

Two seek dibs on empty lot

BUCKSPORT - A local architect and a low-income housing developer suddenly have surfaced, each seeking to control the site for a year while they ponder the possibilities.

The architect, John Gordon of Bayview Avenue is asking for up to \$10,000 to draw up an architectural concept plan for the town's empty lot at 27 Main Street. Gordon also wants to tie up the property for a year while he decides whether he or someone else can develop the property successfully.

Meanwhile, on Tuesday Penquis, a Bangor-based developer of housing for low-income residents, submitted its own memo of understanding seeking a year to determine if the agency can justify a \$6 million investment in 35 to 40 apartments, most of them one-bedroom, for those 55 and older.

If the Penquis people find their project is viable they want to acquire the site for \$1.

A Penquis official claims the project can be done as a two- or three-story building, and still have room for off-street parking and, maybe, some commercial development space on the first floor.

Gordon would waive his fee if he's chosen as the eventual developer or wins the contract to do the detailed architectural work for another developer.

If those things don't occur, the town would be obligated to pay Gordon up to \$10,000 for his time and drawings.

Gordon's proposal is detailed in a "memorandum of understanding" that will be before the Town Council tonight (1/14). The draft of that memo is dated for a possible signing as soon as tomorrow (1/15).

Neither proposal has been discussed publicly, and neither is the result of any current request for proposals as often are done when public land is involved.

Unable to sell the long, narrow lot during the past six years, the Town Council has spent over \$300,000 to buy and then clear it of buildings.

PLEASE SEE EMPTY LOT, PAGE 5.

THE BUCKSPORT
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105 Main Street
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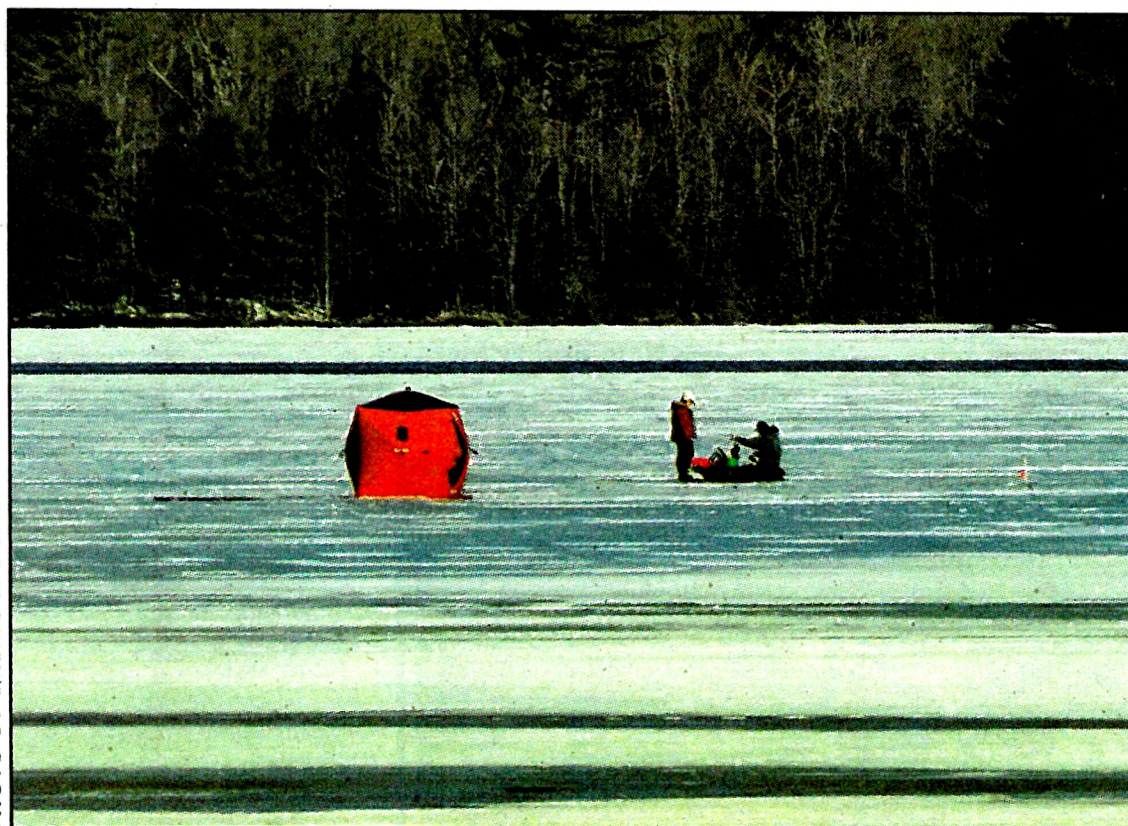


PHOTO BY EMERIC SPOONER

Flash frozen fishermen?

While small sections of Silver Lake have not fully iced over, these fishermen were not deterred as they set up their shelter and lowered their hooks into the icy water last weekend.

Buck Library to remain closed

BUCKSPORT - The new LED lights are turned on from time-to-time giving a bright glow to the granite landmark, but the private Buck Memorial Library remains closed and empty of activity - and probably will remain so for some time.

Inside, some of the trustees, come in from time-to-time and, working as volunteers, painstakingly barcode each of the volumes that remain in the collection. Other trustees continue on with myriad projects aimed at spiffing up the place and opening up more space for new programming.

Initially closed late last winter because of the pandemic, the trustees plan to keep it that way until the Covid-19 threat subsides. They're clearing three rooms of the library for new programming they believe will attract more patrons. New computers were expected to arrive this week.

However, any new programming depends on finding a new librarian. The former librarian retired and the assistant librarian's job was abolished. One trustee, Valerie Shaffner, said the new full-time librarian job description is all but complete, and could be posted on Buck Memorial's website within a week.

The description calls for someone with strong librarian or educational credentials.

However, hiring someone will not immediately result in a reopening, she said. The hiring process alone could take several months, and Covid-19 remains a very real concern.

Some libraries in the area, including those in Castine, Blue Hill and Ellsworth are continuing to offer as many of their services as the Covid safety rules will allow.

At this point, at least 4,000 of the library's roughly 18,000 volumes have been removed, most considered by the trustees as not worth the shelf space because they're rarely circulated. Before the library closed, the two-person staff culled at least 200 boxes - some 2,500 books were "de-acquisitioned". Since then, hundreds more have been sent off, some to an Orland dealer who sells used books on the internet.

Officials to back study?

Cost of three year marketing effort remains unknown

BUCKSPORT - While no vote was taken on Monday and none is expected when the Town Council meets tonight (1/14), several councilors and members of the Economic Development Committee are expressing strong support for spending some serious money to market the town over the next three years.

While tentatively endorsing the 26-page, \$10,000 marketing blueprint prepared by DesignLab of Millinocket, local officials want cost estimates on carrying out the consultants' recommendations.

Two DesignLab planners acknowledged they have run "rough" estimates on the costs and also have more detailed projections of what the first year will cost. They also have shared some numbers with Richard Rotella, the town's director of community and economic development. None of those numbers have been aired publicly. The DesignLab people said they will get back with updated figure.

Consultants spent two days talking with selected individuals here, and they spent a third day on the waterfront and Main Street speaking with those they encountered. The draft report "is an amalgamate of everyone's opinion," one of the consultants said on Monday.

PLEASE SEE STUDY, PAGE 7

Large storage building burns No injuries listed

BUCKSPORT - A large storage building on Lakeview Heights was totally gutted by fire Monday night.

It took firefighters about two hours to thoroughly douse the fire, which was reported about 8:45 p.m.

The structure is owned by Dwayne and Lisa Sutherland, whose home is nearby.

Water was shuttled by tankers to the scene off Silver Lake Road, tapping a hydrant at the water company's standpipe about 1.5 miles away on Silver Lake Road.

The cause of the fire has been ruled accidental.

PLEASE SEE FIRE, PAGE 8.

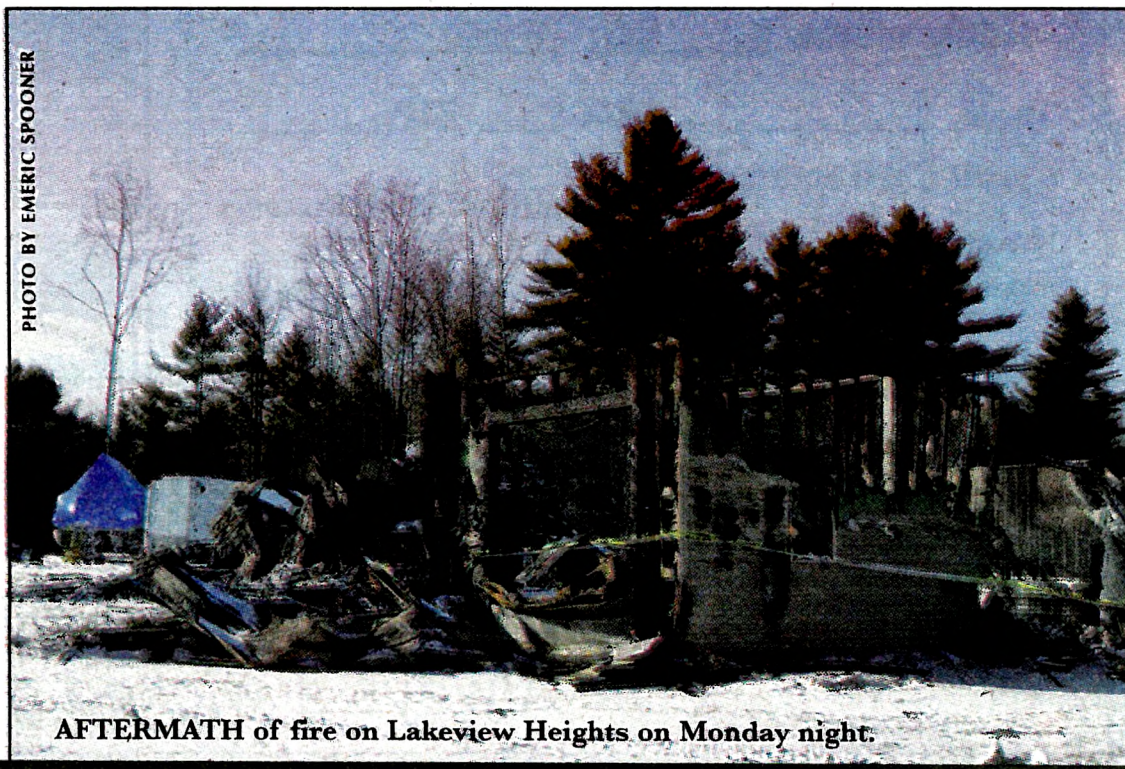


PHOTO BY EMERIC SPOONER

AFTERMATH of fire on Lakeview Heights on Monday night.

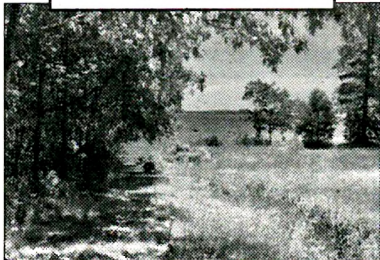


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PENDING



Searsport—This beautiful building lot in a private subdivision offers water views of Penobscot Bay and a ROW to the shore. Build your special home and enjoy the benefits of Maine living! Convenient to Belfast, Bangor, Bucksport for shopping and other amenities. Underground utilities in place and ready for you to build.

Move-in-ready



Searsport—Spacious and immaculate 3 bedroom 1.5 bath home on 3+ acres. Move-in ready! Private back yard with shed and a bubbling stream. Updates include re-insulation, siding, roof, windows & doors. Lot being separated from a larger subdivision parcel subject to town approval.



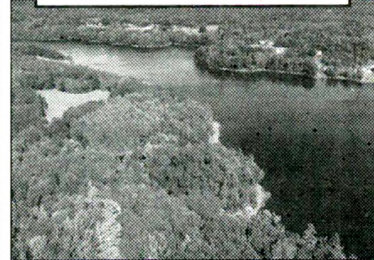
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New Listing



Bucksport—Check out this cozy 3BR/2 BA cape on a surveyed 0.70 acre lot. First floor offers a large kitchen, living room, full bath w/laundry & den/office. Find 3 bedrooms w/a bright & spacious master & full bath on the 2nd level. Other features include a large backyard w/lawn, storage building & convenient access to local amenities, including recreational trails and nearby lakes & ponds.

Waterfront Land



Orland—Privacy & peacefulness is what you will find on this heavily wooded 21.57 acre waterfront lot. With over 400' of frontage on the Orland River, this lot provides many great opportunities with easterly views near a small cove. Rolling topography & mature hardwood timber are only a few of its nice features.

Call Kathy Coogan 207-632-5246 \$89,000 Call Kathy Coogan 207-632-5246 \$94,900

Call Dan Burpee 207-735-5337 \$124,900 Call Dan Burpee 207-735-5337 \$120,000



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

Pending



Verona Island—Beautiful and immaculately maintained 1 1/2 story home nestled on 18 acres, more or less, with open concept living perfect for entertaining with a kitchen that boasts granite counter tops and a large island with a built in cooktop and an eat-in kitchen. The living room has cathedral ceilings with access to an enclosed porch with plenty of windows. Hardwood floors throughout the first level with radiant heat on the first floor and HWBB heat on the 2nd level. The first floor includes a Large Master Bedroom with its own entrance to a covered porch with ensuite and walk in closet. Another large bedroom with its own entrance to a covered porch with a full bath with tub/shower combo. The 1st floor also includes a formal dining room and another spaced which includes a home office. The second floor has a large bonus room above the garage with a catwalk to another large bedroom with its own 1/2 bath. Plenty of storage, walk in closets, pantry, and 1st floor laundry. Enjoy the scenery and frequent deer visits while sitting on any of the 3 covered decks. Heated 3-car garage with door openers. The basement is a handy man's dream with plenty of separate areas for workshops. Quality and comfort at its finest with lots of privacy. This is a must see!

Listing Agent: Lorrinda Connolly \$449,900

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 \$459,000

In-town



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 your 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

BUILDING ACTIVITY

BUCKSPORT Here are the plumbing and building permits issued during November by Luke Chiavelli, Bucksport's code enforcement officer.

— PLUMBING PERMITS

- 12 Strickland Ridge Road, to Jonathan Anderson for internal plumbing in a mobile home, Nov. 2.
- 11 Town Farm Road, to Kyle Orcutt for internal plumbing of a new single-family home, Nov. 5.
- 30 Katahdin Drive to Cheryl White for internal plumbing of a new mobile home, Nov. 5.
- 12 Rosen's Lane, to Keren McGinty for internal plumbing for a new bathroom, Nov. 9.
- 222 Turkey Path, to Valerie Hovey for internal plumbing for a new bathroom, Nov. 9.
- 90 Baxter Boulevard, to David Chambers for internal plumbing for a new double-wide mobile home, Nov. 16.

- 86 Baxter Boulevard, to Elizabeth Laforge for internal plumbing of a new double-wide mobile home, Nov. 16.
- 418 Millvale Road, to Davenport Rentals for plumbing of a mobile home, Nov. 2.
- 81 Baxter Boulevard, to James and Terry Dolley for internal plumbing for a new mobile home, Nov. 21.

BUILDING PERMITS —

- 12 Strickland Ridge Road, to Jonathan Anderson to install a used 66 x 14 foot mobile home, Nov. 19.
- 147 Bucksmills Road, to Katelin Saunders to build a 12 x 12 foot storage building, Nov. 2.
- 11 Town Farm Road, to Kyle Orcutt to build A 1,531 square-foot, single-story home with an attached garage, Nov. 4.
- 30 Katahdin Drive, to Cheryl White to install a 15 by 76 foot mobile home, Nov. 5.

The Bucksport Enterprise

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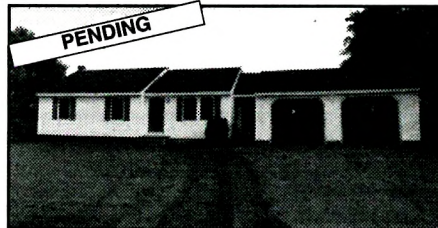
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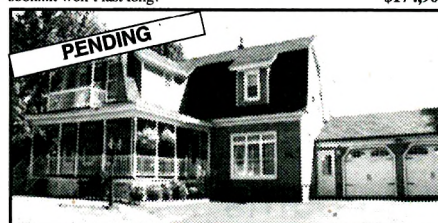
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Levant: Location, location! Great subdivision for this 3 bedroom, 1 bath ranch situated on a 1+ acre lot. Home features mudroom at entry, back door to large back deck with hot tub overlooking nicely landscaped back yard. Basement is finished to include family room, office and laundry room! Attached 2-car garage. You want to schedule soon...it won't last long! \$174,900



Old Town: One level living at this 2 bed, 1 bath Ranch situated on a private country acre. Open living room & kitchen concept. Full unfinished basement ready for your finishing. New roof and new furnace. 1 car attached garage with entrance to basement. Call to see today, won't last long! \$129,900



Bangor: Spacious colonial with wrap-around porch. 3-4 bedrooms, 3 full baths, hardwood floors on main level, with master bedroom with full bath, laundry room, kitchen with granite countertops, island, dining room & living room with gas stove. Home is situated on 1.5 acre in-town lot. Additional buildable lot available for additional price. 2 plus car garage. In law apartment with 2 bedrooms, full bath, living room, full kitchen and balcony. Brand new septic system. Call to see today. \$249,900

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HANCOCK COUNTY COURTS

ELLSWORTH – These cases involving Bucksport-area residents or incidents were adjudicated, reviewed or continued in Hancock County Court, according to official records:

- Rhonda A. Westerman, 60, Bucksport. Theft by unauthorized taking or transfer at Bucksport, Sept. 18, 2019. Restitution \$32.68. Theft by unauthorized taking or transfer at Bucksport, Sept. 20, 2019.

- Awale Ismail Ali, 25, Florissant, Mo. Unlawful trafficking in scheduled drugs at Bucksport, Feb. 10, 2020. \$400. Department of Corrections four years. All but one year suspended. Probation three years.

- Francis Elwin Tuttle Jr., 31, Ellsworth. Reckless conduct at Orland, Jan. 19, 2020. \$500. Restitution \$500. Operating while license suspended or revoked, priors, at Orland, Jan. 19, 2020. Dismissed.

- Dustin Smith, 28, Bucksport. Violating condition of release at Bucksport, Feb. 21, 2020. \$250. Violating condition of release at Bucksport, July 28, 2020. \$250. Suspended \$250. Failing to report at Ellsworth, July 17, 2020. Jail two days.

- Nicole Lynn Sargent, 34, Sullivan. Theft by unauthorized taking or transfer at Hancock, Dec. 28, 2019. Operating

while license is suspended or revoked at Bucksport, March 20, 2020. \$250. Suspended \$250. Violating conditions of release at Bucksport, March 20, 2020. \$250. Suspended \$250. Domestic violence assault at Ellsworth, Aug. 15, 2020. Dismissed. Disorderly conduct, offensive words, gestures at Ellsworth, Aug. 15, 2020. Jail 24 hours. Violating condition of release at Ellsworth, Aug. 15, 2020. Jail 24 hours.

- Paul E. Hanegan, 55, Hermon. Unlawful possession of a scheduled drug at Bucksport, May 5, 2020. \$400.

- Tonya H. Warren, 37, Ellsworth. Burning prohibited material at Bucksport, March 25, 2020. \$50.

- German Luis Mojica, 87, Bucksport. OUI (alcohol) at Bucksport, May 2, 2020. Dismissed. Driving to endanger at Bucksport, May 2, 2020. \$575. License suspended 30 days.

- Terrance J. Mansur, 55, Bucksport. Assault at Bucksport, June 5, 2020. \$300.

- Keely M. Sullivan, 30, Bucksport. Operating after registration suspended at Bucksport, May 24, 2020. Dismissed.

- Jeffrey Warren Ross, 40, Castine. Violating protection from abuse order at Bucksport, Aug. 8, 2020. Jail 48 hours. Maria Connors, 32, Bucksport. Permitting attachment of false plates at Bucksport, June 25, 2020. \$200.

Friends & Family

GUEST MINISTER – Rev. Dr. Stephen York the pastor of the **Elm Street Congregational Church**, has begun his vacation and study time leave of absence.

Rev. Scott Cleveland will be the guest minister at the services beginning this Sunday (1/17) through the one on Feb. 14. Rev. York will return on Sunday, Feb. 21, the First Sunday of Lent.

The church's office will be open as usual on Tuesdays through Fridays from 9 to 2.

REMEMBERING – The RSU 25 School Board and the Bucksport Town Council are considering naming the Bucksport Performing Arts Centre in memory of the late **Peter Clain**.

Clain was a driving force in the effort to get the arts center built as part of the construction of the Bucksport Middle School.

The long-time Spanish teacher and drama coach often was the center of all sorts of cultural activities, both at Bucksport High School and in the Bucksport community.

The School Board began the conversation on re-naming the center, this week and the idea will be discussed again by the Town Council tonight (1/14). Both groups are involved because the center is attached to a school managed by the board, while the auditorium was developed with the cooperation of the town.

Clain passed away at his home in Mexico early last month.

Mark Neslusan, the music director at the high school, is coordinating the re-naming effort.

THEY KNOW THE DRILL – Tonight's (1/14) Town Council meeting will include the annual swearing in of the councilors elected in November.

In this case the two – Mayor **Peter**

Stewart and Councilor **Mark Eastman** – simply will be moving into new terms, for each was re-elected.

The councilors also will be conducting their annual election of a mayor and deputy mayor. In this case Stewart is considered likely to remain in the top post.

The councilors also will begin the annual discussions that will lead to this year's committee assignments.

Also on the docket is the swearing in of **Jesse Jenkins** as a full-time dispatcher for the police and fire departments. An on-call firefighter, Jenkins has had training and was a part-time dispatcher before being given the full-time position.

And **Luke Chiavelli**, the town's code enforcement officer, is expected to succeed as the town's health officer, succeeding **Valerie Sulya**, who retired recently after having held that job for roughly a decade.

'BURNS NIGHT' – The **Oranbega Retreat Center Inc.** in Orland, will celebrate "Burns Night" on Monday Jan. 25, at 7 p.m. via Zoom.

The **Rev. Dr. Jenny Reece**, co-founder of the enter, describes the event as a traditional Scottish celebration of the music and poetry of Robert Burns (1759-1796). It usually involves a feast featuring the national dish of Haggis, which is enjoyed along with bagpipe music and much whisky. The local bagpiping of Penobscot resident Todd Nelson will be recorded, but there will be a Haggis. Live music will be provided by Spencer & Co., and there will be readings of the poetry of Burns and others.

The in-person part of the event will take place at 5 p.m. at 36 Narramissic Drive in Orland, and is by reservation only. Masks will be worn and social distancing observed. <https://oranbega-center.com/> or call 702-9031.

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A house divided . .

In 1858, Abraham Lincoln, a candidate for the U.S. Senate, said, "a house divided against itself cannot stand." He was talking about what then was the divisive issue of slavery. Some contend that remark made the Great Emancipator an unwitting accomplice contributor to the flames that soon ignited into the Civil War.

Today, this nation is facing a variety of new divisive issues, ones with the potential to tear the republic asunder. At the heart of it all is a country nearly evenly split by leaders seeking to craft a future, but seem to be doing so with a total ignorance of our collective past.

EDITORIAL

No sane person in a civilized society condones violence as a reasonable means of protest. We all have seen that in the streets for some months, culminating with what occurred inside the Capitol last week. The unlawful acts of a minority at each end of the political spectrum should be condemned by all reasonable people who understand the rule of law. Violence left uncondemned and unprosecuted only results in more violence.

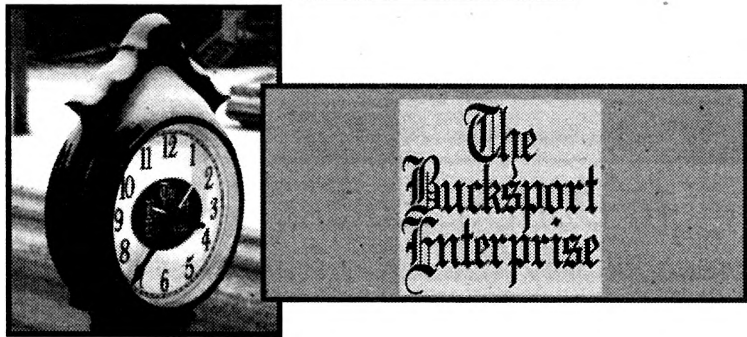
Still, it's vital that we all respect the right to dissent, for to do otherwise is to squelch the constitutionally protected right we all enjoy, and that applies to those protesting on behalf of causes we may personally find abhorrent. To stifle those voices is to invite the same people to mute our own right to redress grievances.

Exacerbating the current situation are those among us who lead us to shut down the voices of those with whom they have differences, both major and minor. A robust democracy depends on a robust exchange of ideas, not pinning nasty, judgmental labels on all we encounter.

It's long past the time when the uniters practice what they claim to be preaching. Condemning millions of decent, patriotic Americans as rabble or worse does nothing for anyone's causes. Playing power politics and encouraging the politics of destruction may salve already swollen egos, but they do nothing to promote calm and cooperation and decency in day-to-day communication between and among so many at odds with another.

At the moment, too many appear to be focusing on what they view as a cult around the current president, while ignoring the genuine concern millions of everyday Americans have when their voices increasingly go unheard.

Significantly, when the confederacy fell with the withdrawal of troops from Richmond, Abraham Lincoln set out for Richmond two days later. He didn't do so to claim victory or bask in the adulation so many of the newly freed slaves sought to bestow upon him. Instead, he stood in a public square with little protection, and calmly told all he encountered not to bow to him. Instead, he invited everyone to unite peaceably. Lincoln innately knew what a divided nation needed. Today, there is no Lincoln in sight.



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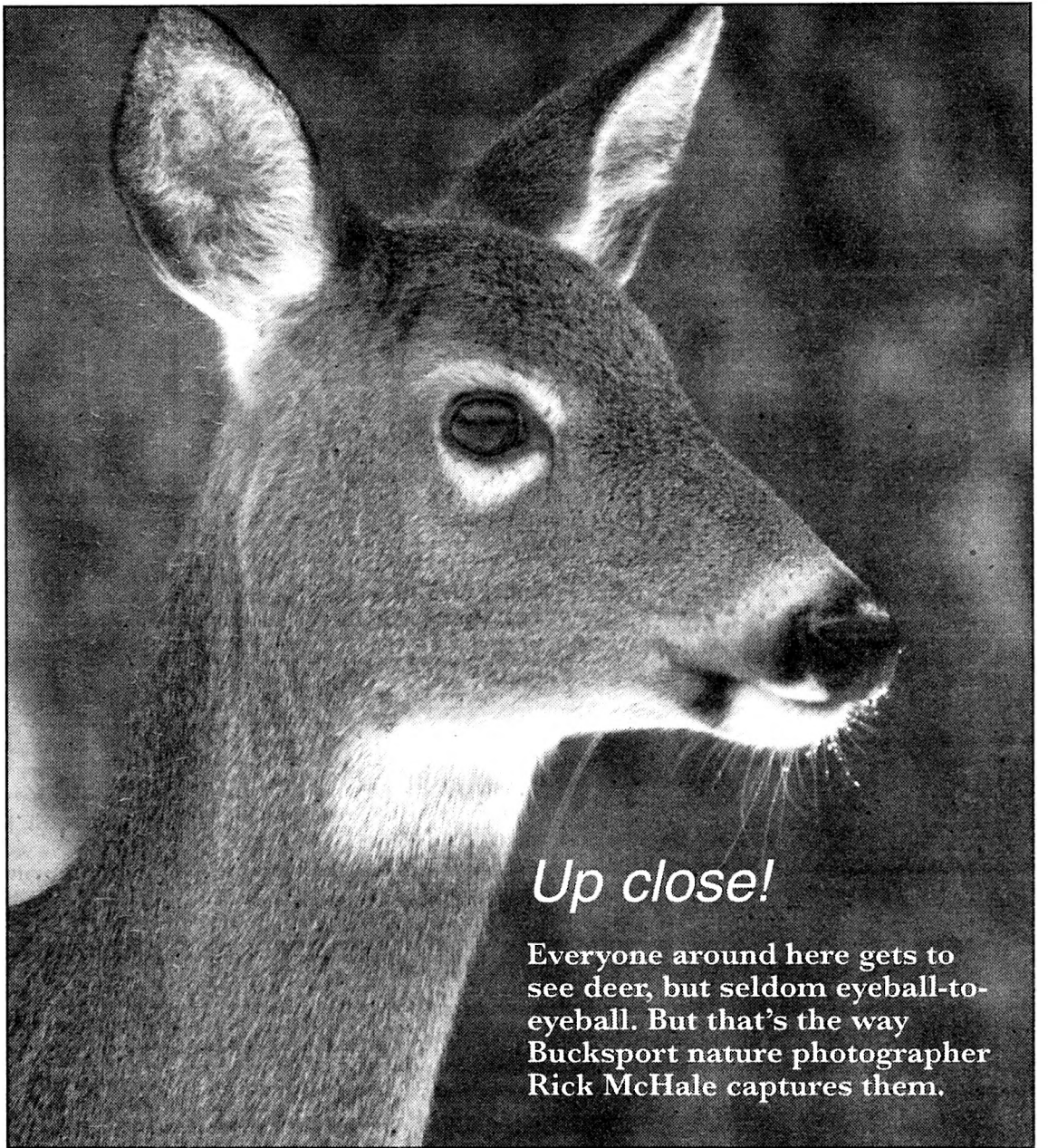
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Don Houghton
Editor & Publisher

Sandy Holmes
General Manager



Up close!

Everyone around here gets to see deer, but seldom eyeball-to-eyeball. But that's the way Bucksport nature photographer Rick McHale captures them.

LETTER . . . TO THE EDITOR

Building America

To the editor,

Life these days seems completely crazy. There are many issues dividing us; a disputed election, Black Lives Matter, Gay Pride, Right to Life, Me Too, and the list goes on and on. We all see this and we all think we know why. We all think of different reasons, but each of us is so sure that I am the one who knows the real reason why. And of course, it is always someone else's fault, never mine. It is important to stand up for what you believe. That's what a democracy does. But also, we each have to take responsibility for what we do. There is something we can keep in mind as we act. You can't fight evil with evil. If you do, evil always wins. You can't beat anger with anger. You can't end hate with hate. You don't end violence with violence. The only way to truly end all of this chaos is with love and understanding. None of us are completely correct. None of us are completely wrong. Truth lies somewhere in the middle. We need to find that point in the middle where it's good for both of us. Do it while trying to understand your opponent's point of view. There is no problem without a solution. There is no obstacle that can't be overcome. Love and understanding are the main tools for successfully doing this. It isn't easy but if we do this, we

will all get through these tough times, together.

Most of us in this country claim to be Christians. Christianity is not what you profess, rather, it is how you live your life. It is how you think and how you act. Jesus said that the way you treat the "least of them" is the way you are treating God. Who is the least of them? That depends on your own individual point of view. Whoever you think is least, is the least to you. To a racist, blacks are the least. To a black, racists are the least. Such feelings are the case in every type of disagreement there is. If you hate the one that disagrees with you, if you are angry with someone, if you resort to violence, then that is directed towards God. Is this really the way you want to treat Him? I think not! Jesus said, "If you do not know love, then you do not know God, because God is Love." Love begins, first of all with truth. You can't have one without the other. As we move through these tough times remember the words of the Prince of Peace, "Love one another." Also keep in mind the words of the song, "Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me." This is what continues building a country that we can be proud of and that the rest of the world can look up to.

Geoffrey Bellows, Bucksport
David Thompson, Bucksport
Robert and Diane Phipps, Orland

Sen. King again backs impeachment

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Sen. Angus King (I-Maine) this week said President Donald J. Trump should be removed from office immediately. Here is his statement:

"For the past nine weeks, in the midst of a pandemic costing thousands of lives each day, President Donald Trump has focused his energy on a baseless, dangerous effort to undermine the results of a democratically-held election. These blatant lies, amplified by Congressional enablers who seemed all-too-willing to neglect their oath for short-term political gain, have caused millions of Americans to lose faith in our elections — the beating heart of our democratic system. This crisis built until January 6, when President Trump incited a frenzied crowd to head to the Capitol to 'fight much harder' and 'show strength,' while his top

surrogate in this effort, Rudy Giuliani, took to the same stage to call for 'trial by combat.' A short time later, the crowd followed their marching orders by invading the Capitol, brandishing zip ties, using the American flag on a flagpole as a weapon, and leading to several deaths — including at least one Capitol police officer."

King also said, "After the events of Jan. 6, it is more clear than ever that President Trump poses a danger to the Republic, and that if he is allowed to remain in office for the next eight days, this intemperate and impulsive person could use his powers in ways that further jeopardize our national security and the safety of the American people. That is why President Trump should be immediately removed from office — either through his own resignation, the 25th Amendment, or, if necessary, impeachment."

OBITUARY

Margo Sherry Bennett, 1939 - 2021

ORLAND – Margo Bennett, 81 passed away on Jan. 3, 2021.

Born in Blue Hill on Nov. 11, 1939, she was the daughter of Mildred and Earold Hickey of Bucksport.

She was raised by her aunt, Virginia (Gray) and uncle, Manley Howard of Orland.

Margo lived in Orland most of her adult life, raising four children, on the land on Leaches Point Road given to her by Manley and Virginia Howard.

She ran a coffee shop on Main Street in Bucksport for years, the G & M Coffee Shop. She also worked as an assistant manager and member of the kitchen staff at Priscilla's Restaurant, and in Nashua NH as a manager at TJ Maxx/Home Goods.

She then returned to Orland, where she worked as a bakery tech for the Pillsbury Co., traveling the State of Maine, and then as a bakery manager at Tozier's in Searsport, before her retirement.

She is survived by her children, Glenwood

Bennett Jr. of Orland and wife Donna (Swift) Bennett; Earold Bennett of Old Orchard Beach; and Ginny Sue Bennett of North Orland; and wife Beth Jones; son-in-law David Lawry or Orland.

She was predeceased by son-in-law Raymond H. Copp of Old Orchard Beach and daughter Sherrylynn Ann (Bennett) Lawry and Manly Snow Howard Bennett, both of Orland.

She also leaves her grandchildren: Shawn and Jen Bennett, Nicki and Cody Dyer; David Kelley Lawry; Michael and Amanda Lawry and Ashely (Lawry) and Daniel Bechard.

Her great-Grandchildren are: Alyssa, Stephanie and Hunter Bennett of Prospect, Sydney, and Kellin Bechard of Monroe, Alexis and Arya Lawry, of Orland and Case Dyer of Orland.

The family wants to thank Margo's life-long friend Joyce Rogerson of Bucksport for the many year of laughs and tears and for being a friend for over 75 years.

A memorial service will be held in the spring.



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SENIOR CENTER NEWS

Sock

BUCKSPORT – The Bucksport Senior Center now is collecting new clean socks for seniors this winter. Donations can be left at the Bucksport Area Senior Center at 125 Broadway.

Weekly 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 age or income. Call 469-3632 before 9 a.m. on the day of the meal.

• **Friday, Jan. 15** - Barbecued pulled pork sand-

wich, potato salad and a whoopie pie.

• **Monday, Jan. 18** - No meal. Martin Luther King Day.

• **Wednesday, Jan. 20** - Stuffed shells, tossed salad, garlic bread and ice cream.

• **Friday, Jan. 22** - Roast turkey with gravy, mashed potato, carrots and a lemon tart

• **Monday, Jan. 25** - Baked ham dinner, scalloped potato, green beans and a cookie.

• **Wednesday, Jan. 27** - Chicken alfredo, broccoli, dinner roll and a brownie.

• **Friday, Jan. 29** - Pork tenderloin with gravy, mashed potato, mixed vegetables.

– Town's empty lot

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1.

The councilors ended up paying to demolish one of the fire-ravaged buildings, even though the insurance firm had settled with the estate of the previous owner, presumably including a sum toward covering the clearing of the condemned structure. That settlement was paid out before the real estate was transferred to the town.

Another building acquired from the same estate as part of the same package, was said at the time to be considered almost \$200,000, but once town officials gained access to the interior, the price was immediately lowered to about \$100,000. That downtown house and lot subsequently was sold at a no-bid sale for roughly \$8,500.

Penquis has been scouting other locations for redevelopment or development into housing units. One of those sites has since been sold to another real estate investor.

Gordon has suggested he will conduct a feasibility study and then prepare a code-compliant concept design to enhance the development potential for the town-owned lot.

According to the draft memo, "Gordon's concept design will likely include a site plan, floor plan(s) exterior elevations and a three-dimensional

sketch perspective" drawing.

The memo involving Gordon's plans would give the architect 12 months - through Jan. 15, 2022 - to do his planning and decide if he wants to develop the site.

The town will be required to maintain the appearance of the site during that year.

Penquis has been operating for some two decades, and has developed roughly 300 housing units.

In its proposal to the town, the agency has offered to partner with the Town of Bucksport to help address the community's needs for housing that is affordable to those with limited means.

The proposed downtown project is being considered for those older (55 years +) who annually receive less than 60 percent of the median income in this area.

The town's downtown lot, being long and narrow would require roughly 20 units on each floor, and a third floor might be needed if commercial space is planned for the street level. This would be especially true if 20 or more off-street parking spaces are offered. The lower two floors would look out on the embankment upon which the homes along Buck Street now sit.

High school sports about to start

BUCKSPORT – Win, lose or draw, the 2021 sports season already is something of a success - because for a time it was unclear if there even would be one.

Instead, an abbreviated season has been duct-taped together, and the team are going through their practice paces tomorrow (1/15) in preparation for a basketball season opener on Tuesday.

While the boys and girls basketball teams will open things up by facing a limited number of opponents, most of them from Hancock County, the first home game will be Friday of next week (1/22).

And, chances are, if you're not participating in the games you'll not be allowed in the gym. Only 50 people are allowed in the room, and that includes the players and officials.

The games will be live-streamed so fans can watch them as they're being played or dip into the

electronic archives to view them later.

They're available free at

<https://bhsathletics.mylivegame.com/>

That's the best \$45, one-time investment the RSU 25 and Aaron West, the high school athletic director, will make all season.

The play-by-play will be by Richard Rotella, the community development director.

Other abbreviated seasons are still being worked out for the track team, including one that starts next Thursday (1/21) for the "throwers" in Belfast. The cheerleaders are videotaping their routines for a virtual competition in which the judges will watch the tapes and not the girls themselves. The wrestlers are doing individual training sessions because one-on-one matches are not allowed under the Covid-19 safety guidelines.

**Visit the Bucksport High School sites
on-line for all of the details.**

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– Consultants' marketing study

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1.

The same consultant said there appeared to be a consensus during those visits - "part of a mini-envisioning process" - that the Bucksport residents they spoke with "did not want to see Bucksport, 'become a touristy town.'"

Yet much of the DesignLab study is devoted to finding ways to best market the town to tourists, and perhaps get some of those visitors to become permanent residents.

The study, which the consultants assured officials, "is not off the shelf" but a unique product for Bucksport, specifically calls for increasing the number of those traveling U.S. Route 1 to go down Main Street. It suggests the town pursue adding some 100 families to the population over the next three years.

The consultant suggested Bucksport "market its wonderful history", especially its maritime links, and perhaps add a ship that tourists would seek out for a tour.

She also suggested a strong focal art installation somewhere downtown, noting, "that has worked well for other communities." Presumably this installation would be similar to the massive piece of Schoodic Sculpture installed on the waterfront, or the series of murals being planned by the Main Street Bucksport organization.

The consultant contends, "Bucksport has no identity; and therefore needs 'a strong branding program, one that flows through all the touch points' such as brochures, signage and on-line marketing via social media.

She said one of the strengths of Bucksport is that, "it's not viewed as a polished town... it's nitty-gritty and authentic." She also observed that it appears the Town Council is poised, "to get down to the nitty gritty."

IN THE WORKS . . . Tidbits from week's news

COVID AMONG US – Last month the Bucksport Fire Department's emergency medical personnel handled an average of two to three calls each week involving ambulance patients who tested positive for the Covid-19 virus. That was out of a total of 104 ambulance runs recorded during December, according to Deputy Fire Chief Michael Denning. During the last half of 2020, the department handled 620 calls for ambulances. The department made 110 fire runs during the same period.

ACCOLADES – The Bucksport Fire Department recently got another of those heart-warming letters from a patient's family, thanking them for the professional, caring and attentive services provided by an ambulance crew. This letter went further, suggesting a firm belief that had the crew not done what they did, a woman would not be alive to thank them for their assistance.

The crew drew praise for its ability to instill calm amid a stressful situation, and for getting a woman to where she needed to be for some life-saving surgery, even making it through the stepped-up security at the hospital without losing a lot of time.

TRASH TALKS – The cat-and-mouse effort to get someone to re-open the \$90 million Fiberight trash-to-energy plant in Hampden continues, with most of the effort still being carried out behind closed doors. While the plant has been shut down since May when the operator ran out of cash, the three would-be suitors now have been whittled down to one. However, nobody is saying much of anything, let alone identifying who is still interested in taking on the troubled plant.

Trash from 115 communities, including Bucksport, was being processed in Hampden until the place was suddenly shut down. The creditors now are trying to recoup as much as they can from the deal that went sour.

ASPIRE! – The curriculum steering committee for RSU 25 will get an update tonight (1/14) on the preparations for the three-year Aspire Golden Bucks educational effort aimed at bolstering all of the local students to achieve their individual goals.

Backed by consultants, the RSU 25 this academic year is developing the specifics of a program detailed to the local district. The group will meet again on Feb. 11.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY . . . the Town of Bucksport's emergency plan. It's been almost two decades since the plan has been updated, but the Town Council now has the latest document in hand.

The plan to coordinate state, regional and local responses, and cover the activities and response plans for all of the public safety agencies ranging from the ambulance

Speaking for town officials, Rotella cited the fact that the town has had several similar studies in the past, but he vowed, "this one won't gather dust on the shelf."

Among the nitty gritty is calling for a new logo, new brochures and signage, even developing some marketing swag like shirts and other merchandise bearing the new set of taglines.

The consultants said these and the other suggestions they have offered, "will create a buzz, and soon things will start to happen." The initial steps will energize the public and lead to "exciting things," they said.

Rotella, the town's development director and the coordinator of the roughly hour-long review of the draft report, Monday said, some of the money for the marketing effort will come from what the town expects to gain from the Whole Oceans salmon farm development on the former paper mill property. That project, now on hold until spring, is scheduled to procure its first marketable salmon by sometime in 2024 or later.

Town Councilor Paul Bissonette cautioned his colleagues about the difficulty of spending money on things most people cannot see. He said, that based on his own experiences in marketing and sales, it's hard for people to invest in "intangibles" like advertising and brochures, especially at a time when many people are hurting financially because of the fallout from the Covid-19 pandemic.

Ron Russell of Verona Island, a member of Bucksport's economic development panel, was among the strongest backers of the study's recommendations. "We need to go forward sooner than later," he said, adding DesignLab's "boots are on the ground. On Tuesday, Russell also urged his fellow directors of the Main Street Bucksport group to support the three-year marketing plan.

crews to those participating in regional responses to all sorts of emergencies or disasters, both natural and man-made. Those can range from major fires to hurricanes and severe blizzards to the breaching of a dam.

GETTING HEAT BACK ON – The heater in the police garage at the Public Safety Building has failed, and department officials want to hire Osborne's Plumbing and Heating of Bucksport to replace the unit for \$2,454.

That was the lowest of the two bids received.

LINING UP TO VOTE – Town Clerk Jacob Gran reports 226 residents signed up to vote on Election Day, Nov. 3. While some of those involved correcting addresses, 97 were Bucksport residents registering for the first time and 71 were individuals who previously were registered in another community.

Of the 4,199 registered to vote, 2,874 actually cast ballots, a whopping 68.44 percent. **MORE STATS** – The Bucksport Town Office crew last month processed 142 licenses and permits for Inland Fish and Wildlife Service. They also issued 26 snowmobile and six all-terrain vehicle registrations. Fifty nine dogs were registered, and three oaths of office were administered.

And two couples took out marriage licenses.

ON THE AIR (or cable) – **Richard Rotella**, Bucksport's director of community and economic development, is continuing to meet bimonthly with representatives of a Bangor television station to discuss the town's promotional messages.

The latest round of those messages began being aired in late-November.

FAIR WARNING – Bucksport Tax Assessor Katlyn Howlett reports she is continuing to locate even more businesses which never have been asked to pay their personal property taxes. "The list is getting quite large," she told the Town Council.

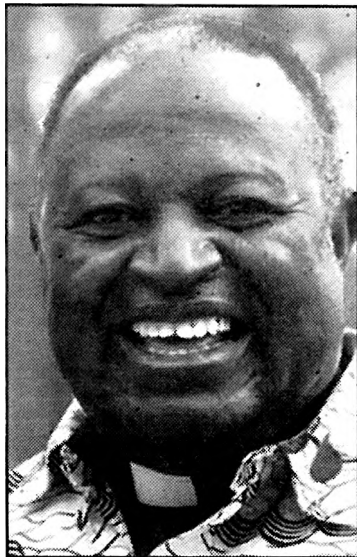
As a result, "I anticipate many calls and questions from folks receiving the forms for the first time when they go out," Howlett said.

The assessor also has located a number of properties which have had significant improvements made to them over the past five-or-so years, but which never were added to the assessed values on the town books. These, too, now are being updated.

TRASH-IN, TRASH-OUT – The DM&J Waste Services firm in Winterport has summarized its operations on behalf of the Town of Bucksport during 2020. The firm hauled 262.36 tons of demolition debris, 55.28 tons of metal, 124 Freon tanks and a dozen propane tanks.

That's 50 loads of demo debris and 14 loads of scrap metal.

Priest from Cameroons named vicar



Fr. Roland Berngeh

BUCKSPORT – Father Roland Berngeh is the new parochial vicar at the Stella Maris Parish, which includes the St. Vincent de Paul Church here, the Our Lady of Holy Hope Church in Castine and the St. Mary Star of the Sea Church in Stonington.

The parish also includes the St. Joseph Parish (St. Joseph Church, Ellsworth; Blue Hill Mission, Blue Hill; Our Lady of the Lake Mission, Green Lake; St. Margaret Chapel, Winter Harbor), and Parish of the Transfiguration of the Lord (Holy Redeemer Church, Bar Harbor; St. Peter Church, Manset; St. Ignatius Church, Northeast Harbor).

His appointment is effective immediately.

A native of Jakiri, Cameroon, Father Berngeh attended St. Augustine's College Nso in Kumbo, Cameroon, and Bishop Rogan College in Small Soppo-Buea, Cameroon. He completed his clerical studies at St. Thomas Aquinas Major Seminary in Bambui, Cameroon, and was ordained to the priesthood on April 10, 1985.

Father Berngegh served in Cameroon parishes for eight years before being appointed the pioneer rector and principal at St. Aloysius Minor Seminary Kitiwum in Kumbo in 1993. He served at the seminary for 13 years before becoming the rector of the Cathedral Church of St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus in Kumbo. In 2007, Fr. Berngegh was named principal at his alma mater, St. Augustine's College Nso, where he served until 2012 when he was appointed rector of Immaculate Conception Parish, also in Kumbo. For the past six years, Fr. Berngegh has served at the cathedral in Kumbo.

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PUBLIC SAFETY LOGS

Arrests listed

ELLSWORTH – These people were booked at the Hancock County Jail as a result of incidents in the Bucksport area:

- Daniel P. Carter, 31, of 97 Central Street, Bucksport was booked at the jail about 6:15 p.m. on Saturday after being arrested on the Power Line Road, off the Silver Lake Road, in Bucksport. Carter allegedly was driving while under the influence. He also was arrested on two counts of unlawfully possessing scheduled drugs - Viagra and Gabapentin, refusing to submit to arrest and refusing to stop for a police officer.

BUCKSPORT – Alan Walter Cross, 34, of Swanville was arrested in Bucksport about 2:30 p.m. last Thursday (1/7) for allegedly violating the terms of his release in an earlier case. He was arrested at a U.S. Route 1 business after a tip was received that he was with a 17-year-girl he had been banned from seeing as a condition of his release. He was booked at the Hancock County Jail about 4:15 p.m. that day.

Accidents - Deer

BUCKSPORT – Local police reported these run-ins with deer:

- A deer was hit and killed

on Central Street about 6:15 p.m. last Friday (1/8). The driver was identified as Terry Glenn, 52, of Bucksport.

Accident - Other

BUCKSPORT – Vehicles being driven by Gloria Parkhurst, 82, and Mitchel Rich, 77, both of Bucksport collided at the Seaboard Federal Credit Union on River Road about 10 a.m. on Jan. 4.

Summonses

BUCKSPORT – These court summonses were issued here recently:

- Ashley Peters, 38, of Bucksport was cited for an alleged improper use of a cellphone while driving. This came after a traffic stop on U.S. Route 1 about 12:45 p.m. on Saturday.
- Ethan Hopkins, 30, of Orland was issued a summons for driving after a license suspension or revocation, and for failing to have a valid vehicle inspection sticker when he was stopped on U.S. Route 1 about 9:30 a.m.
- Terri Elliot, 39, of Bucksport was cited for allegedly failing to properly use a cellphone while driving. The citation resulted from a traffic stop about 2:15 p.m. on Jan. 4.

Scam reported

BUCKSPORT – An incident involving possible lottery-style fraud was reported about 3 p.m.

Jan. 6, but no money was lost.

Protest monitored

BUCKSPORT – One of those staging weekly protests in downtown Bucksport on a variety of causes ranging from racism to police brutality, asked for police protection during a recent demonstration. Acting at the request of the group, the police regularly monitor the small downtown events to assure everyone's safety. A spokesman said there have been no incidents requiring police intervention.

Meow!

BUCKSPORT – The police

reported ten more cats and three more dogs were housed at the shelter last month.

Fifteen cats and a dog were adopted. The newest cats to be sheltered were picked up in Dedham (4) Bucksport (4), and one each from Orland and Orrington.

Found Dept.

BUCKSPORT – If you're missing something, the Police Department has all sorts of stuff that has been turned in for safe-



**Compiled from
official reports and interviews with
police and fire personnel.**

keeping after being found in spots all over the area. The goods range from bicycles to wallets to cell-phones ... to whatever people can – and do – lose.



– Fire

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The single-story building with a loft, comprising an estimated 1,400 to 1,500 square-foot of space is a total loss.

(The building is designated by the arrow in the pre-fire photo at right)

The site is at the end of a more than quarter mile road off the Silver Lake Road.

Early last week, the fire-fighters doused a kitchen fire at the Bucksport Square apartments at 625 Broadway. That fire, confined to a single unit, was attributed to something being accidentally left on or near the stove.



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