



# TWIN CITY TIMES

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Your Hometown Newspaper Since 1999

Thursday, March 26, 2020 • FREE

## Call to action: Local businesses need our help

By Mayor Mark Cayer

Dear Fellow Community Members,

Lewiston's largest employer consists of local businesses who employ our neighbors—our friends and family members. These businesses need your help more than ever.

Governor Janet Mills has made the difficult decision to close all dine-in establishments and bars and recommended the closure of all other non-essential businesses for the next two weeks. I believe these closures may be extend-

ed. Two weeks of no income or reduced income threatens the survival of our local businesses. In fact, right now, our community is at risk of losing 40% to 50% of its businesses.

How Can We Help?

Our businesses are there when we need them. They regularly provide us with quality products and services, support our non-profits, donate to school/community fundraisers, and are assets to Lewiston. Now, they need us!

Please reach out to our local businesses and

support them now!

In efforts to remain open, to keep people employed, and serve the community safely by following CDC guidelines, many of our restaurants are offering food to go, and retail businesses are providing curbside pickup and delivery options. Even breweries and wine and beer shops are finding creative ways to continue to operate for their customers.

From flower shops to variety stores and from retailers to service providers, they need us today. If you prefer to See Local, page 9

## American Pickers looking for L/A Collectors

Do you know any collectors in the greater Lewiston-Aburn area? The hit TV show American Pickers has asked us to reach out to our readers and spread the word that they are looking for collectors.

Mike Wolfe, Frank Fritz and their team are excited to return to Maine! They plan to film episodes of the hit series American Pickers throughout the area at the middle to end of July 2020.

They understand that with the proliferation of COVID-19, everyone is facing very uncertain times, and everything is changing daily. The staff at American Pickers is taking this pandemic very seriously and will be adjusting their schedule accordingly for the safety of those who appear on the show and their crew. However, they are excited to continue to reach the many collectors in the area to discuss their years of picking!

American Pickers is a documentary series

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- WHERE YOUR COLLECTION IS LOCATED
- A DESCRIPTION OF YOUR ITEMS

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that explores the fascinating world of antique "picking" on History. The hit show follows Mike and Frank, two of the most skilled pickers in the business, as they hunt for America's most valuable antiques. They are always excited to find sizeable, unique collections and learn the interesting stories behind

them. As they hit the back roads from coast to coast, Mike and Frank are on a mission to recycle and rescue forgotten relics. Along the way, the Pickers want to meet characters with remarkable and exceptional items. The pair hopes to give historically significant objects a See Pickers, page 9

## YWCA childcare for essential employees' families

YWCA Central Maine continues to offer childcare to the many medical and emergency personnel, first-responders, law enforcement officials, and working families who still rely on us for safe care of their children during the COVID-19 pandemic. As more childcare cen-

ters close throughout the state, the YWCA will continue to operate its licensed childcare facility to provide a safe, healthy, engaging, caring, and structured setting for children while their parents are actively serving the community.

With the announcement last Friday that

schools will remain closed until April 27, the YWCA is re-opening childcare enrollment for children ages two and a half to twelve years for parents who must continue to work during this time. Priority will be given to families with caregivers who are pro- See YWCA, page 11

## Social Distancing

In order to support social distancing, we recommend using the online edition to read Twin City Times.

Print editions will still be available at Hannaford, Shaws and other necessary businesses that remain open to the public.

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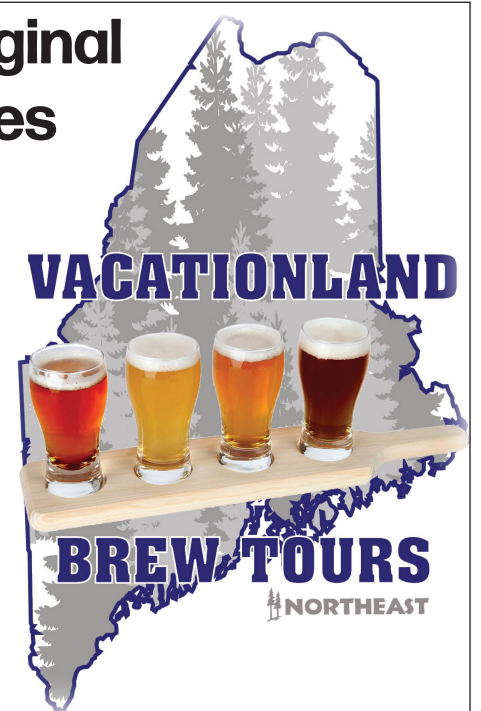
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# Newsmakers, Names & Faces

## Governor's Address: We have risen to the challenges of our times before and we are rising to the challenges before us now.

You know my parents used to tell me that we cannot control everything that happens to us, but what we can control—and what we must control—is how we react to what happens to us.

I know you are concerned, even scared, about your health and that of your loved ones. I know you are thinking about where your next paycheck will come from, or your next bag of groceries. I know that anxiety and concern for the unknown fill the air right now. When your child or grandchild tells you that they are scared, tell them: it's okay to be scared. Anx-

ety is normal. The future is uncertain.

But remind them always: we have each other. We are all family. Tell them we have been here before, in one way or another. We fought wars together. We survived blizzards, ice storms, attacks on our nation. We have risen to the challenges of our times before and we are rising to the challenges before us now.

I want to assure you that medical professionals and Maine CDC experts are working around the clock to mitigate the spread of the coronavirus and to keep you all healthy and safe.

My Administration has worked with the Legislature, we're



Governor Janet Mills

working with Maine's Congressional Delegation, with other governors and businesses and health care providers, to support small businesses, their employees, and those who are self-employed who been impacted by the coronavirus.

I am proud of that work, but what I am even prouder of is what I see in communities across Maine: I see business-

es that are partnering with local nonprofits to make lunches and dinners for those in need. I see teachers conducting classes online and school staff delivering homework packets and meals to children at home. I see fitness instructors offering online classes to keep people active, and parishes live-streaming faith services and hosting online prayer gatherings. I see Maine people simply reaching out to one another to ask "How are you, how can I help?"

Fred Rogers, Mr. Rogers, said, "When I was young and I would see scary things on the news, my mother would say, 'Look for the helpers. You will always find

people who are helping.'" Maine people are helpers, and they are everywhere. They are our doctors, nurses, EMS, firefighters, police officers, grocery store clerks, gas station attendants, childcare workers, government employees; they are you; they are your neighbor; they are your loved ones. They are Maine people.

While I know times are difficult and uncertain, let us remember what we can control, what we can do, not just what we cannot. Remember what we can control—ourselves, our love for another, and our love for this shared state we are so lucky to call home.

Today we go out-

side and enjoy the state parks, go to a beach, climb a mountain—whether it's Bald or Battie or Bradbury—enjoy the outdoors, keeping your social (physical) distance.

Today, we keep our distance from one another so that tomorrow we can come together again.

When people look back on us years from now, they will say that Maine did sacrifice but Maine stood strong. They will say: Maine people were tough; Maine people hung together; Maine provided the helpers; Maine people survived; Maine rose again better than ever.

## Workforce Training Partners honor certified Nursing Assistants



*Pictured l to r: Ryan Francis, Northern Light Health (NLH) Administrator; Hannah Bard, Mid-Maine Regional Adult Community Education, Director; Keri Robichaud, Western Maine Community Action (WMCA), Employment & Training (ET) Specialist; Deborah Bubar, CNA graduate; Myles Robert, WMCA, ET Specialist; Jessica Gyles, Kalynn Johnson, Crystal Rollins, Payge Shute, Trudy Turbide, Colby Moody, CNA graduates; Patricia Shuck, NLH Director of Nursing; Christopher Miller, NLH Class/Clinical Instructor; and Desiree Knowles, NLH Assistant Director of Nursing; Vicki Dyer, NLH LPN; and Robin Doody, NLH Talent Acquisition Specialist. Photo courtesy of Monica Millhime, WMCA.*

Seven students successfully completed a collaborative program of 180 hours of a Certified Nurse's Assistant training provided by workforce training partnerships with West-

See **Nursing**, page 13

## Tuna Tournament tradition supports Community Colleges

A gift of \$7,000 from the Casco Bay Bluefin Bonanza to the Foundation for Maine's Community Colleges will provide scholarships to students in a trade or marine science program at each of Maine's seven community colleges.

The funds were raised through the Casco Bay Bluefin Bonanza's inaugural tuna fishing tournament in August 2019. The event raised enough funds to provide scholarships to one student at each of the seven Maine community colleges.

The event replaced the Sturdivant Island Tuna Tournament which, after 21 years, held its final tournament in 2018.



*Members of the Casco Bay Bluefin Bonanza board of directors present a check to John Fitzsimmons, President of The Foundation for Maine's Community Colleges in support of scholarships for Maine students in a trade or marine science program at each of Maine's seven community colleges. L to R Cory LeDuc (vice president), Lauren Gamache, Nick Metayer, Sam LeDuc (secretary), Kurt Christensen, John Fitzsimmons, Shawn Tibbetts, Jessica Doughty (Treasurer), Bob Humphrey (president), Jane Humphrey, Suzanne Frigon, Kevin Lord.*

The final tournament was a bittersweet and fitting tribute to founder Phil Grondin, but its absence left a huge hole in tournament fishing

opportunities in Maine. Several local fishermen got together and agreed to keep the tuna tournament tradition alive.

See **Tuna**, page 13

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# City of Lewiston Informational: Coronavirus

Lewiston Public Schools—Closed Until April 6, Lewiston Public Library—Closed Until April 6, Lewiston Recreation Programs—Closed Until March 27, Lewiston Seniors Center—Closed Until March 27, LA CASH Coalition Free Tax Prep—Closed Until at Least March 27.

Watch For: Fever, Cough, Shortness of Breath and sometimes a Sore Throat.

The best safety practice that you can do is “social distancing,” which means avoiding close contact with others and not attending gatherings, activities, or meetings—unless absolutely necessary.

If you have to interact with others, please

keep a 6-foot distance between yourself and others.

Regular handwashing, using sanitizers and cleaning surfaces are important steps.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

If you think you have been infected with the Coronavirus, contact your doctor.

Stay at home if you are sick.

Individuals 60 years old and above are urged to stay at home and not go to public spaces.

Ways to Do Business With the City of Lewiston:

Online Services: [www.lewistonmaine.gov](http://www.lewistonmaine.gov) (examples include

re-registering vehicles, viewing property tax records, paying utility and other city-related bills)

E-mail: Staff Names - <http://www.lewiston-maine.gov/directory.aspx>; postal Mail: Lewiston City Hall, 27 Pine Street, Lewiston; phone: 207-513-3000; drop-Box: Park Street Side of City Hall for water bills, tax payments, etc.; FAX Machine: 207-784-2959.

Another excellent Resource is Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention website.

Please Note, Coronavirus health updates change daily. Facility re-openings are also subject to change. Visit <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/newhan.shtml> for more information.

# Out & About with Rachel Morin Schooner Memory Care entrance



Workmen pictured l to r: Ricky Burns, Mike Rawstron, Dana Pushard and Isiah Mills. Photo by Rachel Morin.

Workmen from the Pro Cut Lawn & Landscaping of Sabattus took advantage of the recent good weather to take their lunch break at their

worksite at Schooner Senior Living Community in Auburn. The finishing touches on the attractive stonewall at the entrance to the new Schooner

Memory Care Building is near completion. Landscaping bordering the stonewall and driveway entrance will soon follow.

## Guest Column

### Amid this pandemic, help is available

We are living through unprecedented times. The daily updates surrounding the novel coronavirus pandemic, also called COVID-19, are a lot to take in. I know many, if not all of us, are feeling anxious right now, and that's entirely understandable. Families across the state have been impacted by this crisis, and I want you to know that your state and community have your back.

There are some things we can do to help keep each other safe and healthy. The first is to practice social distancing. That means staying home as much as you can, avoiding large groups, and keeping a six-foot distance between you and other people when you do go out. You should also regularly wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. By slowing and reducing the spread of the virus, we're doing our part to make sure hospi-

tals like CMMC and St. Mary's can handle this crisis, and that their staff and resources won't be overwhelmed.

Maine's businesses are the lifeblood of our economy, but they've been hit hard by this pandemic. I applaud all business owners who have made difficult decisions that will protect their customers and their workers. To help our businesses get by until things return to normal, Gov. Janet Mills applied for Economic Injury Disaster Loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration. Maine is one of the first states to be approved to receive these loans. To learn more about these low-interest loans, go to the SBA's website at [www.sba.gov/funding-programs/disaster-assistance](http://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/disaster-assistance).

I'd encourage everyone to keep supporting our local businesses, if you're able, by taking advantage of delivery or curbside ordering ser-

vices. You can also buy gift certificates—the business gets that money now, when they need it, and you can use the gift certificate later, after this crisis has passed.

If you've been laid off because of the pandemic's impact on your employer, help is available. Thanks to a bill the Legislature passed before we adjourned last week, workers who have lost their jobs during this state of emergency can apply for unemployment insurance. To respond to the unprecedented situation we're facing, the state has waived the work search requirement and one-week waiting period for those who lost their jobs but know they'll be hired back. To apply for unemployment, go to [re-employme.maine.gov](http://re-employme.maine.gov). If you're an employer and you've had to cut staffing hours, I encourage you to look into the WorkShare program, which can help you maintain your workforce and help your hard-working employees off-

set their loss of income.

The state has also set up a program, administered through FAME, to help Mainers whose income has been impacted by the pandemic. Maine consumers can get a zero-interest loan through their local bank or credit union. The loans, which are guaranteed by the state, will be issued in the amount of money equal to the monthly take-home pay you've lost because of the outbreak, up to \$5,000. You can apply for and receive this loan up to three times. Learn more about this program over at FAME's website.

Additionally, the Maine PUC has banned utility companies from shutting off or threatening to shut off service to customers for the duration of this crisis. You shouldn't have to worry about losing something as essential as running water or electricity in the middle of a public health emergency. I'm *See Help, page 11*

## Tri-County Mental Health COVID-19 preparations

Tri-County Mental Health Services (Tri-County) is following State of Maine Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommendations on containing the spread of COVID-19 by limiting close visit contact and practicing social distancing to protect everybody's health. Their highest priority is to assure the health and safety of clients, families, staff and the wider community. Tri-County is taking important steps to protect clients and team members through March 30. They believe that taking

these steps are necessary for the greater good and will be making revisions to their operational plans as needed to assure that the health and safety of all is being met.

Tri-County is closing their Lewiston, Bridgton, Farmington, Oxford, and Rumford outpatient service locations to individually scheduled and walk-in appointments and are rescheduling each immediately to happen over the phone or via Skype. This impacts mental health and substance *See Tri-County, page 6*

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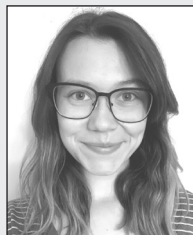
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# What's Going On

## FAME partners with SBA and Maine lenders

The Finance Authority of Maine (FAME) is partnering with the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) and local Maine lenders to offer special, limited-time loans and loan insurance to eligible Maine businesses affected by COVID-19.

FAME and participating lenders will make special terms available to Maine-based businesses that have experienced interruption or hardship due to COVID-19. Various benefits include loans up to \$50,000 offered at reduced interest rates; interest-only payments; up to 75% pro-rata loan insurance on loans up to \$100,000; interim financing in conjunction with the SBA wherein FAME makes loan proceeds available while approved SBA borrowers await federal funding.

As it has in the past, FAME is partnering with the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) to provide interim loan funding since, following approval from the SBA, additional documentation from the borrower may be required prior to full disbursement of the SBA loan. To allow access to those funds immediately, FAME will provide an interim loan to be paid-off with the SBA loan funds. Governor Janet Mills recently announced that the SBA has approved Maine's application for loans to help eligible businesses impacted by COVID-19. SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loans will offer up to \$2 million in assistance for a small business. These loans can provide vital economic support to small businesses to help overcome the temporary

loss of revenue they are experiencing. To learn more about the process for accessing this lending, please visit: <https://www.sba.gov/about-sba/sba-newsroom/press-releases-media-advisories/sba-provide-disaster-assistance-loans-small-businesses-impacted-coronavirus-covid-19>

"The SBA wants to thank Governor Mills and her team at the Department of Economic and Community Development for their hard work, and immediately reaching out to small businesses in Maine to quantify the impact and gather the required documentation allowing SBA to issue this Economic Impact Disaster Declaration. We'd also like to recognize the quick action of the Finance Authority of Maine in im-

See FAME, page 10

## Access to health care, food, and basic necessities

The Maine Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is taking immediate steps to ensure access to critical services and benefits for Maine people while protecting the health of employees and the public in response to the 2019 novel coronavirus, or COVID-19.

"We are acting swiftly to maintain Maine people's access to health care coverage, nutritious food, and support for basic necessities in the face of COVID-19, while also safeguarding their health and the health of our valued employees," said DHHS Commissioner Jeanne Lambrew.

These steps include supporting MaineCare members through the implementation of emergency rules that went into effect Wednesday, March 18 and will: Waive all copays for prescriptions, office visits, emergency department visits, radiology and lab services; allow early refills of prescriptions; allow providers to extend 34-day supply maximums on brand prescriptions (MaineCare already allows 90-day supplies of generic prescriptions); waive initial prior authorization requirements for asthma and for immune-related drugs; lengthen the period that prior authorization applies for prescription medications; lengthen the period that prior authorization applies for certain durable medical equipment, such as home oxygen therapy, glucose test strips, and Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) supplies for individuals diagnosed with

COVID-19, those with pending test results who are in self-isolation, and those in a high-risk category for infection; extend the amount of time that home health providers have to submit plans of care from within five business days to within 30 business days from the start of services.

In addition to these changes, the Department made an immediate change last Tuesday to their telehealth policy through emergency rule, to allow for prescribing through telehealth. This change is effective immediately.

MaineCare telehealth policy already allows providers and members to meet any face-to-face requirements for services through telehealth, when medically appropriate and when it will result in comparable quality of service. For services that traditionally have not been considered medically appropriate or of comparable quality via telehealth, such as Intensive Outpatient Treatment or Home and Community-Based Treatment, providers are encouraged to consider alternative treatment options that could be more appropriately delivered via telehealth (such as one-on-one counseling visits).

Additionally, DHHS has made two changes effective immediately that do not require emergency rulemaking. First, to the greatest extent allowable under federal law, DHHS will accept eligibility verification by self-attestation to facilitate efficient processing of MaineCare applica-

tions and recertifications. Second, we will waive premiums for MaineCare services, such as the Working Disabled, Cub Care, Katie Beckett, and Special Benefit programs. Failure to pay those premiums will not result in case closure.

DHHS is also acting to support social distancing in our 16 regional offices, without disrupting critical benefits and services. In line with guidance from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, DHHS is limiting its interactions with the public to accepting paperwork for drop-off. Clients are being encouraged to fill out and submit applications and reviews for programs, including Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and MaineCare online through My Maine Connection ([www.maine.gov/mymaine-connection](http://www.maine.gov/mymaine-connection)). Paperwork may be submitted via fax, email or postal carrier. The toll-free number is 1 (855) 797-4357 and agents are available from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

DHHS offices remain open at this time, and clients can fill out applications in person if they prefer. If clients need assistance, they will be encouraged to call the toll-free number to speak with an agent.

DHHS also issued an emergency rule effective Friday, March 13 allowing all TANF application and annual review interviews, which are required to determine eligibility, to be held by telephone rather than in person. TANF orientations, which are completed during the application process, also will be held by phone rather than through visits to one of the Department's vendor locations, also known as Fedcap Opportunity Centers. Fedcap is limiting in-person contact for ASPIRE participants, encouraging and facilitating remote participation.

DHHS also will limit in-person interviews for fraud investigations and quality control audits and will hold all administrative hearings by telephone.

DHHS has requested approval from the

See Access, page 13

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## NAMI expanding supportive service for special needs children



NAMI Maine has created an emergency enrollment process for the Family Respite Program during these challenging times. The Respite Program allows caregivers raising a child with a mental health diagnosis or two or more developmental delays to have a break from caregiving. The Respite Program will now provide families with 26 hours per month of in-home support. Starting immediately, there is a shortened application process to enroll children in the program, and also to be hired as a respite provider.

Families currently enrolled in the program are automatically eligible for 26 hours of respite per month until June 30, 2020. New families may apply at [www.namimaine.org/page/](http://www.namimaine.org/page/)

respitefamily. NAMI Maine will be using a presumptive eligibility process that will require less information to start services than is typically required by the program.

Respite providers are per diem employees of NAMI Maine who work only with families they choose. The program pays \$12.00 for a level one provider and \$14.25 for a level two provider. A level one provider is required to have completed high school or have earned a GED. A level two provider will have completed education and training focused on working with children Individuals, including family members who do not reside in the same home as the child, who are interested in being hired to provide respite services to children in

their local community may complete an application form found at [www.namimaine.org/page/respiteprovider](http://www.namimaine.org/page/respiteprovider).

During these difficult times, NAMI Maine is focused on increasing in-home supports to families raising special needs children, while still respecting the importance of social distancing. We are specifically looking to provide increased access to the program in order to connect families and providers who already have an existing relationship and reside in the same local community.

Please contact Respite Staff at 207 622-5767 with questions.

The Family Respite Program is funded by the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child and Family Services.

# What's Going On

## Eight ways to combat Coronavirus

By Senator King

Friends, the challenges created by the coronavirus epidemic are unlike anything that we've seen in the last 100 years. The situation is changing rapidly, but this much is clear: we all need to change our behaviors and adopt new approaches to protect ourselves and our loved ones. As I push for a number of policies and remedies in the Senate, there are a few simple and immediate things we can all do to help slow the spread of coronavirus in our communities.

1. If you're sick, stay home. Probably the most obvious step you can take, but it's so important that it's worth repeating. The most common symptoms of coronavirus are a fever, a cough, and a sore throat – if you have any of these symptoms, stay home. Don't try to go to work, don't head over to a friend's house. I know it's inconvenient, but it's

vital.

2. If you're worried you might have coronavirus, call your doctor. Don't just go into your doctor's office without giving them a heads up. Call your doctor first, tell them what symptoms you're experiencing, and work with them on a plan. This isn't about making you wait—it's about preventing spread, especially to the medical professionals who we'll need to get us through this crisis. If you can't reach your doctor or don't have one, call the Maine coronavirus hotline at 2-1-1 to connect with someone who can lay out next steps.

3. Even if you're not sick, stay home as much as you can. This is a major shift from the way Maine handles crises; in our state, we respond to emergencies by coming together and helping. However, one of the reasons this disease is spreading so rapidly is because some people

who are infected with the coronavirus do not display symptoms and don't realize they may be spreading it inadvertently. By staying home, you're doing the right thing for your community by preventing yourself from possibly unwittingly spreading this disease or having it unwittingly spread to you. Telework where possible and avoid large gatherings.

4. Wash your hands—a lot. This one is simple, but it's so important. Wash your hands often, for 20 seconds, with soap and hot water. If you're not sure how to measure 20 seconds, sing a song—if you sing Sixteen Counties on the slow side, you'll be all set!

5. Don't shake hands! Elbow bumps can work, or a hand on your heart—but it's most important to keep your distance when greeting people. Personally, I've started to adapt Spock's

See Combat, page 12

## Maine Association of Physician Assistants commend Governor

The Maine Association of Physician Assistants (MEAPA) thanks Governor Mills for swiftly signing LD 1660 into law yesterday. The bill, which passed the Maine State Legislature on March 17, will allow PAs (physician assistants) and physicians to work together more collaboratively by eliminating unnecessary administrative burdens that prevent PAs from practicing at the top of their education and experience.

LD1660 was amended to reflect the current health crisis in the state and will go into effect immediately to allow for better utilization of PAs to combat the Covid-19 pandemic.

"PAs are a critical part of Maine's healthcare teams and the response to COVID-19. During this time, our state needs to take every possible step to ensure all of our healthcare providers are doing everything they can to help patients. Maine's physician assistants thank Governor Mills and the legislature for their leadership in moving quickly to make LD 1660 law," MEAPA President Gretchen Pre-

neta, PA-C, said.

The legislation makes numerous improvements to PA practice in Maine. Among the changes, LD 1660:

Removes the requirement for an experienced PA to have a supervising physician. A physician must simply be available for consultation; allows the scope of practice for a PA to be determined by the practice setting; requires PAs with less than 4,000 hours of practice to enter into a collaborative agreement with a physician; adds a second PA to the Maine Board of Licensure in Medicine (allopathic) and the Maine Board of Osteopathic Medicine.

PAs are medical professionals who diagnose illness, develop and manage treatment plans, prescribe medications, and often serve as a patient's principal healthcare provider. With thousands of hours of medical training, PAs are versatile and collaborative.

PAs practice in every state and in every medical setting and specialty, improving healthcare access and quality.



# Arts & Entertainment

## Pinky D's Poutine open for takeout



Pinky D's takeout door entrance.

Pinky D's Poutine Factory is closely monitoring the COVID-19 pandemic and are following strict sanitation and hygiene procedures. They sincerely care about the well-being of their patrons, their staff and their partners at Side By Each Brewing.

Pinky D's is happy to continue to serve the community through their takeout window located through their separate entry door. They are open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday and 12 to 5 p.m. Sunday. Their full menu of poutine, wings, flatbread, burgers and more is available for takeout. You can also call ahead and place your order at (207) 809-2030.



Katie Lemieux taking to-go orders.

## Mollison Way Subway



We want to recognize those in need, and we recognize that this epidemic may cause hardships for families with children.

Though March 31 we would like to offer a Free Mini Sub (with the purchase of a six inch or foot-long sub at regular menu

price) to any school-aged child in all of our Lewiston, Auburn (excludes Kityhawk.), Gray, Sabattus, and Winthrop locations.

## Tri-County

Continued from page 3

use counseling, medication management, Assertive Community Treatment, Behavioral Health Home, Opioid Health Home, and MST services. The assigned clinician or an administrative operations staff member will be contacting affected individuals to reschedule services.

Group mental health services are cancelled.

The Social Learning Center in Lewiston is closed.

Other COVID-19 Preparations:

Residential group

homes in Lewiston, Rumford and Sabattus and supported living services in Lisbon will be open but operating with resident restrictions on travel outside the homes and visitor restrictions.

Some administrative support operations will be conducted on a work from home basis.

Any questions about availability of services can be answered by calling 211 or 1-877-463-6207, the State's official COVID-19 information source.

Founded in 1951, Tri-County Mental Health Services provides mental health, substance use, and intellectual dis-

abilities services to children, youth, adults, and families in Lewiston, Auburn and across Western Maine from offices and residential services locations in Bridgton, Farmington, Oxford, Rumford and Sabattus. More information about Tri-County Mental Health Services can be found at [www.tcmhs.org](http://www.tcmhs.org). For additional information contact: Jamie Owens, [jowens@tcmhs.org](mailto:jowens@tcmhs.org), 207-344-1858.

Send all items for What's Going On to the Editor. Deadline is Friday by five.

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Expires March 31, 2020

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## BJ's Wholesale Club opens early for members 60 or older

On March 22, all BJ's Wholesale Club locations in Maine began opening one hour earlier every day for members who are age 60 or older. This special opening hour will be from 8 to 9 a.m. daily and there will be a designated entrance for them to use.

The early opening is geared towards coming together as a community to support each other during challenging times and showing compassion and care for our neighbors who are

most vulnerable to the COVID-19 virus which, according to the CDC, includes members of the population who are age 60 and older.

The club is making the decision to offer this every day of the week until further notice to allow for Maine community members, aged 60 and older, to shop in a less crowded environment which better enables social distancing and to be able to shop prior to any other members entering.

## Updates to Maine's fishing season



To encourage Mainers to enjoy their outdoor resources and to support a happy, healthy Maine, Governor Mills and Commissioner Camuso are enacting the following changes effective immediately:

Any person (except those whose license has been suspended or revoked) may fish without a license through April 30, 2020. This change does not apply to activities which require a commercial freshwater fishing license or permit.

All inland waters that traditionally open to open water fishing on April 1 will now be open to open water fishing effective immediately. This change does not open any body of water to ice fishing that is currently closed to ice fishing.

All other tackle, length and bag limits and special regulations still apply. Visit [mefishwildlife.com/covid19](http://mefishwildlife.com/covid19) for additional MDIFW updates related to COVID-19.

Important Safety Reminders:

Remember, Maine's inland waters are very cold this time of year. It is recommended that

paddlers wear dry suits when water temps are less than 50 degrees Fahrenheit, or wet suit when temps are between 50 and 60 degrees.

Be sure to wear a lifejacket on or near the water this time of year. Statistics show that most people who unexpected fall from a watercraft without a lifejacket will die. If you think you have enough time to get to your life jacket before a crash or incident, think again.

If you are going to be heading out onto frozen waterbodies, please continue to use extreme caution. Accessing lakes and ponds should be avoided unless you can be certain of ice conditions by checking ice thickness.

Before stepping out, use a chisel or auger to test ice thickness in several places. Remember that ice seldom freezes uniformly, and conditions are always changing and can vary from one location to the next. Ice that forms overflowing water and currents, especially near streams, bridges and culverts, can be particularly dangerous.

## Maine Banks take action to help feed families

With the spread of COVID-19 and social distancing in place, many Mainers find themselves out of work or working remotely with children home due to school closings. Many of Maine's school children depend on school meals for their nutrition and in this current crisis may be forced to go hungry. To support families in need, the Maine Bankers Association has rallied 34 Maine banks – listed below – to raise \$61,000 in a matter of hours to support food pantries throughout the state.

“Leading the charge to assist Maine communities is not new territory for our banks. At the core of all banking is service, in good times and in bad,” said Chris Pinkham, President and CEO of Maine Bankers Association. “We pledge to work together to help our communities weath-

er this storm by providing some relief to our neighbors in need.”

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service 13.6 percent of Maine households were food insecure in 2019—a rate far higher than the national average of 11.7 percent. Additionally, 1 in 5 Maine children go to bed hungry every day with 80,000 Maine school-aged children eligible for free and reduced priced meals in our state's schools. In the current crisis, that number could increase dramatically as families face difficult decisions and may have to prioritize other expenses over food.

Conversation Leads to Quick Action:

According to the Maine Banker's Association, two bank presidents were on the phone discussing the immense challenges many Maine

families are facing due to self-quarantine efforts. Conversation led to quick action and outreach to Maine's banking leaders and within eight (8) hours each of the 34 banks committed funds from their charitable giving program to collectively raise the \$61,000. The Maine Bankers Association fundraising campaign, called Let's Feed Maine, will continue through the end of March into April.

Challenge to Other Industries to Help:

Maine Bankers are now challenging other trade associations across the state and banking associations across the country to band together, target food insecurity or another passion, and do their part to help those in need during this unprecedented time. According to Pinkham, “We are in this together as a state and as a country.”

Current Participants

in the #LetsFeedME Campaign:

The banks involved in the campaign include Androscoggin Bank, Aroostook County Federal, Atlantic Trust, LLC, Auburn Savings Bank, FSB, Bangor Savings Bank, Bank of America, Bar Harbor Bank & Trust, Bar Harbor Savings & Loan, Bath Savings Institution, Camden National Bank, Damariscotta Bank & Trust Company, First Federal Savings & Loan of Bath, First National Bank, Franklin Savings Bank, Gorham Savings Bank, HM Payson, Katahdin Trust Company, Kennebec Federal Savings, Kennebec Savings Bank, Kennebunk Savings, KeyBank N.A., Machias Savings Bank, Maine Community Bank, NBT Bank, Northeast Bank, Norway Savings Bank, People's United Bank, Portland

See Banks, page 12



## Margaret Chase Smith Essay Contest



*“For it is youth that gives the stimulus, the fire, and the ambition that animates progress.”*

— Senator Margaret Chase Smith  
Maine Young Republicans Convention  
Portland, Maine  
March 30, 1950



As the Pine Tree State celebrates its bicentennial in 2020, there will be much celebration of the past. For the 24th annual Margaret Chase Smith Essay Contest, we invite high school seniors to look to the future and share with us ideas of how they would propose to make Maine “the way life should be” for young people so that more of them will choose to live in a state with one of the oldest populations in the nation.

The rules of the contest are minimal. It is open to **Maine high school seniors**. Essays must be typed and double-spaced. Electronic submissions are accepted. Contestants should provide complete contact information in order to receive notification of final results. For publication purposes, essays should be no longer than 2000 words. As always, quality of evidence, argumentation, and writing is more important than quantity of pages. The best essays support personal opinions with historical context and cited facts.

The Library will award **\$1000** for first place, **\$500** for second place, **\$250** for third place, and five **\$50** honorable mention prizes. Essays are due by **April 1, 2020**. Prizes will be announced by May 4th.

To submit entries or for more information, please contact:

John Taylor  
Margaret Chase Smith Library  
56 Norridgewock Avenue  
Skowhegan, ME 04976  
(207) 474-7133  
e-mail: [jtaylor@mcslibrary.org](mailto:jtaylor@mcslibrary.org)  
web: [www.mcslibrary.org/awards/](http://www.mcslibrary.org/awards/)



## **City of Lewiston Informational - Coronavirus**

**Lewiston Public Schools** – Closed Until April 27, 2020

**Lewiston Public Library** – Closed Until April 6, 2020

**Lewiston Recreation Programs** – Closed Until March 27, 2020

**Lewiston Seniors Center** – Closed Until March 27, 2020

**LA CA\$H Coalition Free Tax Prep** – Closed Until at Least March 27, 2020

**Watch For: Fever, Cough, Shortness of Breath & Sometimes a Sore Throat**



- ❖ The best safety practice that you can do is **“social distancing,”** which means avoiding close contact with others and not attending gatherings, activities, or meetings—**unless absolutely necessary.**
- ❖ If you have to interact with others, please keep a 6-foot distance between yourself and others.
- ❖ Regular handwashing, using sanitizers, & cleaning surfaces are important steps.
- ❖ Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- ❖ If you think you have been infected with the Coronavirus, contact your doctor.
- ❖ Stay at home if you are sick.
- ❖ Individuals 60 years old and above are urged to stay at home and not go to public spaces.

### **Ways to Do Business With the City of Lewiston**

**Online Services:** [www.lewistonmaine.gov](http://www.lewistonmaine.gov) (examples below)

- Re-registering vehicles
- Viewing property tax records
- Paying utility and other city-related bills

**E-mail:** Staff Names - <http://www.lewistonmaine.gov/directory.aspx>

**Postal Mail:** Lewiston City Hall, 27 Pine Street, Lewiston, ME 04240

**Phone:** 207-513-3000

**Drop-Box:** Park Street Side of City Hall: water bills, tax payments, etc.

**FAX Machine:** 207-784-2959

***Please Note: Coronavirus Health Updates Change Daily.  
Facility Re-openings are Also Subject to Change.***

**Excellent Resource: Maine Center for Disease Control & Prevention**  
<https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/newhan.shtml>



## Pickers

Continued from page 1

new lease on life, while learning a thing or two about America's past along the way.

Mike and Frank have seen a lot of rusty gold over the years and are always looking to discover something they've never seen before. They are ready to find extraordinary items and hear fascinating tales about them. American Pickers is looking for

leads and would love to explore your hidden treasure. If you or someone you know has a large, private collection or accumulation of antiques that the Pickers can spend the better part of the day looking through, send them your name, phone number, location and description of the collection with photos to [americanpickers@cineflix.com](mailto:americanpickers@cineflix.com) or call 855-OLD-RUST. Find them on Facebook @ GotAPick.



## Beef stew and biscuits recipes

By Matthew Duplisea  
**Beef Stew - Feeds 6 to 8, approximate time 3.5 hours**

- Ingredients:**
- 3lbs. beef chuck
  - 2 teaspoons salt
  - 1 teaspoon black pepper
  - 3 tablespoons olive oil
  - 2 medium yellow onions
  - 7 cloves shopped garlic
  - 2 table spoons tomato paste
  - 1/4 cup flour
  - 2 cup red wine
  - 2 cup beef broth
  - 2 cup water
  - 2 bay leaves
  - 1/2 teaspoon thyme
  - 1 1/2 teaspoon sugar
  - 4 lg carrots cut in 1" chunks
  - 1 pound baby Yukon potatoes

Preheat oven to 325 Degrees Fahrenheit with rack in middle.

Brown the meat on all sides on stove over medium heat in as many batches as necessary with salt, pepper and oil. It is recommended to use a dutch oven, or something

similar with a cover. Pull each batch out after browning and place on a plate.

Stir onions and garlic into juices left behind in dutch oven from beef for 5 minutes.

Add tomato paste and continue to stir for 1 minute or until the paste mixes well with the onions and garlic.

Sprinkle flour over beef and add the beef-flour mixture to the dutch oven. Be sure to include any juices. Stir for 2 minutes until flour is dissolved.

Add wine, broth, water, bay leaf, thyme and sugar. Stir and bring to a boil.

Cover and put in oven and braise for 2 hours.

Add carrots and potatoes and cook for approximately 1 hour, or until carrots are tender.

Wicked Good Biscuits - Makes 12  
**Ingredients:**  
 - 1 1/4 cup self-rising



- flour
- 3/4 cup cake flour
  - 3/4 teaspoon baking powder
  - 1/4 teaspoon cream of tartar
  - 1/8 teaspoon baking soda
  - 1 tablespoon sugar
  - 1/2 teaspoon salt
  - 4 tablespoons of cold butter and 2 tablespoons of melted butter
  - 1 1/4 cup buttermilk
  - 1/4 cup all-purpose flour

Preheat oven to 475 Degrees Fahrenheit.

Sift self-rising flour, cake flour, baking powder, baking soda, sugar and salt into a large bowl. Use hands to work

in the 4 tablespoons of cold butter until the flour covered butter is round and pea sized.

Add buttermilk and use a rubber spatula to mix and form dough.

Sprinkle all-purpose flour on counter and put the dough on top.

Press the dough into a circle that is 1/2-inch thick. If you use a rolling pin, don't press too hard and do not work the dough for very long.

Use biscuit cutter to form biscuits and place on baking sheet.

Brush the melted butter over the biscuits.

Bake 10 to 12 minutes.

## Local

Continued from page 1

support them remotely, you may purchase gift cards online or by phone. Each transaction makes an immediate impact for our local businesses who have given so much to this City. Also, one innovative way you can double your help is to purchase a gift card that can be donated to an area non-profit.

Earlier this week, I asked City staff to begin an immediate outreach to our small businesses and now ask Lewiston's State and Federal delegations who have been working tirelessly for our community to be part of this immediate call for action.

Also, I call upon the

city's largest businesses and institutions including the City of Lewiston, Lewiston Public Schools, Bates College, Central Maine Medical Center, St. Mary's Regional Medical Center, and any other business on solid footing to immediately find innovative ways to shift as much purchasing as they can to our local small businesses. Gift

cards to recognize your employees are just one small way you can make a difference for your neighbors and community.

Residents and larger businesses, if you can show your commitment to our community during this difficult time by buying something from a Lewiston establishment, it will make a difference!

Please utilize their social media or call ahead to see how you can avail yourself of their products and services under these tough conditions. Our small businesses are innovative and resourceful, and that's what keeps them going. Let's help them do just that by demonstrating how important they are to you and the City of Lewiston!

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## FAME

Continued from page 4

mediately reaching out to partner with the SBA to ensure funds get into the hands of small businesses as quickly as possible" said New England Regional Administrator Wendell Davis, "Maine small businesses can now access and apply for Economic Impact Disaster Loans at [www.sba.gov/disaster](http://www.sba.gov/disaster). Our toll-free line has been established to answer questions at 1-800-659-2955."

Additionally, the Legislature recently enacted emergency legislation related to COVID-19, and it includes a new consumer loan guarantee program, the COVID-19 Relief Consumer Loan Program, to be administered by FAME in partnership with Maine lending institutions. It will provide a limited number of no-to low-interest consumer loans through a loan guarantee program involving Maine's banks, credit unions, and FAME. Interested borrowers should first contact their local bank or credit union to see if the lender is offering this program and to apply. Loans of up to \$5,000

(minus any unemployment benefits received by borrower) may be available and up to three loans to any one borrower can be applied for, one per each 30-day period.

The FAME COVID-19 business response programs are outlined in greater detail at FAME's website, [www.FAMEmaine.com](http://www.FAMEmaine.com), and in general below:

**COVID-19 Relief Loan Insurance for Lenders:** In partnership with lending institutions, FAME will approve any Online Assistance (OLA) loan submitted electronically and deemed "COVID-19" at a 50% insurance rate. Some will be eligible using our current standards (and be assessed decreased fees) for 75% coverage. Lending partners will share the risk with FAME and may obtain approval for their loan in an expedited manner. Interested borrowers should contact their local bank or credit union first to see if the lender is offering this program and to apply. See [www.FAMEmaine.com](http://www.FAMEmaine.com) for further details.

**COVID-19 Relief Interim SBA Finance Loan Program:** The SBA has initiated their disaster relief loan into "designated" disaster areas,

and Maine recently has been designated as such an area. FAME will provide interim direct loan funding up to \$100,000 since, following approval from the SBA, additional documentation from the borrower may be required prior to full disbursement of the SBA loan. FAME will obtain an assignment of the loan proceeds from the SBA and pre-fund the loan, so the money is available to Maine businesses sooner. See [www.FAMEmaine.com](http://www.FAMEmaine.com) for further details.

**COVID-19 Relief Business Direct Loan Program:** To be utilized when a borrower cannot obtain a loan or OLA from a lending partner. Offers loans up to \$50,000 and a decreased interest rate and decreased fee schedule for Maine-based businesses that experience interruption or hardship due to COVID-19. See [www.FAMEmaine.com](http://www.FAMEmaine.com) for further details.

"FAME exists to take increased risk for public benefit. During this extraordinary time, we are pleased to step up in partnership with the SBA, DECD, and our lending partners to provide some relief to affected Maine business-

es," stated Bruce Wagner, FAME Chief Executive Officer.

Funds for the above programs will be limited. FAME anticipates setting aside up to \$10 million of its reserves for the loan insurance program and up to \$5 million for the direct loan program. FAME estimates that the above programs could help to provide \$15 million in economic support for approximately 300 small to mid-sized businesses in the state. FAME will make every effort to work with borrowers on special accommodations for their loans, especially during this challenging time.

"We are continuing our work to find ways that we can support both Maine businesses and Maine workers during this challenging time," said Department of Economic and Community Development Commissioner Heather Johnson. "DECD and the Administration are committed to finding solutions and to partnering with FAME and other entities that can offer support to ensure that there are resources available for businesses impacted by the changes in the market as a result of the Coronavirus. I am grateful to the FAME staff and board members for being able to quickly provide these important services to Maine's businesses."

FAME's Commercial Loan Insurance Program insures a portion of a loan to a business made by a participating financial institution or investment firm. For a business, it may mean the difference between obtaining a loan or never getting the opportunity to start a business.

The FAME Direct Loan offers reduced

interest rate loans to businesses that may not have been able to secure financing through traditional lenders. This program helps new or existing business with flexible gap financing directly from FAME.

Chris Pinkham, President of the Maine Bankers Association, stated, "This new lending program announced by FAME compliments other services currently available at your bank. We hope all businesses or consumers will reach out to their local financial institution if they are facing financial challenges as a result of illness and/or business interruption. Maine banks are prepared to assist consumers and businesses as we all work through these unprecedented times."

Todd Mason, President & CEO of the Maine Credit Union League, stated, "Maine credit unions recognize the financial toll the coronavirus pandemic is having on our state's small businesses. These local companies and their employees are the backbone of Maine's economy, and we offer our full support for programs that provide much-needed assistance during this challenging time. It is in everyone's

best interest to ensure our state's small business community has the resources it needs to continue contributing to Maine's economy and keep hardworking Mainers on their payroll."

FAME CEO Bruce Wagner added, "The health and welfare of our associates, customers, and the state as a whole are of the utmost importance to us. Thankfully, over the past two years FAME has been reviewing and updating our business continuity plans to ensure our programs continue to operate smoothly in a situation such as this. Additionally, over the past several years, we have taken steps to invest in technology and systems that allow us to care for our employees and customers in a way that enables us to remain in operation and provide financial solutions to Maine's students and businesses."

The Finance Authority of Maine (FAME) is a quasi-independent state agency that provides innovative financial solutions to help Maine citizens pursue business and educational opportunities. FAME helps to lead the creation of good paying jobs for Maine citizens by work-

See FAME, page 13

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Beginning 3/24, Tuesday through Thursday mornings from 6-7 a.m. will be reserved exclusively for customers 60+ and individuals identified by the CDC as being at high-risk. We won't be checking IDs, but request that all other customers support these vulnerable shoppers and wait until after 7 a.m. to enter the store.

Our store hours have also temporarily changed to allow for more time to clean, stock shelves and give associates additional time to rest - beginning 3/21, new store hours will be 7 a.m. - 9 p.m.



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# YWCA

Continued from page 1

viding essential services to the community. The YWCA recognizes that now, more than ever, these parents need reliable childcare in order to be consistently available to serve the public needs.

The YWCA continues to provide free breakfast, lunch, and snack to children in our care while schools are closed, as well as operate a free food pick-up site for families with children who are not necessarily affiliated with the YWCA. The YWCA is committed to doing everything possible to ensure safety for the children and staff, as detailed in a letter from the YWCA Director of Childcare Services on its website.

Please call the YWCA at 795-4050 for more information or to enroll your child today. Donations are being accepted from the general public to support the YWCA's continued operations during this critical period.

## Help

Continued from page 3

glad the PUC took this much-needed step.

There's one more thing I want to urge you all to do. I know we've seen how empty the shelves at grocery stores are becoming, and that can cause even more anxiety on top of the fear of getting sick or losing income. I've been in touch with officials at Hannaford, and I want to assure you that food and

toilet paper will be back in stock soon. When you go grocery shopping, please think about the needs of your neighbors. Buy what you and your family need, but leave food and supplies for other families, too. We all know how to be good neighbors—let's practice that at home and at the store.

Even though the Legislature has adjourned for the time being and the State House is closed, my office has not stopped working for you. We're still here to answer your questions and help you get the help you need. Please don't hesitate to reach out by email at [nathan.libby@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:nathan.libby@legislature.maine.gov) or

by calling (207) 287-1515. If we keep taking smart precautions and look out for each other,

I'm confident we'll make it through this crisis and come out stronger for it.

Sen. Nate Libby (D-Androscoggin) represents Maine Senate District 21 which comprises the City of Lewiston

# Word Search

With most of us staying close to home its the perfect chance to catch up on our favorite movies. How many of these Pixar movies have you seen?

## Disney Pixar Movies

S	S	E	M	O	N	S	T	E	R	S	I	N	C
M	L	U	N	V	O	E	O	W	A	L	L	E	D
C	E	L	L	I	U	O	T	A	T	A	R	C	E
O	T	U	O	E	D	I	S	N	I	O	S	E	E
C	O	M	E	N	G	N	I	D	N	I	F	E	L
C	L	M	N	A	M	L	T	A	N	I	M	S	D
L	M	O	R	I	N	I	A	O	L	A	N	T	E
A	U	W	N	I	A	B	B	S	I	I	T	O	O
E	S	O	R	W	C	C	G	I	D	A	N	Y	E
S	B	W	S	L	A	U	A	C	O	E	N	S	N
B	E	R	S	U	B	R	U	R	O	S	O	T	E
I	W	Y	A	A	W	C	D	D	S	C	W	O	A
R	B	O	S	V	A	C	O	B	S	E	O	R	S
T	E	T	R	N	E	S	Y	N	N	O	M	Y	S

- BRAVE
- INSIDE OUT
- A BUGS LIFE
- TOY STORY
- ONWARD
- FINDING NEMO
- MONSTERS INC
- SOUL
- COCO
- CARS
- WALL E
- RATATOUILLE

Thank you for your submissions! Email us your suggestions for word search topics! Let us know what you think!

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[www.shakerhilloutdoors.com](http://www.shakerhilloutdoors.com)

# We Deliver.



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# What's Going On

## Combat

*Continued from page 5*

hand greeting. Figure “live long and prosper” is the right sentiment for this moment.

6. Limit visits to nursing homes. Again, something that feels counterintuitive, why would we not want to check in on our most vulnerable citizens during a crisis? The fact is, more contacts with vulnerable people means more opportunities for them to catch the disease. We should all be checking on our older loved ones, but for now, let's do it by calling them on the phone or using video-chatting on your computer or phone. If you have elderly neighbors or loved ones, check on them remotely, and see if they need help picking up groceries or other pressing needs.

7. Think about your local businesses. Order take-out or delivery from restaurants; a call to your bookstore can get you a book as quickly as any on-line service; local retailers can put items aside for you for pick-up. This period is going to be especially tough for them; a little extra love now can go a long way toward

ensuring they'll be there when this is behind us.

8. When in doubt, listen to the experts. The most-up-to-date information and guidance is constantly evolving, so it's important to check for updates. The Maine Center for Disease Control and the Governor are monitoring this situation closely, so check in on the Maine CDC's website and call 2-1-1 if you have questions. Also, the national CDC has collected many helpful resources and guidelines at [coronavirus.gov](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus).

This is an unprecedented moment, at least in recent memory—but we can always find lessons in history. And the key takeaway is, there's almost no such thing as ‘being too careful’ and you don't want to look back at this moment with second thoughts. When the Spanish Flu struck in 1918, cities across America took different approaches to combat this disease. St. Louis acted decisively, canceling a pre-planned parade honoring America's victory in World War I, while Philadelphia allowed its victory parade to continue. In the following month, Philadelphia saw more than 10,000 deaths

from the Spanish Flu; St. Louis, only 700. In hindsight, the decision seems obvious. I'm hopeful that if we can take these sometimes uncomfortable or inconvenient steps now, we can look back and know that we did everything possible to protect our state. Be safe, and stay healthy—we will get through this, together.

## Banks

*Continued from page 7*

Trust, Rockland Savings Bank, FSB, Saco & Biddeford Savings Institution, Partners Bank, Skowhegan Savings Bank, Spinnaker Trust, and TD Bank, N.A.

The Maine Bankers Association (MBA) represents Maine's banking industry and its 9000 employees statewide. Maine's 30 retail banks operate 463 offices in nearly every community throughout the state, where they assist Maine's citizens and businesses with financial decisions that improve the quality of life for everyone. With assets exceeding \$32 billion, the Maine banking industry serves as the economic engine for our state.

## Portland announces temporary changes to parking enforcement

Last Friday, Portland's City Manager directed the Parking Division to no longer issue parking tickets for time zones and expired meters for the foreseeable future. Enforcement will continue for illegal parking, which includes blocking the roadway, parking in handicap spaces, blocking fire hydrants, parking in no parking zones, blocking driveways or sidewalks/crosswalks, and double parking.

“We're all working under a new normal right now,” said City Manager Jon Jennings. “Our message to the public at the time was parking enforcement is a low priority. We said things in this way because at the

time we did not want to encourage an excess of people to come downtown given we were hoping people would abide by social distancing in order to lessen the spread of COVID-19.”

Jennings continued, “Now that Governor Mills has issued the executive order to close restaurants/bars to dine-in and only allow carry out/take out, we feel it is appropriate to be more explicit with the public that we are not ticketing and have not been ticketing unless for unsafe/illegal parking.”

The City would like to remind the public to remember to be respectful of parking spaces in front of businesses so

that spaces are available for take-out and delivery services.

The City's parking staff is working at half capacity right now in light of this. They are being redeployed to other more essential city operations due to staffing shortages. Those who remain in parking are handling customer service issues, watching out for safety issues, and performing other maintenance related tasks.

The City has many constituencies who rely on its services and policies around the clock and is doing its best to adapt as quickly as possible given these uncertain times where things are changing every hour.

## Administration delays tax filing date until July 15

U.S. Senator Angus King (I-Maine) applauded the Treasury Department for quickly adopting his suggestion to extend the federal tax filing deadline from April 15, 2020, to July 15, 2020. The decision came one day after Senators King, John Thune (R-S.D.) and Steve Daines (R-Mont.) introduced the Tax Filing Relief for America Act, which would have made this change legislatively,

and it coincides with the Treasury Department's previous announcement that it would extend the tax payment deadline for filers who owe the IRS 2019 taxes. Americans who would like to file early are still able to do so, and the Treasury Department is processing returns so taxpayers can get their hard-earned money back in a rebate as soon as possible.

“In this unprecedented moment, we

should be taking every possible precaution to protect our country's most vulnerable citizens,” said Senator King. “By moving Tax Day to July, we're allowing American seniors to continue to ‘socially distance’ themselves without neglecting their tax responsibilities. This is a commonsense way to keep people safe, and I'm glad to see the Treasury Department acting

*See Tax, next page*

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New England Aquarium is offering special virtual programming to keep families engaged daily at 11:00 a.m., while the Aquarium remains closed to the public. Content will be posted on the Aquarium's social media platforms.

**Thursday, March 26**

Auburn Public Library Life Skills Series: The Job Interview in the Library's Conference Room (ground floor) from 3 to 4 p.m. For more details on other teen programs, continue to check the Auburn Public Library calendar at [www.auburnpubliclibrary.org](http://www.auburnpubliclibrary.org), call the APL at 333-6640 (ext. 4), or email the Teen Librarian at [dwallace@auburnpubliclibrary.org](mailto:dwallace@auburnpubliclibrary.org).

**Saturday, March 28**

Bean Supper Auburn United Methodist Church, 439 Park Avenue, at 4:30 p.m. Admission is \$8 for adults, children, age 6 to 12, are \$4, and there is no charge for children under 5. For additional information,

# Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

please call the church office at 207-782-3972.

**Sunday, March 29**

Beethoven's 9<sup>th</sup> Symphony "Ode to Joy" presented by The Maine Music Society (MMS) and Bates College in a community-wide music-making collaboration at the Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul at 4 p.m. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit our website at [www.mainemusicociety.org](http://www.mainemusicociety.org), like us on Facebook or call SmART Management, at 207-333-3386.

**Sunday, March 29**

3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Vietnam War Veterans Remembrance Day at the Auburn Recreation Facility Senior Center, 48 Pettingill Road, Auburn from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

**Tuesday, March 31**

Baxter Memorial Library's Mr. Jeff will

be on Facebook Live at 2 p.m. Visit [www.facebook.com/BaxterLibrary](http://www.facebook.com/BaxterLibrary).

**Wednesday, April 1**

Baxter Memorial Library's Mr. Jeff will be on Facebook Live at 2 p.m. Visit [www.facebook.com/BaxterLibrary](http://www.facebook.com/BaxterLibrary).

**Wednesday, April 1**

Wildlife specialist McKenzie Whelan and her friend Pegasus will be providing Baxter Memorial Library with a special video presentation. The video will be posted on the library's Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/BaxterLibrary](http://www.facebook.com/BaxterLibrary) and our website [www.baxterlibrary.org](http://www.baxterlibrary.org).

**Thursday, April 2**

Baxter Memorial Library's Mr. Jeff will be on Facebook Live at 2 p.m. Visit [www.facebook.com/BaxterLibrary](http://www.facebook.com/BaxterLibrary).

brary.

**Thursday, April 2**

University of Maine Cooperative Extension offering a free online workshop on growing hemp in a home garden from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Registration is required by March 30. Register online. For more information, to register by phone or request a reasonable accommodation, contact (207) 942-7396 or 800-287-1485 (in Maine) or email [wendy.robertson@maine.edu](mailto:wendy.robertson@maine.edu).

**Friday, April 3**

Baxter Memorial Library's Mr. Jeff will be on Facebook Live at 2 p.m. Visit [www.facebook.com/BaxterLibrary](http://www.facebook.com/BaxterLibrary).

**Thursday, April 9**

Turner Adult Ed offering resume and interviewing workshop from 6 to 8 p.m. Contact Chris Morin to sign up at [christina.m.morin@maine.edu](mailto:christina.m.morin@maine.edu) or (207) 753-6531.

**Saturday, April 25**

Rual Community Action Ministry's 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Auction for Action at At Boofy Quimby

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**Saturday, April 25**

Stanton Bird Club trip to the Lewiston-Auburn Riverwalk will meet at the Promenade Mall, 855 Lisbon Street, at the end of the park-

ing lot by Staples across from Marquis Signs, at 8:30 a.m. The trip will be led by Dan Marquis. For more information, call him at 207-513-8213.

**Tuesday, April 28**

Stanton Bird Club first Bates walk beginning at the front of Hawthorne Hall on the Bates campus at 6 a.m. and ending at 8:30 a.m. The leaders include Judy Marden, Steve Reed, Doug Boyd, and Christine Murray. For any questions call Steve Reed at 319-6630.

## Cancellation and postponements

The Auburn Art Club meeting scheduled to be held at the Park Avenue Methodist Church on April 6 has been cancelled.

Androscoggin Historical Society has postponed indefinitely their March 31 program on the underground railroad.

The Lewiston Public Library will remain

closed till April 6, at which point the situation will be re-evaluated. During this period, any items borrowed from the Library should be retained and not returned. Fines will be waived while the Library is closed.

Please email any event cancellations to the Editor.

## Tax

*Continued from previous page*

quickly to clear up any confusion."

Senator King has strongly pushed for proactive efforts to encourage social distancing amid the coronavirus pandemic. In the last several days, he has urged the President to issue an executive order directing federal agencies to maximize telework, called on the President to use his existing authority to help address widespread shortages of medical equipment including ventilators, and joined a group of his colleagues to call on the Federal Communications Commission to temporarily use E-Rate program funding to provide Wi-Fi hotspots or devices with Wi-Fi capability to stu-

dents who lack internet access at home.

The Tax Filing Relief for America Act is supported by AARP and the Association of International Certified Public Accountants.

## Tuna

*Continued from page 2*

The 2019 Casco Bay Bluefin Bonanza tournament included 17 boats that landed 22 fish, the largest weighing 742 pounds. More than 75 individuals and businesses generously supported the event which raised the funds for Maine's community colleges.

Bob Humphrey, Casco Bay Bluefin Bonanza president, and the Bonanza board of directors made the presen-

tation to John Fitzsimmons, president of the Foundation for Maine's Community Colleges at the board's recent meeting. "We were so pleased to be able to raise enough from our first tournament to fund a Casco Bay Bluefin Bonanza Scholarship at each one of the seven colleges. Plans for the August 2020 tournament are already underway, and we hope our continued support of the community colleges will grow each year," said Humphrey.

As a first-class tuna tournament, the Casco Bay Bluefin Bonanza combines highly skilled anglers from all over the northeast in a contest of competition, comradery and fun. Understanding the importance and reward of giving back to the community, the Casco Bay Bluefin Bonanza is committed to the purpose of raising and expending funds in support of educational scholarships to deserving individuals and giving charitable donations for those in need. For more information: <https://www.bluefinbonanza.org/>

The Foundation for Maine's Community Colleges is dedicated to ensuring that the state's seven community colleges have the resources they need to provide a

high quality and affordable education for Maine people. The Foundation seeks to enhance access to educational and economic opportunity and to provide Maine employers with a highly trained and skilled workforce. More information about the Foundation is available at: [www.maineccfoundation.org](http://www.maineccfoundation.org). Information about the Maine Community College System is available at: [www.mccs.me.edu](http://www.mccs.me.edu).

## Nursing

*Continued from page 2*

ern Maine Community Action (WMCA) at the CareerCenter in Lewiston and Mid-Maine Regional Adult Community Education in Waterville. Northern Light Health (NLH) Continuing Care Lakewood in Waterville hosted a graduation ceremony at the facility on Wednesday, March 11, recognizing graduates as Certified Nurses Assistants. Desiree Knowles, NLH Assistant Director of Nursing welcomed administrators, staff and workforce partners to the pinning ceremony and presentation of certificates. Commencement remarks were shared by Class/Clinical Instructor, Chris Miller, R. N. Class/Clinical In-

structor; Ryan Francis, Administrator; Patricia Shuck, NLH Director of Nursing; Monica Millhime, WMCA Regional Employer Assistant Point; Vicki Dyer, LPN; and Robin Doody, NLH Talent Acquisition Specialist. The classroom/clinical curriculum, in addition to an On-the-Job training supported through WMCA/WIOA funding directly follows graduation. Students are empowered with the skills and knowledge essential to their specific job field. "Working in healthcare is both challenging and rewarding. Training students so that they are prepared to handle all aspects of the work requires caring, knowledgeable trainers. We are grateful to our partners at Northern Light Health for their commitment to the students." shares Patti Saarinen, WMCA/WIOA Site Coordinator serving Androscoggin, Franklin, Oxford, Kennebec and Somerset Counties.

"It's exciting to open doors for individuals looking for a new career opportunity. NLH Continuing Care Lakewood has done just that by partnering with WMCA and Adult Education to train and certify new Certified Nurs-

ing Assistants. This is a win-win for all," shares Talent Acquisitions Specialist, Robin Doody. The next class begins June 22. For more information, email Doody at [rdoody@northernlight.org](mailto:rdoody@northernlight.org) by May 1.

For more information on educational partnerships and opportunities call 207.713.7045 or visit <https://www.facebook.com/WesternMaineCommunityAction/> or <https://wmca.org/>.

## Access

*Continued from page 4*

federal government as needed to allow for additional flexibility, including extending annual review periods for TANF, SNAP and MaineCare for up to three months.

These preliminary steps will help to streamline access to essential benefits and DHHS will continue to implement additional strategies as they become available.

## FAME

*Continued from page 10*

ing at the nexus between economic and workforce development. To learn more about FAME, please visit [www.fame-maine.com](http://www.fame-maine.com).



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## Side By Each Brewing offers delivery, curbside pick-up services



Side By Each Brewing Co., the Auburn, Maine brewery that opened in 2019, announced that the company will commence delivery and curbside pick-up of many of its beer and coffee offerings, and that they expected these services to last for the duration of the coronavirus outbreak. The brewery and its adjoining business partner, Pinky D's Poutine Factory, also remain open for takeout of beer, coffee, food, and most of their other products.

"With our taproom only open for takeout due to the pandemic, we're continually looking for new ways to get our beer to people while being responsible about social

distancing and public health," said Matt Johannes, who started the brewery with co-owner Ben Low.

"We've basically lost 80% of our sales overnight," said Low, "so we have to be open minded and creative and try new things without sacrificing our primary goals of quality and service."

Low and Johannes stated that they are planning to keep their four employees on during the crisis, though they have cut back their operating hours.

"We've really been touched by the outpouring of support from our regulars and our Community Supported Brewing program members,

our business partners, and our community as a whole," Johannes said.

"The next few weeks will be challenging to say the least, but if that support continues, we'll be okay," Low added.

Side By Each offers a Community Supported Brewing program in which members pay for a year or six month share and gradually redeem their shares for growlers of the company's beer, along with other benefits. Members will be able to receive their growlers via curbside or home delivery, Johannes and Low stated.

Customers will be able to pick up growlers of Side By Each Brewing's frequently changing selection of 15 or more house-brewed beers, along with most of their coffee offerings, breakfast sandwiches and pastries, merchandise, and gift cards, at the curbside of the brewery, located at 1110 Minot Avenue in Auburn. Pinky D's Poutine Factory, a separate business in the same building, also

remains open for takeout and can bring anything from their menu to waiting vehicles.

Side By Each Brewing will also deliver many of their products, including growlers of beer filled to order, boxes of coffee, coffee beans, merchandise, and other items, within a 10 mile radius of the brewery during morning and evening delivery runs Tuesday through Saturday.

Items available for curbside and home or office delivery, as well as details on the ordering process and times, are listed on the brewery's website ([www.sidebyeachbrewing.com](http://www.sidebyeachbrewing.com)) and Facebook page, and orders can be placed by phone (689-3030) or email ([sxe2u@sidebyeachbrewing.com](mailto:sxe2u@sidebyeachbrewing.com)).

"Our community is strong, and we'll get through this if we work together," Low said. "We want to be a part of the solution for our customers, and we're counting on the community to be part of ours."

## Open call for artists and performers for Art Walk LA

LA Arts, the arts agency of Lewiston and Auburn, announced an open call for artists, artisans and performers for the Art Walk LA 2020 season. Please note, while the COVID-19 pandemic has prompted the Art Walk LA Committee to cancel the May 2020 art walk, the team hopes to bring back the festive monthly community arts celebration on June 26, 2020.

Art Walk LA turns the downtown into a bustling arts district on the final Friday of each month from June through September, converting outdoor plazas, sidewalks, and more than 20 businesses and storefronts into lively art galleries and performance spaces.

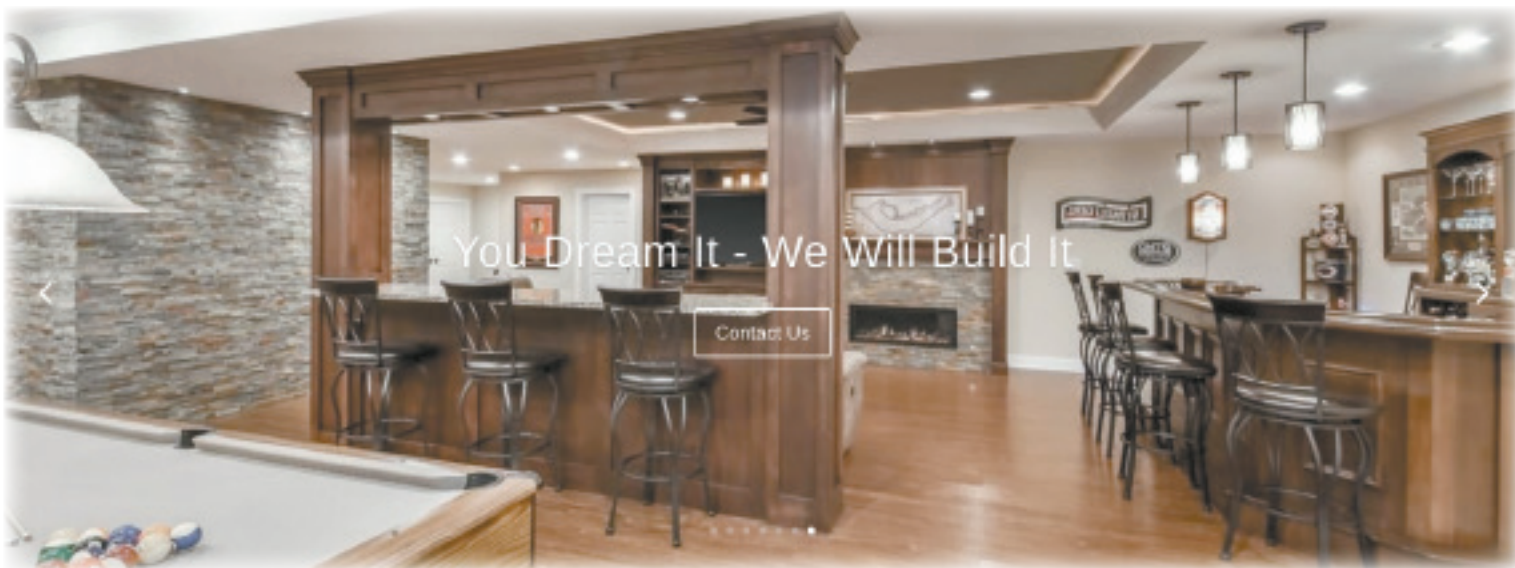
Area artists, artisans, and performers are encouraged to register at <http://www.laarts.org/artwalk/register/>.

Art Walk LA brings thousands of people to downtown Lewiston and Auburn, making it a cul-

tural staple and a great opportunity for exhibitors and performers to connect with audiences. LA Arts and the Art Walk LA committee look forward to working with all of this year's artists and performers.

Since 1973, L/A Arts, the arts agency for the cities of Lewiston and Auburn Maine, has pursued a mission to engage and inspire a vibrant community through arts and culture. The agency works with governments, businesses, schools and local arts and cultural organizations to create opportunities for community members across the generations to experience, learn, and participate in the arts. L/A Arts organizes arts programs and initiatives, supports the work of local artists and art organizations, and highlights the essential role the arts play in shaping an economically vital, socially integrated, and forward-looking future for its community. Learn more at [www.laarts.org](http://www.laarts.org).

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