

The Bucksport Enterprise

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JANUARY 20, 2022

\$1.00

Is a new quarry in Prospect's future?



THIS AREA in Prospect, just south of Winterport, would become the site of a 710-foot dock to load barges with

PROSPECT – A Virginia firm wants to blast away a good chunk of Heagan Mountain on Bowden Point, crush the granite and then ship the stone by barge down the Penobscot.

Needless to say, some Prospect residents expect to be heard before the proposed \$12 million project moves forward.

Some already are raising environmental issues. They're concerned about the impact to native wildlife as well as the people who live near the planned quarry, rock crushing and barge sites.

While the would-be developer said the project will provide 35 to 40 jobs, some townspeople - including those who reside near the site - are not impressed.

The project has been in the works since at least 2017, although nobody from the firm reportedly has talked with the selectmen since then. There have been some on-again, off-again contacts between the company and the Prospect Planning Board. Still, thousands of dollars have been spent on acquiring the land, legal fees and the filing of the initial applications for the required permits.

Those applications were filed in the name of

crushed granite if a Virginia firm's proposed \$12 million quarrying and rock crushing project proceeds.

Bowden Properties. Three limited liability corporations were set up in that name in 2018 and 2019. The local agent for all three firms is listed as Edmond J Bearor, a lawyer with the Bangor firm of Rudman Winchell. The local address for the three is the law firm's office.

Behind the project is a concrete producing company in Portsmouth, VA..

The Prospect quarry would be just above historic Fort Knox. It calls for constructing an 80,000 square foot - or roughly two acre - stone crushing operation on the shore and a 710-foot-long, industrial pier jutting into the river.

The proposed developer, is an affiliate of Salmons, Inc., one of several businesses operated by the Salmons family from their headquarters in Virginia Beach, VA.

In Prospect, the company will have to overcome a local ban on any development within 250 feet of the river. The local planning board apparently has no plans to change that.

PLEASE SEE QUARRY, PAGE 6.

Council seeks data on public safety fees

Should town charge for protecting events?

BUCKSPORT – Town officials have been talking about the cost of providing police, fire and other safety oversight for some events open to the public, but last Thursday (1/13) the Town Council discovered it did not have important information on the subject.

Sean Geagan, the public safety director, was asked what other nearby communities do when called on to protect certain public gatherings.

Geagan, a member of a committee seeking council guidance on the issue, vowed he would find out before the council's next session.

That's when Mayor Peter Stewart suggested the council will resolve the issue of who, if anyone, is charged for the public services now being paid for by taxpayers.

PLEASE SEE FEES, PAGE 6.

Orland man succumbs in River Road accident

BUCKSPORT – A 73-year-old Orland man died Tuesday afternoon after his car struck the back of a tractor-trailer oil truck and then careened into an oncoming auto.

The victim was identified as James Yates.

The accident and subsequent investigation closed the road for some four hours.

Police responded to the accident at River Road and Kenney Drive, near the railroad crossing, about 3:30 p.m. The temperature was about zero.

According to police, a Dead River fuel truck being driven by

Christopher Cassum (57) of Clifton, stopped at the crossing and then was continuing south when it was struck from the rear and Yates vehicle spun into the northbound lane, hitting a vehicle operated by Kelly Proulx, 30 of Bucksport.

Yates died at the scene.

Proulx and her adult passenger were taken to a Bangor hospital for treatment of non-life-threatening injuries.

Multiple public safety agencies were at the scene.

Trash plight: 'dysfunctional'

BUCKSPORT – The town manager has described the processing of trash in much of Maine, including this area, as, "totally dysfunctional."

Speaking in the wake of the continued shutdown of the former Fiberright multi-million dollar trash-to-energy debacle in Hampden, Susan M. Lessard last Thursday (1/13) told the Town Council that's the case.

Bucksport and many of the other 100-plus communities that participated in the Hampden project, have only the on-again,

off-again Penobscot Energy Recovery Co. (PERC) plant in Orrington.

Lessard now believes it will be up to the Legislature to authorize the development of a state-wide overhaul of the processes by which solid waste is handled.

When PERC shuts down when it is overwhelmed with rubbish, the refuse goes into the Juniper Ridge landfill. "We have no other option," she said.

PLEASE SEE TRASH, PAGE 5.

Orland to vote on \$350,000 fire truck

ORLAND – Town officials are setting the stage to seek voter support for the purchase of a new fire pump truck that could require spending up to \$350,000 from Orland's reserve account.

The purchase of the truck will be considered at a special Town Meeting on Feb. 3 at 6:30 p.m. at the Orland Community Center at 21 School House Road.

The purchase has the endorsement of both the

Board of Selectmen and the Fire Department.

The plan is to replace the engine using money from the department's capital equipment reserves.

Engine 511 has now been pulled out of service as a result of several problems, including severe corrosion to the frame and body of the pumper.

The truck was purchased in 1999 for \$200,000, and delivered to Orland in 2000.

An independent commer-

cial vehicle inspector says it is no longer inspectable. The double "C" frames have separated beyond allowable limits from the back of the cab, where most of weight - including the pump and tank - are located there. That, plus axle and other issues, put the safe operation of the truck into question. The truck has been ruled a possible danger to firefighters and the public.

PLEASE SEE FIRE TRUCK, PAGE 5

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

NO CHANGE HERE – As expected, Mayor Peter L. Stewart was re-elected to that position last week, and Paul Bissonette remains the vice mayor.

BROADWAY TO U.S. ROUTE 1 – With last week's acceptance of Park Street as a public way, Outer Broadway now is linked to the highway at a point across from the McDonald's Restaurant.

John and Karen Wardwell of Orland have turned over the road to the town in return for the town maintaining it once it is complete. The Wardwells have promised to complete the final paving and the sidewalk of the link this year.

STOP & GO – With the acceptance of the Park Street link, the Public Safety Department has been asked whether the current four-way stop at Broadway and Nicholson Avenue should be changed in any way.

BRIDGING THE GAP? – Efforts are underway to resume the annual Bridging the Gap race from Fort Knox to downtown Bucksport, but to get there the sponsoring group also needs to "bridge the gap in its own finances. The community group seeking to bolster Bucksport's Main Street and its cultural and social offerings is running a tad shy this Covid-riddled year and has asked the Town Council for \$5,000. A decision is expected at the council's next meeting.

After several councilors asked the group's representatives - Ron Russell of Verona Island and John Paul LaLonde of Bucksport - if more money would be sought from the town later this year, the response was, that it's still too early to determine that..

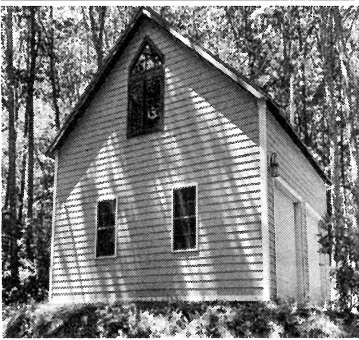
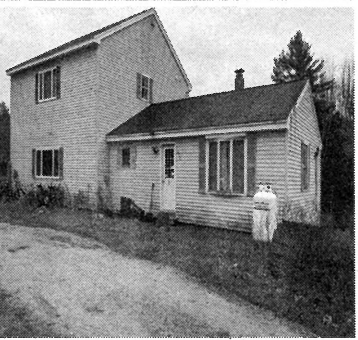
A meeting involving the town manager and a representative of an apartment company that leases space for the Bucksport Senior Center to the town is planned to iron out the terms of the next lease. It also is aimed at resolving a payment problem that dates back a number of years. That problem only came to light recently after the realty firm discovered it.


PLEASE SEE IN WORKS, PAGE 5.




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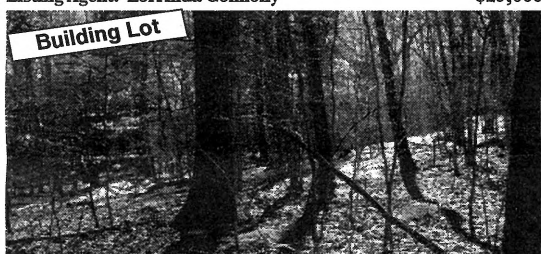



Liberty Tool for Sale  <p>Liberty- Landmark building and Liberty Tool business and inventory for sale! Property includes building on Main Street with 3+ floors of used and specialty tools, books, antiques, etc. A reputation built over more than 40 years has created a loyal customer following. A truly unique opportunity. Price reflects increased inventory. (For another business opportunity in Searsport by same seller see MLS 1357407)</p> <p>\$500,000 Kathy Coogan 207-632-5246</p>	PENDING  <p>92 Conary Way Orland</p> <p>\$249,900 Dan Burpee 207-735-5337</p>	SOLD  <p>825 Hallowell Road Pownal</p> <p>\$350,000 Doug Burpee 207-735-5366</p>	2 Acres In Bucksport  <p>Bucksport- Ready to build lot with paved driveway, recently planted fruit trees, lilacs, herbs and bulbs on the partially cleared 2.03 acre lot offers elevated views of Long Pond. Centrally located to Bangor or Brewer.</p> <p>\$50,000 Mike Roy 207-266-8999</p>	SOLD  <p>0 Castline Road Orland</p> <p>\$144,500 Dan Burpee 207-735-5337</p>
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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 169' 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 1/2 hour. Come take a look at this lot for your new home today!</p> <p>Listing Agent: Lorrinda Connolly \$29,000</p>	 <p>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>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>Bucksport- This is a large, 24+ acre lot practically in town. It borders the Bucksport Middle School, and reaches down to Bayview Avenue. The lot has just been removed from tree growth. There is so much potential for this lot.</p> <p>Listing Agent: Wendy Carpenter \$79,000</p>

ORLAND

Doing the town's business

ORLAND – Here's a sampling of recent news from around the town:

- **BOW WOW!** – Dog owners have until Oct. 31 to license their dogs for 2022 without incurring a mandatory \$25 penalty for missing the deadline
- **FOR SALE** – The town is selling off a lot at 25 Dennis Road that recently was tax-acquired. The minimum bid: \$2,950, and Feb. 3 is the deadline for making an offer.
- **BORING?** Samples of two trees near the Orland Community Center have been sent to Augusta for testing for the possible emerald ash borer beetles infestation. The region-wide brown tail moth infestation also was discussed by the selectmen.
- **DOWN WITH IT!** – Wardwell Construction and Trucking was authorized by the

selectmen to demolish and dispose of a dangerous building at 10 Hatchery Road in East Orland. The \$5,000 cost is to be paid by the property owner.

- After talking with Fire Chief, Robert Conary, and others, the selectmen unanimously turned down an offer of used metal buildings for use as a fire station. Working with the Maine Municipal Association and the town's lawyer, the selectmen are moving ahead with gaining the specifics for a Fire Station Design/Build construction manager to manage the building of a new firehouse.
- **KEEP COMPUTERS COMPUTING** – The selectmen voted to start this year to the replace two computers annually. They will budget \$900 for each of the new devices.

The Bucksport Enterprise

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FRIENDS & FAMILY

SNOWIN' IN GEORGIA! -- **Vi Middleton**, our occasional correspondent in Griffin, GA, reported this week it was snowing there. Unlike some of her neighbors, the Bucksport native still remembers how to properly make - _ and hurl - snowballs.

While the "snow" probably wouldn't even qualify as a "dusting" in Maine, it spurred Georgia Gov. Kemp to issue a "state-of-emergency executive order" through Saturday, Jan. 22.

For Middleton, the snow was a belated Christmas gift."

She recalled how "Our family home in Bucksport was on the waterfront, in the shadow of the (then) Bucksport-Verona Bridge. Post-high school, I would return on weekends. One wintry Sunday, my Chevy Impala struggled to get traction on the inclined roadway (which essentially served as our driveway). The driver of the snowplow clearing snow at the marina behind our

house saw my plight, aligned his vehicle with mine, and pushed me to Main Street! Good neighbor, indeed! . . .

Then there's the tale of derring-do that occurred one frosty day in childhood. On a dare, I stuck my tongue to a rail of the bridge. Needless to say, tongue was "stuck" until the thaw! A memory here, a memory there (perhaps embellished by "Vi's spin on things").

On Monday, the outside temperature -- 37 degrees. Brrr!

"Now, back to the window I go -- wouldn't want to miss a snowflake!"

HAGGIS, ANYONE? It's being billed as the "Second Annual Bobby Burns Night Supper" at the **Oranbega Retreat Center** in Orland.

The meal on Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. and will have a mixture of Zoom and in-person participants. The program will include Highland piping, some other Scottish music, and the poetry of Robert Burns.

And, of course, there will be a reading of Burns' "Address to the Haggis." The menu for in-person participants will include the traditional Haggis, and another entree for anyone who has not yet acquired the taste for organ meat and oatmeal boiled in a sheep's stomach.

It also will offer, "bashed neeps and chappit tatties" (mashed turnips and potatoes), followed by shortbread and mince pies for dessert.

Because of the pandemic, only six will gather at the center at 36 Narramissic Drive. The rest will be welcomed via Zoom. Advance registration is required. E-mail jreece@oranbegacenter.com or call 952-2363. The meal is free, but donations are welcome.

SPIRIT OF AMERICA -- Town Manager Susan M. Lessard is seeking nominees for this year's **Spirit of America** award, a part of a national program recognizing outstanding achievements by those in local communities. Lessard can be contacted at the

Town Offices.

REMEMBERING -- The **Community and Economic Development Committee** on Monday will offer a moment of silence in tribute to the late Frank Dunbar, who played a role in civic affairs here for decades.

Larry Wahl will be reappointed to the committee.

SHELTER VISIT -- The field trip by the **Town Council** to the municipal **animal shelter** off Central Street has been postponed until March 2. The councilors will be considering some major improvement work aimed at making life more comfortable for the dogs and cats and easier for the staff and volunteers to care for them.

COMMUNITY GARDEN -- The search for a site for a **community vegetable garden** spot for use this summer will be considered at the Town Council's infrastructure subcommittee in March.

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Beyond Covid

Isn't it odd that billions and billions of dollars authorized by Congress to provide relief from the economic impact of the Covid pandemic remain unspent in public coffers across the country?

Additional billions are missing in action, victims

EDITORIALS

apparently of some very sloppy accounting for all of this largesse.

While most of this can be blamed on large cities and some states, many small communities have been trying to figure out how to spend their own windfalls. Local officials, including those in Bucksport, have been hampered by the vagueness of the regulations on just how the unexpected cash should be spent. There have been equally vague rules on how the cash can't be spent.

Now, the nation has what's been dubbed the "Final Rule for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)"

This week, the U.S. Department of the Treasury issued that rule, and it gives local officials far more latitude on how the money can be used. (In Bucksport's case, that is just over a half million dollars over the next few years, and in Hancock County that's some \$10 million. Some of that money already has been earmarked, but most of it still is available.)

The final rule takes effect on April 1, and provides state and local governments with increased flexibility. It also makes the process simpler. The rule allows for a broader set of uses, including some involving improvements to a community's infrastructure.

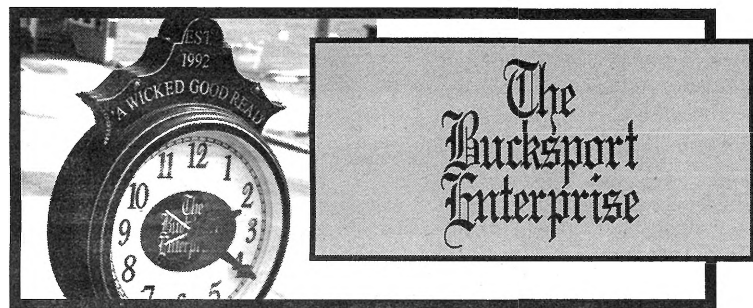
While Congress remains logjammed about whether to allocate still more trillions of dollars this nation does not have, let's get on with allocating this already allocated and raised money first. Common sense and wisdom should prevail, not politicians looking toward the next election.

River Road safety

The railroad crossing and the oil tanker truck involved in Tuesday's accident did not cause the fatal encounter on River Road on Tuesday afternoon.

Still, it makes no sense for the railroad to continue to maintain a crossing on rail lines that no longer can carry trains because some of the critical links have been severed to garner some scrap metal. Yes, we know it is a big railroad and Bucksport is a small town, but keeping - and honoring these no-longer-needed crossings is dangerous to the motoring public. The town should act before there is yet another accident.

While on the subject, a note to the ya-hoos who gain a minute or two by passing traffic on the narrow River Road, even crossing double "no passing" lines to do so. Slow down, enjoy the ride . . . or leave home sooner.



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Don Houghton
Editor & Publisher

Sandy Holmes
General Manager

2022: As the town manager sees it

Here's the second and final section of Town Manager Susan M. Lessard's State of the Town report for 2021:

Operations, Programming, Staff and Other Stuff — In addition to work on specific goals and objectives in the community, the town has also done significant work on priorities established in prior years and town departments have continued work on improvements as well.

Here is a by-topic review of some of these:

Senior Citizens — The town continues to work on ways to improve the ability of our seniors to age in place in their own homes. As part of the AARP Age & Ability Plan adopted by the Town Council, the Town participated with AARP in creating a 'Dashboard' that is accessible from the Town website that identifies services available in this region. In addition, the council approved funding for a senior 'ride' program to provide rides to medical and dental appointments for seniors who do not qualify for medicare funding for this purpose. In addition, the town is working on implementation of the Neighbors Helping Neighbors program and continues to partner with Bucksport Bay Healthy Communities Coalition for the re-start of the Thriving In Place program.

Bill Foster continues to work on programming at the Senior Center and trips for seniors and it once again offers in-person dining for the Monday-Wednesday-Friday meals program. At our request, Downeast Community Partners has also expanded their monthly trip to Bangor program to also offer a monthly trip to Ellsworth.

Employee Safety — The town continues to have all departments qualified through the Maine Department of Labor SAFER program. The most recent inspection confirmed the fact that we do a good job of maintaining infrastructure, policies, and trainings to keep our employees safe. We are one of only 8 communities in the state (as of 2 years ago) that have all departments certified.

Spring Fountain — Dangerous Building — Despite the fact that an appeal is ongoing in the courts, the designation by the Town Council of the Spring Fountain as a dangerous building resulted in the relocation of many people whose health and safety were at risk given the significant health and safety issues present in the structure. Of particular note, this action likely saved the life of a veteran who had been living there for some time in very very substandard conditions. Town intervention helped him to get the services that he needed and deserved. The backlog in the court system due to covid has this situation dragging on much longer than anticipated, and unfortunately, in the time since the building was vacated the owner has had nothing done to remediate the safety issues that exist at the facility.

Recreation — During 2021, the council approved new equipment for the fitness facility at the Jewett School and replacement of filters at the Tim Emery Pool. Improvements were made at Ian's playground, and trail surface work was done by Public Works on the Miles Lane trails. The Tim Emery pool had nearly 6,000 pool visits during the season, the Y summer camp had its largest enrollment thus far, and additional youth sports programs are also seeing good enrollments.

Public Safety — Public Safety continues to update its policies and provided an update recently to the Town Council of items that had been accomplished as part of the strategic plan that it established several years ago. Addition of a K-9 to our program will provide needed assistance both in search and rescue but also in the ongoing problem with serious illegal drugs. The department has seen personnel changes in police, fire/ems, and dispatch over the past year due to a number of factors, but we have been fortunate to attract

qualified, dedicated replacement personnel. Dep. Chief Winchester has worked with the Bucksport Bay Healthy Communities Coalition to establish a Good Morning program which provides weekly calls to seniors and others who sign up for the program. The program is seeing good success and has provided follow up for those who were experiencing problems and needed assistance. Public Safety has taken over the establishment of a required training matrix and maintains the necessary training records for all town employees.

Insurance Inspections — The town has also continued to invest in vehicles, equipment, and safety equipment for police and fire/ems with a new rescue truck, cruisers, fire fighting gear, and an ambulance were approved at the December meeting of the Town Council.

Administration — The addition of our online GIS mapping has been a tremendous boost to our information system that is available to the public. In addition — staff is using it frequently as part of their planning efforts in their work. Our assessor has done a great job in getting this up and running and helping people with its use. With the retirement of Roxanne Clapper, Rachel Allen has taken on accounts payable duties and is doing a great job with the additional responsibilities. Cassi Allison is our 'new' front line counter person and she has done very well in learning all that goes with the job. This year's election was a robust one locally with six candidates and our Clerk Jacob Gran and his election workers did a great job with it. The candidates were all great too — and despite significant philosophical differences — all conducted themselves in a positive and cooperative manner. Considering what we see in other places and at other levels of government — I could not be more proud of Bucksport and its people. Our Code Officer has done a really good job of working with permit applicants and I have had zero complaints from the public on his work or his manner (other than the Spring Fountain).

Community and Economic Development — Our Director, Rich Rotella has done an amazing job of coordinating the fishing pier project, the retaining walls project, the marina floats replacement project, engineering related to the Town Dock project, addition of diesel to the marina, the website upgrade project, and working with other local groups such as Main Street Bucksport and the Bucksport Bay Business Coalition to support their work. Through his efforts the Town sold three more lots in the Heritage Business park and he has staffed a local committee advising the FOR/Maine contractor in regard to the 27 Main Street project. This is all in addition to the work he does to assist our local businesses, and oversee our waterfront. Rich is a high achiever but he has exceeded his own 'norm' this year with the number of grants and projects he has had in the works. The Town also sponsored a Make Bucksport Beautiful Day with free ice cream coupons for participants and is hosting the 6th Parade of Lights on Dec. 18.

Sewer Treatment — The council amended the Maine Water Co. contract to include total operation and oversight of the sewer treatment plant and collection system as of the retirement of the sole town employee at that facility in November. The cost does not exceed what the town was paying when it also had an employee and removes employee liability from the town. The solar array at the facility continues to offset approximately 30 percent of the cost of electricity at the plant and to perform as anticipated when the electrical generation numbers were estimated.

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OBITUARY

Thomas Willis Berry, 1941 - 2022

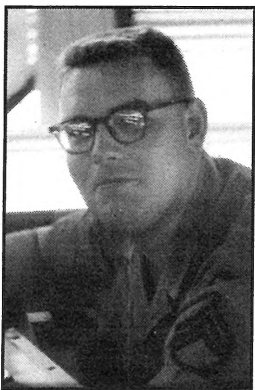
BUCKSPORT-Thomas Willis Berry died Jan. 12, 2022 after a life-long struggle with time.

He was born on the kitchen table in Clinton on Jan. 30, 1941 to Lois (Dumont) Berry Epstein and Hayden Russell Berry.

He spent his early years in Livermore Falls and later attended high school in Bucksport in the Class of 1960, where he found much success in athletics and met the future Mrs. Berry, Patricia Fellows.

After some time at UMaine at Farmington, Tom joined the U.S. Army, serving first at the Military Processing Station in Albany, NY, then at Bien Hoa Airfield in Vietnam. After a year overseas, the Army in its wisdom, sent him to Ft. Benjamin Harrison in Indianapolis, IN to learn the job he'd just done for a year in Vietnam! Not interested in more time in Southeast Asia, he left the Army and brought his family, now with a UMaine graduate and two young boys, back home to Bucksport, where his desire to have another baby he could know the entire time, came to fruition and his baby girl was born. Knowing that she would be expensive, he took a job at St. Regis Paper, where he would spend more than 30 years upsetting people who waited too long to have him schedule their vacations!

He was a marvelous gardener, loved the sea, reading, and anything to do with his children and grandchildren. After many heart-breaking years of devoted care-giving and the death of Patty, just shy of their 50th wedding anniversary, Tom reconnected with a childhood friend, Diana (Niles) Rowe, and have since proved that it is never too late to live happily ever after.



THOMAS WILLIS BERRY

Tom Berry is survived by his children and their spouses: Chris and Rayleen (Esther Tuck) Berry, Frank and Rebecca (Spooner) Berry and Jane (Berry) and Stephan Donnell. He is forever "Beepa" to his grandchildren: Thomas, Sarah, Jakob, Evan and Guinevere. Also, he leaves his loving wife, Diana and her daughters, Jennifer McGee and Kathy Lemieux and their families who welcomed Tom and all of his loved ones into their lives with open arms.

His children are forever grateful for these last few years of happiness and love that we know extended his life and filled his failing heart. And of course, he is missed by his special friend and nemesis, Bella B!

In accordance with Tom's wishes, there will be no formal services. He would ask that donations be made in his memory to: Bucksport Fire & Rescue Association, PO Box 1848, Bucksport, ME 04416. Our First Responders are the kindest, most compassionate people and they went above and beyond for him.

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

www.Mitchell-tweedie-young.com

- 2021 . . .As town manager saw it

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE.

The council also approved a review of the Town sewer user/rates to determine compliance with our existing ordinance and information on fiscal impact if changes were made. That report will be discussed after the beginning of the year. In looking at line needs - a portion of sewer line on Central Street will need to be replaced in the near future due to its condition and ongoing problems.

Public Works - In addition to their regular road maintenance duties, public works completed road edging on the Millvale Road where the reclaim/grade/pave was done as well as on the four miles of other paving that the town had done this year. The Town replaced its failing street sweeper in 2021 and that is used for multiple purposes - not just for public works but also after accidents for public safety and sewer/water road work. The department has also been very helpful with Marina and Town Dock projects not only related to installation and removal of floats - but also with storm-caused damages and the fishing pier project. We have also had a significant number of tree-removal projects in 2021 and they have assisted Big Jay's tree service with those that they were not able to remove themselves. MDOT has reached out to the Town and is in the process of reviewing whether Central Street should be classified as a local road as opposed to a State-Aid road. We are in the process of providing information related to the 5 criteria that is used to make that determination. If the State determines that Central Street should be classified as a local road, they would work with the community to bring it up to a better standard than current before doing so.

Marina & Town Dock - The marina has seen improvements in replacement of floats, increased wireless internet capacity for boaters, the addition of diesel fuel for boaters, installation of a heat pump in the marina building to allow year round use of the building, and the availability

of a van for transport. There is a waiting list for seasonal slips for 2022. At the Town Dock we had visits from many new recreational boaters in 2021 as well as having become a scheduled stop for American Cruise lines. Our waterfront is a big part of the future of the community and the Town Dock expansion project will make us an even more attractive location.

Community Outreach - We have tried hard this year to expand on our community outreach. We have not only done a survey for public input on use of the ARPA funding, we have also sent out mailers to encourage census participation, COVID 19 information, and cards with information on the Senior Rides program to doctors and dentists. In addition, we have increased our efforts on social media with the posting of all council agendas on Facebook as well as information on events, issues of concern, etc. As a result, we have had a significant increase in the number of contacts who are accessing our Facebook page. Also, the period of time in which the Council was meeting virtually only saw a large increase in the number of 'viewers' watching Council meetings via our townhall-streams site.

Community & Economic Development Director Rich Rotella will also be submitting a grant for the Town Dock expansion project this month.

This report does not identify all the good work being done by the employees and volunteers who serve the Town of Bucksport - but it is a good indication of the high level of effort being put forth by them all. With the supportive, consistent leadership provided by the Town Council we have been free to do the work necessary in a truly team environment. You are all to be commended for the good work you do in leading this community. As the manager who has the honor of being in charge of 'Team Bucksport',

Thank you all for this opportunity, and I look forward to 2022 and all that we can accomplish this year.

- Orland new fire truck ... on special Town Meeting agenda

The old engine remains available only for limited reserve status. The 2009 Engine 512 has been moved from reserve to the front line. Chief Robert Conary said the 2009 model is not truly suited to handle all of the tasks that were performed with Engine 511.

The now front-line engine was purchased in 2010 as a back-up.

The original plan was to

replace Engine 511 in a couple of years, and then use it as a back-up piece of apparatus. However, the problems with the pumper have changed all of that.

Over the past few months, the local firefighters looked at numerous options from refurbishment to purchasing a used unit.

They considered refurbishing costs for Engine 511 prohibitive. Used options are either too old,

too big to fit in the current station, or simply don't meet the department's needs. Grant money for new trucks has dried up, the fire chief said.

In reviewing new truck options, the department settled on a stock BX Pumper from Pierce Manufacturing as the preferred option.

A dealer brought one of the trucks to Orland, it fit inside the bay.

If the voters agree early next month, a truck will be completed and delivered in August, Conary reported. This Pierce Truck is comparable to Engine 511 (also built by Pierce), he added.

Orland fire calls

ORLAND - In the first 15 days of 2022 the Orland Fire Department has responded to five emergencies, including a highway accident, a carbon monoxide incident, power lines down, an assist for the Bucksport Ambulance, and mutual aid to Ellsworth.

The crew also spent several hours last weekend transferring key equipment from Engine 511 to Engine 512 and Rescue 581.

Engine 511 now is a reserve vehicle, and no longer a front-line truck.

Answering the alarms in Orland

ORLAND - After a New Year's Eve, the Orland Fire department had these numbers for 2021, a total of 115 calls for service.

The numbers are as follows:

- Building Fires - 9 (one in Orland, eight in Bucksport)
- Vehicle accidents with injuries - 16
- Vehicle accidents with property damage - 8

- Woods fires - 9
- Medical assists - 9
- Downed trees, powerlines - 11
- Dispatched and cancelled - 11
- Station coverage - 9
- Chimney fires - 3
- Other fires - 3
- Storm-related calls - 6
- Other calls - 21

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Bucksport
469-3177
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BUCKSPORT
469-2373

Astbury resigns school position

VERONA ISLAND – Citing personal concerns, Mary Astbury has resigned as the island's representative to the RSU 25 School Board.

The Verona Island selectmen will be asked to appoint someone to fill out the balance of Astbury's term, which expires in June.

In her resignation letter, Astbury praised the board and the staff of the RSU for their support and their strong efforts to provide good education for the region.

RSU 25 exploring energy deal

BUCKSPORT – The RSU 25 School Board on Tuesday held a tele-conference with a representative of Ameresco, the firm that is about to build a solar farm in the former logyard at the paper mill. The firm is proposing to offer discounts on 70 percent of the electricity now being consumed by the schools.

The solar energy firm wants the RSU to enter into a deal that, at least in theory, could save the school system some \$40,000-a-year-for each of the next 20 years. While there are many variables, including an annual adjustment in electric rates by a state agency which could significantly impact the numbers, the potential savings of \$800,000 has the board's attention. The panel agreed to keep talking. Ameresco will sell its solar-generated power to Central Maine Power (CMP), and CMP will market the solar incentive tax credits.

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Ellsworth, ME 04605
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Getting a lift! Councilor balks at hoist device

BUCKSPORT – Six of the seven town councilors already were sold on buying a 50-pound device that will hoist people weighing up to 500 pounds off the floor, but they watched the video demonstration anyway.

The seventh, Councilor James Morrison, watched, too, but when the votes were cast he was the lone "no" on purchasing the \$6,400 rescue device.

Sean Geagan, the public safety director, recommended the purchase, buttressing his appeal with numbers on the times (41, since July) police officers go to the aid of the two-person ambulance crews in moving patients to the vehicle.

Geagan even cited the case of a 483-pound patient who needed a lift earlier this month.

Then, Geagan clicked on the marketing video to show how a generously sized man was gently

lifted from the floor in less than minute.

Unfortunately someone's microphone was left on during the video, resulting in the narrator's voice to emerge with an echo effect throughout the playing of the tape.

The lift is intended to reduce the risk of injury to both the patients and those attending to them. In the end, Morrison was unmoved.

Several councilors even suggested the Public Safety Department also might want to add \$1,750 option to aid in lifting larger patients down or up flights of stairs. The purchase of the option went nowhere.

The town already has a couple of \$18,000 powered gurneys for lifting patients in and out of beds and ambulances. However, the paramedics have never had a small compact-but-powerful unit like the 50-pound IndeeLift Human Floor Lift.

– Prospect quarry

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Bowen Properties has applied for Maine Department of Environmental Protection permits to build a 50-acre mineral processing operation and the pier needed to transport the pulverized stone.

The 80,000 square-foot building would be built off Bowden Point Road. The 710-foot pier would extend into the Penobscot River off the northern shore of the road. It would include a drivable trestle, a series of cofferdams and a telescoping barge loading machine.

The company also is considering dredging in the river, which would require state and federal approvals.

The firm will need permits to show how it will curb contaminating the river, groundwater on-shore, and the quality of the air. It also needs to file a site plan review with the Town of

Prospect, and some lengthy documents apparently already been sent to the town. Those documents are to be available for public review.

The company also must seek a mining application from state regulators.

The Salmons firm plans to drill at least one well, and draw 50,000 gallons of groundwater

each day.

That has raised concerns from others who may be drawing from the same aquifer.

Big ideas surface in very small town

PROSPECT – This small community is no stranger to some very big ideas.

In 1914 Arthur House of Searsport came to town with grandiose ideas of opening a major wood processing operation to produce sterilized heating wood chips for shipment to Saudi Arabia and other nations in the Mideast. House even was going to develop a rail spur to take his products to the shore for shipment overseas. That plan soon died.

In fact, the history of Prospect shows it to have been built on what's under it: Lots and lots of granite and other rocks suitable for all sorts of things, including crushing.

The decades of quarrying continue, and the town continues to produce large quantities of crushed rock for projects across the region. Local quarries also still produce large blocks of granite that ultimately are used in all sorts of custom architectural projects, both public and private.

tion, and Concrete Hauling, Inc. All are registered to the family's location on Princess Anne Road in Virginia Beach.

According to Construction Journal, Salmons Inc currently has five active dredging projects. A number of years back the company paid several small fines as a result of reported violations of dredging regulations.

– Fees for events

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

While the town traditionally has budgeted for police, fire and other protective services for major public events, the town now finds itself dealing with some private, for-profit businesses who want to stage events here.

The committee of police, fire and other town officials was formed after the chamber of commerce, a not-for-profit group, folded and a new for-profit business was formed to stage events similar to those once sponsored by the chamber.

Town officials also have been approached by other private businesses who want to use town prop-

erty, and especially areas on the waterfront, for their activities.

The councilors are being asked if some event sponsors should be charged fees, such as those holding private events or those financially benefitting from the activities they hold on town property.

The Bucksport Business Coalition, a private firm operated by Teri Doty, is planning a series of events on the waterfront to commemorate the Fourth of July. Doty also has staged several other events, some of them benefitting local causes.

This & that in Bucksport

INFRASTRUCTURE – The Infrastructure Committee meeting next Thursday (1/27), at 6 p.m. will be held virtually.

BUDGET – Next Thursday's Town Council meeting will set dates for reviewing the 2022-2023 municipal budget. The budget will be done by early in May.

UNION TALKS – The Town has contract negotiations this year which the manager

wants to complete well before June 30.

CULVERTS – The Jacob Buck and Bucksmills culvert replacements are being bid this spring. The impact on travel will be coordinated to reduce inconveniences as much as possible. The third year of major town road projects will be put out to bid within a month for completion this summer. Impacted roadways will be Silver Lake

Road for reclaim/grade/pave; as well as Broadway and some other in-town streets. Our routine four miles of paving will also be included in this bid.

COVID TEST KITS – The Bucksport Bay Medical Center has received its first shipment of at home test kits. Some were given to the town for employee use.

Public Safety LOGS

Arrested

BUCKSPORT – Timothy Mello, 41, of Stockton Springs was arrested in a Main Street parking lot after it was determined he was wanted on two warrants. One warrant was for allegedly failing to heed a protective order. He was picked up about 5 p.m. last Friday (1/14).

Summonses

BUCKSPORT – These court summonses were issued

here recently:

- Bryce Basso, 16, of Orrington got a speeding ticket shortly before 2 p.m. on Saturday.
- Joshua Moon, 32, of Dover-Foxcroft was cited for allegedly driving on the River Road after his license either was suspended or revoked. He was stopped about 10 a.m. on Jan. 9.

Accident - Deer

BUCKSPORT – These motorists experienced run-ins with

deer on area roads:

- James Strout, 38, struck a deer while driving on the River Road about 10 p.m. on Jan. 9.

Accidents

BUCKSPORT – These roadway accidents were investigated:

- Vehicles being driven by Vanessa Boyce, 34, and Rachel Paulauskas, 44, both of Bucksport collided near the traffic lights on U.S. Route 1. The accident, about 1 p.m. last Friday (1/14) resulted in minor damage, police said.

• A minor accident involving the vehicles of Melissa Maynard, 54, of Orland and Brianne St. Peter, 32, of Bucksport occurred in the Hannaford Bros. supermarket lot off U.S. Route 1 about 8 a.m. on Friday (1/14). One of the vehicles reportedly was parked at the time.

• A vehicle being driven by Steven Poole, 33, off Bangor went off the River Road about half an hour after midnight on Jan. 10. A police officer still is investigating the situation.

• A vehicle being driven by Linda Hayman, 75, of Bucksport went off State Route 46 off the road about 4 p.m. on Jan. 9

Theft

BUCKSPORT – A credit card was reported stolen, and the card subsequently was used at the Hannaford Bros. supermarket here. The incident was reported about 2 p.m. on Jan. 10.

Lassoed?

• BUCKSPORT – The police recently have been called to round up errant sheep and cows, so why not a horse? That call came in about 7 a.m. Jan. 11.

Confiscated

BUCKSPORT – Something the police described as “contraband” was found on a school bus after it was parked on Miles Lane. The incident was reported about 8:30 last Thursday (1/13).

In an unrelated incident, a juvenile was found with marijuana at Bucksport High School early last Thursday (1/13) afternoon.

Missing anything?

BUCKSPORT – The Bucksport Police Department has a drawer filled with items that have been found at various places around town in recent weeks. Perhaps you’ll find your missing item at the Public Safety Building on Franklin Street.

People also can call 469-7951 to report lost or missing

Frankfort store target of hold-up

FRANKFORT – Wentworth’s store was held up shortly after 5 p.m. on Sunday by a man described as approximately 5’03”/130 lbs.

Waldo County deputies were unable to locate the suspect who escaped with an undisclosed amount of cash after furnishing a note making a demand.

No one was injured. Det./Sgt Merl Reed is seeking information from anyone who was been in the area of Route 1-A 1A and Loggin Road.

81 Main Street 207-702-9352

HUCKLEBERRIES
Card and Gift

Inventory Reduction Sale!

15% off all jigsaw puzzles

40% off all everyday greeting cards

40% off all 2022 calendars

Huckleberries Card and Gift will be closed from Jan 23 through March. The landlords are doing renovations to the building. Stock up now for all those birthday, anniversary, sympathy, get well and baby greeting cards that you will need between now and April.

January Hours Wed - Sat 10am to 4pm



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Events

Saturday, Jan. 29

• **REPUBLICANS**

CAUCUS - Bucksport, Orland, Penobscot and

Verona Island

Republicans will caucus

at 10 a.m. at the Orland

Community Center at

21 School House

Road. Those not

already registered to

vote are being asked to

arrive by 9:30 to sign

up. Among those

attending will be Peter

Lyford, the state

Senatorial candidate for

Bucksport and Sherman

Hutchins, the House

candidate for all four

towns as part of the lat-

est redistricting plan.

Sandi04472@gmail.co

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 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

Saturday, Jan. 22

• **BIG READ** - The

Ellsworth Public Library

will launch its National

Endowment for the Arts

Big Read program explor-

ing "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 con-

versation with the author

Registration is required at

[www.ellsworthlibrary.net/](http://www.ellsworthlibrary.net/calendar)

[calendar](http://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

Each Monday

• **BEYOND**

LABELS - A discussion

group meets each

Monday from 10 to

noon as a hybrid, on-

line and in-person pro-

gram. New members

are welcome to join the

round table discussion

of foreign, national and

state/local issues. .

Information about the

topics can be found at

<https://beyondlabels.ust>

iger.net/.

Each Tuesday

• **Salut! French** - A

French Conversation

group "Salut!" contin-

ues to meet each

Tuesday at 2 p.m.. All

are welcome to join

Library Director Rich

Boulet and Youth

Services Librarian

Claire Malina for week-

ly conversations via

Zoom. New topics are

posted on the library's

web calendar each

week

Each Thursday

• **CHECK MATES**

- All are welcome to

join the Blue Hill Chess

Enthusiasts every

Thursday from 5 to 8

p.m.. Players of all

experience levels are

welcome for friendly

games. Participants are

also invited to play with

the Blue Hill Chess

Enthusiasts anytime on-

line. Visit lichess.org

and search for the group

Blue Hill Chess Nuts to

join in.

Each Thursday

• **KNITTERS** of all

levels of ability are

invited to meet in the

library's Main Room

every Thursday from 6

to 8 p.m. All are wel-

come to sit by the fire-

place to work on knit-

ting projects, get help,

or even to start their

knitting journey. Kids

are welcome too!

Through

January

• **ART SHOW**, fea-

turing 7x7 prints by

Mary Barnes: prints

representing the seven

virtues and sins.

Through March

31

• **ART SHOW** - :

A Changeable

Landscape by Marcia

Stremlau: The show

includes artists books

and screens, inkstand

and watercolors.

In Brown Hall

Monday, Jan. 24

• **SCOTTISH**

DANCING resumes 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.

Wednesday, Jan.

26

• **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. 27

• **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.

COURTS

ELLSWORTH - These

cases involving Buc ksport-area

residents or incidents were

processed in Hancock County

courts here, according to the

official records:

• Gary W. Goodrich, 25,

Trenton. Domestic violence

assault at Penobscot, Jan. 1,

2018. Department of

Corrections 364 days. Domestic

violence criminal threatening at

Hancock, Jan. 1, 2018.

Dismissed. Domestic violence

assault at Hancock, Jan. 1,

2018. Department of

Corrections 364 days. Domestic

violence criminal threatening at

Hancock, Jan. 1, 2018.

Dismissed. Violating conditions

of release at Ellsworth, June 23,

2021. Department of

Corrections 12 months.

Violating protection from abuse

order at Ellsworth, June 23,

2021. Department of

Corrections 12 months.

Violating conditions of release

at Ellsworth, June 24, 2021.

Dismissed. Violating conditions

of release at Ellsworth, June 24,

2021. Department of

Corrections six months.

Violating protection from abuse

order at Ellsworth, June 25,

2021. Department of

Corrections 12 months.

Violating conditions of release

at Ellsworth, June 25, 2021.

Dismissed. Violating conditions

of release at Ellsworth, June 25,

2021. Department of

Corrections six months.

Violating protection from abuse

order at Ellsworth, June 29,

2021. Department of

Corrections 12 months.

Violating conditions of release

at Ellsworth, June 25, 2021.

Dismissed.

Senior Center

- MENUS -

BUCKSPORT - These

\$6 meals will be served at the

Bucksport Senior Center on

Outer Broadway and can be

ordered by anyone, regard-

less of age or income. The

meals can be reserved by

calling 469-3632 before 9

a.m. on the day of the lunch-

eon:

• 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.

• Sara Lynn Winters, 32,

Bucksport. Unlawful possession

of scheduled drug at Bucksport,

May 12, 2021. \$400.

• Travis Lloyd King, 43,

Bucksport. Unlawful possession

of scheduled drug at Bucksport,

May 12, 2021. \$400.

• Derek F. Conner, 34,

Bucksport. Operating vehicle

without license at Bucksport,

July 23, 2021. \$500.

• Clifton Dudley O'Neill IV,

42, Bucksport. Operating vehi-

cle without license at Bucksport,

July 17, 2021. \$150. Operating

vehicle without license at

Bucksport, July 29, 2021. \$150.

• Bethany Lynn Dimmock,

20, Prospect. Failure to stop,

remain, provide information at

Southwest Harbor, July 17,

2021. \$150.

• Daryl Earl Dejoy, 62,

Penobscot. Tampering with wit-

ness, informant, juror or victim

at Orland, Sept. 16, 2021.

Dismissed. Violating conditions

of release at Orland, Sept. 16,

2021. Jail 18 days.

• Abdualazize M. Younes,

18, Bucksport. Theft by unau-

thorized taking or transfer at

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