The 63rd Annual Meeting of The County Federal Credit Union will be held on Monday, May 6th at the Presque Isle Inn & Convention Center at 6:30 p.m. Elections this year will be conducted by mail ballot rather than at the Annual Meeting. No nominations from the floor will be accepted. Any member 16 years or older will be eligible to vote. The nominating committee has named the following nominees:

**Clifford Barker- Incumbent**

**Education:** Hodgdon High School Graduate.

**Employment:** Retired Licensed Insurance Representative for Prudential Insurance Company, United States Army Veteran.

**Other Interests:** Board of Directors, The County Federal Credit Union; Member of Knights of Columbus-Houlton Council; Member of Rockabema Lodge #78 IOOF; Former Chairman, Houlton Federal Credit Union Board of Directors.

**Jason Moir – Incumbent**

**Education:** Caribou High School Graduate.

**Employment:** Owner & Operator of Moir Farms, LLC.

**Other Interests:** Board of Directors, The County Federal Credit Union; Volunteer at Woodland Consolidated School; Former Town Selectman in Woodland.

**Tamra Kilcollins- Incumbent**

**Education:** Master of Science in Business, Husson College; Bachelor of Arts in Business Management, University of Maine at Presque Isle; Graduated from Fort Fairfield High School.

**Employment:** Jefferson Cary Foundation Executive Director.

**Other Interests:** Board of Directors, The County Federal Credit Union; Co-Founder “Feed the County” with WAGM-TV, Catholic Charities Maine and Aroostook Savings and Loan; Member of Fort Fairfield Snowmobile Club and Northern Maine Antique Tractor Club; Former Board of Director Retired Senior Volunteer Program, United Way of Aroostook and American Red Cross of Northern and Eastern Maine; Former Assistant Coach, Manager, and Volunteer for Presque Isle Youth Hockey Association.

**Kristen Wells**

**Education:** Graduate Certificate of Arts Administration, Boston University; Bachelor of Arts with minors in Art History and English, University of Southern Maine; Hodgdon High School Graduate.

**Employment:** Independent Consultant-Foundation Administration, Strategic Planning, Community Engagement and Facilitation, Program Development, Fundraising and Marketing Planning, Board Development.

**Other Interests:** Leadership Maine Omega Class; Maine Development Foundation; Maine Community Foundation Leadership Learning Collaborative; Member, Ashland Area Economic Development Committee, Empower Aroostook, Maine Leadership Circle.

Nominations may also be made by petition. This may be done by obtaining 190 signatures from members. All nominations must be submitted to the Nominating Committee by February 15, 2019. Please submit a statement of qualification and biographical data with the petition and a certificate from the nominee that he or she is agreeable to the nomination and will serve if elected to office.
Give your Home a Winter Wake-up for under $1,000

During a long winter, Mainers’ home improvement instincts often seem to hibernate. Result: Your house goes into snooze mode until you wake it up in spring. But despite the season, there are a number of simple do-it-yourself projects that can improve your home’s looks and livability. Here are four examples, each with a price tag that’s typically under $1,000.

Improve outdoor lighting. Shorter days mean you’re coming and going in the dark more often. Consider upgrading your porch light to an Energy Star-qualified model that matches your home’s style, and sheds plenty of illumination to prevent falls. For a further facelift, you might install a lamppost beyond the steps or mark your walkway with path lights. (If the ground is frozen, wiring can be hidden under gravel or mulch.)

Make over your kitchen cabinets. If the wood is sound, you may get great results from refinishing them. Take off the doors, remove all hardware, and wash if necessary to de-grease. Level nicks and dings with wood filler; sand smooth, prime, and spray or brush with cabinet paint. (With Rust-Oleum’s Cabinet Transformations kit, you can even skip sanding and priming.)

Spruce up your stairway. Torn or faded carpeting, splintered steps, or shaky railings aren’t just unsightly; they could be safety hazards. Strip off old carpet and fix any problem treads before refinishing the wood, repainting with hard-wearing enamel, and/or putting down a new runner. To steady wobbly posts, insert one or more lag screws through the base and into the staircase framing. Countersink the screw heads and hide them with bungs.

De-clutter your closet. Tired of searching a crowded closet for what you need, then finding it full of wrinkles? The first step is to plan. How much hanging space do you want for long garments? How about shirts or blouses? Shelves for sweaters? Baskets for socks or scarves? Shoe racks? Tie racks? Epoxy-coated wire units are the least expensive, but wood and plastic veneers are also available. Search online for “online closet organizing tools” to help design an ideal organizing system.

Are your winter renovation plans more ambitious? Let us know if we can lend a hand. With home improvement loans as well as equity loans and credit lines, we’ll help find the right financing for your fix-up.