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## The Official Newsletter of the Town of Stockton Springs

April 2022

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What does a small town do if they receive two 911 calls within minutes of each other, especially at a time when many small towns have no ambulance of their own at all? If that town is Stockton Springs, they handle it with no problem.

The picture above was taken at Waldo County General Hospital, where both of the town's ambulances arrived at the same time in the month of March.

There is more than mere happenstance in this picture. Through the work and foresight of the Ambulance Department's administration and crew, including Director Amy Drinkwater and Deputy Director Loren Cole, along with the Stockton Springs Select Board, and the faith and support of the townspeople at last year's Town Meeting, the second ambulance was saved from

being sold for scrap, was rehabilitated, and now is an essential part of the Stockton's daily EMS operations. This second ambulance is also responsible for many transports in our region of Waldo County, enabling the Ambulance Department to begin staffing the Ambulance Building on a more regular basis.

Many small towns throughout Maine are facing an ambulance crisis. In Stockton Springs we are blessed to have a department which, through hard work, willpower and dedication, is on the move.

The Town of Stockton Springs is very fortunate to work with the Town of Prospect on our ambulance. As can be seen in the picture above, Prospect's name is proudly next to our own name on those vehicles. Prospect has given financial support to the ambulance department since it began over 50 years ago, and in return we provide service to our neighbors there. People in small towns have to work together, as do the towns themselves. As evidenced in the picture above, Stockton Springs has an abundance of that cooperative spirit.

Just a reminder that Stockton Springs Ambulance Service is still looking for Drivers and EMS Licensed providers of all levels to apply for a position on the crew. We offer on-call and shift pay. We will also pay for training for licensure. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Ambulance Director Amy Drinkwater at [ambulance@stocktonsprings.org](mailto:ambulance@stocktonsprings.org).

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# SPRING CLEANING

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Birds are starting to chirp in the morning, and the sap buckets are hanging off the maple trees. Spring must truly be in the air because Stockton's streets and sidewalks have had their annual cleaning. Thank you to the Public Works crew as they transition from winter plowing to spring cleanup and maintenance (sometimes both in the same week).

# SPRING/FALL CLEAN-UP TOWN OF STOCKTON SPRINGS

Saturday, May 21, 2022  
(The third Saturday of October and May every year)  
7 A.M. Curbside

## Acceptable Items:

Metals and white goods, wood and furniture, floor coverings, and plastics. All items must be free of liquids, i.e.: petroleum, antifreeze, water, or oils. Any metal, for example: stoves, refrigerators and freezers (doors must be removed or secured), microwaves, toasters, vacuum cleaners, radios, speakers, blenders, washers, dryers, metal or plastic gutters and gutter pipes, tin, bed springs, box springs, frames, headboards, mattresses, bicycle frames. Wood: limited to one pile no bigger than 3ft x 3ft x 3ft and single pieces no longer than 3 feet. Stuffed chairs, couches, and other stuffed furniture, wood furniture, window frames with or without glass, porcelain (sinks, toilets, etc.) rugs, linoleum, plastic (toys, lawn furniture, garden hose, etc.)

## Unacceptable Items:

Sheetrock, asphalt shingles, televisions, propane bottles, brush, branches, garden or lawn debris.

Tires, though small quantities of rimless tires no bigger than 16" can be put out with trash on Fridays.

Televisions and computer monitors are not acceptable items for Spring/Fall Clean-Up, but they can be taken to the Town Garage on the last Saturday of each month from 9-noon for Universal Waste Drop Off Day.

Please have all items curbside, within 5 feet of the road surface, by 7A.M.

Questions? Call the Town Office at 567-3404 or

Pinkerton & Sons Disposal at 338-8330

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# RECYCLING TIP:

## COURTESY OF THE STOCKTON SPRINGS RECYCLING AND ENERGY CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Have you seen the night sky lately? Has your electric bill gone up? Do you know that night lighting attacks Brown Tail moths, whose lava destroys trees, especially oak trees? Do you know that the excessive night lighting is negatively affecting migrating birds? Consider lighting that is both energy-efficient and reflects down and outward over the ground. Help Stockton's environment thrive!

### Where Does Your Trash End Up?

On Wednesday, April 20, at 6:30 p.m., two days before Earth Day, EcoMaine will host a virtual program to educate citizens about why we should reduce, reuse, recycle and compost before placing items in the trash, and where your



trash ends up when you do throw it away. All ages are welcome.

Meeting Passcode: ecomaine

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# **STOCKTON'S NEWEST** **BOARD MEMBER**

Welcome aboard to Bonnie Jean Brooks, the newest member of the Stockton Springs Planning Board.

This is not Bonnie's first time at the municipal volunteer rodeo, having spent many years on the Board of Directors of RSU #20, the Stockton/Searsport school district. To summarize Bonnie's professional experience in one paragraph is impossible, but highlights would include service on what is now known as the President's Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities, giving testimony before the United States Congress, as well as being a recipient of the 2022 Maryann Hartman Award. Bonnie has spent a lifetime helping others in both her professional and personal life, and she continues to do so with her volunteer service on the Stockton Springs Planning Board.

Bonnie Jean Brooks joins the handful of other residents who volunteer to keep this a government of the people, by the people, and for the people.

# **BROADBAND NEWS**

## **The BROADBAND SPEED TEST**

Below is the web address for the internet speed test hosted by the State of Maine. Residents are asked to consider taking this test so that the internet connectivity rate for our town can be traced, which will aid in the application for broadband grants and funding. The test is quick and simple. Thank you for your time.

[www.maine.gov/connectme](http://www.maine.gov/connectme)

The Town of Stockton Springs is at the beginning stages of the broadband issue. Federal funding to help finance town-wide upgrades for broadband are now available, though this funding is expected to help only with the planning stages of any project the town might pursue.

Also, currently the Town of Winterport has asked Stockton, Prospect and Frankfort to join in a four-town agreement in which those towns would work together as each town pursued broadband. Stockton is currently waiting for delivery of a copy of the proposed agreement.

This ongoing issue will be updated in further issues of the Newsletter.

# LAST CALL FOR AARP TAX ASSISTANCE

The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) is offering a free tax-assistance program on Saturdays from February through April 9. The hours are 8:30 a.m. through 4:30 p.m. There will be three IRS-certified volunteer tax preparers able to service three families per hour. Masks are required, and social distancing will be observed.

For more information, or to set up an appointment, please contact Joel at 491-9441.

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## Tai Chi News

Tai Chi is currently offered virtually via Zoom twice a week during the fall and winter, on Tuesdays and Fridays from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. To sign up for classes, please call the Stockton Springs Community Library at 567-4147.

During the summer, Tai Chi was offered in-person at Stockton Harbor. That program was quite successful, and hopefully Tai Chi will return to the harbor as the weather warms.

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# BINGO

Come join the Stockton Springs Community Builders for their monthly BINGO games. The next session is Tuesday, April 12 from 5:30 to 7 p.m., on the basement level of the Stockton Springs Town Office. This is free and open to the public. There are “prizes!”

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# THE EASTER BUNNY'S VISIT

The Easter Bunny Parade will be different this year. Starting at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 16, The Bunny will parade up Cape Jellison from the Town Garage, and then down Main Street. The best place to see The Bunny is at the Town Office, where he will arrive after his parade. At the Town Office, the Easter Bunny will be available for fun and photos from 10-11 a.m., and will have a little basket of goodies for each child.

There may be changes to this route. Any changes, other information and updates about the parade can be found on the Stockton Springs Community Builders Facebook page.

# IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES AND INFORMATION

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There are two seats up for election this year: Select Board Member (three-year term), and Fire Chief (one-year term). Nomination papers are available on March 3 and are due back by the close of business on May 5, 2022.

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Election Day will be Tuesday, June 14, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on the basement level of the Stockton Springs Town Office.

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Town Meeting will be held at 9 a.m. on Saturday, June 18.

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The Town Office will be closed on Monday April 18, in observance of Patriots Day.

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The second half of real estate taxes are due April 19.

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Mooring Fees are due by April 30.

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# General Information:

The Stockton Springs Town Office is open Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Please visit our website at [www.stocktonsprings.org](http://www.stocktonsprings.org). Our phone number is 567-3404. Our fax number is 567-3710.

Trash is picked up every Friday. All trash should be curbside by 7:00 a.m.

Recycling is the second and fourth Thursday of each month. Please have recycling curbside by 7:00 a.m.

E-waste is the last Saturday of each month.

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Thank you for taking the time to read the Official Newsletter of the Town of Stockton Springs, Maine! If you know anyone who would like to subscribe to the newsletter, just have them send an email to [manager@stocktonsprings.org](mailto:manager@stocktonsprings.org).



This picture makes you wonder what the shipbuilders who populated Sandy Point Beach in the 1800's building wooden ships would think of the ships made of metal that travel those same waters today.

(Alternate Caption: It looks like our ship has come in...and then kept on going up the Penobscot!)