

PO Box 24
Bethel, Me.

The Editor
Bethel Citizen
Main St.
Bethel, Me. 04217

To The Editor,

On Sunday, March 15th from 4 till ten minutes before Leah Bonnema's show starts at the Bethel Inn Conference Center at 7, the Bethel Performing Arts Project and Barry and Brooke Hallett will host the first community meeting of the Project at The Funky Red Barn on Summer Street in Bethel. The Halletts will graciously open their restaurant on a day off to help the Project get our message out. One very central part of the Project's message is exemplified by the Hallett's generosity: businesses partnering with the performing arts. Several recent and successful events enjoyed by the community include BPAP's collaboration with The Bethel Inn ("The Legend of Lefty" dinner theater) and with The Bethel Area Chamber of Commerce's "Buy Local - Shop Around" (entertainers performed in a number of Main Street businesses).

What do we hope to accomplish with this meeting? We hope to explain the Project's mission and how it can be of significant benefit to both the performing arts and business community. We hope to meet people interested in participating in the Project and identify their area of interest: performer, business, patron, volunteer, or organization? Our ambitious project seeks the involvement of our schools and churches as well. We are hoping to attract the participation of people of all ages.

We want to hear from you. There is no lack of great ideas in our community and many of those ideas could become quite effective community building blocks by incorporating a business and arts collaboration. If this sounds a little far-fetched to you, you might want to attend this meeting. If enhancing our community through the arts is appealing to you, you might want to attend this meeting too.

A "thank you for your donation" dinner will be served and we are requesting an RSVP if possible by March 13th. We wish to thank you in advance for your support and we hope to see you there. For more information, businesses please call Ross Timberlake at 824-3353 and performers please call Lynn Arizzi at 824-0080.