guns to the transfer station to be broken up by the powerful compactor (see photos). Many of these looked very realistic other than their bright colors.

Good people had donated these toys to thrift stores, including the Bargain Barn at H.O.M.E., Inc., intending for their resale to profit worthy causes. But think again. Young children copy what they see adults do. The violence on TV is a power-

ful model.

Put a fluorescent orange and green sub-machine gun in the hands of a young child and watch what happens.

Is a toy gun, whether small or large, under the Christmas tree showing respect for the Prince of Peace, Jesus, whose birthday it is? Peace begins at home. Do we want to raise warriors or peace-makers?

Please consider this during your Christmas shopping.

Margaret de Rivera  
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# Earning your \$1 each week

Sometimes newspaper editors can get a little cranky. They've even been known to spew their crankiness into the papers they publish.

It was way back in 1910 when Spencer Cooper, the editor of a no-doubt fine small community paper, the *Hazel Green Herald* got into one of those moods, and he let some of his readers have it:

"When you hear a man sneering at the local paper because it is not big, cheap and newsy as the city papers, you can safely bet he does not 'squander' any of his wealth in assisting to make it better, and that, generally, the paper has done more for him than he has for it.

Cooper went on to observe, "The man who cannot see the benefits arising from a local newspaper, has about as much value to a town as a delinquent tax list."

We certainly agree that every community deserves and benefits from an independent public voice, a place to share the news of the day and the opinions of everyone in it. That includes the views of those with which you agree, and those you adamantly do not.

However, we also believe you paid your buck, or some good money for an advertisement so you deserve the best we can give you with the resources and the time we've got.

In return, the most-valuable asset we have are our incredibly loyal readership and those who regularly find it worthwhile to advertise their goods and services in our pages. Those advertisers know they are reaching their neighbors, both those who are new to the neighborhood, and those who are walking repositories of decades of the history of this unique part of Maine.

Other newspapers are deservedly proud of their awards from their peers, although we long since have ceased submitting entries to these competitions. Frankly, what we value at the *Enterprise* are those telephone calls renewing subscriptions or the nice little, hand-written notes tucked into the envelopes bearing new subscriptions or renewals of

so many long-standing ones.

One recent envelope brought five subscriptions. (*The paper's a great Christmas gift!, especially for those who value staying in touch during the pandemic.*) Several more readers asked for - and got - two-year subscriptions.

Another sign of your loyalty are the calls we get when a copy of the *Enterprise* has gone astray, and not found its way into your mailbox on the usual day. Our subscribers genuinely tell us something is missing from their week when they don't get their copy on time. They even apologize for letting a subscription accidentally lapse, and seek assurances we will restore their subscription immediately.

And a personal favorite is those who stop by to get a copy of one or more editions published while they were out-of-town and unable to pick them up at their favorite store. It's as if the series is not complete if you missed a chapter.

*We wonder if that happens at the New York Times or the Washhton Post!*

It's also a hoot to have someone stop you as you're leaving the polls to comment on an editorial published weeks earlier. And we're even gratified to hear when someone dislikes something they read in the paper. That tells us they're reading it, care about it and know we don't mind hearing contrary opinions.

Would we like more subscriptions? You betcha. Would we like more advertisers? That's a no-brainer in this weird age of Covid-19 economic times. *You have but to read two of the articles on the front page of this edition.*

We don't depend on government subsidies. We depend on doing what we can to give you your money's worth.

After all, you each paid a buck for this newspaper (*and less if you have a subscription!*). We certainly want to keep you informed, especially during these uncertain times.

— DON HOUGHTRON, EDITOR,

*P.S. To the reader who called this week to note we mistakenly identified the Dr. W. Edward Thegin Memorial Bridge last week, we'll try not to do it again. See Page 3.*

Moving?  
Heading south?  
Whatever!  
Let us know!

**ATTENTION SUBSCRIBERS:** To avoid missing an issue let us know if we need to change your address. Undeliverable copies are returned to us, sometimes weeks later, and the *Enterprise* is charged for returned copies.



## OBITUARY

### Thomas Estabrook II, 1948 – 2020

PETERBOROUGH, NH – Thomas "Tom" Estabrook II was born on Jan. 31, 1948 and he died in Peterborough, NH on Nov. 10, 2020.

He was predeceased by his father Richard W. Estabrook and his mother Elizabeth P. Estabrook. Tom leaves behind two sisters, Nancy and Jeanne. Also, he leaves three nephews, Martin, Greg and Todd.

He graduated from High School in Bucksport. He had many summer jobs while in school, including employment at the former St. Regis Paper Mill in Bucksport.

Tom loved sports of all kinds, including track, basketball, Babe Ruth baseball and golf. He was chosen to attend boys' state at the University of Maine. He attended Halifax

University in Wolfville, Nova Scotia. He then graduated from Husson College in Bangor.

He moved to New Hampshire, where he lived for the better part of 40 years working for Eastern Mountain Sports in the mail room preparing catalogs for mailing from 1976 to 1990. He then went to work for Teleflex Medical in Jaffrey, NH from 1990 to 2002. After retirement, Tom enjoyed the outdoors, including hiking, biking and photography.

After cremation there will be a private burial of his ashes in the family plot in Topsham, Maine.

To share a memory or offer a condolence please visit his permanent online memorial page at [www.cournoyerfh.com](http://www.cournoyerfh.com)



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## Cemetery issue dragging on

The manager has made a second attempt to contact the new owners of the property on which the old Methodist burial ground is located. At issue is the town's demand to regularly access the cemetery portion of the private property.

The small plot includes the burial sites of, among others, veterans of the Revolutionary War.

Town Manager Susan M. Lessard also wants access for an underground radar analysis of where bodies remain interred, although some of the grave markers were relocated and/or buried by the town crew years ago.

*The front page photo is of the marker for the grave of Lathley Lewis, who served in the Penobscot Expedition during the Revolution. The stone now is in the Riverview Cemetery but the veteran's remains are still in the Methodist graveyard at 917 River Road.*

Briefing the Town Council last week, Lessard said she's spoken with the town's attorney and on Thursday (11/12) sent a second letter to the new property owners - Letitia Phan and Jacob Schwab. Lessard shared more details on what the town knows about the site and the cemetery under a piece of the

lot. Lessard previously sent a letter to the new owners, but sent it to their former address in Manhattan, K.S. If the second letter doesn't draw a response, the town's law firm will send another one.

Lessard has told members of the Cemetery Committee she'd like to keep the matter as "non-confrontational as possible." Seeking a court order could take time, as the appropriate court is all but shut down because of Covid-19 measures.

The new owners are entitled to be advised by the real estate agents involved that there was a potential issue because of the cemetery on the property. The disclosure statement filled out by the agents included a checked box that said, there is, "a right of way to an old 1800s cemetery that has been relocated."

While some stones were moved, the bodies were not, according to those familiar with the agreement worked out by a former town manager with the previous owner. Should the new owners balk, they could be held liable for legal fees. There appears to be little doubt that the town by law is entitled to access to the old Methodist cemetery.

## IN THE WORKS . . .

*Short topics gleaned from the week's news*

WHAT'S HAPPENING or not – at Whole Oceans, LLC. The lack of construction activity on the firm's sprawling site for an on-shore Atlantic salmon farm at the former mill on River Road has some folks - including some town councilors - wondering what's going on.

Based on the initial proposal, the salmon-rearing plant was to be up and its tanks awash with swimming salmon by now. Indeed, the developers said they already had sold the first five years of production when they announced their plans several years ago.

ROLL 'EM – Some River Road residents want a string of empty freight cars out of their back yards, but so far there's been no sign that's about to happen anytime soon. The cars, parked on a line owned by the Pan Am Railway, are sitting on an easement that runs right through a number of the residential lots. The town manager and the police chief have made calls, but had little to report on progress last week.

The Bucksport rail line, the only commercial line left in Hancock County, dating from the earliest days of railroading in this area, now serves no customers, and the empty railcars are the result of an overall drop in business for the Pan Am, a successor to the Boston & Maine.

BUT, WAIT, there's hope. Despite all sorts of dire economic news, the tiny Pan Am remains profitable and more than one railroad apparently wants to buy it for its 1,700 miles of tracks connecting New England with New York State. CSX Transportation is in talks to buy it, but the Norfolk Southern, which already has a stake in Pan Am has unleashed its lawyers to keep CSX out of the region.

Pan Am and the Norfolk Southern already have a deal that gives the Norfolk access to Pan Am lines that link Ayer, MA and Mechanicville, NY. CSX

isn't the only suitor: The Canadian Pacific and the Genesee & Wyoming are said also to be interested. For about \$700 million, you, too, could have your own railroad.

PARKING LOT – The parking lot on the former Nason lot behind some stores on Main Street - a project envisioned four town managers ago - now is virtually complete. While the lot is on top of a slope several car lengths away from the back entrances to the businesses, it is intended to resolve long-standing drainage issues in that area, while providing more parking.

PUMPIN' – The town's marina now can offer diesel fuel, thanks to a new tank. Previously only gasoline was available there. All will be fully ship-shape before the first boats return in the spring.

UNDER CONSTRUCTION – The replacement of an extensive portion of the downtown retaining walls will be done during the second year of the town's three-year road project program. That program during the next construction season also calls for work on the Silver Lake and Millvale Roads where the gas pipeline was installed, and the Bucksports and Jacob Buck Pond Road culvert replacement projects. The whole package will go out to bid after the beginning of 2021.

*These are all significant projects and we want to get them out to bid early so we can get some good bids, Town Manager Susan M. Lessard said. Other potential projects include the main floats for the marina and the fishing pier.*

ATTN: DOGS, CATS – Bucksport's new animal control officer, Allison Corriveau-Moore, can be contacted by calling dispatch at 469-7951. She previously was the assistant officer.

## Friars' Brewhouse

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## Yuletide feast

BUCKSPORT – The Senior Center Christmas Party for 2020 is being held at Glenn's Place on U.S. Route 1 in Bucksport on Thursday, Dec. 10, at 5 p.m.

As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, we are taking safety precautions. The guest list is being limited to 30 people and this year there will be a small deposit to guarantee each reservation.

Those planning to attend the always popular event are asked to please sign up at the Senior Center no later than Monday, November 30. People can sign up in person at the center on Outer Broadway or call 469-3632 to place a reservation or ask questions. The center is unable to provide transportation to the event this year.

## Senior Center MENUS

BUCKSPORT – Here are the menus for the take-out and delivered meals offered three times a week by the Bucksport Senior Center. The meals are \$6 each and are available to anyone within ten miles of the center, regardless of their age or income. To order one or more meals call 469-3632 before 9 a.m. on the day of the meal.

- **Friday, November 20** - Chicken divan, dinner roll and fruit.
- **Monday, November 23** - Shepherd's pie, dinner roll and a cookie.
- **Wednesday, November 25** - Roast turkey, gravy, mashed potatoes, carrots and apple pie.
- **Friday, November 27** - NO Meal, observing holiday.
- **Monday, November 30** - Pork tenderloin, mashed potato, blended veggies and a chocolate doughnut.

## Public Meal

Saturday, November 21

**TAKE-OUT FISH FRY** – The Knights of Columbus will have complete take-out fish fry dinners available for pick-up at 5 p.m. at the St. Vincent de Paul Church at Central and Franklin streets.

## Fosters officially on School Board

BUCKSPORT – Josh Tripp, the principal at Bucksport High School, did the honors: swearing in Thomas Foster to another term on the RSU School Board, and Foster's sister-in-law, Abigail, to her first term on the panel.

It helped that Tripp is a notary public, so he legally can preside at such official events.

At the session Tuesday, Tom Foster, who regularly reminds his colleagues of his life-long disinterest in all things athletic, said he truly wanted to commend everyone involved in the effort to salvage what's been "a bizarre sports season" because of the pandemic. He said the safety oriented efforts reflect dedication to the students' well-being and morale.

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# PUBLIC SAFETY LOGS

## Arrests tallied

ELLSWORTH – These arrests involving Bucksport-area residents or incidents were reported at the Hancock County Jail:

- Garrett Michael Collins, 35, of 91 Castine Road, Orland was sentenced in Ellsworth on two counts of aggravated trafficking in controlled drugs, and was booked at the jail about 1:15 p.m. on Monday.

- Rhiannon Chiara Swift, 18, of 17 Seminary Road, Bucksport was arrested in Bucksport on Thursday on (11/12), about 11:45 p.m. and booked at the jail shortly before 1 a.m. on Friday. She was released after bail was posted. She's charged with an alleged failure to be in court to answer a previous accusation.

- Jillian Marie McCann, 30, of 196 U.S. Route 1, the Spring Fountain Inn, in Bucksport, was booked shortly before 11 p.m. on Saturday after being arrested in Bucksport for reportedly violating the terms of her release in another case.

McCann had been stopped about 10 a.m. that day and was found to be riding with someone she'd been ordered to avoid if she was released on bail. About 12 hours later, she was arrested at the Spring Fountain on a second charge of violating her bail because she reportedly again was found to be there with the same man.

- Laura M. Burbank, 56, of 979 River Road in Bucksport was booked late last Friday (11/13) after being arrested at her home on a warrant alleging she had failed to be in court to respond to an earlier charge.

- Michael Bruno Bakeman, 29, of 1513 Castine Road, Penobscot was arrested in that town and booked into the jail about 5:15 p.m. on Saturday for allegedly violating the conditions of his release on an earlier charge.

## Accidents - Deer

ORLAND – A Bucksport woman was driving on Acadia Highway about 6:15 a.m. on Saturday when she struck a deer.

Tina Chadbourne-Allen, 41, was driving a Jeep east when the deer ran into the roadway. The deer survived, according to a deputy sheriff's report.

VERONA ISLAND – About 6 a.m. on Nov. 11, Christopher Boyles of Ellsworth was driving on East Side Drive when a deer jumped into his lane, hitting the passenger side of his vehicle. The deer took off after having done minor damage to the vehicle.

The accident first was reported to Bucksport police, but a sheriff's deputy investigated the incident.

BUCKSPORT – These accidents involving run-ins with deer were reported here:

- Cathina Howard, 44, of Bucksport encountered a deer while driving on State Route 46 about 5 p.m. on Saturday.

- Jodi Cummings, 47, of Bucksport hit a deer while driving on the River Road about 6:45 p.m. on Friday (11/13).

- Crystal Davis, 45, of Bucksport hit one on the Millvale Road about 7 p.m. last Thursday (11/12).

A deer was hit on the Millvale Road about 11:30 a.m. last Thursday (11/12), by a vehicle being driven by Jennifer O'Brien, 50, of Bucksport. The deer survived.

## Accidents - Other

BUCKSPORT – Vehicles being driven by Mark Emery, 53, of Orland and Jocelyn Radley, 18, of Bucksport collided at the U.S. Route 1 entrance to the Hannaford Bros. supermarket about 3:30 p.m. on Friday (11/13).

- Minor damage resulted when a vehicle being operated by Edward O'Brien, 63, struck one parked by Charlotte White, 56, of Bucksport. The accident

occurred Nov. 11.

## Assault case open

ORLAND – A 19-year-old Orland woman has reported she was sexually assaulted, and she identified her alleged assailant, a 19-year-old man who lives outside Hancock County.

When she contacted the sheriff's office on the afternoon of Nov. 10 she said the alleged assault occurred much earlier.

The case remains under investigation.

## Summonses

BUCKSPORT – Oliver Lee, 35, of Glenburn received a summons for allegedly using a cell-phone while driving. He was stopped 3:30 p.m. on Sunday.

## Vehicle fire

BUCKSPORT – Deborah Gerry, 71, of Brewer was driving on State Route 46 about 11:15 a.m. on Saturday when her vehicle caught fire. She first spotted smoke coming from under the hood as she was passing by Holyoke Builders.

## Theft alleged

BUCKSPORT – A Mast Hill residence reportedly was entered and some items including a firearm were said to have been taken after the death of a resident. The case remains open.

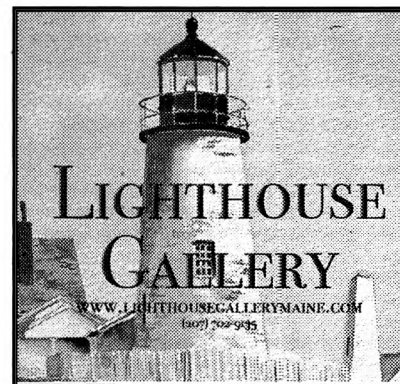
## Yup, it's dead!

BUCKSPORT – A resident Someone reported on Nov. 11 there was a dead seagull on the lawn. The subsequent investigation showed the gull was, indeed, there there, and it was, indeed, still quite dead.

On Sunday another resident reported a live rat had gotten into his home, and he said the rodent was acting peculiarly. The creature was removed, and let's just say he won't be back in the news.



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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1.

- 52 percent of the small business owners have forgone paying themselves
- 42 percent have been forced to lay off employees, or cut compensation
- 28 percent say legislative uncertainty is causing them to consider closing their businesses
- Without additional relief, 20 percent said they won't be able to pay their rent through the end of the year
- 38 percent said they'll be forced to cut additional employees or cut compensation
- 96 percent claimed it is important for legislators to for go partisan politics and pass bipartisan legislation to provide financial relief for small businesses.

Here in Bucksport, as Keay sells off her inventory at deep discounts, other businesses expressed concern about the closing of a long-time center-piece on Main Street.

They also reported that a return to closed bank lobbies and partial or complete lockdowns will further limit downtown pedestrian traffic to a trickle as they, too, brace for the traditional high point of the retailing year - the Christmas season - giving way further to on-line shopping.

In recent years, the big competition was the huge malls in metropolitan areas, but now those, too, are but a shadow of what they were even a few years ago.

One Bucksport shop bought some extra inventory recently, seeking to pull in some Christmas sales, but now worries about whether there will be enough walk-in customers to even see what's being offered.

### **Wanted: 'Elves'**

**BUCKSPORT AREA** — The local Christmas is for Kids 2020 Campaign needs more support than ever.

The program serves Bucksport, Verona Island and Orland children whose parents or guardians qualify for assistance through Bucksport Community Concerns.

Anyone can mail a tax-deductible gift: Bucksport Community Concerns - Attn: Christmas is for Kids, Post Office Box 603, Bucksport, ME 04416

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**H.O.M.E. Inc. is hiring for two part-time** second shift positions - Second shift is 3pm-11pm during the work week. Weekend hours may be available and vary.

We are seeking second shift support staff for evenings and weekends. The Shelter Evening Advocate is responsible for providing services to residents of H.O.M.E.'s Orland based shelters for individuals and families experiencing homelessness. The evening shift's responsibilities include support and safety of guests. This is a part-time (24-hour per week position). H.O.M.E. Inc. follows CDC recommended protocols and PPE is provided during shifts.

**EDUCATION, TRAINING, & OTHER QUALIFICATIONS**

1. High school diploma or equivalent qualification preferred.
2. Valid Maine driver's license.
3. Knowledge of and sensitivity to issues of homelessness and poverty.
4. Effective written and oral communication skills
5. Basic computer competency

Interested candidates should send a cover letter and resume to P.O. Box 10 Orland, Maine 04472 or send it via email to [assistantdirector@homeincme.org](mailto:assistantdirector@homeincme.org). We look forward to hearing from you!

H.O.M.E. Inc. is seeking candidates who represent the diversity of the communities we serve.

11/12&19/20