

# Beachwood Bay Estates



Cutler, Maine • Winter/Spring 2022 • [www.beachwoodbayestates.com](http://www.beachwoodbayestates.com)

## Winter Maintenance Update

What a winter! For those that weren't here this winter or even those that were but may not have been aware of everything going on, there were quite a few freeze ups in utility sheds and one vacant unit had burst pipes inside which resulted in extensive interior wall damage.

The freeze ups started early in the season and it was an ongoing battle through January and February. At the same time, the Navy and State were installing water filtration systems which also resulted in some problems that left a few people temporarily without water. Between the shed freeze ups and the water filtration issues, our Maintenance Manager, Patti, was kept busy and spent many a cold day here this winter dealing with these issues as they came up.

Portable heaters were purchased for many sheds to try and keep the freeze ups at bay. The buildings that have shallow underground pipes leading into the utility shed were dug up and had insulation installed and then recovered with dirt and gravel to hopefully mitigate future freeze ups.

Winterizing utility sheds has been an ongoing issue that will definitely be on our upcoming Annual Meeting agenda.

Winter has also left her mark with some significant potholes which we are looking into having repaired.

## Relevant Local News

### *Proposed Flagpole Minimizes Cutler Towers*



The world's largest flagpole could be coming to Columbia Falls in time for the 250th anniversary of American independence on July 4, 2026. Called "Flagpole of Freedom Park," the project was unveiled by Morrill Worcester, the founder of Wreaths Across America, with his sons Mike and Rob. It envisions a centerpiece 1,461-foot-tall flagpole within the "Village of Old Glory," a 2,500-acre park which intends to become the only place nationwide to honor all 24 million deceased veterans and their service to the United States since the Revolutionary War. The park will house hotels, shops, and museum experiences. The flagpole will minimize our Cutler towers that are 997.4 feet tall. You can find extensive information about this project on various internet sites.

## BBE HOA Events

- Spring Clean Up Day: May 7 & 8 (weather permitting)
- Community Yard Sale: End of June (date TBD)
- Annual Meeting: July 16

## Community Garden

We hope to have our community garden this year as usual. However, the question was raised concerning the possibility of PFAS in the soil. The soil will be tested and we will await the results before proceeding.

## Pogies Back in Maine



Just in case you have been wondering about the churning waters in Holmes Bay, Atlantic menhaden, better known as pogies, are back. The lobstermen say they are more valuable than ever as bait because Atlantic herring, the favored bait, is in short supply. Fishermen can catch only 17 barrels of pogies, three times a week. Each barrel, 500 pounds of fish, will bring in about \$250. The menhaden have also been a welcome boost to the many species that prey on the fish: osprey, bald eagles, seals, harbor porpoises, and even giant bluefin tuna. Watch the bay for churning waters as the birds of prey dive for them and the occasional seals breach like sharks while chasing them.

## Out & About



We now have a new seating area on Misty Harbor Lane for a casual view of the ocean waves and various wildlife in Holmes Bay. The trees are trimmed and a cement bench is in place so that you can take some sunset pictures or take a moment to relax on your way back from your walk along the beach.

Comments or suggestions for the newsletter can be sent to any of the Board Members or to Linda Fox (drfbbe@gmail.com) with the subject line "newsletter." All contributions are appreciated.

## From the Quoddy Tides March 25, 2022



*WORKING ON one of their popular three-legged stools is Scott Carpenter of the Cutler-based company, Crafted Downeast.*

## Woodworkers expand business in Cutler

by Lora Whelan

In 2019 Beth and Scott Carpenter moved their woodworking business from Dover-Foxcroft to Cutler. The move has proved fortuitous. Crafted Downeast is located at the former naval base commissary and chapel buildings, an expansion from their former two-car garage to an expansive 40'x80' workshop plus the chapel, where the sanding and finishing take place. Demand for the company's Shaker-inspired furniture, three-legged stools, cutting boards, butcher block stand-alone tables and butcher-block countertops has grown so quickly that they no longer have time for custom orders.

"We're really excited about what's to come," says owner Beth Carpenter. They've just returned from the New England Made Trade Show in Portland, where one of their tables won Best New Product in the giftware category, representing the best in New England craftsmanship. They were one of over 300 companies at the trade show. "It was really a surprise," she says. "We're extremely happy. A lot of vendors congratulated us."

The couple has been woodworking for over 20 years and first met in forestry school. After they married and set up a home together, Beth Carpenter wanted items for the household, and rather than buy they decided to make them. Their efforts turned out so nicely that the couple started making them as gifts. When Scott Carpenter retired from International Paper they set up shop for real.

Since those early days they've honed their style and woodworking techniques. They use Maine wood, including maple, cherry, birch and walnut. They used to get a load of lumber in their pick-up truck. Now it's delivered by tractor-trailer. Their biggest seller is butcher block countertops. Beth Carpenter explains, "They became very popular during COVID-19

because people were being at home." Viking Lumber started representing the countertops, and then Bangor Wholesale Laminate began selling them to the wholesale market. Carpenter adds that they are the only maker of Maine-made hardwood countertops in the state. They sell to the individual as well as at their own retail website and showroom in the making.

The hallmark of their style exemplifies the Shaker sensibility of simple lines and high quality. "It's traditional styling and made to be used," Carpenter adds. When they sort through wood for a project they look at the grain patterns and use them to the best advantage in their furniture designs. "We pay attention to matching pieces, contrasting grain patterns." A whole lot of hand sanding using five grades of sandpaper added to a hand-rubbed and "extremely durable" oil finish makes for a warm and understated finish. For the butcher block counters and cutting boards, Carpenter formulated her own food-safe finish, which includes beeswax and vitamin E. Beth's Board Balm is the end result, a product that is now part of the business mix.

The couple lives close to their business location and enjoys the area. The change in climate from Dover-Foxcroft is a pleasure, Carpenter says, with easier winters, a pleasant temperature in the summer, and the beauty of the ocean right at hand. They welcome people to explore their website, give them a call or email, or if in the neighborhood come for a visit, but call first to make sure someone is there. They attend the Belfast Farmers Market every Saturday year-round. "We have some pretty steady clients," Carpenter says. And look for their booth at the Machias Wild Blueberry Festival and the Common Ground Country Fair in Unity.

For additional information, please visit <www.crafteddowneast.com>.