

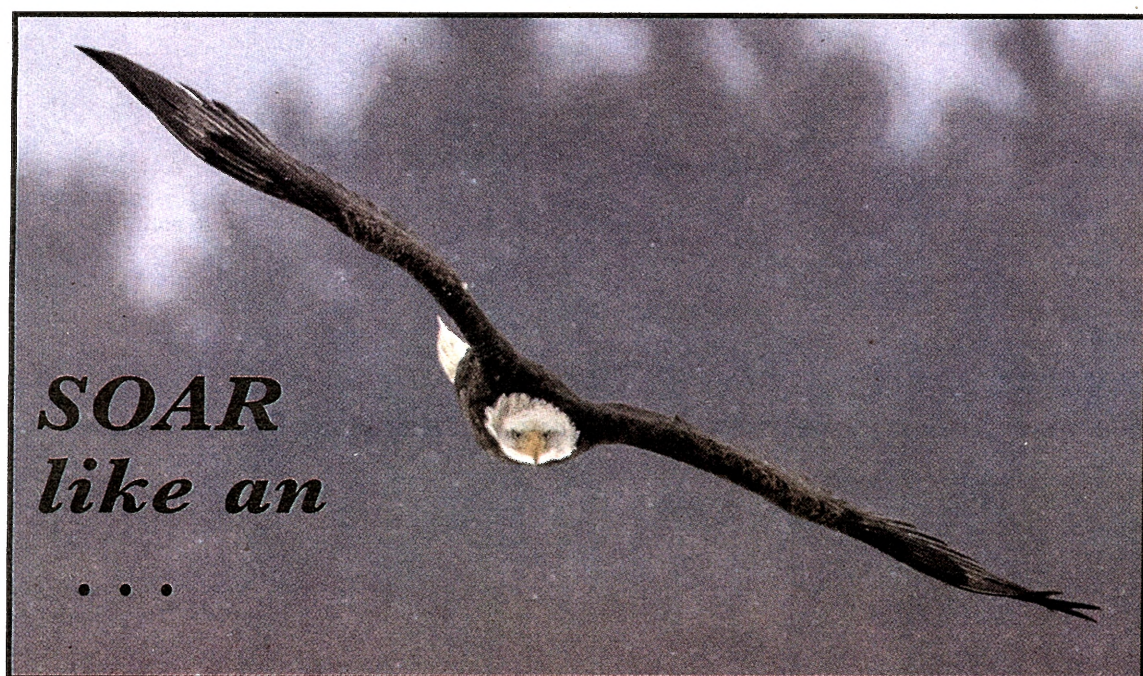
The Bucksport Enterprise

VOLUME 31 - NUMBER 1

• BUCKSPORT, ME 04416

JANUARY 13, 2022

\$1.00



SOAR
like an

...

"It was a very interesting morning. About a half hour after arriving at Toddy Pond, this eagle showed up. I had to wait three-and-a-half hours for it to come down out of the tree. It knew I was there, and I knew it was there. Someone was going to win this stare

down. About a half hour before it came down, the weather got worse with freezing rain. That made for a better picture. Today I won, but tomorrow the eagle may win. That's just how it goes."

— Bucksport photographer
Rick McHale

Officers to be honored for saving lives

BUCKSPORT — Tonight (1/13) the Town Council will honor five local police officers for their successful efforts in saving two lives in separate incidents.

• Back on Oct. 31, Officers Eric Marcel and Gerald Lowe were the first on the scene in answering a medical emergency call in which the victim was unresponsive.

The two immediately began cardio-pulmonary resuscitation and continued to assist after

emergency medical personnel arrived minutes later.

The victim was taken by ambulance to a hospital in Bangor, and after being admitted for a few days was discharged in good health.

The officers' response was described as "textbook perfect" by both local and regional EMTs.

• And on June 25, Officers Matthew Schmidt and Kayla Brooks and Public Safety Director Sean Geagan responded

ed to a potential suicide situation on the Penobscot Narrows Bridge.

The young man threatening to jump already was on the outer edge of the span, but he was talked into seeking medical treatment instead.

Also assisting was Sgt. Daniel Harlan of Bucksport of the Hancock County Sheriff's Office. Harlan was honored by the Hancock County Commission for his work that day.

Wombacher heads county commission

ELLSWORTH — John Wombacher of Bucksport is the new chairman of the Hancock County Commission.

Without any discussion the Bucksport Democrat was nominated and elected unanimously last week to serve as head of the three-member panel through 2022.

Wombacher succeeds Commissioner William M. Clark, the former Hancock County sheriff. He was nomi-

nated by the third member, Paul Paradis of Bar Harbor.

The county is operating on a \$9.8 million annual budget, 5/4 percent more than last year. It also controls and has begun to dip into some \$10 million in federal Covid relief money. The commission recently used some of that cash to provide stipends to emergency responders and jail workers for their service during the pandemic

Just over two-thirds of the county's budget is raised from taxes imposed on the participating communities and the rest is from revenues generated by the various county agencies.

The county currently is circulating a questionnaire to all county employees seeking to gauge their Covid vaccination status should the data be needed to comply with federal programs.

Code issues still arising at closed motel

BUCKSPORT — The town's code enforcement officer is trying to keep the long-closed Spring Fountain Motel secure, but it's not an easy chore.

Last Thursday (1/6), Luke Chiavelli found about ten doors open, including those to the electrical room. However, the same visit also found that water pipes had burst, and a large section of the structure was flooded.

The code officer arranged for the water company to shut off the water where it enters the property at 1196 U.S. Route 1

Tenant ordered to vacate mobile home on Hawes Way

— Page 2

town's case against the New Jersey owner of the property heard in a superior court in Ellsworth. The processing of nearly all such cases have been halted because of the court system's inability to function during the Covid pandemic.

The motel was ordered closed in December of 2000 after the Town Council ruled the place was unfit for human habitation.

Virtually no progress has been made on the most glaring violations of building and life safety codes.

The building has been adjudged "dangerous," and the owner has appealed that finding.

In the interim, the case is in limbo, and both the code officers and public safety officials continue to try to keep the structure secure.

Electrical supplier asks for free industrial site

BUCKSPORT — A small supplier of custom electrical power system, including accessories for portable generators, wants a free lot in the Buckstown Industrial Park off State Route 46.

Redmond Electric Corp. proposes to invest \$78,000 in a new 30 by 48 foot, wood-framed building in return for the 2.29-acre lot valued at \$80,060. The company, which now has one full-time and one half-time employee plans to increase that employment to the equivalent of 2.5 employees by the end of 2024 and, eventually, to four employees.

The project, not previously discussed publicly, appears to be on a fast track with a resolve approving the sale on the docket for tonight's Town Council meeting.

The estimated time to recover the value of the lot through real estate taxes is pegged at

18.38 years, by Richard Rotella, the town's director of community and economic development.

The sale would be to Scott Redmond, a master electrician doing business as Redmond Electric Corporation.

Redmond wants to acquire Lot 8 in the latest phase of the municipally developed industrial park. That's the first lot on the right as one enters the new phase of the park beyond the building leased by the Front Street Shipyard in Belfast.

Redmond has sufficient financing for the initial \$78,000 investment, according to the paperwork distributed to the councilors.

According to a state filing, Redmond operated from 252 Green Valley Road in Stockton Springs. However, Rotella this week said Redmond told him he moved to Bucksport in September, 2020.

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

VIRTUALLY — The Bucksport Town Council will not return to its in person format tonight (1/13) because of the surge in Covid cases. You can watch the session on the local cable access channel or at townhallstreams.com on the internet.

ROADWAY GIFT — John and Karen Wardwell want to give their privately-owned section of the Broadway extension and Park Street to the town in return for Bucksport taking on the permanent construction and maintenance of the link between U.S. Route 1 and Broadway. The town already has done extensive work on the roadway system in anticipation of a private nursing home being built behind the

Wardwell's commercial development. The nursing home project never materialized, the developers opting for a site in Ellsworth instead.

Taking on the roads also would mean taking on the stormwater systems that serve them. Drainage in the area has been a persistent problem, one that regularly results in the flooding of Route 1.


FOR THE ANIMALS — Bucksport has received \$2,500 from the Sirius Fund to help pay for some of the upgrades being planned at the municipal animal shelter off Central Street. The fund is administered by the Ellsworth-based Maine Community Foundation.

The town councilors are scheduled to check on the conditions at the shelter that the staff would like

to see improved.


ALL TOGETHER NOW, LIFT! — The public safety personnel are asking the Town Council to purchase a 50-pound device that can significantly assist in lifting people weighing up to 500 pounds. The cost: \$6,400, including shipping and a three-year warranty.


The department routinely dispatches police officers to ambulance calls should a third pair of hands be needed. The proposed purchase would reduce the chance of experiencing back injuries by everyone involved, according to Sean P. Geagan, the director of public safety.




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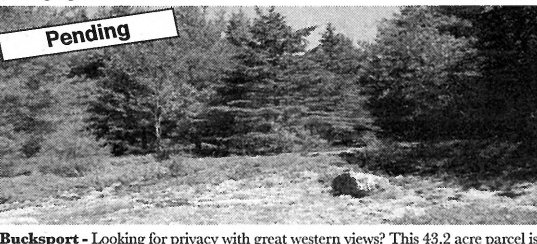


Under Contract	SOLD	Back on Market	SOLD	Building Lot SOLD
 <p>147 Main Street Bucksport</p> <p>\$154,900 Dan & Doug Burpee 207-469-9930</p>	 <p>Frankfort Find your new home here on a private surveyed 6.25 acres in a country setting. This modern 2004 ranch features an open layout with plenty of fresh natural light. Enjoy an eat-in kitchen with dining area, open to a living room with wood flooring throughout. The home offers one floor living w/ 3BR's on the first level, primary bedroom suite & full guest bath. Additional amenities include a four-season sunroom, finished basement w/ kitchen, wood stove, full bath & office, gen. hook-up, oversized detached 1-car garage, paved driveway & NEW roof shingles. *Sale includes extra bonus lot!</p> <p>\$297,400 Dan Burpee 207-735-5337</p>	 <p>Orland Toddy Pond investment opportunity. This modern 24'x24' cape style cottage offers living space above a two car garage. Built with composite siding & trim, this well built cottage sits on a spacious 3.56AC waterfront lot in a cove on 2nd Toddy. Efficient 1BR/1BA living space w/ kitchen, living room/bedroom area overlooking the lake. Lower level features laundry & is piped for radiant in-floor heat. Property includes a large clearing, well, septic & over 500 +/- of lake frontage.</p> <p>\$249,900 Dan Burpee 207-735-5337</p>	 <p>43 Verona Park Verona Island</p> <p>\$448,100 Dan Burpee 207-735-5337</p>	 <p>0 Moosehorn Drive Bucksport</p> <p>\$15,900 Kathy Coogan 207-632-5246</p>



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469-1046 • 20 Central Street, Ste 1, Bucksport • www.oceansedgerealty.com
Mark Eastman, Wendy Carpenter & Lorrinda Connolly



 <p>Bucksport Build your new home nestled in the woods on this conveniently located building lot where a home once stood only a short distance from downtown Bucksport. This wooded 1.00 acre lot offers 168' of road frontage with a drilled well and septic on site. There is also a dug well for your gardening needs as well as a shed. This lot is less than 3 miles from either the Jacob Buck Pond Boat Landing, Williams Pond or Silver Lake. Commute to Belfast, Ellsworth or Bangor in only a 1 1/2 hours. Come take a look at this lot for your new home today!</p> <p>Listing Agent: Lorrinda Connolly \$29,000</p>	 <p>New Listing Prospect Looking for a quiet place to build a house? This nearly 5 acre lot is located on a dead end road in Prospect, only minutes to downtown Bucksport and a short commute to Bangor or Belfast. This sloping lot has the potential for a walkout basement and potential seasonal water views. The parcel has frontage on Devereux Stream with some the potential to catch sea running brook trout! Come take a look!</p> <p>Listing Agent: Mark Eastman \$49,900</p>
 <p>Building Lot Bucksport Looking for a spot to build your dream home? This 7ac parcel has frontage on Route 46 and is located just down the road from Hancock Pond. It is possible that some gravel could exist on the property. Come take a look!</p> <p>Listing Agent: Mark Eastman \$35,700</p>	 <p>Pending Bucksport Looking for privacy with great western views? This 43.2 acre parcel is set on the southwesterly side of Orcutt Mountain with good potential for solar options. Only a few residents reside on the road affording excellent privacy. Power is on the road. Mixed land of overgrown pasture, some blueberries as well as wooded sections. Just minutes to the village of Bucksport.</p> <p>Listing Agent: Mark Eastman \$79,000</p>

Mobile home's condition spurs inspector's concerns

BUCKSPORT – The condition in and around a mobile home at 45 Hawes Way has drawn the attention of the town's code enforcement officer.

Luke Chiavelli said he may seek court action if the multiple issues are not remedied soon. Specifically, Chiavelli said Alex Hawes has illegally installed a mobile home on the property with no permit, no septic system, no running water, no proper foundation, and illegal over-board discharge and various other violations.

The inspector, in his monthly report to the town manager and the town councilors said, "I have had multiple conversations with Alex about what is required."

He also reported he has,

"issued a notice to vacate the home immediately as required by state law."

Chiavelli said that if the home remains occupied he will seek court action.

In a separate case, Chiavelli has asked Cody Ames "to cease and desist" in the operation of an illegal business of selling second hand items at 4 Noel Way. He described the property "as a mess" with "make-shift shelters built to keep items out of the weather."

Ames rents the property from Curtis Wood of Bucksport, who also has been contacted.

Ames has 30 days to correct the situation or face court action, Chiavelli reported.

The Bucksport Enterprise

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The Bucksport Enterprise

Reporting on Millvale, Hardscrabble, the Town Site
and your neighborhood, too!

– The moose report –

They got theirs, but did you get yours?

Maine's 2021 moose hunt attracted tens of thousands of applicants, with 4,030 permits allocated to participate in one of the most sought after and prized hunting opportunities.

In 2021, MDIFW allocated an additional 510 permits solely for the first hunt in the Adaptive Management Zone. After seven years of research, it was clear that cow productivity and calf survival were significantly impacted by winter tick loads throughout the core moose range in the state of Maine.

Across the northeast, moose populations have been experiencing the same struggles; parasite loads. In an attempt to reduce winter tick loads on large cervids, adaptive management techniques are being implemented in Wildlife Management District 4A in an effort to lower the moose population density, effectively reducing the winter tick's host.

September marked a return to seasonably cool temps that equated to high hunter success. On the opposite end, October's bull season was marked by both day and night warm temperatures providing little relief or change in the weather to move moose. This played out in typically high September bull success (77%) and atypically low October bull success across management units (57%). The "traditionally" timed antlerless season at 79% success was on par with 2020 (78%).

In addition, this was the initial year of the Adaptive Unit Hunt (4A) that

occurred over three consecutive weeks with overall success at 50%. Overall, during the traditional moose hunts 2,353 moose were harvested providing a 68% statewide success rate.

In coming years, Maine is expected to continue experiencing warmer temperatures. These warming climates will provide more ideal environments for winter tick survival, and will influence movement patterns and behaviors of moose, often leading to moose laying low and moving less. Hunters lucky enough to participate in Maine's moose hunt should consider best hunting methods when moose are more likely to stay put, increasing their chances of success in future years.

As winter approaches, MDIFW begins diving back into the many monitoring programs developed for our state's moose population. For a third consecutive year, MDIFW teamed up with Native Range Wildlife Capture to collar 70 moose in the first week of January. Biologists will continue to respond to deceased collared moose to identify causes of death, and MDIFW will be implementing a new, non-invasive study to further monitor the species, deploying camera traps to measure moose occupancy and abundance. Keep an eye out to learn more.

The 2022 annual Maine Moose Hunt Lottery will run February - through May.

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ESTATE PLANNING

It's a New Year and hopefully a better one than the last! If you haven't already, it's time to plan for the future!

Call us to discuss preparing a Will, a Financial Durable Power of Attorney and an Advance Health Care Directive. Maine now has a Revocable Deed Upon Death that is a great planning tool in avoiding Probate of your Estate! Phone appointments are available.

Call 207-469-7323 now!

Fellows, Kee, Tymoczko & Lewis, LLC

FRIENDS & FAMILY

DOG DAYS DWINDLE – Dog licenses are due for renewal, and while January traditionally has been a “grace period” for those who are tardy, the first of February means a potential surcharge if a dog is not registered before then.

Visit your local town clerk to make sure your pet is a legal, upstanding citizen of the community.

CASE UNCRACKED – A **River Road resident** tried to sell some eggs on the honor system on Jan. 5, placing them on a small table in the driveway.

A passerby not only stole the eggs, they stole the table. The Yolker remains at large.

WATCHING AUGUSTA? –

The Main Town and City Clerk's Association has a Legislative Policy Committee, and Bucksport Town Clerk Jacob Gran now is on that panel. Members of the group review and promote legislation the interest of the

municipal clerks, and, occasionally, they testify before panels in the Legislature.

Gran represents the portion of the state comprised of Hancock and Washington counties.

SAVING HISTORY – The handful of intrepid folks who keep the **Verona Island Historical Society** operating have snared a grant to purchase some electronic gear to help them preserve the island's past.

The money, awarded to small rural historical societies like the one on the island, has allowed the purchase of a scanner and other equipment to catalog old documents and photos – and even some newer ones – so they can be efficiently kept and stored and yet remain quickly accessible once they are catalogued.

The group is just getting going on the project.

The group is always open to new volunteers who care about keeping the

island's past alive.

RECRUITING – The executive director of the Friends of Fort Knox in Prospect this spring will be seeking a part-timer assistant in March who could move to full-time during the height of the visitor season.

Dean Martin also will be seeking volunteers for the annual “Clean-Up Day” at the historic site, and for various specific tasks throughout the summer.

PRIDE PROUD! – The local organizers have begun gearing up for not only a second **Pride Day** event in July, but other events throughout the year.

A representative of the organizers this week suggested the group may seek more participants and performers from the southern part of the state this year.

He said the group will work with local businesses to encourage more participation, and to show, “that Bucksport has a lot of love to share.”

The effort last year raised money for

the Pride groups at the Reach School and Bucksport High School.

POST-COVID While several events are being rescheduled because of the recent surge in Covid cases, the efforts to make **Brown Hall** on Elm Street a hub of community activity continues.

Dr. Stephen York, the pastor of the Elm Street Congregational Church which owns the hall, said that plans are being developed to make the commercial kitchen available for a variety of community uses.

Among the many possible uses would be regularly scheduled meals at which newcomers to the area could break bread with a wide variety of long-time residents and community leaders, he said.

STREET MUSEUM – Time ran out on the effort to install historical markers up and down Main Street, but the backers of the **Museum in the Streets** effort here say the markers, like the jonquils, should begin popping up in the spring.

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Homeless are here

As we turn up our thermostats to combat the numbing cold, there are those among us living in conditions that are tough to describe. School officials report a growing number of youngsters leaving warm classrooms for homes that are cold - if they have homes at all.

EDITORIALS Living in campers and cars or dilapidated sheds, they and their families are out there - and they tend to be tucked away in spots that not always are visible.

The folks at H.O.M.E. Inc. in Orland, which operates shelters from here to Ellsworth, are about to launch an effort to count the number of those who are not adequately housed. They expect to find some people living in tents and huddled in long-empty buildings to get out of the wind.

While H.O.M.E.'s efforts are directed at all who need shelter, they are especially concerned about those with children, for there are but three shelters in Maine designed for families. We all complain about the cost of heat. Remember those who have little or no warmth at all.

Justice delayed

Any observer of the county court log knows how slow the wheels of justice are grinding. Cases, both small and large, drag on for months, and too often, end up with no justice at all, as witnesses cannot be found or paperwork goes missing or yet another delay is requested - and granted.

Meanwhile the judges who are supposed to be handling building code violation cases are MIA, another casualty of the pandemic hysteria. Surely, today's technology should be able to protect judges, lawyers, witnesses and the rest while looking out for the public's safety.

Life has not stopped, but the day-to-day, prompt delivery of justice has been found not up to the task.

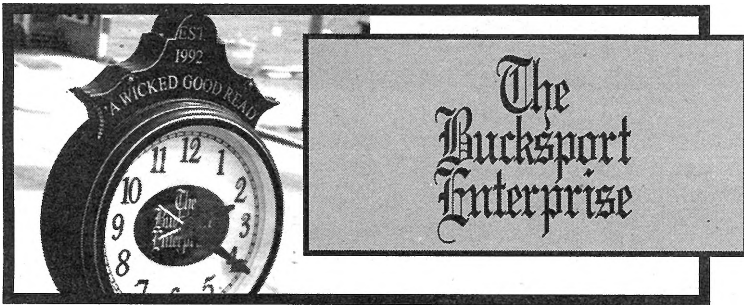
The Town of Bucksport is spending time and money on code case situations that should have been resolved months, if not years ago. Perhaps some judges should be lured out of retirement or other remedial steps taken, but the public is not being well-served in the interim.

Meanwhile, a resolution of a home condemnation at Broadway and Mount Olive Heights has dragged on for years because of another sort of snafu.

The town manager said that all that's needed is a federal bureaucrat's signature on one piece of paper. We heard that story more than a year ago.

Without that signature, gaining a clear title to the property could take the town up to five years, the town manager claims.

Meanwhile the awful condition of the property across the street from a school has delayed the neighbors' efforts to get the town to act for more than five years.



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Don Houghton Editor & Publisher	Sandy Holmes General Manager
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LETTERS . . . to the editor

Fish fryers say, 'Thanks!'

The Knights of Columbus of the St. Vincent de Paul church in Bucksport would like to thank everyone who made our fish fries a success this past year.

Even though we had to miss a few months because of the Covid restrictions, thanks to you, these donations were possible;

- 1) Gifts to families found to be in a time of need;
- 2) for ten winter coats donated through Bucksport Community Concerns;
- 3) Support for seminarians to continue their studies;
- 4) For the free wheelchair mission;
- 5) New cushions for the church pews;
- 6) A new United States flag to fly at the cemetery;
- 7) A sound system at the church;
- 8) A free community music concert at the church hall;
- 9) The film license needed to support the Methodist's Church for their free family movie nights;
- 10) A donation to the Special Olympics;
- 11) A contribution toward the renovations to the church building;
- 12) And, as a thank you to the Town of Bucksport, we purchased and planted 425 daffodil flower bulbs, for spring blooming along the waterfront and Main Street. We plan to do the same next year, too, for your enjoyment!

I know that I am probably missing a few donations and deeds but you have an idea of what was made possible through your participation in our fish fries. Thanks for joining us regularly for one heck of a great fried haddock meal.

Thanks again to all of you.
Joseph Davanzo,
On behalf of Council # 5756
of the Knights of Columbus
Bucksport

Defining and defending the future of democracy

How we go about making this collective decision will determine the future of the United States of America.

It is imperative that we work together.
Let me state at least three beginning principles that we need to live by:

1. Equal and easy access to affordable food, clothing and shelter. These are baseline essentials to provide dignity and humanity to every citizen. How we do this are the issues for debate.
2. The right to have clean air, clean water, clean energy and clean foodstuffs are environmental issues to address. Without these, the planet we inhabit is unsustainable. Getting to Mars, contrary to Elon Musk, won't solve these basics in the immediate future.
3. In order to implement the above, we need access to choose the best bipartisan representatives that believe in these issues, not for private gain but public good. Thus the right to vote in free and fair elections without fear of reprisal or falsification is the foundation of our democracy.

To do this must be our collective decision. Do we love our democracy or do we lose it to demagoguery? Let us be partners for a decent democracy. Let's have a dialogue.
Rochelle Newman
Bucksport

2021: As the town manager saw it

SUSAN M. LESSARD

Despite the continuing challenges involved with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Town of Bucksport has continued to move forward with a number of projects, received awards, maintained a stable mil rate, provided good public service in a difficult environment, and managed to continue to receive overall positive press in the media.

The same is not true for many communities, and we should be proud of the level of continued accomplishment through a very abnormal political, social, and economic environment.

This report is divided into two sections - the first is an overview of progress made on the goals and objectives that were set last year by the Town Council, and the second relates more to operational/programming/staff matters.

(Here's the first section of her report. The second will be printed next week.)

2021 Goals and Objectives progress
a. Continued professional development for council members - Councilors have the ability to attend meetings or trainings if they choose to do so. All members receive the Maine Townsman from the Maine Town and City Manager's association and that magazine includes information on municipal government trainings and meetings.

I am happy to 'sign up' any councilors for these events if they choose to attend.

b. Expansion of waterfront - the fishing pier was replaced in 2021 with a safer, year round version, fencing was replaced in one area of the walkway, additional picnic tables have been added, diesel fuel was added to the Marina for boaters, the Library continues its Story Walk in the summer and Bucksport became an advertised stop on American Cruise Lines itineraries and resulted in cruise ships docking every 10 days during the summer. Despite the pandemic, the first PRIDE festival was held on the waterfront, along with the Penobscot Maritime Heritage event, Ghoulsport, and the Arts Festival. Preliminary approval has been granted for a festival over the 4th of July weekend in 2022. Staff is working on an updated policy for consideration by the Council for permit requirements for waterfront events.

c. RFP/grant funding for rip-rap on the waterfront - Code Enforcement Officer Luke Chiavelli has been working to get information related to this project.

d. Maintain mil rate - the mil rate for 2021-

2022 was set the same as 2020-2021 (\$16.25) and is currently the lowest in the region for a full service community. The mil rate is 85 cents lower than it was in the 2015-16 fiscal year.

e. Road projects - year two of the road project was completed with the reclaim/grade/pavement of the Millvale Road from Route 15 to Silver Lake Road as well as the paving of 4 additional miles of road. The third year of the project will take place in 2022 and will include the reclaim/grade/pavement of Silver Lake Road and the mill/fill of a number of downtown streets, in addition to the regular annual four miles of paving. The MacDonald Street drainage problem that contributed to the collapse of part of the baseball field wall was also addressed as part of this year's paving project. The road edger has worked well to support the new paving and provide safer travel for the public since there are no longer 'drop offs' at the edges of pavement.

f. Park Street sidewalk - The Park Street/Broadway extension project has been Constructed and paved. Sidewalks will be installed as well. Once the final improvements are made - the Town will be asked to accept it as a local road and it would be opened to traffic. This also allows the sale of lots and housing construction to take place there.

g. 27 Main Street - Housing study - FOR/Maine funded a study of 27 Main Street for potential uses for the site. The draft of that study is in the process of being reviewed and will be presented to the Town Council in January.

h. Infrastructure list for town buildings/facilities etc. - Department heads have continued review of infrastructure needs and the Council has approved upgrades to heating/cooling for public safety, the Marina office, the animal shelter, the Senior Center and the Town Office. In addition, the Council approved renovations at the Public Safety Building for additional offices, replacement of doors at the public works building, replacement of garage door openers at the public safety building, installation of LED streetlights through a contract with CMP, museum in the street project support, and installation of a new fire alarm system at the Town Office. Additional projects ahead include a new chimney for the Town Office as well as some needed window replacement, replacement of the electrical system at the Town garage, consideration of tennis court replacement and upgrade of the ice rink.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE.

OBITUARY

Dorothy M. (DeLaite) York, 1935 - 2022

PENOBSCOT – Dorothy (“Dottie”) M. (DeLaite) York, 86, died at home, on Jan. 4, 2022, on a cold and sunny Tuesday morning with her husband and daughters by her side after a hard-fought battle with liver cancer.

She is now resting in the arms of her Savior, Jesus Christ.

Dorothy was born in Enfield on Aug. 7, 1935 to Lewis and Josephine (Hanscom) DeLaite, the sixth of seven children, all of them girls.

The family later moved to Verona Island where she attended grade school in the two-room schoolhouse across the street from her home on the island, and then went on to the Walter H. Gardner High School in Bucksport, where she graduated in the Class of 1954.

Her life was fulfilled with traveling around the United States and the world with her military husband, Howard V. York, after their marriage on Nov. 1, 1952 with Richard and Nonie Varnum as best man and matron of honor. They celebrated 69 years of marriage; and some people had said it would never last. Boy, were they wrong!

She enjoyed packing the family up, and traveling to new states and other countries as she saw each move as a new adventure until Howard retired in May of 1973. They then moved back to Maine. They also traveled extensively around the United States after his second retirement from the G.H. Jewett school in Bucksport.

For many years they enjoyed wintering in Zephyrhills, Fl. Lifelong friends were made throughout the couple's travels.

Dot enjoyed many things in life. Service to others was just the beginning. She was an active member of the Non-Commissioned Officer Wives' Club from 1963 in Bermuda, volunteering at the base hospital and the elementary school. She was nominated NCO Wives' Club “wife of the month” while at the Kindley Air Force Base in Bermuda. She was a volunteer for Vietnamese children literacy programs in Falls Church, Va. She also was an active member of the Franklin Street United Methodist Church since 1973.

She was a cheerleading coach for the Pop Warner football along with Adrian McDonald. She also was a member of the Penobscot Historical Society for many years and an active member of the Verona

Women's Club since 1973 until just this last year.

In her later years, she became a certified nurses aide (CNA) under the teaching of her oldest daughter. She enjoyed caring for the elderly at the Island Nursing Home in Deer Isle.



Dorothy M. (DeLaite) York

Her personal enjoyments were gardening, from her flower beds to her vegetables she produced plenty of each every year. She always looked forward to Springtime when she could get her hands in the fresh earth and watch the life of those plants that would be produced, many of which she entered and won blue ribbons at the Blue Hill Fair. She loved baseball and was an active softball player in her younger years.

Crocheting, knitting, quilting and baked goods were treasured items by many, as gifts from her bountiful handiwork.

Dorothy is survived by her husband, Howard, of 69 years; daughters, Rhonda and Don Loncto of Fletchers Landing, Marlene and Doug Robinson of Holden; younger sister, Cleo and Bob of Verona Island; grandchildren, Todd and Annette Parlin of Oklawaha, Fl, Christopher Parlin and partner Amy of Winterport, Jessica and John Hart of Norfolk, VA, Dustin and Chelsea Brown of Orrington, and Ben and Lucas York of Biddeford. She also leaves eight great-grandchildren, several nieces, nephews and cousins, too many to name, but all who knew her, please know that you held a special place in her heart.

She was predeceased by her parents, Lewis and Josephine DeLaite; a son, Bryant York; sisters Genevieve, Louise, Maudie, Daphene and Christine; and two great-grand-children, Xander and Weslyn.

A special note from her, “I want to thank my daughters, Rhonda and Marlene, for their wonderful care. My husband, Howard, for staying by my side. Also, Northern Light Home and Hospice caregivers for their care and concern in my last days.”

A celebration of life service will be held in the spring and will be announced at a later date.

Arrangements are by Mitchell-Tweedie Funeral Home and Cremation Services in Bucksport.

www.Mitchell-tweedie-young.com

– 2021 . . .As town manager saw it

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE.

i. Communication plan – The Council approved an RFP for a new website for the town that would be ADA compliant and more user friendly for residents and potential visitors and a more effective communication tool. Approval of a vendor for that project is on the 12/9/2021 agenda. In addition, the Council adopted a Social Media & Communication policy to provide parameters for the use of social media and other communications to insure that we are consistent in how we monitor and use our social media platforms.

j. Road signage outside of town – While we have not established signage outside of town – we have certainly extended our ‘reach’ this past year. The Town was the winner in the 92.9 Drive Show Maine radio contest for Town of the Year in Maine and also the winner of the national Best Small Coastal Community in the USA Today contest. We were nominated as the result of a visit from Deb and Jim Fallows who visited because of our participation in the Heart & Soul program – and provided a wonderful blog post about our community that was seen on a national level. I was asked to do a podcast on our Pay it Forward program for a national organization and subsequently invited to their annual meeting in Utah to talk about what Bucksport is doing right in its path forward from the closure of the mill. I was also asked to speak at a University of Maine Mitchell Center program about Bucksport and its successes – which was video streamed and had the highest participation of any program that they had offered at that time.

k. Tax equity for entire community – Despite the wild sales numbers that the Town saw in 2020/2021 – we did not make blanket percentage increases to property values as a way to increase our state sales/quality ratio. Doing so would have created tax increases across the board – and when the sales returned to a more realistic post-covid market – would have required a similar reduction. I refer to this as a brain wave type of tax impact – up for a year or two then down then up – which makes it very difficult for many people to manage their property tax obligation. Our position of ‘waiting out’ this swing has somewhat insulated taxpayers from the impact of sales that have not been consistent with normal market conditions.

l. Masonic Hall - Building and parking purposes – This item has not moved forward in 2021.

m. Middle income housing – 11 units of market rate apartments were approved by the Planning board in 2021 which is a good start. Penquis

continues to work on finding a location for senior and workforce housing in Bucksport. In addition, the completion of Park Street provides an opportunity for additional new housing in the community.

n. Hiring of an engineer – The Town has used two different engineers in 2021 for three different projects. One was used for the retaining wall design and 50% of that cost was covered by the state as part of the grant received for the walls. The other two were for the Town Dock engineering and \$35,000 of that was paid for by a grant, and the same engineer was used for the engineering of the fishing pier. At this point, the use of outside engineers who specialize in different kinds of engineering and having the costs covered in part or total by grants has served the Town well.

o. Post-covid projects – In truth, the Town has not stopped project work during the COVID-19 pandemic. At the present time, in addition to upgrade of the marina float system, the Town Dock expansion project, the 3rd year of the Road project, additional grant applications for retaining wall replacement, implementation of the marketing plan, beginning a Neighbors Helping Neighbors program in 2022, the Jacob Buck Pond and Bucks Mills Road culvert replacement projects and implementation of a K-9 program at public safety – the Council also sent out a survey for input on potential uses of the ARPA funding received – which will require action in the coming year.

p. Town dock expansion proposal – The engineering on this project has been completed and all permits required from the State have been obtained. The Holtra Chem settlement is still waiting for the Judge in the case to approve the settlement agreement and then it will be up to the oversight committee for the settlement to determine what steps need to be taken before considering any projects. As an alternative, Community & Economic Development Director Rich Rotella is submitting a grant to the Maine Tourism Bureau for the project and has reached out to our Federal legislative delegation for input.

q. In-person meetings – The Council returned to in person meetings on May 27 Council meeting and continued that way until Dec. 18 as a result of covid exposure at the Town Office. The decision of the council to return to in-person meetings as of tonight (1/13) had to be reversed because of the renewed pace of Covid cases.

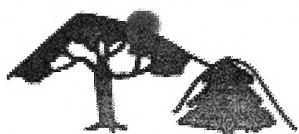


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Race is on to get road races

BUCKSPORT – Efforts to re-start the annual “Bridge the Gap” road race from Fort Knox in Prospect across the Penobscot Narrows Bridge to downtown Bucksport are continuing.

The original plans also called for a second, longer race around Verona Island.

Like most things these days, Corona virus considerations may play in part in whether the organizers can get everything in place for the always popular event to be held here again.

The same folks also plan to continue the annual maritime-theme film festival in the fall at The Alamo theater on Main Street.

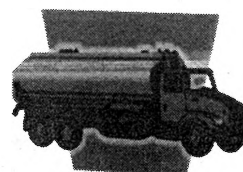


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Housing, day care and aging issues listed among top Bucksport concerns

BUCKSPORT – Bucksport NEXT, a collaborative effort to coordinate community efforts on a wide variety of issues, resumed its meetings this week, after a lengthy hiatus spawned by the Covid pandemic concerns.

While the group – a collection of representatives of social service, economic development and other groups working to improve life here, covered a broad range of issues on Monday, but there appeared to be consensus on the top three:

- A need for more housing options, especially for those with modest incomes and the older members of the community. This was considered essential to fostering growth in the population while stemming an outflow of older persons requiring supportive services now not easily available here.

- Additional day care choices are important to younger households, both to aid working moms and to provide for those who require two wage-earners to make ends meet.

- And a renewed look at what it will take to develop the services and housing that older residents – almost a third of the local population – need as they grow older. There were no surprises in any of the three, but there seemed to be a renewed interest in finding practical ways to encourage better solutions for the long-standing problems.

At a time when the population of the area is nearly static, the community leaders urged public officials to consider the needs of newcomers, especially those with – or soon-to-have – school age children.

James Boothby, Supt. of Schools told the group

via a Zoom hook-up linking the participants – that the school's census is up slightly but not dramatically.

He also underlined the increasing roles the schools are playing in identifying the issues facing the students from lower income families.

He noted the school population continues to be very diverse, and some students rely heavily on the supportive atmosphere they get while in school.

The schools now offer two meals a day and warmth to those who may be stressed by their home situations, Boothby said.

Much of the session was devoted to sharing updates on what the various groups have been doing, with most of those reporting their efforts have been somewhat stymied by the pandemic.

Still, they reported a strong undercurrent of projects being developed for the time when close contact is easier to accomplish safely.

In addition to the update, some talked of long-range plans, including an effort by H.O.M.E. Inc. to aid more families with children that need shelter this winter.

A town department head also noted that a key cultural resource here, the Bucksport Center for the Performing Arts, is going severely under-utilized. He said that will be a key goal to correct, for the auditorium provides ample space for all sorts of regional events.

The Bucksport Enterprise will be reporting on some of these projects as they evolve during the spring and this summer.



Eagle eye?

Photographer Rick McHale always has an eye out for eagles, and he spotted this juvenile bald eagle flying around Toddy Pond looking for an easy meal.

– Police and fire reports –

Traffic patrols result in tickets

BUCKSPORT – The additional state-funded traffic patrols by local officers have resulted in a number of citations being written.

Since Nov. 1 there have been six extra shifts worked, each devoted primarily to slowing down traffic. Of the 65 motorists stopped, 13 got speeding tickets and the rest ended with warnings.

During the same period there were a half dozen patrols concentrating on locating distracted drivers.

Seventy three motorists were stopped and 28 got citations resulting in fines.

Checks taken

BUCKSPORT – Some checks were reportedly taken from a local business, and then cashed. The case, reported on Jan. 5, remains open.

Trespassing

BUCKSPORT – An officer was asked to remove a couple of people who were alleged to be trespassing. However, the officer determined the incident to be the result of a civil dispute.

Fire statistics

BUCKSPORT – The Bucksport Fire Department last month made 96 ambulance runs and handled 31 fire calls.

The department issued 17 fire permits and conducted five inspections.

There was no slowdown in activity last month, Deputy Fire Chief Michael Denning reported.

During the last half of 2021, the department handled 711 calls, and if the trend continues it will set another record for the current fiscal year.

During the previous fiscal year, the department handled 1,217 calls, 16.8 percent more than a year earlier and 27.9 percent more than two years ago.

The department recently obtained another grant to purchase equipment for fighting forest fires, as a result of an application submitted by Capt. Chris Connor.

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Public Safety LOGS

Arrested

ELLSWORTH – Merrill Henry Muncey III, 36, of 22 West Side Drive, Verona Island was booked at the Hancock County Jail here about 5:15 p.m. last Thursday (1/6). He was arrested in Ellsworth and charged as a result of a court warrant.

In other arrests:

• Phillip Mark Norris, 29, of 62 George Road, in Prospect was booked at the Hancock County Jail about 5 p.m. on Dec. 31, after being arrested in Ellsworth for allegedly violating his probation in an earlier case.

• Dawn Marie James, of 11 Mountain View Lane, Bucksport, was booked at the jail about 10 a.m. on Jan. 3 for allegedly violating the terms of her probation in an earlier case.

• Derek F. Conner of 7 Summer St., Bucksport was booked about 7 p.m. on Jan. 3 after being arrested at 60 Northeast Cove Way in Ellsworth for reportedly violating the conditions of his release in an earlier case and engaging in other criminal trespassing and harassment.

Summonses

BUCKSPORT – These court summonses were issued here recently:

• Maxfield Rhine, 18, of Blue Hill reportedly was clocked traveling 74 miles an hour in a section of State Route 46 limited to no more than 45. He was stopped about 10:30 p.m. last Thursday (1/6).

• Luis Mauser, 25, of Belfast also was stopped at about the same time at the same place on 1/6 for allegedly traveling at the same speed.

• Stephen Hellwege, 32, of Delaware was issued a ticket for allegedly driving without a license on State Route 46 shortly after 11 p.m. last Thursday (1/6).

Accident - Deer

BUCKSPORT – A vehicle being driven by Debra Merrill, 43, of Holden on the River Road about noon on Jan. 5 struck and killed a deer. The deer was found in a nearby ditch.

Accidents

BUCKSPORT – These roadway accidents were investigated:

• Vehicles driven by Zachary Hutchins, 29, of Bucksport and Orrinda Grindle, 29, of Bucksport collided on Main Street about 7 a.m. on Friday (1/7).

• Wynn Therrien, 16, of Bucksport backed out of the House of Pizza parking lot on Main Street about 1:30 p.m. last Thursday (1/6) and struck a delivery truck parked by Peter Whitmore, 48, of Casco.

Sexual assault

BUCKSPORT – Police are investigating a report a teen-age girl was sexually assaulted by a teen-age boy. The incident was reported on Jan. 5, 2022.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Events

Thursday, Jan. 13

• **REPUBLICANS** – From 4:30 - 8 p.m. Hancock County Republicans will hold a “nomination signing party.” at their headquarters in Suite 14 in the Maine Coast Mall, 225 High Street, Ellsworth. There may be a speaker at 6 p.m. *Sandi04 472@gmail.com*

Wednesday, Jan. 19

• **DOWNEAST TROUT**
Unlimited will hold a Zoom meeting at 5:30 p.m. with a report from Megan Hess: on the Mayfly Life Cycle and Winter Fishing Techniques. The session is free, but registration is required at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81254204204> or contact Tammy Packie at tpackie@gmail.com. The speaker is a registered Maine guide who loves to fish for native brook trout in northern Maine and for smallmouth bass on the Penobscot River.

Thursday, Jan. 20

• **CELEBRATING BUCKSPORT** – The Hancock County Democratic Committee will hear from several area members about the many things Bucksport’s leaders have done since the paper mill opened in 1929 to being named the “Best Small Coastal Town” in 2021 by UDSA Today. The party will hold a Zoom session from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Attendees need to register no later than noon on Wednesday at www.hancockdems.org.

In the libraries

Buck Memorial Wednesdays & Thursdays

• **STORY HOUR** is held every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. and Thursday at 4 p.m.

Ellsworth Public January 22

• **BIG READ** – The Ellsworth Public Library will launch its National Endowment for the Arts Big Read program exploring “The Best We Could Do” by Thi Bui with two virtual programs. The kick-off event, will be held on Zoom at 1 p.m., will feature National Youth Poet Laureate, Alexandra Huynh.

The keynote event will be on Zoom on Saturday, Jan. 29, at 1 p.m. will be an on-line conversation with the author. Registration is required at www.ellsworthlibrary.net/calendar.

Through January

• **ART SHOW** – The Ellsworth Public Library has resumed its monthly art show in the Riverview Room. Call 667-6363 to see when the show is available. The initial show is of works by Nadine Murphy, entitled “Down by the Bay” The show features photographs of Taunton Bay and some animal visitors.

Blue Hill

Through January

• **ART SHOW**, featuring 7x7 prints by Mary Barnes: prints representing the seven virtues and sins.

Each Wednesday

• **FOOD PANTRY** – The Bucksport Community Concerns Food Pantry is open every Wednesday from 9:30 to 11:30 p.m. and on the second Monday of the month, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. The pantry is on the lower level of the Elm Street Congregational Church. Call 469-2400.

In Brown Hall

Monday, Jan. 17

• **SCOTTISH DANCING** resume in the large meeting room in Brown Hall from 5 to 7 p.m. Interested? Call group leader, Dawn Little at 702-9294. New participants and observers are welcome.

Tuesday, Jan. 18

• The **BOOKTALK** group will discuss “Pray Without Ceasing” in Wendell Berry’s short story collection, *Fidelity*.

Wednesday, Jan. 19

• **ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS (AA)** meets weekly at 7 PM. For more information, call Bill at 610-2249. In addition, AL-ANON is moving to a Zoom meeting for January & February.

Friday, Jan. 21

• The Monthly Brown Bag Luncheon with Dr. Stephen York meets noon to 1 p.m.. Please RSVP to the church office.

NOTE: Know Your Neighbor Program is rescheduled for 2nd Tuesday of Feb, Mar or April. Date will be announced.

Senior NEWS

– MENUS –

BUCKSPORT – These \$6 meals will be served at the Bucksport Senior Center on Outer Broadway and can be ordered by anyone, regardless of age or income. The meals can be reserved by calling 469-3632 before 9 a.m. on the day of the luncheon:

- Friday, Jan 14 - Mild chili, corn muffin and fruit.
- Monday, Jan. 17 – No Meal - Holiday observed.
- Wednesday, Jan. 19 – Pork roast w/gravy, mashed potato, mixed veg and apple strudel stick.
- Friday, Jan 21 - Spaghetti w/meatsauce, salad, garlic bread and ice cream.
- Monday, Jan. 24 – Breaded chicken tenders, roasted potatoes, corn and strawberries.
- Wednesday, Jan. 26 – Meatloaf, baked potato, peas and a cookie.
- Friday, Jan 28 - Baked ham, scalloped potatoes, green beans and choc. tart.
- Monday, Jan 31 - Chicken parmesan, dinner roll, sliced cucumbers and cake.

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HELPING HANDS – The Helping Hands Outreach group offers free, durable medical equipment on loan or, in some cases, donated to those in need. Anyone in need of medical equipment or who would like to contribute medical equipment may contact the administrative office at Brown Hall at 469-3333. ufn

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