

# The Bucksport Enterprise

VOLUME 31 - NUMBER 7 FEBRUARY 17, 2022 • BUCKSP

\$1.00

## CARING, SHARING

BUCKSPORT – A rural route mail carrier here is about to embark on a great adventure: a climb of Mount Kilimanjaro in Africa (a height of 19,364 feet). And Kristyn Nordfors will be doing it with 21 other kidney donors. She donated one of hers to save the life of a 6-year-old Bangor boy.

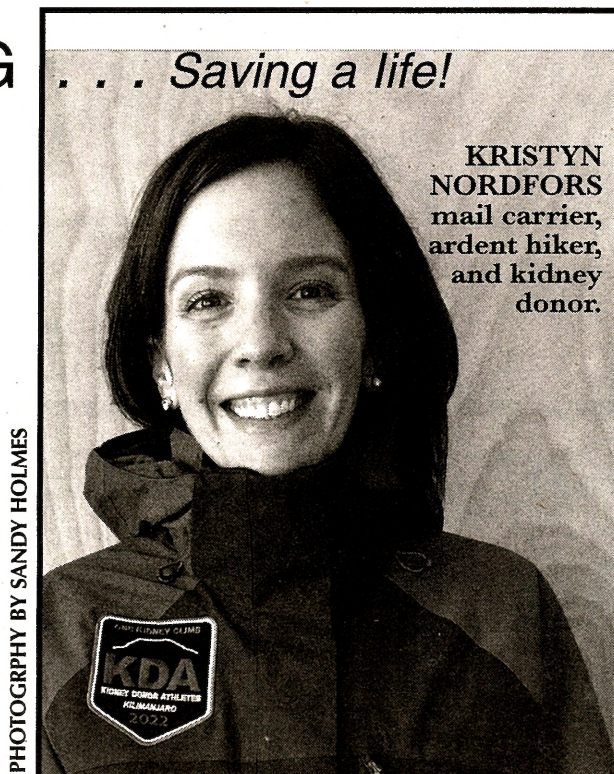
Nordfors is joining the kidney donors on the epic trek to call attention to the plight of those who desperately need kidneys donated.

The 39-year-old Brewer resident heard about the boy's plight on social media, and knew she and the boy shared the same blood type. After medical screening, she learned she not only was a good match, but she also has "superb kidneys."

She donated one of them on July 21, 2020 at the Maine Medical Center in Portland.

She is joining her fellow kidney donors on the climb in Tanzania, for she wants to share the joy, and encourage others to donate organs. "Others have amazing kidneys; the just don't know it yet", she said.

When she's not driving her River Road route, she loves hiking and, indeed, is passionate about it. She finds it helps her stay very healthy.



... Saving a life!

KRISTYN NORDFORS  
mail carrier,  
ardent hiker,  
and kidney  
donor.

PHOTOGRAPH BY SANDY HOLMES

## Councilors sidestepping mask issue

BUCKSPORT – The Town Council, in essence, tabled a request for a resolution supporting the continued wearing of masks, especially in public places and municipal buildings.

They indicated continued support for the Center for Disease Control guidelines, but stopped well short of voting for anything that would force the public to do anything as a result of the pandemic.

The councilors on Thursday (210) had just received a memo

from Carol Carew, the executive director of the Bucksport Regional Health Center, citing a falloff in the rate of positive Covid cases here. She urged tabling the resolution.

Jeannette Tardif of the Bucksport Bay Healthy Communities Coalition, politely disagreed, noting the number of cases had fallen from 145 in December to 101 last month.

"People in our community are in danger," she said.

## Teachers' contract data outlined

RSU 25, by far the largest employer in the Bucksport area, has begun talks with the local teacher union.

The goal: a new three-year pact in place before the current one runs out on June 30.

With 230 employees - 106 of them teachers - the district has 99 teachers paid with local money and another 7.3 paid with federal money. Of those individuals 78 are in the local union.

The negotiating routine is closely watched by many as a harbinger of what might be in store for other employees of the RSU which serves roughly 1,100

students.

This year the sudden surge in the national inflation rate and its impact on consumer prices could become a factor in the final settlement.

Salaries and the related benefits account for 73.6 percent of the annual amount spent on education locally.

Going into the talks the starting salary for teachers with a bachelor's degree in 2021-2022 is \$37,000-a-year, plus benefits.

Those who have a master's degree, get a little more.

Annual step increases raise the annual pay to \$60,627 to

\$67,839, again plus benefits but only after completing a 26-step process.

Meanwhile, administrators' salaries and benefits account for 5.8 percent of RSU 25's payroll expense.

(NOTE: Not included in the number of employees are the substitutes and subs and coaches).

The School Board expects to have a new contract in place in time for including the exact numbers in the 2022-2023 budget. Those numbers must be affirmed at a public hearing and then confirmed by votes in the four RSU member towns.

## Town sets goals

BUCKSPORT – The Town Council has begun setting its goals for the year ahead, and there was near unanimity as they toted up their list for 2022-2023.

There were few surprises as the first pass at the list of goals and objectives began being placed on the list, but there were some notes of caution about the town's ability to continue to hold the down the town's tax rate. Town Manager Susan M. Lessard observed that while the rate has held even, there has been only minimal growth in the value of new properties being added to the tax rolls. She also cited that, like everyone knows, the price of just about everything is escalating.

Mayor Peter L. Stewart, however, reiterated the annual pledge to keep Bucksport "a full-service community" and keep investing in the essential services and the personnel who deliver them.

There was no mention, however, of what the Town Council plans to do with any significant sums from the roughly \$500,000 in federal Covid-compensating money. The rules for the possible uses have been relaxed, allowing the councilors more latitude in how they opt to spend that extra cash over the next two to three years.

PLEASE SEE GOALS, PAGE 5.

## 'Branding' Bucksport?

BUCKSPORT – The members of Bucksport's Community and Economic Development Committee spent the bulk of their meeting on Tuesday trying to decide how best to present Bucksport to the world.

The town is about to embark on a major "branding" and marketing campaign for the community, but it's still unclear what image that campaign should be aimed at promoting.

The ideas ranged from previously explored themes: from the town's sometimes macabre folklore focused on things such as the murder of Sarah Weare and the odd leg-like image on the monument to Jonathan Buck, one of the town's founders. Others suggested building on the more more upbeat familiar idea of boosting traditional "Buck Pride."

PLEASE SEE BRANDING, PAGE 5.

BUCKSPORT – Yes, flick fans, The Alamo - dark for months will come alive again.

The screen will be illuminated on Friday, Feb. 26, for, well, what else, a preview of coming attractions.

From 5 to 7 p.m. the landmark will be open once again with free popcorn for everyone. So munch away during a showing of some trailers of the films coming up in the weeks ahead.

Then, on Friday, March 4, the theater will reopen with its regular weekend fare.

The staff is anxious to get back to the business of entertaining patrons while also showing off some

improvements that have been made during the period the theater has been dark.

Jane Donnell reported that the theater's staff has been monitoring the Covid statistics virtually daily, but now has decided the place can be safely reopened. "Still, she said, we do ask that you wear a mask when you are not seated and eating and drinking all of the wonderful treats at our concession stand."

Some also may celebrate the gala event by buying a glass or two of wine as they once again indulge in what not long ago was common: a night at the movies.

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

• **FOOD & THOUGHT** – From now through May, Main Street Bucksport and Brown Hall are co-sponsoring "livesWELL," Using a Maine Community Foundation grant, Main Street Bucksport will lease the Elm Street Congregational Church's kitchen for training and four free community events. One of the meals may be for veterans and their families, although the details are still being worked out.

RSU 25 going solar? – The RSU 25 School Board held a closed door follow-up session to discuss whether to work with the developer of a Bucksport solar farm. The schools would take up to 75 percent of its

electrical energy over the next 20 years from the grid to be fed by the solar farm being built by an Ameresco affiliate near the former paper mill's bark dump off the River Road.

ANY VOLUNTEERS? – The Town of Bucksport is seeking people to fill vacancies on the Planning Board, the Board of Assessment Review and the Conservation Committee. All three seats on the assessment review panel now are open.

To apply check out the application forms on the town's website and submit one to Town Clerk, Jacob Gran.

SEEKING CASH – The Great Pond Mountain Conservation Trust is about to mount a capital campaign to raise money for its continuing land conservation efforts. The not-for-profit group operates the Wilslands and other conservation sites in the area..

PAY UP, or pay a penalty – In Orland the second half of local tax bills is due at the tax collector's office by March 31.

PLEASE SEE IN WORKS, PAGE 2

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 <p><b>92 Canary Way Orland</b></p> <p><b>\$250,000</b> <b>Dan Burpee</b> <b>207-735-5337</b></p>	 <p><b>Bucksport</b>- Beautiful 83 acre lakefront parcel w/1530 feet of breathtaking frontage on Long Pond. Build your dream home with panoramic views of captivating water &amp; rolling mountains with wooded privacy. Yours alone or possible subdivision, family compound. Rare lakefront opportunity! Bucksport is a vibrant coastal town with walking trails, a riverwalk, downtown shops and restaurants. Only 45 minutes from Acadia National Park /Bar Harbor and only 1/2 hour from Bangor, Belfast, Ellsworth &amp; Blue Hill. A special place for the Maine experience!</p> <p><b>\$249,900</b> <b>Kathy Coogan</b> <b>207-632-5246</b></p>	 <p><b>Beat the Spring Rush!</b></p>	 <p><b>Verona Island</b>- Prime Verona Island waterfront lot with 2.32 surveyed acres and 326' of frontage on the Penobscot River. This lot features a rolling field with trees &amp; NE facing water views. Access via private driveway off Maple Street w/possible public sewer connection nearby. A great location centrally located between Belfast, Bangor &amp; Ellsworth.</p> <p><b>\$159,900</b> <b>Dan Burpee</b> <b>207-735-5337</b></p>	 <p><b>Bucksport</b>- Ready to build lot with paved driveway, recently planted fruit trees, lilacs, herbs and bulbs on the partially cleared . 2.03 acer lot offers elevated views of Long pond. Centrally located to Bangor or Brewer.</p> <p><b>\$50,000</b> <b>Mike Roy</b> <b>207-266-8999</b></p>

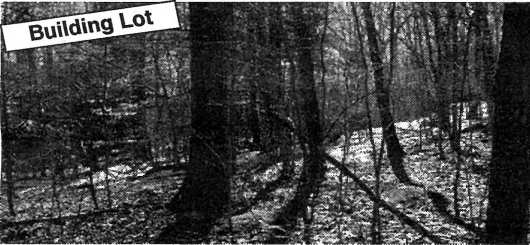


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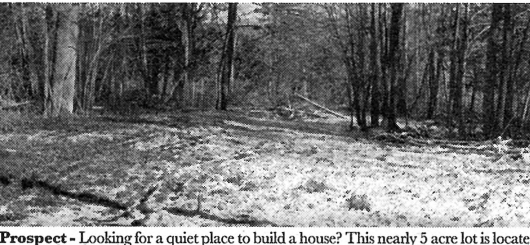
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Mark Eastman, Wendy Carpenter & Lorrinda Connolly




**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.  
**Listing Agent: Wendy Carpenter** **\$79,000**



**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!  
**Listing Agent: Mark Eastman** **\$35,700**



**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!  
**Listing Agent: Mark Eastman** **\$49,900**



**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 5 miles from either the Jacob Buck Ford 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!  
**Listing Agent: Lorrinda Connolly** **\$29,000**

## – IN THE WORKS . . . Continued

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1.

**MORE DETAILS** – Watch for an amended application to stage the planned four-day Fourth of July weekend of events here. Town officials, including those responsible for public safety, have asked the owner of the private company staging the weekend to be more specific about the preparations. Once amended and reviewed by town employees, the application will go to the Town Council for a final decision.

Meanwhile, the issue of whether the town will begin charging for security and other services provided to such events has yet to be resolved. The councilors generally don't want to discourage not-for-profit groups, but must decide whether those staged for profit should pay for police and fire services being rendered.

**DAY CARE** – The continu-

ing shortage of day care centers in this area has drawn the attention of the community and economic development director. Richard Rotella this week told the town's development panel he's working with officials of the Bucksport Child Care Center on Miles Lane in an effort to find money to help the not-for-profit better serve the community. However, as yet he has not found a government financing program for which the town is qualified.

Rotella also reported he will work with anyone who wants to pursue the idea of opening a privately run center. The demand for day care services is huge in this area, he said.

**GOOD-BY ZOOM!** – The Town Council and other municipal panels are expecting to return to meeting in person, ending the sessions held via Zoom.

# The Bucksport Enterprise

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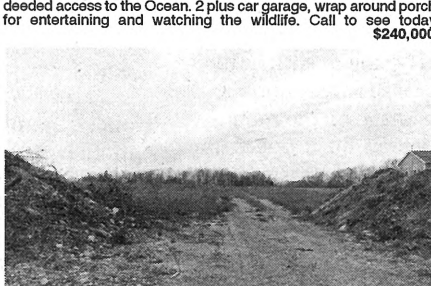
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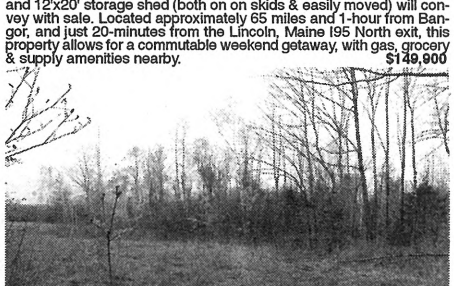
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**\$55,000**



**Lee Water**-lovers take notice! This secluded, 4.74-acre dead-end lot offers +/-200 feet of waterfrontage on spring-fed, Weir Pond in Lee, Maine and is the perfect destination for much needed rest & relaxation. Outdoor enthusiasts will enjoy trout fishing, paddling & hiking as well as direct access to ATV & snowmobile trails. The property has 2 access points and is ready for construction - partially cleared with installed well & septic design available. A 10'x14' fully furnished cabin and 12'x20' storage shed (both on on skids & easily moved) will convey with sale. Located approximately 65 miles and 1-hour from Bangor, and just 20-minutes from the Lincoln, Maine 195 North exit, this property allows for a commutable weekend getaway, with gas, grocery & supply amenities nearby.  
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**Hampden**: Looking for a building lot in Hampden? Lots range from 2 acres to 5.61 acres. Audrey Estates will make a great place for your new home! Act quickly, these will sell fast for these prices!  
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## FRIENDS & FAMILY

### NO BARKING! NO BITING! –

**Axel**, the **Police Department's** new canine, was extremely well-behaved during his Zoom appearance before the Town Council last Thursday (2/10).

Joined by his handler, Officer **Matthew Schmidt**, at the Public Safety Committee, the dog was welcomed electronically over a Zoom network with each of councilors.

His appearance led **Mayor Peter Stewart**, to ask Schmidt if he had been bitten by the dog, and Schmidt quickly replied, "No"

That resulted in Stewart's recollection of his first day of canine duty with a German shepherd while serving as a Maine State trooper. Stewart got bit by the German shepherd on his very first day.

Still, he bonded with the dog, and went on to serve with canines on patrols for another dozen years.

### ON THE STAFF – The Castine

**Historical Society** has added two people to its staff.

**Jules Thomson** is the collections manager succeeding former curator Paige Lilly, who continues at the Historical Society as a part-time archival consultant through June 2022. Thomson worked at the Congregational Library and Archives in Boston.

### NEW HEADQUARTERS – The

**Great Pond Mountain Conservation Trust** is moving its office from U.S. Route 1 to become the new neighbor in the Brown Hall Community Center on Elm Street.

The not-for-profit conservation agency, that owns and operates the Wildlands in East Orland, has other preservation properties and will be in the office next to that of the church's executive assistant.

**RSU 25** – These personnel appointments were ratified by the **RSU 25 School**

### Board this week:

- **Emma Bennett**, fourth grade teacher at the Miles Lane School.
- **Kimberly Hills**, educational Tech. I in the special education program.
- **Brianne Linvelof**, educational tech. I
- **Mike Carrier**, varsity softball coach at Bucksport High School.
- **Richard Rotella**, junior varsity softball coach at Bucksport High School.
- **Tyler Pye**, junior varsity baseball coach
- **Matt Morrison**, head coach for outdoor track at the high school.
- **Jon Geagan**, assistant coach for outdoor track
- **Mike Garcelon**, assistant coach outdoor track at the high school.
- **Cory Bires**, and **Ralph Hosford**, volunteers with high school softball program.

**JUST GETTING THERE!** – A front page article about Bucksport rural route mail deliverer **Kristyn Nordfors** recounts her plan to join other kidney donors in a trek up Mount Kilimanjaro in Africa. However, that's

only part of the odyssey. On Friday, Feb. 28, she will fly from Bangor to Boston, which she will meet with two of the other climbers, one from Vermont and one from New Hampshire.

The three women then will board a flight to Qatar. That's a 13-hour jaunt. Then, after eight hours on the ground, it's back in the air for a six-hour flight to Tanzania, where they will meet the other 19 kidney donors making the climb.

Their goal: reaching the summit on March 10, which just happens to be World Kidney Day.

Folks around the world will hear daily reports of their efforts throughout the ascent. Then, it's back to the airlines for the many hours long ride home.

While Kilimanjaro will be Nordfors' first climb "at altitude," she also is working on mastering every New England peak above 4,000 feet. So far, she's knocked off 25 of the 57 mountains on her list.

However, just coping with drivers on her River Road mail run can be "a daily adventure," she said.

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# Bucksport's 'brand'

Unlike soap powder and made-for-TV pillows, marketing a community is far more complex. When it comes to capsulizing a diverse group of people who have opted to live and flourish in the same place, the whole is much greater than the sum of its parts.

The public relations/marketing gurus can uncork catch fancy phrases and slick brochures like hiccups, but putting Bucksport in a bottle and calling it an elixir just isn't that simple.

## EDITORIALS

We suspect a photo of our public safety and highway crews with all the personnel and gear under the headline: "Looking for a safe, affordable, friendly place to live or retire?" just might do the trick.

Add a clipping from the *Enterprise*, the one detailing the UPS man who was attacked by a flock of marauding chickens and the headline: "Crime wave!", and Bucksport's story starts to tell itself.

A very tiny "teaser" ad in the *Boston Globe* or the New York Times with a telephone number that connects the caller with a real human being is a start. That locally savvy person will assess the caller's wants, needs, concerns and background, then put them in touch with a very real, equally savvy Bucksport resident who understands those concerns. Then, send the caller that intentionally not-so-slick brochure, preferably with a hand-written note. Unlike fund-raising, it's called, "friend-raising". Who are you going to trust: the beaming PR person or your new found Bucksport friend?

## A reasonable review

The local public safety authorities are right to request a lot more details in how the planned four-day Fourth of July weekend festivities are to be staged here.

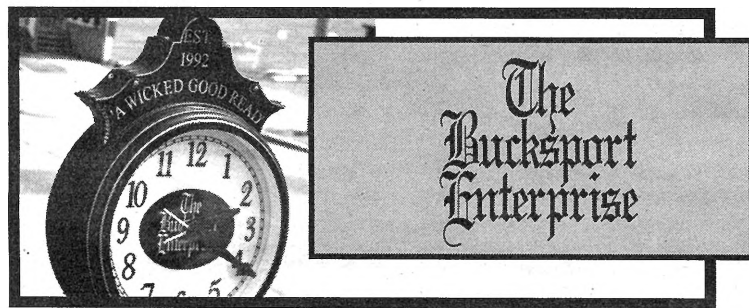
While the long weekend of events, including a fireworks show, sounds like a boffo event, it also sounds like one that will attract a lot of people to the town. Like the annual late-summer Bucksport Bay Festival that preceded it, this mid-summer program could require an all-hands-on-deck public approach to assure that all of the public safety personnel and gear are in place to assure a secure, family friendly environment.

The chamber of commerce-sponsored festivals in recent years were confined to a single downtown site but the proposed weekend includes multiple venues. These include sites downtown, the Reggie Ginn Field, and, importantly, a carnival with amusement rides in the parking lot of the former paper mill off River Road.

While that's not a bad thing, it certainly compounds the safety staffing, especially if those personnel are needed at more than one of the sites at the same time.

The Bucksport Business Coalition LLC application was submitted weeks ago, then withdrawn, revised and submitted again. Now, it's been withdrawn again and will be re-submitted for yet another safety review. Eventually it will go before the Town Council for the final decision.

We support all things that support the town, and certainly welcome the fresh approach to marking an important national holiday that's gone unheralded here for decades. Still, the council must weigh the public value of the events, and be wary of spending tax dollars on events aimed at generating profits for private businesses or individuals.



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Don Houghton  
Editor & Publisher

Sandy Holmes  
General Manager

## LETTERS . . . to the editor

### Selective silence, amid selective political language

To the Editor:

How disgraceful it was to read the Letter to the Editor of a clergyman, (and I use that term loosely) entitled "Silent Republicans?" printed in the Feb. 3 edition of the *Enterprise*.

For some reason, Democrats are still foaming at the mouth over the events that took place more than 13 months ago on Jan. 6, 2021. To be clear, one person was killed in the District of Columbia that day — a Trump-supporting woman by the name of Ashli Babbitt — who was gunned down in cold blood by a police officer.

The writer goes on to denounce our local Republican representatives for not condemning "domestic terrorism" (again, we're talking loose terms here), and praises the clean-handed Democrats for continuing to push the fear-mongering agenda that is Joe Biden's presidency.

I ask the Reverend, where do these Democrats that you speak so highly of stand on matters such as the sanctity of marriage — which the Bible clearly defines as a holy covenant before God between man and woman? How about abortion — which the Bible clearly instructs that the murdering of other human beings is expressly forbidden? I bet those deplorable Republicans that you mention align themselves more closely to the teachings of scripture than those faultless Democrats — what do you think?

An insurrection can be defined as "a violent uprising against an authority." There's no greater authority in the universe than God Himself. The real insurrection in our world today is liberal congregational leaders distorting God's Word to push their moonbat agenda.

Calvin Ray  
Bucksport

### This is not party time!

To the Editor:

As a Vietnam veteran I have seen a few letters in the *Enterprise* since the 6th of January 2021 some on one side and some on the other.

Over a year has passed since then and the country is still ripping itself apart.

Politicians have their priorities all out of order, they seem to think of themselves first, their party second the country third and then finally the people. The people are the ones that put them there. As far as the first part thinking of themselves this is sort of normal human nature. But the other three are all wrong. The Democrats and Republicans are both as good or as bad as each other. All I see politicians doing is taking credit for good things but never accepting the blame for bad things that they voted for and go wrong, that's when they start the blame game on each other.

I was shocked to see what happened at my country's Capitol on that January day. Ashamed to think that Americans would do things like that to their country. I think that people watched a different station when this insurrection/riot was occurring. Some people think it was just another day at the Capitol with tourist coming in and nothing happened.

Others think it was a riot and out of control.

For someone to say that it was just a normal day baffles me. To say police officers were opening doors and allowing the mob in is a bit confusing when I see video of a police officer being crushed as a door is being closed and he is screaming and begging for his life, I see police officers being beaten with poles and the worst part is an American flag was attached to some of those poles.

As far as the killings that took place let's just say some people were lucky that more did not occur. If someone is breaking into my house through the window I am going to prevent them from entering with all the force that is needed.

Many of those offices feared for their lives and they were right. When you have a mob doing what happened there you better be afraid since that mob is even looking to lynch the Vice President.

We have what we call political parties, and to most of them politicians that's all it seems to be just a giant party, but with scary outcomes, they want control. They argue and bicker across the whole spectrum and in most cases it's because it's what the party wanted, not that politician or the people that they represent.

I am neither party I am independent I do not

vote a party line just because someone else picks a candidate for me. I read about the candidate and see what they have to say and weigh it all together, if the candidate is democrat or republican then so be it, but it is a choice I made not my party.

Let's unite people, remember we are all Americans "we, the people"

Joe Ruddock

### Handicapped spaces are for handicapped

To the Editor:

Handicapped or Lazy? That's the question here...

It truly amazes me the laziness and carelessness of people at times. This happens all over,

But where I live in the Bucksport area, it is where I see this a great deal. Especially in our school parking lots, as well as other several locations in the area. What is it you ask that I speak of? Handicapped parking spaces.

I know that in order to get your driver's license you are required to take tests and understand the rules of the road, as well as have a basic understanding of the signs involved with transportation. So why is it that so many people play ignorance when it comes to those handicapped signs and logos? "I didn't see the blue and white sign that show handicapped parking only", or "I didn't see the painted lines on the parking lot because they were faded/snow and ice are covering them. We have all heard it or been given the excuses for why it should be okay for them to do it.

The funny part is, when you make a complaint or you bring the person's error to their attention, it isn't them showing remorse for their actions. It is them showing you attitude for pointing it out. Or, if it gets brought to the attention of the people who could do something about it, they show relatively no concern for the issue, because it is low on the issue list or just "too hard to enforce", is generally the response given.

In my case, I have a placard and the ability to park in those spaces and about 7 out of 10 times here in the Bucksport school district, I cannot park in those locations. Why? Not because they are parked in by drives with that authorization. No, I cannot park in them because they are blocked illegally by inconsiderate people. It does not matter the time of day, whether during busy drop off hours or "after hours". There is almost always a chance that someone will need to LEGALLY use one of these parking spaces for a legitimate disability or issue (and they WILL have a permanent or temporary placard signifying it)...not, "I was just gonna be real quick, "I just needed to drop this off", "it was after school hours at my kids' practice"...it doesn't matter...it is illegal to park there. It is a fineable offense. It is disrespectful to the people who NEED it.

I hope this letter brings some positive action to step up against this injustice and that the proper authorities of either the parking/building facilities or law enforcement start taking action against these ignorant people and start tighter properly educating them or enforcing the proper fine against the offender. Maybe then they will listen and act accordingly, instead of being ignorant.

By the way, a fine for illegally parking in a spot with a handicapped restriction in the state of Maine can vary, but is generally between \$200-\$500.

Thank you for reading and your concern,  
Matthew Johnson  
Orland



### We were wrong

ELLSWORTH — Last week's *Enterprise* incorrectly characterized the purpose of tonight's (2/7) Zoom meeting appearance by Secretary of State Shenna Bellows before the Hancock County Democrats..

Also, the same item incorrectly identified the party's candidate for the state Denate District 7 seat. On Friday, the Democrat caucus selected state Rep. Nicole Grohoski of Ellsworth as the nominee for that post. Grohoski will be introduced at tonight's session..



# OBITUARY

## Frances M. Gerry, 1937 - 2022

### BUCKSPORT/WINTERPORT

Frances M. Gerry, 84, died at the Cedar Ridge Center on Saturday, Feb. 5, 2022 with her loving family by her side.

She was born Feb. 13, 1937 in Castine, the daughter of Frank R. and Mary A. (Wardwell) Bemis.

Frances was very much a family woman, enjoying all aspects of her family, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren as well as any other child that came to visit. She enjoyed cooking and sharing her creations with family and friends. Her gingerbread and seafood chowder will be missed by many.

Frances was a jokester and loved pulling off pranks to entertain those around her. Most recently, a Playdough 'poop' joke at her assisted living facility. She was 'sassy' and quick witted. She loved people without judgement and anyone who met her felt this instantly.

Frances was generous and always had a large supply of gifts for guests at all times from the local pharmacy, Avon or the Schwann man.

Frances was a long-time member and weight recorder for the TOPS program in Bucksport. She worked at the Emples Knitting Mills for years until she found her true calling of caring for people. She became a certified nursing assistant (CNA) and for many years cared for sick people. Later she became a senior



Frances M. Gerry

driver driving seniors to appointments throughout the areas of Bucksport, Ellsworth and Bangor.

She was a lover of animals and always had at least one cat in her life. She always had a treat available in case a dog or a cat came by for a visit unexpectedly.

She is survived by her loving children; Candice Witham, Victoria George and husband Al, Donna Enright and fiancée Jimmy Ledbetter, Frank Norwood and wife Terry, Ralph Norwood and wife Brenda and David Norwood and wife Kath. She also leaves 21 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren; a brother Ronald Bemis and wife Bonnie; as well as many nieces and nephews.

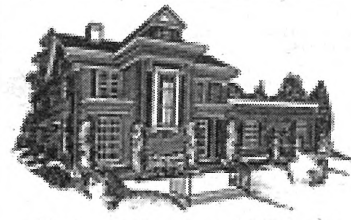
In addition to her parents Frances was predeceased by a sister Dorothy Bemis and a brother William Bemis.

In keeping with Frances's wishes there will be no formal services.

Those wishing to remember Frances may make a donation in her memory to the Bucksport Animal Shelter P.O. Box X Bucksport, ME 04416

Arrangements under the direction of Mitchell-Tweedie Funeral Home and Cremation Services in Bucksport.

• [www.mitchelltweedie-young.com](http://www.mitchelltweedie-young.com) •



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### Watch gasoline meters spin!

MAINE — The average gasoline prices in Maine have risen 3.1 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.48 a gallon today, according to GasBuddy.

The firm surveys 1,228 stations in Maine.

Prices in Maine are 9.2 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand 96.9 cents per gallon higher than a year ago.

The cheapest station in Maine was priced at \$3.29 a gallon yesterday, while the most expensive was \$3.75/g, a difference of 46.0 cents per gallon. The lowest price in the state yesterday was \$3.29/g while the highest was \$3.75/g, a difference of 46.0 cents per gallon.

The national average price

of gasoline has risen 4.6 cents per gallon in the past week, averaging \$3.4 a gallon today. The national average is up 16.5 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 97.2 cents per gallon higher than a year ago.

Data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country.

Historical gasoline prices in Maine and the national average going back ten years:

February 14, 2021: \$2.51/g (U.S. Average: \$2.50/g)

February 14, 2020: \$2.42/g (U.S. Average: \$2.43/g)

February 14, 2019: \$2.22/g (U.S. Average: \$2.30/g)

February 14, 2018: \$2.58/g (U.S. Average: \$2.55 a gallon.)

February 14, 2017: \$2.33/g

## — Bucksport's goals

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1.

Residents can expect"

- Some major improvements at the animal shelter off Central Street, with most of the council already supporting that idea and at least one or two even favoring the relocation of the shelter to some other site. The shelter has sparked some complaints about barking dogs from nearby residents.

- Councilors also put a possible dog park on the list "maybe" goals. Councilor Mark Eastman advanced that suggestion.

- The councilors want to see more bicycle racks, including some that already may be in storage, placed on Main Street.

- The two chargers for electric vehicles will be installed near the waterfront restrooms and Town Dock in the spring, or as soon as electrical power can be brought to that area to power them.

- Town Manager Susan Lessard again suggested the town consider working with the Bucksport Historical Society to house the group's collection in the former Masonic Hall on Franklin Street. That would free up the historic depot on Main Street for retail or other business use, she said.

- Staffing numbers recently presented to the Town Council by Deputy Fire Chief Michael Denning and new police numbers soon to be offered by Public Safety Director Sean Geagan were termed, "real eye-openers" by several councilors.

The issue they raise is finding adequate staffing when more than one emergency occurs simultaneously. The deputy chief also is concerned about the dwindling ranks of able-bodied call firefighters, and the inability of most fire departments to recruit replacements.

Those numbers could have a significant impact on the budgets in the years ahead, including the one for the year beginning July 1.

### When manager retires?

BUCKSPORT — Once again Town Councilor Paul Bissonnette urged his colleagues to begin thinking what they and the town should do when Town Manager Susan M. Lessard retires.

While Lessard has not publicly announced any plans to step aside, the councilors are keenly aware of the difficulties they and the town incurred when they began recruiting a replacement for Roger R. Raymond when he retired from the manager's post after more than two decades here.

While Raymond urged the councilors to act, the panel did not, and when it did it acted precipitously.

One manager was hired and after a time was let go. Then, the pattern was repeated again, until Lessard was hired to put the town and its finances on a steadier keel.

## — 'Branding' Bucksport

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1.

As the town prepares to work with an outside company to develop a marketing plan, including a new logo and "catch phrase" capturing the essence of the effort, the committee did appear to agree on one thing. Most indicated that it was important that any effort be targeted at local residents as well as visitors or those considering relocating here.

Richard Rotella, the town's community and economic development director, was asked to find out more data about those who have moved to this area

during the past couple of years. The goal: Learning what drew them to this area?

The wide-ranging discussion also underlined the continuing difficulty of maintaining a retail core in the town.

Town Councilor James Morrison suggested that those who turn left at the traffic lights now find themselves on what amounts to a dead-end drive toward the former mill. He and others suggested that perhaps more needs to be done to establish a business loop around the current business district, which includes all of the blocks from Main Street to Franklin Street.

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### Thank You

The family of Doris Ellis of Bucksport, Maine, would like to thank all who called, and prayed and sent cards, and helped Mom during her illness.

Thank you also to the Bucksport United Methodist Church, and Pastor Pete. Thank you and God Bless.

The family of  
Sharon Freilino  
& Brenda de Haven



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# Public Safety LOGS

## Child struck on Miles Lane

BUCKSPORT – A 5-year-old girl was struck by a vehicle on Miles Lane about 2:30 p.m. last Thursday (2/10).

The child was taken by ambulance to the Northern Light Eastern Maine Medical Center in Bangor for treatment of a foot injury.

The vehicle was being operated by Johanna Valenzuela, 37, who provided police with addresses in Bucksport and Ellsworth.

The police continue to ask motorists to use extra caution when driving on or near Miles Lane because of the three schools there.

## Arrest reported

BUCKSPORT – Brandy Mylen, 37, of Forsythe Avenue, Bucksport, was arrested as the result of a warrant. She was arrested about 5 p.m. on Feb. 6, and then taken to the Hancock County Jail in Ellsworth.

## Summonses

BUCKSPORT – These persons were issued court summonses:

• Mary Brown of Bangor and Blue Hill was issued a summons for allegedly transporting illegal drugs. The ticket was issued about 1 a.m. on Feb. 6. She was stopped while driving on U.S. Route 1.

• Joshua Moon, 43, of Surry received a summons for allegedly driving on Main Street about 10 p.m. on Feb. 9 after a license suspension.

## Accident - Deer

BUCKSPORT – These encounters with deer were reported:

• Shawn Allen, 27, of Bucksport struck a deer on State Route 46 about 5:15 p.m. on Feb. 7.

• Dylan Danforth, 21, of East Millinocket, encountered a deer about 7 p.m. on Saturday while driving on State Route 46.

## Accident - Other

BUCKSPORT – These other accidents were listed here last week:

• Two vehicles collided on Pine Street about 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 9.

The drivers were listed as Cameron Murphy, 28, of Tremont and Raphael Chapman, 26, of Orland.

• A vehicle slid out of a driveway and into the travel lane on the River Road about 11:45 p.m. on Feb. 8.

• A vehicle being driven by Aimee Cunningham, 57, of Bucksport slid off Central Street about 7 p.m. on Feb. 8.

• Four vehicles, including an 18-wheel log truck, a dump truck with a trailer and two other vehicles all slid off the same section of State Route 46 about 7 a.m. on Feb. 8. Despite the dramatic series of sliding vehicles there were no injuries.

## Package stolen

BUCKSPORT – A package containing merchandise value at \$270 was reported stolen from a Pine Street home. The incident was logged at about 7 a.m. on Friday. (2/11).

## 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 items.

## Rollover listed

ORLAND – Last Thursday (2/10), about 8:30 p.m., Eric Redman, 30, of Orland was driving on the Front Ridge Road south when an specified distraction caused him to lose control.

His vehicle hit a snowbank and rolled over onto its roof.

Mr. Redman was not injured but his vehicle had to be towed.

The Orland FireDepartment responded to the accident, which was investigated by Sheriff's Deputy Brian Archer.

## Youth treated

PENOBSCOT – A 17 year old youth was reported out of control, resulting in a visit from a deputy sheriff. The situation about 2 p.m. on Feb 6 was resolved, but involved a trip to the Blue Hill Hospital for treatment of a hand injury sustained by the youth during his assaultive behavior.

The youth was to speak with a counselor.

## Driver ticketed

CASTINE – About 9:30 a.m. on Feb. 8, Owen Smith, 22, of Gorham, reported he lost control of his car on the Castine Road and struck a utility pole.

Smith's car sustained major damage to the front end and the air bag deployed.

Smith, who was not injured, receive a summons for failing to report a crash by the quickest means.

## Take Out! Fish Fry Dinner ST. VINCENT de PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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## FISHING DERBY

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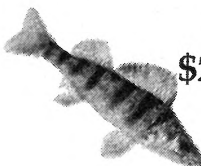
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**FREE-HELPING HANDS** - The Helping Hands Outreach group offers free, durable medical equipment on loan or, in some cases, donated to those in need. Anyone in

need of medical equipment or who would like to contribute medical equipment may contact the administrative office at Brown Hall at 469-3333. ufn

### FOR SALE - Firewood

**FIREWOOD** - Cut, split and delivered to Bucksport and nearby towns. Stubbs Family Firewood. 469-3725. ufn

### HELP OFFERED

**PRIVATE CARE** attendant looking for clients that need cleaning, cooking, shopping services or overnight care. Looking locally to Bar Harbor area - (207) 974-7802. 2/28

### HELP WANTED

**BUCKSPORTHOUSE OF PIZZA** is looking for counter help. Experience preferred, but willing to train right individuals. Email to [bhop@gmail.com](mailto:bhop@gmail.com) or stop in ufn

**STEPHEN MacARTHUR & Co.** hiring a skilled carpenter for year-round work with a friendly, flexible, professional outfit. Good character a must. Call 326-9612 to see if we are a good fit. Leave a clear message. 2/17

### STORAGE

**TODDY POND STOR-ALL** - Special rates. New, clean and well-maintained 5 by 5 or 10 by 20 foot, locked spaces. 469-6131 or 469-2482 for rates. ufn

### Orland decision being appealed

**ORLAND** - The Orland Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on the application by Stephen Najjar in regard to the appeal of the approval of the permit for Kamp K-9.

The appeal will be held on Thursday, March 3 at 7: p.m. at the Orland Town office.

### Charitable group can gain a grant

**CASTINE** - The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Castine is seeking 501(c)3 not-for-profit organizations to apply for a Deborah Pulliam Social Justice grant for 2022.

The Pulliam Social Justice Grants honors the memory of Deborah Pulliam, a longtime member of the Congregation and benefactor for social causes. Visit [uucastine.org/social-justice/](http://uucastine.org/social-justice/) or call 207-326-9083 for details.

### Town of Bucksport

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The Town of Bucksport is currently looking for residents who are willing to serve on various boards and committees. There are currently the following vacancies:

- Planning Board - 1 seat open
- Board of Assessment Review - 3 seats open
- Conservation Committee - 1 seat open

Those interested in serving in any of the above capacities should fill out an "Application for Appointment to a Board, Committee and/or Commission" (found on the Town's website under application forms) and submit it to Jacob Gran, Town Clerk, at [jgran@bucksportmaine.gov](mailto:jgran@bucksportmaine.gov), or by dropping the completed application off at the Town Office. Applicants will be considered until all open positions are filled.

02/17,24/22

### RSU 25 Full-Time Custodian

This position requires a working knowledge of custodial & maintenance equipment, materials & supplies used in school building maintenance.

Minimum qualifications:

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@ (207) 469-7311 [wayne.michaud@rsu25.org](mailto:wayne.michaud@rsu25.org)

Applications are available on line at [rsu25.org](http://rsu25.org)

Or at the office of  
Superintendent of Schools  
62 Mechanic Street  
Bucksport ME 04416  
(207)469-7311

Complete application packets should be submitted to the address above

OR emailed to:

[applications@rsu25.org](mailto:applications@rsu25.org)

Position to remain open until suitable candidate is found.

E.O.E.

02/17/22



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Public meal

**Saturday, Feb. 19**

• **FISH FRYIN'** – Council 5756 Knights of Columbus will be frying fish for another take-out fish fry. The full meal is \$10. Pick up your meal at 5p.m. at the Central street entrance. No pre-orders please.

## Public walk

**Friday, March 8**

• **BOW WOW AFFAIR?** – Bow-WOW! At 5 p.m. dogs and their human friends and family will gather at the Charles Brown Hall Community Center and adjoining town parking lots off Franklin Street for a moonlight stroll through town. The route - will be along Franklin to Mill to Main to Elm. Back at the parking lot there will be a warm snack for both the people and their pets. P.S. Cats are not welcome, for this is an all-doggie event.

## Brown Hall

**Thursday, Feb. 15**

• **BOOK TALK** – 7:15 to 8:30 p.m. the Book Talk group will discuss Wendell Berry's book of short stories, *Fidelity*. This month's story is "Pray Without Ceasing." A variety of teas and light refreshments are available. The discussion is in the Brown Hall Community Center meeting room. The Book Talk group meets on the third Tuesday of each month.

**Tuesday, March 8**

• **KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOR** – From 7:15 to 8:30 p.m. the Know Your Neighbor program will feature the award-winning robotics team from Bucksport High School. Coach Michael Gross will be guest.

**Tuesday, May 31**

• **Flash in the Pans**  
Waterfront Concert – Watch for further information in this column.

**Saturday, Aug. 13**

• **ANNUAL JUST FOR FUN TROMBONE CONCERT IS BACK!** – At 7 p.m., the 35th Annual concert will be held in the Sanctuary. This is a fundraiser for the historic organ's maintenance.

## Amid library shelves

### Buck Memorial Library

**Wed. and Thurs.**

• **STORY TIMES** – Children explore the world of books and stories each Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. and each Thursday at 4 p.m.

• **NEW HOURS** – The Buik Memorial Library now is open on Tuesdays from 10 to 4; each Wednesday from 10 to 4; each Thursday from 10 to 6; Fridays from 10 to 4; and on Saturdays from 10 to 2.

• **LIBRARY MONTH** – February has been designated as, "Love Your Library Month." Stop in, and see what the library can do for you, and what you can do for the library.

### Blue Hill Public Library

**Thursday, Feb. 34**

• **REMINISCING** – At 6:30 p.m., the library will host an event on Zoom to remember the late artist and storyteller, Ashley Bryan. Dick Kane and Rob Shetterly, who collaborated on the documentary, *I Know a Man...* Ashley Bryan, will present clips from the film, share their memories of working with

Mr. Bryan and take questions from the audience. Kane and Shetterly will also invite audience members to share their own memories of Mr. Bryan. Register to receive the Zoom link at [www.bhpl.net](http://www.bhpl.net) or call 374-5515.. ORE ontact Rich Boulet at [rboulet@bhpl.net](mailto:rboulet@bhpl.net).

## Tuesdays

• **JUST FOR KIDS** –

Online Storytime Children of all ages can participate in Online Storytime on Tuesdays any time after 10:30 a.m. Each week a new video will be uploaded to the library's YouTube channel (get link at <https://bhpl.libcal.com>) to share a story, sing songs and teach crafts. Videos will be available for one week.

## Wednesdays

• **PLAYIN' IN THE PARK** –

A preschool play group gathers at the Blue Hill Town Park every Wednesday from 1 to noon, weather permitting. Those up to five years of age and their caregivers are welcome. Join Youth Services Librarian Claire Malina for a variety of activities, games and play in the snow, with hot drinks provided for the adults. This is a great opportunity for families to make new connections while enjoying the outdoors.

## Thursdays

• **CHECK IT OUT** – The Youth Chess Club gathers each Thursday at 3 p.m. Kids of all ages are invited to the Blue Hill Library's Howard room to play chess. Learn, or just play the game.

## BUCKSPORT SENIOR CENTER

**BUCKSPORT** – Come to the Bucksport Senior Center and enjoy a delicious luncheon and gain a chance to win this beautiful quilt, hand-crafted by one of our talented friends of the center.

Each time you dine you earn an entry for the quilt or a chance to win the quilt. The winning entry will be drawn on Valentine's day.

## 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, Feb. 18** – Manicotti, dinner roll, salad and chocolate cream pie.

• **Monday, Feb. 21** – **NO MEAL**

• **Wednesday, Feb. 23** – Sliced turkey with gravy, mashed potato, mixed veg, cranberry sauce

• **Friday, Feb. 25** – Chicken tenders, french fries, carrots and bread pudding.

• **Monday, Feb 28** – Pork tenderloin w/gravy, mashed potato, snap peas and ice cream.



# WERU

## COMMUNITY RADIO 89.9

*Empowering and inspiring community  
by sharing music, information, and ideas.*

**89.9FM Blue Hill, Maine**

streaming at [weru.org](http://weru.org) & the WERU mobile app

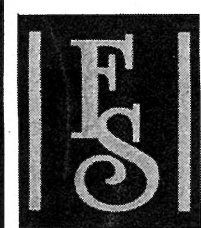
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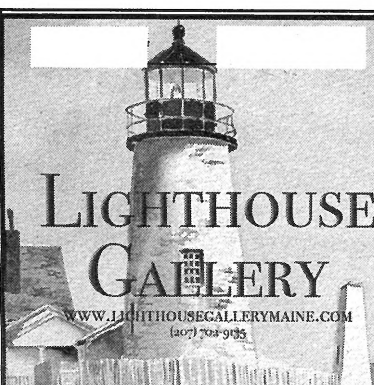
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**Financial Solutions**

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Bucksport, ME 04416



**Paintings - Jewelry  
Photography  
Woodworks - Fiber  
Arts - Furniture  
Classes**

Rent space for your monthly meetings or Events.  
Enjoy our Community Gathering Room!

**(207) 702-9135**

86 Main St., Bucksport  
10:00 to 4:00, Wed - Sat

## HONOR ROLL at ...

# Bucksport High School

Second Quarter Honor Roll – 2021/2022  
School Year

### Seniors

Highest Honors: William Bissonnette, Lauri Carter, Angelina Cotoni, Adam Damon, Willa Fox, Megan Gellerson, Emma Howard, Emily Keniston, Brianna Kircheis, Gabriel LeClair, Mikayla Pickoski, Johanna Stiles, Liam Swift, Emma Veilleux, Molly Wilson

High Honors: Kyle Cloutier, Jonathan Dimmock, Isaac Duke, Ty Giberson, Emily Hanscom, Hugh Jack, Zoey Johnson, Lili Lassale, Alyssa Maguire, Colin Simpson, Melisa Wortham

Honors: Ronald Bishop, Benjamin Branch, Jacob Brezovsky, Jacob Coghill, Katelynn Collins, Kevin Courtney, Grace DeBeck, Cody DuPont, Donald Eldridge, Mason Forrest, Emma Freeman, Tyler Hallett, Joshua Miller, Justine Moores, Trinidy Murch, Hunter Pearson-Ellis, Julia Porter, Cameron Rich, Shealynn Robshaw, Chloe Smith, Connor Smith, Sione Taungatua, Thomas Thompson, Kimberly Wilbur, Helaina Winslow

### Juniors:

Highest Honors: Emma Brezovsky, Theodore Holcomb, Ella Hosford, Mya Moran, Alex Newman-Hancock, Alexandra Pickering, Cooper Shorey, Lanie Stubbs, Hannah Varnum

High Honors: Garrett Carrier, Henry Foster, Alyx Frazell, Aleida Harvey, Abigail Hunt, Rustin Maguire, Meg Morrison, Mackayla Murphy, Cole Tetreault, Tyler West, Kaylee Whalen

Honors: Joseph Bowen, Connor Coombs, Emilie Coombs, Kaden Curtis, Brandon Elden, Kayden Foster, Kelsea Gaff, Malachi Gardiner-Botta, William Hatch, Ayda Holyoke, Haylee Jacobs, Timothy Marcel, Olivia McAllian, Spencer McDermott, Cody Monreal, Silas Moore, Harley Murray, Ella Orcutt, Aryah Quimby, Wynn Therrien, Isaiah Warren

### Sophomore:

Highest Honors: Amaise Allen, Elizah Clark, Evan Donnell, Rance LaPlant, Kieleigh Sands, Zoe Sikkell, Mercedes Taungatua

High Honors: Caden Blackwood, Naomi Bragg, Isabella Brown, Gage Bruns, Connor Epprecht, Nettie Fox, Brooke Gamble, Mackenzie Giroux, Corey Grant, Braden Gray, Kaylee Hallett, Michael Johnson, Glenn Keene, Ayden Maguire, Maya McCarthy, Natasha Monreal, Shaina Walsh, Emily Wardwell, Kamryn Webber

Honors: Guinevere Berry, Gunther Cyr, Samantha Cyr, Tristan Davis, Jacey Federico, Connor Fitch, William Gray, Kase Honders, Galen Lamothe, Brice Lindsay, Wyatt McHale, Maxwell McSharry, Haris Plavsic, Douglas Sahl, Kasandera Spencer, Dante St Peter, Jayden Tripp, Ethan Wolfe

### Freshmen

Highest Honors: Julianna Atherton, Paige Bowden, Monika Cutchens Firley, Braden Ellis, Brianna Grass, Veronica Gray-Berrios, Lindsey Grindle, Alexander Jameson, Ruby Pereira, Bo Provencher, Makenzie Rodriguez, Jetta Shook, Lily Therrien, Dylan Varney, Emily West, Garrett Whittaker

High Honors: Chloe Bratcher, Logan Coombs, Alia Cough, Christina Degiso, Nina Emery, Kaitlynn Flannery, Aidan Gillen, Blaine Gomm, Zachary Lubin, Zoey McGinty, Carly McHale, Maeve Palazzo, Aislyn Reardon, Jason Saunders, Natalie Simpson, Laycee Tweedie, Rylee VanScoy

Honors: Hunter Bennett, Hunter Berzini, Zane Carter, Nicholas Clair, Dylan Courtney, Brooke Elden, Abigail Farricker, Jakob Gatcomb, Brock Hanscom, Ronan-Lee Maguire, Makayla Miller, Halle Orcutt, Matthew Reedy, Christopher Tapley, Jason Terrill, Isa Trask, Xhaiden Tucker, Wyatt Weaver