NOVEMBER|DECEMBER 2026|NEWSLETTER



Biddeford Pool Community Center
President's Letter

As I often mention in my thank-you letters, the Center depends on the generosity of donors and volunteers, and we are fortunate to have both. I'm pleased to share that, as of October 25th, donations to the rebuild project have reached our initial goal of $40,000.

The building committee has authorized Brady Construction to replace the roof this fall and address the electrical issues this winter. Removing Thomas Edison's early wiring from the attic is only part of the work. At the Annual Meeting, the kitchen blew a fuse, revealing that the dishwasher, garbage disposer, and several outlets were all on the same circuit. Volunteers stepped in to wash dishes by hand, but the incident underscored the need for upgrades.

Although the fire escape staircase has been rebuilt, our wish list still includes new kitchen wiring, new lighting, and painting for the second-floor hall ceiling. If you are considering a donation, please know it will support these important efforts to bring the Center up to date.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I extend a heartfelt thank-you to everyone who has donated.

Jim Oleson



******* UPCOMING EVENTS *******



A Visit to Turkey and Malasia
with
Karen & Ray Wieczoreck

Slide show and talk

Friday, November 13
6:00pm
2nd Floor BPCC



'Bufflehead' brownies with ice cream will be served.
Donations gladly accepted.

RSVP HERE

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BPCC Popcorn and a Movie

$5.00 donation

Popcorn and snacks available

2nd floor BPCC

BYOB

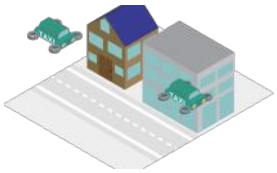
Sunday, November 15 at 4:00 pm

In memory of Dolly Parton. ***9 to 5*** (1980) is a comedy staring Dolly Parton, Jane Fonda, Lily Tomlin and Dabney Coleman. Nominated for an Oscar, this hilarious workplace satire with a great ensemble cast also features Dolly's hit song.

RSVP HERE

******* UPCOMING EVENTS *******

Urban Sketchers
with Diane Noble



Fridays 10:00am – 12pm
November 13
December 4, 18

If you love to draw or just want to try it out, join our group that will meet at different locations in downtown Biddeford or Saco.

Contact **Lori Beamon** direct at: **Beamonlori5@gmail.com** to be put on the list. You will an email with the meeting places every other week. Classes are **FREE**.

SAVE THE DATE!!

Saturday, December 19

BPCC Christmas Party

Thank you to *Megan Friel* and *Bailey Heffernan* who have volunteered to coordinate this event again!

RSVP HERE Early!

Fall / Holiday / Winter Watercolor Class for Beginners

Come join in the fun and tap into your creativity in this beginner watercolor painting workshop on **November 14**. Perhaps create some gifts for the holidays! *All materials will be provided.*

Tickets are $25/pp at the door to benefit Union Church Outreach Committee which donates proceeds to Seeds of Hope, Biddeford Food Pantry and more. Any questions, contact **Diane Beaulieu at dinobeau@gmail.com** or 207-468-6163.

RSVP by November 10 HERE



Toys & Coats Drive for Kids & Adults

In the spirit of the holidays, Hills Beach Association and BPCC will again be collecting ***new*** toys and coats for children along with ***new and/or lightly worn*** Coats for adults. New socks for adults are also needed. The collection will take place from ***December 2nd through the 15th***.

There will be boxes marked for the collection in the bins in the Library. Diane Noble and HBA members will be delivering toys to Biddeford Primary School and coats where needed, TBD.

The Library will be open **Thursdays 10 -12.** There may be other times for drop off posted.



Holiday Cookies 'To Go'

Thursday, December 10
Pick up in Library
10am - Noon

Don't miss the opportunity to order a box of yummy assorted homemade Holiday Cookies. The box includes a baker's dozen of a lovely assortment of cookies, boxed and wrapped in holiday ribbon for just **$15**. What a great gift for family, friends, and neighbors!

In 2025, this cookie sale raised $1000. Let's do it again!

Orders are due: **Monday, December 7th.**

Please click **HERE** to place your orders.

Or call **Eve** at 207-468-3253.

Cookie Baker's Wanted

If you like to bake cookies, we need your help!!
Contact **Eve**, to get the details and sign up to bake.

BPCC Popcorn and a Movie

$5.00 donation

Popcorn and snacks available

2nd floor BPCC

BYOB



Sunday

December 13

4:00pm

White Christmas is a 1954 Christmas musical starring Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye, Rosemary Clooney, and Vera-Ellen. Filmed in Technicolor, featuring the songs of Irving Berlin.

RSVP HERE

******* RETURNING IN 2027 *******



Native Plant Sale



This past May 2026, a few native plant enthusiasts launched a community initiative to raise awareness and promote the inclusion of native plants in our neighborhood gardens. Thanks to a dedicated team of volunteers, we curated a selection of 40 native species to be sold, and launched an online ordering portal to streamline purchases. The proceeds from this sale was to benefit the Biddeford Pool Community Center (BPCC) and Hills Beach Association (HBA).

The response from our coastal communities was overwhelmingly positive.

- **Funds Raised**: Over $2,000 for BPCC and $1,000 for HBA.
- **Impact:** 46 customers purchased a total of 558 native plants.

Building on this success, our team has begun planning the 2027 fundraiser with support from Pierson Nurseries. We will offer the most popular plants from last year and add several new species for your gardens. In addition, plans are in the works to offer new native plant workshops.

Thank you again to everyone who supported this initial effort! We look forward to working with you again! **Stay Tuned for More Information** about workshops and details about our ***Spring 2007 sale***.
On behalf of the Native Plants Fundraising Team, J David Thomson



Gather Here

with Pat Burke

The Community Center welcome's anyone who would like to come and sit for a cup of coffee or bring something to work on to make, sort, mend, or just chat in good company on Mondays.

Gather Here will not be held November and December

We will Gather again

January 25 and **February 22**
10:00am to 12:00pm
BPCC 2nd Floor.

RSVP HERE: Jan 25 **RSVP HERE:** Feb 22

Email Pat Burke at PatBB@biddefordpoolcommunitycenter.org
with any questions.

BPCC Book Club

The BPCC Book Club meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at the **BPCC Library, 1st Floor** at **4:30pm**.

The Book Club will NOT meet in November and December.
The next meeting will be ***January 20, 2027***.

NEW MEMBERS are always welcome!

RSVP HERE



What's New at the BPCC Library



🍁**WELCOME to Fall** and the spectacular display of the trees brilliant colors this year! As the weather becomes cooler and we may be inside our homes a bit more, why not stop by our library and pick up a good read or two!

As some of you know, the the first floor space is utilized for a variety of meetings/groups. When attending any of these activities, should you want to sign out a book, please do the following:

- *If there is a library volunteer present*, ask them to help you.
- *If no volunteer is present*, leave a note with:
  - Your name, address, or phone
  - Book title & author
  - Today's date

Recently added books:

The Pearl Thief / Fiona McIntosh
Country People / Daniel Mason
The Director / Daniel Kehlmann
Yesteryear / Caro Claire Burke
You Won't Get Free Of It / Rachel Aviv

Revenge Prey / John Sanford
Ironwood / Michael Connelly
Tara / Valerie Perrin
All Them Dogs/ Djamal White
American Hagwon/ Mia Jin Lee
The Savage,Noble Death of Babs Dionne / Ron Currie

Please return all borrowed material as you finish enjoying them.
Leave inside in the container next to the desk or deposit in the tub at the side entry.

Thank you 🤗, Sue Maccalous



Another Exciting Year for the Joan Beaudry Scholarship Award



With positive changes made to the guidelines for the JB Education Award in 2025, this year brought another excellent pool of candidates. Many thanks to Drs. Sheryl and George Talbot and Tracy Callahan for their generous donations. We hope the generosity of these individuals inspires you to support the education fund. Please consider pledging an annual donation or one time contribution to furthering the education of our local students and future leaders. We strongly believe this after having interviewed this year's candidates who want to make a difference in the world and the lives of others!

As a reminder, these guidelines were updated last year:

- The application deadline was moved from June 1st to July 1st
- Eligibility has been expanded beyond the children and grandchildren of BPCC members to include non-BPCC-affiliated students who are accepted to and will be attending an undergraduate, graduate, technical, or vocational school, provided they are working for the summer in the Biddeford coastal region.
- Applicants aged 27 or younger are eligible to apply (this now includes graduate students, those attending trade schools, etc).
- Multiple siblings may now apply concurrently during the same application cycle (with a maximum lifetime award limit of $6,000 per family).

As a result of these amendments, the **Education Committee proudly awarded six $1,000 scholarships this year** (contingent upon submission of proof of community service & fall transcript). In addition, **four $500 awards (totaling $2,000) were given to Biddeford High School** students majoring in Education.

This year also brought the retirement of Lamar Robinson from the Education Committee. Lamar's dedication, participation and sense of humor, for more than 14 years, will be greatly missed. Filling Lamar's seat, George Talbot will be make a wonderful addition to the committee.

Complete eligibility guidelines, application process and online application can be found on the **Joan Beaudry Memorial Education Award page** of the BPCC website. We encourage all qualified candidates to apply. Any questions can be directed to co-chairs Tracy Callahan gtfamily@comcast.net and Greg Tarbox gftbox@gmail.com.

PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING to the Education Fund TODAY!



Bridge Options at BPCC

Monday Drop in Bridge 1:00pm – 4:00pm

with Debbie Melican

Monday Drop In Bridge continues! Welcome!

Reminders: All levels are welcome, we generally play from 1 - 4 pm in the Library. A *$2.00 donation* is appreciated. While Monday is drop-in style, it is helpful to know if we have complete tables.

To be added to the Sunday email reminder list, please contact Debbie Melican - *burnsmelican@gmail.com.*

Wishing you a 4-club opener soon!

Bridge & Mah Jongg played on 1st Floor

Friday is Duplicate Bridge *with Carol Bassett*
1:00pm – 4:00pm
(or whenever all the cards are played)

Advanced sign-up is required so that we have full tables. ***Note:*** *this is fun duplicate, not a sanctioned game, no Master points awarded! We'd love to have you play bridge with us!*

A *$2.00 donation* is appreciated.

Contact: Carol Bassett at *cjobmaine@gmail.com to play.*





Mah Jongg at BPCC

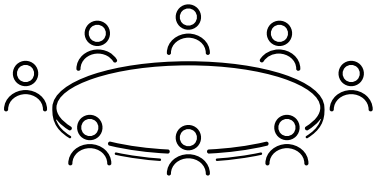
with *Lynne Cox*

Wednesday afternoons at 1:00 pm

Mah Jongg continues Wednesdays at 1:00 at the BPCC on Yates Street. It's a very friendly group and we welcome new players. We are looking forward to welcoming our "summer" players.

A *$2.00 donation* is appreciated. Any questions please let Lynne Cox know.

Email: *m.lynnecox@gmail.com*
Text: *978-807-2598.*



BPCC Board Meetings

Board meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at 4 pm. You are welcome to attend. Board Minutes may be found in the *Members Only* section of the website.

Center Rentals or other Requested Center Uses

contact Janet Gerding
membershipteam@
biddefordpoolcommunitycenter.org