

# *The Brooksville Breeze*

*The Newsletter of Brooksville Friends & Neighbors*

*Spring 2009*



## *The Greenhouse Project—Shunning Winter's Chill*

JOAN MACCRACKEN

Green leafy lettuce, crunchy chard, tasty arugula in winter, grown in your own backyard—a dream, a possibility, a reality?



*Tony Ferrara's greenhouse on a wintry day.*



*Can you taste it? Fresh lettuce on March 13!*

There's a groundswell on the peninsula and particularly in Brooksville to create this reality for more of our citizens. It's the right time to be thinking of local foods for their freshness, safety, joy, and global efficiency. The Greenhouse Project has been busy, with Tony Ferrara, Tom Adamo, and Bob St. Peter leading the way.

Tony and his wife, Anne, moved to Brooksville year-round about six years ago after coming here for summers for many years to get away from the responsibility of teaching and the heat of Long Island, NY. They purchased land overlooking Snake Pond and built their home. Not long after that, Tony was stimulated to build a greenhouse after his initial small cold frame showed that the winter's chill could be shunned. Tony says his greenhouse now produces enough to feed several families in the spring and fall and enough for his family during the slow growth period of winter. He ponders, "Imagine if there were a proliferation of greenhouses in Brooksville and beyond, allowing people to grow more of their food locally and become less dependent on the big ag-tech system with its environmental and economic problems."

The nurturing and support of the Greenhouse Project came from several local activities including the initial conference entitled Community SELF Reliance (Shelter, Energy, Livelihood, Food) held in Blue Hill last spring with subsequent gatherings at the Reversing Falls Sanctuary.

*Continued on Page 2*

## The Greenhouse Project

(continued from Page 1)

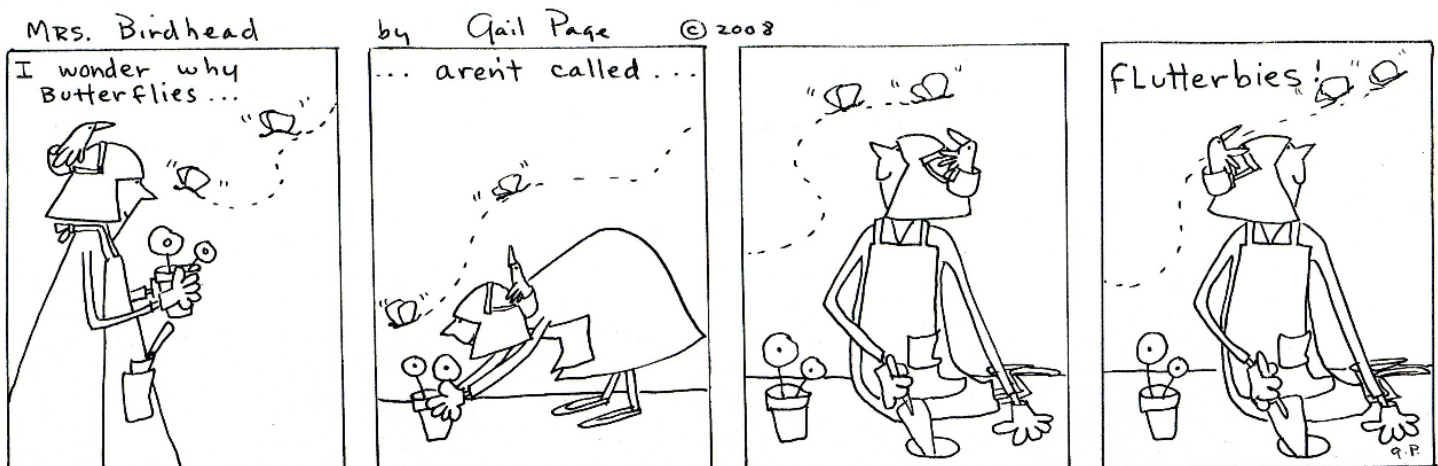
The Local Foods Group led by Jackie Pike, Doris Groves, and Becky Poole was simultaneously planning the Brooksville Farmers' Market after surveying the townspeople and identifying a great desire for a Farmers' Market. As an enthusiastic vendor at the market, Tony sold luscious greens and yummy tomatoes from his greenhouse. During the market gatherings, conversations percolated about building other greenhouses. Doris Groves signed up right away to be "first on her block," and Tony helped her identify the right location and built it for her. This winter she had greens right through December, and when the sun shone brightly, she opened the window to the greenhouse and added a bit of passive solar heat to her adjacent

living room. Recently, Doris proclaimed, "It's been a great success!"

So far, one large thermo-pane cold frame and two small, attached polycarbonate greenhouses have been built. Tom Adamo led the first greenhouse meeting at Reversing Falls Sanctuary and disseminated information about the cost of materials and assistance that can be expected from the Greenhouse Project. Due to the non-profit nature of the project, a very favorable price is available for the polycarbonate sheets. At least thirty people have showed interest in greenhouses, and a meeting will be held sometime this spring. With the help of Bob St. Peter, now director of Food for Maine's Future, the group has received a Community

Health Alliance Food Security Grant of \$5,000 for materials and equipment. Many folks have volunteered to provide labor. Tony and others would like to offer skills training to some local young folks and then pay them to help build these structures. The Brooksville Elementary School may be the next location for a greenhouse.

So if you enjoy digging in the soil and watching the Earth blossom, getting an early jump start for your seedlings, and eating greens when snow is on the ground, keep your eyes and ears open to see and hear more about the Greenhouse Project. Become or support the locavores. For more information call Tony Ferrara at 326-8564.



## ***Our Maine Mushers Run the Ikidarod***

BEC POOLE

It's a rainy, slushy day at Brooksville Elementary School (BES), 24 hours before the great Alaskan Iditarod Sled Dog Race. The BES sled teams are meeting for their final briefing with teacher Cammie Lepper. The "dogs" are waiting, and the gear is ready to be packed, but wait....the sleds have to be made!

This year the Brooksville Elementary students were participants in the Ikidarod. Teams of four were created from students in grades 3–5. Every student on the team had a job of being either a musher or a dog. But before they could race, each team met to

build their sleds from large sheets of cardboard, plastic sheeting, rope, and the best-looking duct tape I have ever seen!

"I picked green!" Elana Bakeman exclaimed, holding a very cheerful spring green roll. Willem Hilliard took time to think about his team's sled design, knowing that durability of the sled was key in completing the race. Once the sleds were constructed they were packed with a sleeping bag and a large canner. The last step was to harness the dogs and the race was on.

The trail surrounding the school was marked with 10 checkpoint signs including

the locations: Anchorage, McGrath, Safty and Nome. At each checkpoint, teams were asked a trivia question, and wrong answers could cost a one-minute penalty. Additionally, Mushers were required to sign the vet book and feed and water the dogs with great-tasting cookie "dog bones."

It was miserable weather but the fans were cheering and the race was full of excitement. In addition to being very enthusiastic spectators, grades K–2 participated in the Junior Ikidarod that included putting booties on a "dog" (mittens on an upside down chair), getting food for their dog, and scooping "poop" (tootsie rolls). Grades 1–2 made the colorful checkpoint signs.

It was all over in a flash and an awards ceremony was held at lunchtime. Each team received special recognition in the categories of most creative sled, fastest to Nome, and teamwork. It clearly was a success for staff and students. Now kids could settle in and watch the big race to Nome with a better understanding of just the kind of teamwork it takes on the real Iditarod trail.

### **National Library Week**

April 12-18, 2009 is National Library Week. Have you been into the Brooksville Free Public Library this year? Stop by during the week to check out the many new books that have been ordered and see some of the changes that Jane Ploughman, the new librarian, has made during her first ten months on the job. There may be other surprises in store during the week. On Wednesday, April 22, the Library will celebrate its volunteers with a Volunteers Tea at 4 pm. Everyone is welcome to stop in for tea and to thank the many volunteers who help make the library what it is.

The April 22 date is tentative. Please call the library for more information, 326-4560.



## ***Transportation Committee Report.....Want a Ride?***

MARY HARTLEY

Forty nine people returned Community Transportation surveys with over half indicating they would like to use community transportation and over half volunteering to provide rides. Thank you! Due to these responses and requests, a trial once-a-week trip to Blue Hill will be provided by Brooksville volunteers on Tuesdays in April and May. Pick-ups and drop-offs will be at the Community Center (1:00 pm) and the Town House (1:15 pm). We will return to Brooksville by 3:30 pm. Space is

limited, so reservations will be required. Reservations for the Tuesday trips or requests for other transportation can be made by calling Jeanne Gaudette at 326-4735 or Jo Cooper at Faith in Action, 664-6016. If you need a ride to and from the pick-up site, please let us know. The rides will be provided by volunteers. We will be contacting those who said they would be willing to provide rides.

A potluck dinner will be held on Saturday, April 4, 5 pm, at the Brooksville Elementary School Cafeteria to

give you more information and talk about your ideas and needs for an ongoing community transportation network. Please bring a dish to share with others, your ideas, and enthusiasm. If you cannot make the dinner, please let us know if you have transportation needs so that we can try to arrange rides for you.

The table on the facing page lists those transportation resources that are currently available. Rides are available for occasional trips and for treatments, such as dialysis and cancer treatments.



## **RECIPE CORNER**

### **Karl's Five Minute Chocolate Mug Cake**



4 T. whole wheat flour  
4 T. sugar (or can use part artificial sweetener)  
2 T. baking cocoa  
1 egg  
4 T. milk  
1/8 t. baking soda  
3 T. oil  
3 T. chocolate chips, opt.  
1 small splash vanilla  
1 lg. coffee mug

Add dry ingredients to mug; mix well. Add egg, mix thoroughly. Pour in milk and oil, mix well. Add chocolate chips and vanilla, mix well. Put the mug in the microwave and cook 3 minutes on 1000 watts.

The cake will rise over the top of the mug but don't be alarmed! Allow to cool a little and tip out onto a plate if desired. EAT! (This can serve two if you want to feel slightly more virtuous.)

And why is this the most dangerous cake recipe in the world?? Because now you're only five minutes away from chocolate cake anytime, day or night.

## Current Transportation Resources

**Faith in Action** (non-denominational, community supported): 664-6016. Transportation, simple chores for those over 55 years of age and adults who are disabled. No charge for transportation which is provided by volunteers. Coordinates "Road to Recovery" volunteer driver program for the American Cancer Society and can help get financial assistance for cancer transportation.

**Neighborcare:** 326-4735. Neighbors helping neighbors. Call if you would like to serve, be served or for more information.

**Washington-Hancock Community Agency (WHCA):** 877-374-8396. Transportation for individuals covered by MaineCare to medical appointments, people referred by Maine Department of Health and Human Services for Child Protective Services or Sheltered Workshop. Space available transportation on a sliding fee scale and on a stand-by basis for other riders.

**Joblinks (WHCA):** [www.whcap.org](http://www.whcap.org). Transportation and information center for a ride share database for car pooling to and from work in Hancock and Washington counties.

**Downeast Bus Service** (call for stops, pricing, schedules): 667-5796.

	LEAVES	LEAVES
MON	Blue Hill for Orland, Bucksport, Bangor 8:30 a.m.	Bangor for Bucksport, Orland, BH 12:50 a.m.
T & TH	Blue Hill for Ellsworth 8:15 a.m.	Ellsworth for Blue Hill 2:00 p.m.
FRI	Sargentville for Blue Hill, Ellsworth 9:02 a.m.	Ellsworth for Blue Hill, Sargentville 12:35 p.m.



Income tax is  
Uncle Sam's version of  
"Truth or Consequences"

### HELP WANTED

The Friends of Holbrook Island Sanctuary are looking for Trail Maintainers for 2009: individuals, families, businesses and groups. If interested, call Will Hotchkiss at 326-8570.

## Activities

### Brooksville Elementary School

Spring Concert: May 19 • School play in May (date TBA) • Graduation in June (date TBA) • Info: 326-8500  
<http://www.brooksvilleschool.org>

### Brooksville Free Public Library

Hours: see box to right • Preschool Story Hour: Mon., 10:30 am • Book Club: 2nd Mon., 10 am • April 11: Bri the Reader Dog • Info: 326-4560

### Brooksville Historical Society

meets every second Wed. of the month at 7 pm at the Town House. All are welcome • Info: 326-0899  
[ralphandbec@gmail.com](mailto:ralphandbec@gmail.com)

### Majabigwaduce Chapter DAR

2nd Monday of each month, 6:30–8 pm, Brooksville Town House Info: 326-8570 • [hotchkiss@midcoast.com](mailto:hotchkiss@midcoast.com)

### Neighborcare

Neighbors helping neighbors. Volunteers provide free health-related services, respite, transportation, errands, etc. Call Jeannie Gaudette for assistance or to volunteer at 326-4735

### Brooksville United Methodist Church

Buck's Harbor Sanctuary: Sundays, 10 am through May 31, then 9 am • Maundy Thursday service in conjunction with W. Brooksville Congr. Church, 7 pm • Good Friday service at W. Brooksville Congr. Church, noon • Easter Sunrise Service at So. Town Landing, 6 am Rev. Gary Vencill • Info: 469-7850

### Brooksville Community Center

Call for information about events or rentals • Betsy Jones, 326-8296

### Brooksville Friends and Neighbors

1st Wed. of every month, 6:30–8 pm, Town House • Info: 326-0916

### West Brooksville

#### Congregational Church, UCC

April 5: Palm Sunday • April 9: ecumenical Maunday Thursday service at Brooksville Methodist Church, 7 pm • April 10: ecumenical Good Friday service in conjunction with Brooksville Methodist Church, noon • April 12: Easter communion, 7 am followed by Easter breakfast—all welcome • Easter Worship at 10 am • Rev. Allen Myers • Info: 326-9177

### Reversing Falls Sanctuary

Bagaduce Rd., North Brooksville. Lenten series, "Sources of Wisdom:" March 29, 4 pm: Finding Spiritual Wisdom for the 21st Century • April 5, 4 pm: Wisdom of Place • Potluck to follow each

### Open Mic

At Reversing Falls Sanctuary, Bagaduce Road, North Brooksville • First Sunday of month, 4 pm, potluck to follow • April 5: Release party for CD of music from the 2008 summer season • Info: Tim or Lake, 326-9266

### Contemplative Prayer

Wednesdays, 4:30 pm • Anne and Tony Ferrara's house • Info: 326-8564

### Meditation

Tibetan Buddhist: Thursdays., 6 pm • Call for location • Info: 326-4047

### Brooksville Yoga

Unique combination of yoga and Yamuna Ball Rolling • Foundations: Tues, 4-5:30 pm. Beginners: Wed., 4-5:30 pm. Continuing: Wed., 9-11 am. 5 Black Bear Rd., 2nd Floor • Instructor: Alison Chase • Info: 326-4205

### Get Strong, Get Healthy

Exercise at the Community Center • Mon., Wed. & Fri., 7:30–8:45 am  
 Leader: Sylvia Wilder • Info: 326-4801

### To List Your Event

Send information two weeks before Sept. 1, Dec. 1, March 1 & June 1 to:

Brooksville Friends & Neighbors  
 P.O. Box 101  
 Brooksville, Maine 04617  
 or  
[e-mail joanmacc@aol.com](mailto:joanmacc@aol.com)

### Town Office 326-4518

Monday 9 am–2 pm  
 Wednesday 9 am–2 pm  
 Thursday 6 pm–8 pm

Selectman John Gray  
 Richard Bakeman  
 Darryl Fowler

Town Clerk Amber Bakeman  
 Treasurer Freida Peasley  
 Tax Collector Yvonne Redman

Burn Permits at Fire Station  
 Thursdays from 7–8 pm

Harbormaster Sarah Cox  
 326-9622

### Library 326-4560

Monday 9 am–5 pm  
 Wednesday 9 am–5 pm  
 Thursday 6 pm–8 pm  
 Saturday 9 am–12 noon

### Post Office Window

Mon.–Fri. 8:30 am–12:15 pm  
 2 pm–4:15 pm  
 Saturday 8:30–10:30 am

### Post Office Lobby

Mon.–Fri. 7 am–4:45 pm  
 Saturday 7 am–11 am

### Buck's Harbor Market 326-8683

Mon.–Fri. 7 am–6 pm  
 Sat. & Sun. 8 am–6 pm

## *It's Happening Here*

JUDY TREDWELL

If you think Brooksville is a quiet little town, where nothing much goes on, especially during the winter, well, you'd be wrong. The Community Center is a-hopping with many different activities, five plus days a week. The variety of activities is very impressive: everything from the Elementary School graduations, Brooksville School alumni reunions to crafts fairs, holiday breakfasts, and wedding receptions to dog training classes, exercise groups, basketball and volleyball games, and the Farmers' Market, all open to the public, serving all ages and a variety of interests.

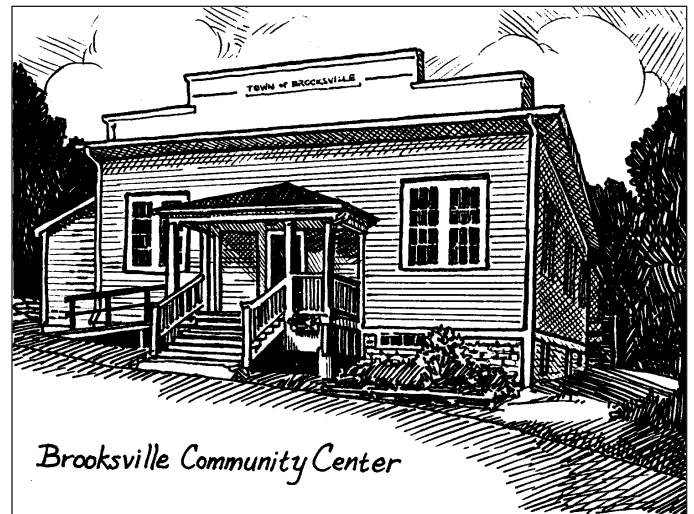
Ask Phillip Wessel, Treasurer of the Board, to tell you about his 26 years on the Community Center Committee. He glows. "This is a place where people can stay for hours on end," Phil says with a smiling face, beaming with so many fond memories.

According to the Breeze yearbook of 1938, the building was constructed over a two-year period from 1936 to 1938 to serve as the gym for the Brooksville High School across the road.. Phillip and his classmates played

basketball by the hour in this old building. As the building aged, the discussion centered on the future of this decaying structure. In 1983, the Town established the Community Center and created its Board to oversee operations.

"It has been a labor of love to repair and upgrade the building," said Rhoda Clifford and Diane Harmon. Current board members, Dean Cousins and Gleason Allen, echoed others in their support of the activities currently held at the Community Center. What is so amazing is that most members of the Board have been on it for 15 plus years. Turnover is not all that fast, and yet, the current board is seeking new faces and new ideas. They invite new volunteers to come with ideas and a willingness to stay awhile.

As you approach the building, you pass the flagpole, dedicated to Gil Perkins who played a major role in the planning of the addition in the early 1990's. Inside the front door there are two



*Brooksville Community Center*

ANNIE POOLE

plaques: one dedicated to Lois and Wentworth Wessel and the other to Eddie Noessel. Eddie's recognizes how instrumental he was in the formation of the Community Center and the Wessel's for their support to the programs and the facilities—all of which added to the social, cultural, and recreational purposes of a true Community Center.

Planning an event that might involve the Community Center? Remember it's a busy place, so plan ahead. Rental fees for in-town residents are \$275/day, which includes a \$100 refundable security deposit, while for non-residents, it is \$375/day, including the same refundable deposit. Inquires can be made to Betsy Jones (326-8296) or Rhoda Clifford (326-9599).



# *The Brooksville Breeze*

*The Newsletter of Brooksville Friends & Neighbors  
Published quarterly — Spring, Summer, Fall & Winter*

Brooksville Friends & Neighbors (BFN)  
P.O. Box 101  
Brooksville, ME 04617-0101  
Phone: 326-0916



Newsletter By:

Joan MacCracken, Becky Poole,  
Judy Tredwell, Peter Beaven,  
Jean Webster, Katherine Clifford,  
Sheila Moir

**PSRT SRT**  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Brooksville, ME  
Permit #6

**ECR WSS**

**Check it out!**

[www.brooksvillemaine.org](http://www.brooksvillemaine.org)

*The Brooksville Breeze* originated as a newsletter to increase community communication, thus supporting the mission of Brooksville Friends & Neighbors (BFN) to strengthen and encourage local activities that promote health, both physical and emotional. *The Breeze* welcomes your comments, suggestions and donations to offset costs of printing and mailing. It is published four times a year.

**Tell us who *you* are:**

**The Breeze, P.O. Box 101, Brooksville, ME 04617**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Enjoying your copy of the Breeze?** Please consider making a donation to help offset printing and mailing costs (checks to Brooksville Friends & Neighbors)

**We welcome your comments and suggestions for articles** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Rides  
from Brooksville  
to Blue Hill  
on Tuesdays  
in April and May**

Check inside for  
more information  
or come to the  
potluck dinner on  
April 4, 5 pm,  
BES Cafeteria

