



TWIN CITY TIMES

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A lot has changed at Gridiron Restaurant with the pandemic



Schan Martin said his collection of autographed helmets was the inspiration for opening Gridiron in 2006. (Tsukroff photo)

With a lack of business due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Schan Martin, who owns the Gridiron Restaurant and Pub on Lisbon Street in Lewiston with his wife, Kim, put himself on layoff to leave more working hours for his employees.

Before the pandemic, "We were busy, pretty much all the time," Martin said. And then, "Things were going great, the pandemic hit (and) things changed a little!"

Actually, things changed a lot at Gridiron. On March 17, "We shut everything down completely, because we thought it was only going to be a two-week thing. So I was like, let's just clean up everything, get it done. Then we'll come back and everything will be back to normal," he said.

However, the State of Maine increased the restrictions, and Gridiron didn't open again until the last week of May.

"We had zero busi-

ness" for the two months the restaurant was closed, Martin said.

With the reopening, he is working fewer hours because "I gave up my position for my employees, so I could keep them busy," Martin said. "I'm not doing the physical cooking, which I really enjoy," he said. "The kitchen is my home. That's where I'm most comfortable! I enjoy it."

As with other restaurants, Gridiron reopened in stages. "When we first opened up, we just opened up as take-out, because that's what they allowed us to do," he said. "And then when they allowed us to open to have some guests outdoors, we did that."

"We've been very lucky with staff. Our staff has stuck with us," Martin said. Employees have been very loyal, and Gridiron only lost a couple of employees, he said. Before the pandemic, about 40 people worked full- and part-time, and this has

See *Gridiron*, page 8

CMCC awarded \$597,000 to help at-risk students succeed



The TRIO program at Central Maine Community College has been awarded two major federal grants to help more students to succeed in college.

The U.S. Department of Education announced that Central Maine Community College (CMCC) will receive two federal Student Support Services (SSS) grants totaling \$597,000 per year to help more students succeed in and graduate from college. The grants will amount to almost three million dollars for the five-year grant period and will serve 295 students every year.

While the TRIO program at CMCC has held a Student Support Services grant since 1998 and has since helped 3850 students to graduate, this is the first time the college has received a second SSS grant. The new grant focuses on helping STEM majors (students majoring in a science, technology, engineering,

or mathematics related degree) to graduate or transfer to a baccalaureate program.

SSS helps college students who are low income, first generation (those whose parents do not have a four-year college degree) or students with disabilities. The grant funds comprehensive services such as academic advising/tutoring, financial aid advice, and career and college mentoring. Such services enhance academic success and make it more likely that students will graduate or transfer with the lowest possible debt.

Started in 1968, SSS recognizes that students whose parents do not have a college degree have more difficulties navigating the complexity of decisions that college requires for success;

it bolsters students from low income families who have not had the academic opportunities that their college peers have had, and helps students with disabilities remove obstacles preventing them from thriving academically.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has worsened the systemic inequality and financial hardship which keep promising students from succeeding in college," said Maureen Hoyler, president of the Council for Opportunity in Education in Washington, D.C. "These funds will help make certain that deserving students at CMCC will experience increased success," noted Terry Charlton, director of the TRIO Success Center at CMCC. "Finally something good has happened in 2020!"

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Junction Bowl

See *Gridiron*, page 8



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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Anne Trapp graduates from Bates College

Anne Trapp of Brunswick, Maine, graduated after majoring in environmental studies and minoring in German and theater at Bates College in Lewiston, Maine. Trapp, the child of Gregory J. Trapp and Kathleen R. Trapp of Brunswick, Maine, is a 2016 graduate of Deerfield Academy.

Bates College graduated 463 students from 37 states and 52 countries on May 31, 2020. Cumulatively, the Class of 2020 performed 80,000 hours of community service, exemplifying Bates' commitment to community learning and civic action.

The commencement, virtual due to the pandemic, reached more than 10,000 viewers worldwide. It featured introductory remarks by President Clayton Spencer and an address by renowned multimedia art-

ist Vanessa German, who had been the subject of a solo exhibit at the Bates Museum of Art during the academic year. Delivering her remarks in the form of a poem, she encouraged the graduating seniors to ride "a rocketship of perseverance" into their futures. "You know of the power that resides within you - when you are in the click and the groove of the thing that is your thing. You know what right feels like, when you are right inside of it."

In remarks pre-recorded in her hometown of Malden, Mass., senior speaker Alexandria Onuoha paid homage to her mother, a Jamaican immigrant who raised her as a single mother. The double major passed on her mother's advice in a speech titled "Stay Strong, and Walk Like You Got Some Sense."

"Our story as a class is not perfect, but it's real," Onuoha said. "For students who have been waiting for this moment to be celebrated - especially for students of color, for first-generation students, for international students - it's more than a walk, it's a moment of victory. We may not have been able to walk across the stage and then hug our families, but we do get to walk with a Bates degree and a holistic perspective on academics and on life. We get to walk towards the next chapter of our lives as writers of our own story."

Bates College said that, though it was delayed in sharing this news due to its response to the COVID-19 pandemic, readers should know that its pride in its graduates is as strong as ever. Congratulations to the class of 2020!

Camden National Bank expands executive team



C A M D E N , Maine – Camden National Bank announced that on Sept. 1, 2020, Timothy P. Nightingale will become Executive Vice President, Chief Credit Officer, and Ryan A. Smith will be promoted from Senior Vice President, Director of Credit Administration to Executive Vice President, Commercial Banking.

Nightingale joined Camden National Bank more than 20 years ago and most recently served as Executive Vice President, Senior Loan Officer.

Smith joined the bank in 2012 and has since been promoted to leadership roles in commercial banking, treasury management, and credit administration, culminating in his new position on the executive team.

"Tim and Ryan have been instrumental to the success and growth of Camden National Bank's commercial banking di-

vision, as well as our exceptional loan portfolio and balanced underwriting management over the years," said Greg Dufour, President & CEO of Camden National Bank. "Both have had dedicated careers at Camden National Bank, seeking opportunities to grow professionally and better serve clients, fellow employees, local communities, and our shareholders."

Nightingale, who will be leading credit and underwriting, special assets, and commercial administration in his new role, first joined as Regional Vice President of UnitedKingfield Bank, a wholly owned subsidiary of Camden National Corporation. In 2001, he was named Senior Lending Officer and was promoted to Senior Vice President in 2003. In September 2006, when UnitedKingfield Bank merged into Camden National Bank, Nightingale became Senior Vice President, Senior Lend-

ing Officer. In January 2011, he was promoted to Executive Vice President.

Nightingale currently serves on the board of directors for the Finance Authority of Maine, as well as the Economic Growth Council of Maine, both of which are gubernatorial appointments. He is a former gubernatorial appointee and served for seven years on the board of Maine Technology Institute.

Smith brings more than 25 years of banking and finance experience - including extensive knowledge of commercial lending, business banking, and treasury management services - to his new role on the executive team. In 2012, Smith joined Camden National Bank to lead commercial banking efforts in central and southern Maine. He soon took on the added responsibility of leading the treasury management

See Camden, page 13

Millie Barnard steps down as Managing Editor

With these editions of the Twin City Times and the Gorham Weekly, we extend a very big "Thank You" to Managing Editor Millie Barnard, who is moving on to a new stage in her life.

Barnard has been with us for about 18 months, and was instrumental in helping get the Gorham Weekly into production.

She was wonder-

ful with her oversight of press releases, and did an amazing job ensuring we had meaningful copy for our readers.

In addition to freelance writing and running her cleaning business, Busy Bee Cleaning Service, Barnard will be joining her friend and sensei, Sadie Landry, at Pelletier's Karate Academy on Taylor Hill Road in Lewiston. They will

be working to expand the dojo into "Project Thrive Learning Center", for families learning to adjust to the new hybrid model of school.

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

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Students Graduate from Bates College



Bates College graduated 463 students from 37 states and 52 countries on May 31, 2020. Cumulatively, the Class of 2020 performed 80,000 hours of community service, exemplifying Bates' commitment to community learning and civic action.

Though the college has been delayed in sharing this news due to their response to the COVID-19 pandemic, please know that their pride in their graduates is as strong as ever. "Congratulations to the class of 2020!"

Michal Cwik of Auburn, Maine, graduated after majoring in physics. Cwik, the child of Wojciech W. Cwik and Iwona Cwik of Auburn, Maine, is a 2016 graduate of Edward Little High School.

Cwik graduates as a member of Sigma Xi, an honor society that

recognizes excellence in scientific research. Cwik was also inducted into the Bates Scholar-Athlete Society, an organization which honors grad-

uating seniors who have achieved a grade point average of 3.5 or have received special nomination from the faculty for outstanding academic achievement in their junior and senior years, and who have participated in a varsity sport for a minimum of three years..

Kaelyn Woods of New Gloucester, Maine, graduated after majoring in environmental studies and minoring in anthropology. Woods, the child of Tucker Woods and Rebecca Flynn Woods of New Gloucester, Maine, is a 2016 graduate of Gray-New Gloucester High School.

Woods was inducted into the Bates Scholar-Athlete Society, an organization which honors graduating seniors who have achieved a grade point average of 3.5 or have received a special nomination from the faculty for outstanding academic achievement in their junior and senior years, and who have
See Bates, page 9

Op-Ed

Collins vs Gideon - Let's set the record straight!

By Patti Gagne

The 2020 U.S. Senate race in Maine is like nothing we have ever seen. For two years now, this race has been controlled by DC insiders and hedge fund billionaires who don't have Maine's best interest at heart. Instead, the seat, currently occupied by Republican Susan Collins, is a pivotal pawn in their scheme to flip the Senate majority from red to blue and install New York Senator, and Yankees fan, Chuck Schumer as Majority Leader.

To achieve this goal, the Far Left knew it would have to

try chipping away at Collins' solid reputation and popularity in Maine early and often. They set up a dark money group, named Maine Momentum/16 Counties. To date, this supposed "social advocacy organization" has spent millions in tv/digital ads aimed squarely at Collins, trying to paint her as an out-of-touch, heartless politician who no longer cares about Maine. We know that's not true. The Washington Post even rated one of this group's ads "mostly false." Sadly, these days, truth no longer seems to matter.

Then, Schumer



had to find a candidate who would have no trouble repeating the lie, "Susan Collins is not for you anymore." Schumer learned his lesson in 2008 when Congressman Tom Allen refused to run a negative campaign. This time, after more well-known
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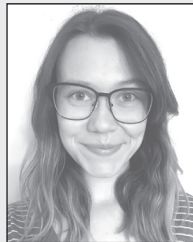
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Laurie A. Steele
Publisher/CEO
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Millie Barnard
Managing Editor
Editor@TwinCityTimes.com

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What's Going On

Devoted Health Plans to Double Its Workforce in Maine

Healthcare startup Devoted Health, a next-generation Medicare Advantage plan dedicated to delivering high-quality, hassle-free health care for seniors, plans to double its workforce at its recently opened service center in New Gloucester.

Massachusetts-based Devoted Health opened its service center at Pineland Farms in New Gloucester last October.

The center hosts a team of nearly 40 staff, including 25 premier member service guides. These guides, using world-class technology to help Devoted members simplify their healthcare experience, bring compassion and humanity to every moment of service.

The company is actively hiring new member service guides and could double its workforce in Maine by the end of the year.

Devoted Health's Maine-based team members have been working remotely since mid-March and the new employees will also work remotely during the pandemic restrictions.

"This is exciting news," said Governor Janet Mills. "Not only will this expansion result in more good paying jobs, but it is a positive recognition that our dedicated, hardworking people are a smart and worthwhile investment. On behalf of the State of Maine, I thank Devoted

Health for its continued commitment to our state, and I look forward to watching their continued growth as a groundbreaking startup company."

Devoted Health is one of the fastest growing Medicare Advantage companies in the US, with nearly 20,000 members in Texas and Florida. With plans to expand offerings to several new states in 2021, Devoted Health is expanding its team and physical footprint at its New Gloucester office.

Devoted Health's leadership has deep experience in Maine. Its co-founders, Todd and Ed Park, were also co-founders of healthcare information technology company, athenahealth, and established a successful operation in Belfast, Maine in 2008. Additionally, Larry Henry, Devoted Health's Head of Health Plan Operations, is the former Chief Operating Officer of Martin's Point Health Care in Portland, ME, whose Medicare Advantage plan is the leading plan in Maine and nationally recognized for high quality.

"At Devoted, we are committed to transforming the health care of our nation's seniors by treating each member like family," said Henry. "I have first-hand experience working with industry-leading teams here in Maine. They have a commitment to excellence, an

incredible work ethic and an ability to relate to people that make Maine an ideal place to build a service operations center."

In addition to contributing to a mission that matters, employees at Devoted Health enjoy a robust set of benefits. Every employee is given equity in the company and an employer-funded health plan that covers the employee and their family at no premium.

Devoted Health was recently recognized by Forbes' as one of America's Best Startup Employers in 2020. The company was also named a 2019 Best Places to Work in Boston. With 557 employees in five locations - Maine, Massachusetts, Florida, Texas, Ohio and Arizona - Devoted plans to hire 300 employees across all locations this year.

"Devoted Health is one of America's most exciting startup companies. They have a world class team who knows how to scale operations while building a first-rate work culture. Mainers are going to love the opportunities at Devoted Health," said Peter Del-Greco, President & CEO of Maine & Co., a private non-profit organization that helps companies with their growth and expansion plans in Maine.

Information on Devoted Health employment opportunities may be found at: <https://jobs.lever.co/devoted/>

Nearly \$20 Million in Financial Relief For Maine Farmers

Washington, D.C.

U.S. Senator Susan Collins announced August 18 that Maine farmers have been awarded a total of \$19,704,833 to date to help offset the financial harm they have experienced due to COVID-19. The funding is provided through the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP), created through the CARES Act, which will provide up to \$16 billion in direct payments to deliver relief to America's farmers.

"The supply chain disruptions and restaurant closures caused by the COVID-19 pandemic have placed increasing financial pressure on Maine's rural farming communities, from newly founded farms to operations that have been passed down from generation to generation," said Senator Collins. "These direct payments, which I worked to include in the CARES Act, will help provide some relief. During this difficult time, I will continue to advocate for Maine farmers."

In addition to facilitating the Farmers to Families Food Box program, CFAP is providing vital financial assistance to producers of agricultural commodities who have suffered a five-percent-or-greater price decline due to COVID-19 and face significant additional marketing costs as a result of lower demand, surplus production, and disruptions to shipping patterns and the orderly marketing of commodities.

Farmers will receive direct support from

two funding sources: The first is \$9.5 billion in appropriated funding provided in the CARES Act, which will compensate farmers for losses due to price declines that occurred between mid-January 2020 and mid-April 2020 and provides support for specialty crops. The second is the Commodity Credit Corporation, which will compensate producers for \$6.5 billion in losses due to ongoing market disruptions.

To date, Dairy farmers have been awarded \$8,705,213, Livestock farmers have been awarded \$1,241,804; Non-Specialty crop farmers have been awarded \$658,758, and Specialty crop farmers have been awarded \$9,099,058.

The USDA is continuing to accept applications from farmers through August 28. More information about CFAP and the application process can be found on the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) resource page: Farmers.gov/cfap.

Last month, Senator Collins visited Van Buren, where 760 food boxes through the Farmers to Families Food Box Program were distributed to members of the community. The food boxes, which contained products from Maine farmers, were purchased through a \$2.14 million contract recently awarded to Maine Farmers Exchange (MFX) to participate in the program.

Additionally, Senator Collins recently visited Native Maine Produce and Specialty Foods to meet with

managers and employees and celebrate a \$1.35 million contract the wholesale food distributor was recently awarded to distribute 45,000 food boxes, each holding 25 pounds of produce, to Maine food banks.

Senator Collins has helped to lead bipartisan efforts in Congress to direct more support to farmers. She co-signed a series of letters to the USDA, urging Secretary Sonny Perdue to prioritize assistance to Maine farmers, including those in the dairy, potato, and blueberry industries.

Senator Collins and Representative Pingree also wrote to USDA to emphasize the need to provide assistance directly to growers as well as support local producers and their supply chains, and she joined Senators Sherrod Brown (D-OH) and Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) in leading a group of bipartisan Senators in urging the USDA to target COVID-19 relief provisions to reach local farmers.

In a letter to the USDA, Senator Collins elevated the concerns and questions raised by representatives of the potato industry, including the Maine Potato Board, who are facing an unprecedented crisis due to the economic impact of COVID-19. Furthermore, Senator Collins offered recommendations for the CFAP that would address the supply backlog and called for direct relief for potato growers.

In May, Senators Collins, King, and Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) in-

See *Relief*, page 13

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Maine Arts Teachers Set Resiliency Goals for School Year



Dr. Larry McCullough of the Pinetree Institute was the keynote speaker at a recent retreat, hosted virtually by the Maine Arts Commission (Photo courtesy of Pinetree Institute)

“The arts are responsible for the well-being of a culture.”

This is just one of many critical messages that keynote speaker Dr. Larry McCullough of the Pinetree Institute shared with almost 50 arts educators at an annual retreat, hosted virtually by the Maine Arts Commission. Since 2011, the Maine Arts Leadership Initiative, (MALI), a network of visual and performing arts teacher leaders supported by the Commission’s Arts Education Program, has gathered every summer, and COVID-19 was not going to stop them.

“Despite Zoom fatigue and just coming off of a very challenging end to the school year, we knew that arts educators needed a chance to be together, to rejuvenate, and gear up for the fall,” explained MALI leader Kate Smith, a music teacher at Central Elementary School in South Berwick.

The MALI Program Team organized the Institute around Social and Emotional Learning (SEL), a cornerstone of all arts education and particularly pertinent for teachers and students facing such uncertainty in their classrooms. “We always seek to address emerging needs in the field and minimizing the trauma of this current crisis was clearly number one on our radar,” Smith said.

They tapped long-

new cohort of visual and performing arts teachers and teaching artists to join the statewide network of educators leading in their communities and their fields. Over 120 teachers and teaching artists have now engaged in higher collaborative learning on assessment, advocacy, and leadership through MALI, resulting in stronger arts education programs throughout the state. This year, 17 music, visual art, theater and circus arts teachers from around the state were accepted into the program.

The new cohort included Reba Askari, Director of Theatre and Education at the Children’s Museum & Theatre of Maine; Bryan Bergeron-Killough, Music Teacher at Eliot Elementary School; Melissa Birkhold, Music Teacher at Crescent Park, Woodstock Elementary Schools in SAD 44 and Andover Elementary School; Josie Davis, Violin Faculty and Envision Chamber Music Workshop Director at Bay Chamber Concerts & Music School; Eustaquio Dones, Music Teacher at North Berwick Elementary School; Aaron Gagnon, Music Teacher at Elm Street and Minot Consolidated Schools in RSU 16; Alison Graichen, Music Teacher at Wells Elementary and Wells Junior High Schools; Joshua Lund, Music Teacher at Benton Elementary School in MSAD 49; Kari McCarthy, Art Teacher at Brunswick Junior High School; Pamela Moulton, Visual Teaching Artist in schools and eldercare facilities in the Greater Portland area; Courtney Naliboff, Music, The-

ater and Language Arts Teacher at North Haven Community School; Jack Pneuman, Circus Arts Instructor in southern Maine; Megan Rogers, Music Teacher at Union Elementary, Friendship Village, and Prescott Memorial Schools in MSAD 40; Linda Vailancourt, Music Teacher at North Yarmouth Academy; Jude Valentine, Public Programming Coordinator at the Farnsworth Art Museum; Colin Wheatley, Strings Teacher at Waterville Public Schools; Christina Zahn, Music Teacher at Brownfield Denmark Elementary, New Suncook Elementary, and Molly Ockett Schools in MSAD 72

Integral to every Institute is professional goal-setting for each participant. This year’s goals truly reflect topical issues. “Creating an inclusive, decolonized, non-performance based curriculum that explicitly connects SEL to music,” is one participant’s goal for the year. Other goals focus on embedding emotional resiliency in lesson plans, racial justice, improving the re-

"THE ARTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE WELL-BEING OF A CULTURE."

Larry McCullough

PINETREE INSTITUTE



Artwork by Mik Smith

Maine Arts Leadership Initiative

mote experience for students, leading in advocacy for the arts, teacher self-care, and staying connected with other arts educators.

“It’s very exciting to see the work that all the veteran MALI teachers, combined with the energy of the new cohort, will bring to the field this year especially,” Martha Piscuskas, Director of Arts Education at the Commission, said.

This is a “very dynamic, engaged group,” Dr. McCullough said. “I so enjoyed working with them.”

The Maine Arts

Commission supports artists, arts organizations, educators, policy makers, and community developers in advancing the arts in Maine. For more than 50 years the Commission has encouraged and stimulated public interest and participation in the cultural heritage and programs of our state; has worked to expand the state’s cultural resources; and has encouraged and assisted freedom of artistic expression for the well-being of the arts, to meet the needs and aspirations of persons in all parts of the state.

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Arts & Entertainment

Farro Tabbouleh Salad

Prepared by Chef
Dorene Mills

Yield: 6-8 servings

For these hot summer days, lemon adds a nice freshness to any food, and parsley has such a bright clean flavor that it compliments the lemon nicely. This side dish can be eaten along with your favorite grilled meat, or on top of a bed of fresh lettuce from the garden for a delicious salad. I love this salad throughout the summer and it's simple, fresh and delicious!

Ingredients:

Pearled Farro Grain
1 cup dry
Lemon Juice ¼ cup
Olive Oil ½ cup
Cucumber, peeled,
deseeded 1 cup
Fresh Curly Parsley
½ bunch
Fresh Kale 2 leaves
Salt
Pepper
Method of Prep:



Follow directions to cook the Farro on the back of the package. Drain and rinse with cool water and set aside.

In a large bowl, add in lemon juice, olive oil, and cucumbers and toss till blended.

Finely chop parsley and kale and add to

dressing. Toss in Farro and add salt and pepper to taste. Serve at room temperature or slightly chilled. You can substitute another grain or pasta for Farro, such as Bulgar wheat to make it a true tabbouleh, or Couscous for a lighter version. Enjoy!

Auburn Public Library bringing programs to your home

Covid-19 has changed a lot of things but that doesn't mean the Auburn Public Library has stopped offering engaging programs. People may not be able to meet but they can still Zoom. Beginning September, the Library is offering a program nearly every Tuesday afternoon featuring art, crafts, and of course books.

One of the consequences of Covid-19 is the overwhelming amount of plastic grocery bags crammed into every closet nook one can find. Auburn Public Library's new virtual crafting program has an answer to the pressing question of "What do I do with all these bags?"

Their virtual program will show you how to make some clever crafts using these unrecyclable bags. Drink, craft, and get rid of those bags! These programs take

place the last Tuesday of the next three months, starting September 22 at 12:00 p.m.

For those who are not crafters, the library is excited to present Virtual Art Talks for Adults. Art lovers can join meetings for Virtual Art Talks and explore artwork and artists from current and past exhibitions at the Strathmore. The Strathmore is a nonprofit multi-disciplinary arts center in North Bethesda, Maryland.

The Virtual Art Talks start on September 22 at 12:00 p.m. and will follow with programs on the third Tuesday of the month in October and November.

Finally, what is a library without a book group. Because we believe spice is the thing of life, the library created A Choose Your Own book group. Make a selection

from a list of 1,000 titles and share your reaction. Compiled by The Guardian and a panel of expert judges, this list includes only novels broken down in thematic supplements – love, crime, comedy, family and self, state of the nation, science fiction and fantasy, war and travel. You can view the whole list at <https://www.theguardian.com/books/2009/jan/23/best-books-fiction> and decide on your first selection. The first session will take place on September 15th at noon and monthly meetings will follow.

All of these programs will take place through the Zoom platform and participants must register. The programs will be recorded and can be sent to participants to view at their leisure. Register by calling the Auburn Public Library at 333-6640 Ext. 4.

APL Launches Senior Care Call Program

In the United States, about forty-three percent of those over the age of sixty report feeling lonely and this staggering statistic was discovered before Covid-19. In response to the isolation many of the Auburn/

Lewiston seniors are feeling, the Auburn Public Library has developed a Senior Care Call outreach program.

If you are concerned about a senior friend or family member, you can request that Library staff

give them a bi-weekly call just to check on how they are doing. The ten to fifteen minute calls are just a way to prevent the creeping feeling of anxiety and isolation that so many of our seniors experience. See APL, page 9

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Maine's community colleges make tech promise

In a pledge to incoming and returning students, Maine's community colleges are announcing the "Tech Promise," a commitment that students in need will have the technology and support they need for learning online.

"You bring the commitment to learn and we'll make sure you have the tools you need," said Maine Community College President David Daigler. "We have a lot of students who are interested in attending one of our seven colleges, but they're hesitating because they just aren't sure about the future. The Tech Promise erases at least one of those concerns."

"We are committed to the success of all our students, and the first step in this uncertain time is making sure they have the tools and support to be successful," Daigler said. About 70 percent of classes are online this fall, with in-person in-

struction limited to critical hands-on instruction.

"We recognize that it's a big change for our students. We want them to feel as confident as we do that we're going to have a great online learning experience," Daigler said. "We've invested in new technology ourselves to make the transition to online, and our faculty have been working this summer to overhaul and enhance their courses for remote delivery. We've discovered so many ways to improve instruction, and it's clear to us we'll be using many of these methods going forward even after the pandemic has ended. It's a whole new approach to delivering what students need, where they need it, and the flexibility to offer it when they need it."

Daigler said the Tech Promise means each college will work with its students to make sure they have the technology they need, such as computers, internet

connections, and tech support. Some colleges have instituted lending programs or allowed access to campus computing resources for rural students who do not have internet access. All students have to do is fill out a simple form.

As part of the Tech Promise, the colleges are offering free online training for all students on what to expect in an online course, and tips for being successful in an online course.

The Tech Promise is an extension of support provided this spring when students shifted to remote learning, and the colleges used federal COVID-19 aid funds to provide computers and tech support to students.

Funding for the program will come from a number of sources, including federal CARES Act money earmarked for COVID-related expenses, and The Foundation for Maine's Community Colleges.

Federal rule expands sporting access on refuges and hatcheries

Maine anglers now have more opportunities, thanks to the final Fish and Wildlife Service rule expanding sporting access on refuges and hatcheries.

Since day one, the Trump administration has prioritized recreational access to public lands, particularly for hunting and fishing. These two great American pastimes have formed the bedrock of the nation's wildlife conservation efforts, generating more dollars for habitat protection and restoration than any other outdoor pursuit. Today, the Department of the Interior's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) helped grow that legacy by finalizing a rule to open additional hunting and fishing opportunities in Maine and across the country. This brings the total expansion to over 4 million acres nationally since President Trump took office.

"On the heels of President Trump signing the most significant conservation and recreation funding in U.S. history, providing nearly \$20 billion over the next 10 years to fix and conserve the American people's public lands, the Trump Administration has now made an additional 2.3 million acres accessible to new hunting and fishing opportunities," said U.S. Secre-

tary of the Interior David L. Bernhardt. "We continue to take significant actions to further conservation initiatives and support sportsmen and women who are America's true conservationists."

"The Trump Administration and Secretary Bernhardt have made access to public lands for hunting and fishing and other outdoor recreation a priority beginning day one. Hunting and fishing are a part of our American history, and we continue to ensure we provide opportunities for these activities which epitomize our American heritage," said Service Director Aurelia Skipwith. "Furthermore, we have maintained our commitment to promoting good government by reducing the regulatory burden by working with states to facilitate these outdoor activities."

In Maine, the Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge is expanding existing sport fishing to new acres, and Umbagog National Wildlife Refuge will open to sport fishing for the first time.

"With the adoption of new regulations to expand hunting and fishing on national wildlife refuges and national fish hatcheries, citizens throughout the Northeast will have

greater access to enjoy the traditions and heritage associated with the pursuit of small game, big game, and sport fish," said Gordon R. Batcheller, executive secretary of the Northeast Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies. "Working in concert with state fish and wildlife agencies to identify appropriate opportunities, the Service is meeting our shared challenge of ensuring that the National Wildlife Refuge System and National Fish Hatchery System are key resources for hunters and anglers from all walks of life."

Hunting and fishing generate millions of dollars in revenue for states each year from the sale of licenses and tags. Additionally, excise taxes on firearms and ammunition, as well as sport fishing equipment and boating fuel, generate more revenue for states for wildlife management and public recreation; in 2020 alone the Service will distribute nearly \$1 billion to states under the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program.

The final rule will publish in the Federal Register and will be available at <http://www.regulations.gov>, Docket Number: FWS-HQ-NWRS-2020-0013.

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Gridiron

Continued from page 1

dropped to about 35 as Gridiron reopened with its limited seating.

Martin said some employees left because of the “normal day-to-day business that would have happened” even without the pandemic restrictions, so he didn’t have to fire any staff due to the lack of business. “I couldn’t do that! We were able to just let them go and didn’t have to refill their position.”

“I have more people than I need right now, but we want to keep them going,” Martin said.

Thanks to a large parking lot, Gridiron was able to expand outdoor seating for between 50 and 70 guests at a time. “We have tables of eight,” Martin said, and Gridiron socially-distances the groups of guests as they arrive.

Overall, Gridiron has room for about 150 guests at a time, between the outdoor patio seating and the various rooms indoors.

A helpful kickstart to reopening Gridiron was the state’s permission to allow bars and restaurants to sell beer and wine for take-out in original manufacturer’s sealed containers. This “was a huge help” with the take-out business at the restaurant, he said. “It helped keep the lights on, that’s for sure!”

Take-out sales of beer and wine have slowed down as restaurants have been allowed to open for indoor seating. Gridiron allows “some guests at the bar” with proper-social distancing, Martin said.

Business has slowed down a little during the summer, Martin said. “We went up when we opened, and

now we’re starting to see a slight downturn. More restaurants are opening up, more outdoor activities are going on.”

He’s also seen more cars at private houses, which he believes are for house parties. Plus, sports are only just starting to ramp up again, and many of his older guests appear to be staying home for their own safety.

Gridiron appeals to older guests with its “volume of food, for the price they can get it at,” Martin said. But, “I don’t think a lot of people want to be out here wearing masks,” which Gridiron requires for all their guests under state mandates. A box of complimentary masks sits on a table at the front entrance.

Gridiron has not had any issues with Covid-19 contamination during the pandemic, Martin said.

Martin created the concept for Gridiron around his love of sports and his collection of autographed sports helmets, opening the restaurant in May 2006. “I had been collecting helmets for a while . . . I knew the time was right,” he said.

He had previously owned Thatcher’s Restaurant, a restaurant with a small pub, in the Auburn Mall, along with Thatcher’s in the Maine Mall, and Kinicky’s, a 50’s-style pizza restaurant on Congress Street in Portland. Kinicky’s was named after the character in the movie “Grease”.

Martin doesn’t plan to expand the current Gridiron restaurant or add another location. He said “at this stage in my life” he’s happy with just Gridiron. “I’ve got kids, so before, when I had the three (restaurants),

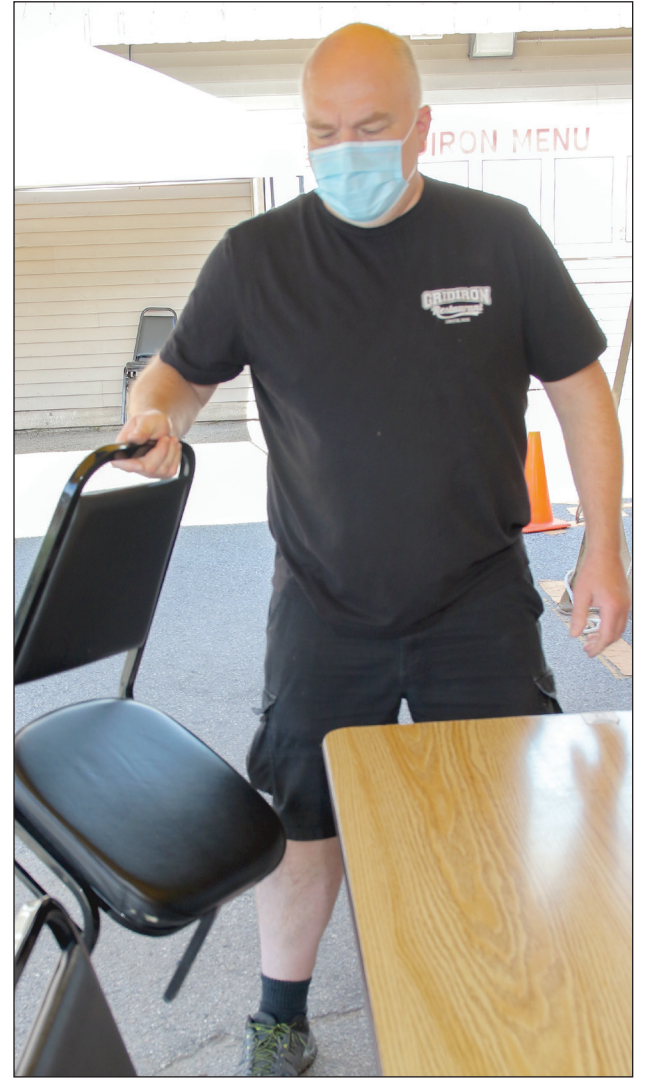
I was able to bounce all over the place, work my 18-hour days and not have to worry about anything.”

As for other restaurants in the area, with

such a lack of business right now, “People coming into the business, or opening up new restaurants? They’re crazy. I don’t know how they dare to do it.”



Owner Schan Martin double-checks the complimentary facemasks that are available for guests at the entrance to Gridiron Restaurant and Pub on Lisbon Street in Lewiston. (Tsukroff photo)



Schan Martin sets out chairs in the outdoor seating area that can accommodate up to 70 people at Gridiron Restaurant and Pub on Lisbon Street in Lewiston. (Tsukroff photo)

Back-to-School printables to celebrate first day

The first day back to school is a monumental day, no matter what school might look like this year.

At the link below, you can find super cute, and free, back-to-school printables to help make

sure you will always remember this important moment.

Simply visit the link below to access your free back-to-school printables.

You’ll find that all of the free back-to-

school signs are PDFs sized to fit an 8x10 inch frame. (You might have to trim the excess white space off to have the design fit in your frame better.)

Tip: To avoid any glare, remove the glass/

plastic from the frame prior to your photo shoot!

Visit https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1wiBLtx9iPBG-PB_ALogj9Qzx-GXAhAWVM, for your back-to-school printables, 2020 style!

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Bates

Continued from page 3

participated in a varsity sport for a minimum of three years.

Will Bessey of Brunswick, Maine, graduated after majoring in politics and minoring in anthropology. Bessey, the child of Daniel R. Bessey and Pamela V. Bessey of Brunswick, Maine, is a 2016 graduate of Brunswick High School.

Bessey was inducted into the Bates Scholar-Athlete Society, an organization which honors graduating seniors who have achieved a grade point average of 3.5 or have received special nomination from the faculty for outstanding academic achievement in their junior and senior years, and who have participated in a varsity sport for a minimum of three years..

Zach Doyon of Eliot, Maine, graduated after majoring in biology and minoring in Asian studies. Doyon, the child of Christopher Doyon and Jennifer Doyon of Eliot, Maine, is a 2016 graduate of Marshwood High School.

Doyon was inducted into the Bates Scholar-Athlete Society, an organization which honors graduating seniors who have achieved a grade point average of 3.5 or have received special nomination from the faculty for outstanding academic achievement in their junior and senior years, and who have participated in a varsity sport for a minimum of three years..

Ashley Pratt of Greene, Maine, graduated after majoring in neuroscience and minoring in chemistry. Pratt, the child of Kenneth Pratt and Melissa Pratt of Greene, Maine, is a 2016 graduate of Leavitt Area High School.

Pratt was inducted into the Bates Scholar-Athlete Society, an organization which honors graduating seniors who have achieved a grade point average of 3.5 or have received a special nomination from the faculty for outstanding academic achievement in their junior and senior years, and who have participated in a varsity sport for a minimum of three years..

Matthew Charest of Lewiston, Maine, graduated after majoring in psychology and minoring in history. Charest,

the child of Jeffrey F. Charest and Mary E. Charest of Lewiston, Maine, is a 2016 graduate of Lewiston High School.

Charest was inducted into the Bates Scholar-Athlete Society, an organization which honors graduating seniors who have achieved a grade point average of 3.5 or have received a special nomination from the faculty for outstanding academic achievement in their junior and senior years, and who have participated in a varsity sport for a minimum of three years..

Curtis Knapton of Westbrook, Maine, graduated after majoring in economics and minoring in mathematics. Knapton, the child of Gregory W. Knapton and Karen L. Knapton of Westbrook, Maine, is a 2016 graduate of Westbrook High School.

Knapton was inducted into the Bates Scholar-Athlete Society, an organization which honors graduating seniors who have achieved a grade point average of 3.5 or have received special nomination from the faculty for outstanding academic achievement in their junior and senior years, and who have participated in a varsity sport for a minimum of three years..

George Chaison-Lapine of Pownal, Maine, graduated after majoring in history and minoring in anthropology. Chaison-Lapine, the child of Craig A. Lapine and Sarah A. Lapine of Pownal, Maine, and Marjore N. Chaison of Portland, Maine, is a 2016 graduate of Portland High School.

Chaison-Lapine was inducted into the Bates Scholar-Athlete Society, an organization which honors graduating seniors who have achieved a grade point average of 3.5 or have received special nomination from the faculty for outstanding academic achievement in their junior and senior years, and who have participated in a varsity sport for a minimum of three years..

Kirsten Pelletier of Readfield, Maine, graduated after majoring in environmental studies and minoring in education. Pelletier, the child of Peter J. Pelletier of Readfield, Maine, and Wendy L. Pelletier of Gardiner, Maine, is a 2016 graduate of Messalonskee High School.

Pelletier was in-

ducted into the Bates Scholar-Athlete Society, an organization which honors graduating seniors who have achieved a grade point average of 3.5 or have received special nomination from the faculty for outstanding academic achievement in their junior and senior years, and who have participated in a varsity sport for a minimum of three years..

Olivia Sandford of Kennebunk, Maine, graduated after majoring in environmental studies. Sandford, the child of Bernard G. Sandford of Brighton, Mass., and Rachel A. Murer and Erik A. Murer of Kennebunk, Maine, is a 2016 graduate of Kennebunk High School.

Sandford was inducted into the Bates Scholar-Athlete Society, an organization which honors graduating seniors who have achieved a grade point average of 3.5 or have received special nomination from the faculty for outstanding academic achievement in their junior and senior years, and who have participated in a varsity sport for a minimum of three years..

Anna Beaudet of Auburn, Maine, graduated after majoring in psychology. Beaudet, the child of Valdor A. Beaudet Jr. of Lewiston, Maine, and Celeste C. Beaudet of Auburn, Maine, is a 2016 graduate of Edward Little High School.

Beaudet was inducted into the Bates Scholar-Athlete Society, an organization which honors graduating seniors who have achieved a grade point average of 3.5 or have received special nomination from the faculty for outstanding academic achievement in their junior and senior years, and who have participated in a varsity sport for a minimum of three years..

Torri Pelletier of Topsham, Maine, graduated after majoring in rhetoric. Pelletier, the child of Troy D. Pelletier of Topsham, Maine, and Cheryl L. Baggett of Topsham, Maine, is a 2016 graduate of Mt. Ararat School.

Pelletier was inducted into the Bates Scholar-Athlete Society, an organization which honors graduating seniors who have achieved a grade point average of 3.5 or have received special nomination from the faculty for outstanding academic achievement

in their junior and senior years, and who have participated in a varsity sport for a minimum of three years..

Jesse Saffair of Pownal, Maine, graduated Summa Cum Laude after majoring in environmental studies and minoring in anthropology. Saffair, the child of Kristian R. Carr and Jo D. Saffair of Pownal, Maine, is a 2015 graduate of Maine Coast Waldorf School.

In their first year at Bates, Saffair received the Charles Dana Award, the highest honor Bates bestows on students in their first year. Saffair graduates as a member of Sigma Xi, an honor society that recognizes excellence in scientific research, and of Phi Beta Kappa, an organization recognized as conferring the highest undergraduate academic honors and as the oldest Greek letter society in the US.

Abbey Frost of Ellsworth, Maine, graduated Magna Cum Laude after majoring in politics and minoring in history. Frost, the child of Jack A. Frost and Brenda L. Frost of Ellsworth, Maine, is a 2016 graduate of George Stevens Academy.

Frost graduates as a member of Phi Beta Kappa, an organization recognized as conferring the highest undergraduate academic honors and as the oldest Greek letter society in the US.

Maddie Hollowell of North Haven, Maine, graduated Magna Cum Laude after majoring in interdisciplinary studies. Hollowell, the child of Angus B. Hollowell and Christiane B. Hollowell of North Haven, Maine, is a 2016 graduate of North Haven Community School.

Hollowell graduates as a member of Phi Beta Kappa, an organization recognized as conferring the highest undergraduate academic honors and as the oldest Greek letter society in the US.

Sam Onion of Wayne, Maine, graduated Cum Laude after majoring in geology and minoring in mathematics. Onion, the child of Frederick A. Onion and Susan D. Onion of Wayne, Maine, is a 2016 graduate of Kents Hill School.

Onion graduates as a member of Sigma Xi, an honor society that recognizes excellence in scientific research.

Signe Lynch of Farmingdale, Maine,

graduated Cum Laude after majoring in environmental studies and minoring in education. Lynch, the child of Thomas L. Lynch and Ashli V. Spear of Farmingdale, Maine, is a 2016 graduate of Hall-Dale High School.

Lynch graduates as a member of the College Key, an honor reserved for students who have exhibited outstanding character, academic excellence, campus and community service, leadership and future promise.

Lexie Jamieson of Scarborough, Maine, graduated Cum Laude after majoring in politics and Spanish. Jamieson, the child of Neil D. Jamieson Jr. and Heather L. Jamieson of Scarborough, Maine, is a 2016 graduate of Scarborough High School.

Jennie Chen of East Wilton, Maine, graduated after majoring in economics and minoring in Asian studies. Chen, the child of ZhongPing Chen and ChunLing Situ of East Wilton, Maine, is a 2016 graduate of Mt. Blue High School.

Anna Glass of Pownal, Maine, graduated after majoring in anthropology and minoring in geology and religious studies. Glass, the child of Marc G. Glass and Wendy G. Glass of Pownal, Maine, is a 2016 graduate of Mt. Blue High School.

Kathleen Trapp of Brunswick, Maine, graduated after majoring in environmental studies and minoring in German and theater. Trapp, the child of Gregory J. Trapp and Kathleen R. Trapp of Brunswick, Maine, is a 2016 graduate of Deerfield Academy.

Maggie Phelan of Lewiston, Maine, graduated after majoring in English and minoring in philosophy. Phelan, the child of Michael J. Phelan and Margaret A. Phelan of Lewiston, Maine, is a 2016 graduate of Lewiston High School.

Nicholas Gilpin of Hampden, Maine, graduated after majoring in economics. Gilpin, the child of Carol A. Gilpin of Hampden, Maine, is a 2016 graduate of Hampden Academy.

Brooke Jandreau of Mapleton, Maine, graduated after majoring in sociology. Jandreau, the child of Stanley D. Jandreau and Sharon T. Jandreau of Mapleton, Maine, is a 2016 graduate of Community High School.

Jacob LeMoine of Swans Island, Maine, graduated after majoring in mathematics and German. LeMoine, the child of Betsy Philbrook of Swans Island, Maine, and Gregory LeMoine, is a 2016 graduate of Mount Desert Island High School.

Located in Lewiston, Maine, Bates is internationally recognized as a leading liberal arts college, attracting 2,000 students from across the U.S. and around the world. Since 1855, Bates has been dedicated to educating the whole person through creative and rigorous scholarship in a collaborative residential community. Committed to opportunity and excellence, Bates has always admitted students without regard to gender, race, religion, or national origin. Cultivating intellectual discovery and informed civic action, Bates prepares leaders sustained by a love of learning and zeal for responsible stewardship of the wider world.

APL

Continued from page 6

niors are facing. The AARP estimates that social isolation can “be the equivalent of smoking fifteen cigarettes a day in terms of your health,” according to Amy Goyer, AARP’S family and caregiving expert.

If you would like to have a library staff member reach out to a senior, please fill out the form at <http://www.auburnpubliclibrary.org/senior-care-calls/>. All information will remain confidential.

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Finalists for 2021 Teacher of the Year



Cindy Soule, Gerald A. Talbot Community School, Portland - 2020 Cumberland County Teacher of the Year. (Photo courtesy of Maine DOE)

Year honored earlier this year during a special virtual ceremony which was viewed over 7,000 times.

The Maine Teacher of the Year program honors outstanding teachers who represent the thousands of excellent educators in Maine. Maine's Teacher of the Year serves as an advocate for the teaching profession, education and students, and represents Maine in the National Teacher of the Year program.

Each educator was nominated by a member of their community for their exemplary service in education and dedication to their students. They were selected by a distinguished panel of teachers, principals, and business community members from a pool of hundreds of other nominated teachers in their communities.

The Maine Department of Education, Educate Maine, Maine State Board of Education and the Maine State Teacher of the Year Association are pleased to announce that Cindy Soule from Cumberland County, Alison Babb-Brott from Knox County and Heather Webster from Lincoln

County are moving on as 2021 State Finalists.

Cindy Soule, Gerald A. Talbot Community School, Portland - 2020 Cumberland County Teacher of the Year

Cindy Soule creates a learning community that disrupts the opportunity gap. For twenty of her twenty-one years of teaching, she has been committed to one of Maine's most diverse schools, the Gerald E. Talbot Community School, in Portland, Maine. Soule fosters a dynamic learning environment that inspires curiosity and citizenship in her fourth-grade students.

A lifelong resident of Maine, Soule developed an appreciation for the natural world. This passion is evident in her teaching. She grounds learning in real world contexts and encourages students to construct scientific understanding through observation, questioning, and collaborative thinking. Through inquiry and discourse, Soule empowers students to see themselves as meaningful contributors to their communi-



Heather Webster, Medomak Valley High School, Waldoboro - 2020 Lincoln County Teacher of the Year. (Photo courtesy of Maine DOE)

ty. This work is recognized by her Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching candidacy.

Soule contributes to a positive culture of collective efficacy where students thrive. To enrich student learning, she partners with community organizations to include Side X Side, the Maine Audubon, and the Maine Mathematics and Science Alliance. She serves as a representative on the Portland Schools Literacy Committee, Talbot Leadership Team, Building Steering Committee, RTI Team, and

See *Teacher*, page 13

Retired game warden speaks about "A Good Man with a Dog"

WINTHROP –The Bailey Library in Winthrop virtually hosted retired game warden Roger Guay on Tuesday in an event that was part of a yearlong series celebrating Maine's bicentennial by exploring outdoor recreation in Maine.

Guay was to speak about his book "A Good Man with a Dog," the story of his journey from the woods of Maine to the swamps of New Orleans. When Guay's father died in a fishing accident, it was a game warden that helped him through the loss. Inspired by this experience, as well as his love of the outdoors, Guay became a game warden and certified K9 handler, beginning a career that spanned twenty-five years and saw him establish canine units as a staple of the game warden service.

"A Good Man with a Dog" explores Guay's life as he and his canine partners are exposed to increasingly dangerous events, from tracking down hostile poachers to



Roger Guay as a rookie game warden in 1986. (Photograph courtesy of Roger Guay)

searching for victims of violent crimes, including a yearlong search for the hidden graves of two babies buried by a Massachusetts cult. Guay witnessed firsthand FEMA's mismanagement of the post-Katrina cleanup efforts in New Orleans, an experience that left him scarred and disheartened. But he found hope, and eventually returned to the woods he knew and loved from the days of his youth.

Roger Guay served with the Maine Warden Service from 1986 until his retirement in 2010. He is a K9 master trainer and a certified K9 handler, as well as being certified in cadaver and explosives searches.

In addition to decades of search and rescue experience, he has extensive experience in missing persons and homicide searches.

Guay has received numerous commendations from the warden service, the Maine House of Representatives, the Maine State Police, and U.S. Police Canine Association.

Guay lives in Guilford, Maine.

The event on Tuesday was sponsored by Kennebec Savings Bank.

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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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Op-Ed

Continued from page 3

names like Chellie and Hannah Pingree, Jared Golden, even former UN Secretary Susan Rice passed on the opportunity to challenge Collins, Schumer settled on Sara Gideon, a Rhode Island native currently serving as Speaker of the Maine House.

Following a pattern we have seen with Schumer's hand-picked candidates in other battleground states, Gideon immediately went underground to the "windowless basement." This method of campaigning restricts unscripted public appearances to avoid early mistakes and focuses solely on raising money for endless amounts of formulaic TV commercials. During the Democratic primary, Gideon did Maine voters a real disservice by refusing to participate in nearly every live TV debate, skipping at least two to hold online fundraisers hosted by out-of-state special interest groups.

As a result, Sara Gideon has raised (and already spent) more money than any other candidate in Maine history. Yet, less than 90 days from the election, Mainers still know very little about Gideon's plans for our state. It's clear from her ads that she doesn't like Susan Collins very much. And despite her claims of being able to bring people together, Gideon has failed to negotiate a bipartisan agreement to bring the legislature back to work and address the economic fallout of the coronavirus crisis.

Since becoming the Democratic nominee, Gideon's campaign has pocketed nearly \$4 million from a fund established solely to influence Senator Collins' Supreme Court vote. Collins, to her credit, refused to be influenced and voted her conscience.

Gideon also issued a challenge to Collins to participate in five debates. Gideon seemed genuinely surprised when Collins countered with 16, one in each of Maine's counties, and "let's debate tonight." Collins even sent Gideon a letter putting the request in writing. But, Gideon, of course, hasn't responded to the invitation. Perhaps there's a bad cell signal

in the windowless basement?

COVID-19 has changed the way candidates can campaign. No Oxford or Fryeburg Fairs, no chicken dinners or bean suppers. Live, televised debates are more important than ever and will give all voters the chance to watch these candidates answering unscripted questions.

With just three months to go, this race has already broken every record for out-of-state fundraising and campaign spending. Unfortunately, many of the outside groups buying up our airwaves have taken

a negative tone, and repeatedly, these ads, and even some of Gideon's own have been deemed false. In the race to win the senate majority, Schumer and his allies have shown that they will say literally anything to achieve their goal. Facts don't matter.

It's time that Maine voters hear directly from both Senator Collins and Sara Gideon. When Gideon decides it's time to emerge from her windowless basement, Susan Collins is ready to take the show on the road and let Mainers make up their own minds, free of Chuck Schumer's slick packaging.

Lewiston road construction

Road construction has begun on Goddard Road for a complete reconstruction from the Maine Turnpike Bridge to Atlantis Way and a mill and fill from the Turnpike Bridge to River Road, with paving fol-

lowing. Goddard Road, from River Road to Atlantis Way, are closed with detours marked. Motorists should allow for extra time and delays and avoid the area if possible. Local businesses will be open. Construc-

tion should wrap up around the first week of October. Questions may be directed to Paving Manager Justin Bisson: jbisson@lewistonmaine.gov, (207) 513-3003, ext. 3401, cell (207) 615-2774.

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THE MAGAZINE®

Skelton Taintor & Abbott Attorneys named Best Lawyers

U.S. News Media Group and Best Lawyers® have released the 2021 Best Lawyers in America® list. Nine attorneys from the firm of Skelton Taintor & Abbott have been named. Best Lawyers® is the oldest and most respected peer-reviewed publication in the legal profession. A listing reflects the respect of fellow members of the legal profession as well as the public.

The Skelton Taintor & Abbott attorneys named and their practice areas are:

Darcie P.L. Beaudin,

Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights, Insolvency and Reorganization Law; Amy Dieterich, Employment Law – Individuals; Ronald P. Lebel, Family Law; Sarah C. Mitchell, Family Law; James Pross, Workers’ Compensation Law – Claimants; Norman J. Rattey, Real Estate Law; William Skelton, Corporate Law, Real Estate Law; Theodore Small, Construction Law, Litigation – Real Estate; Stephen B. Wade, Insurance Law, Personal Injury Litigation – Plaintiffs and Defendants, Product Liabili-

ty Litigation – Plaintiffs and Defendants, Medical Malpractice – Plaintiffs.

These attorneys represent a legacy of excellence at the firm that spans from Lebel receiving his 20th such recognition to first-time honorees Dieterich, Pross, and Skelton. In addition, Jordan Payne Hay was named to the “Ones to Watch” list for the practice areas of Intellectual Property Law and Labor and Employment Law – Employees.

“This recognition represents the standard of excellence that all of the



Amy Dieterich



Stephen B. Wade



Ronald P. Lebel



Jordan Payne Hay



Theodore Small



Sarah C. Mitchell



Norman J. Rattey



Darcie P.L. Beaudin



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firm’s attorneys embrace and reflects the high esteem we have earned from our colleagues and clients,” said Mitchell, the firm’s president.

Skelton Taintor & Abbott is one of Maine’s leading law firms serving individuals and businesses in litigation and general representation throughout northern New England for more than 150 years. The firm has been named in U.S. News-Best Lawyers® “Best Law Firms” in America. For more information, visit www.STA-Law.com or call 1-800-639-7026.

Thursday, August 27

The ATRC Policy Committee meeting for the month of July has been cancelled. This will take place at 10 a.m. via zoom.

Friday, August 28

Goat Yoga led by Ashley Flowers, at Smiling Hill Farm from 5:30 to 7 p.m. For more information visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/goat-yoga-2020-season-tickets-80765071503?aff=ebdssbcitybrowse>.

Friday, Sept. 4

Goat Yoga led by Ashley Flowers, at Smiling Hill Farm from 5:30 to 7 p.m. For more information visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/goat-yoga-2020-season-tickets-80765071503?aff=ebdssbcitybrowse>.

Saturday, Sept. 5

Goat Yoga led by Ashley Flowers, at

Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

Smiling Hill Farm from 5:30 to 7 p.m. For more information visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/goat-yoga-2020-season-tickets-80765071503?aff=ebdssbcitybrowse>.

Sunday, Sept. 13

Gorham Founders Festival Parade, with Maine themed float contest, 3 p.m. Gorham village. Please sign up for the parade on the website at www.gorham2020.com or contact Suzie Phillips at 892-9847 or sphillips@gorham.me.us.

Friday, Sept. 25

Restorative practices certificate program offered by UMaine Hutchinson

Center and Restorative Justice Center. Six-session course from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Michelle Patten, um.fhc.pd@maine.edu; (207) 338-8002.

Thursday, Oct. 29

Restorative practices certificate program offered by UMaine Hutchinson Center and Restorative Justice Center. Six-session course from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Michelle Patten, um.fhc.pd@maine.edu; (207) 338-8002.

338-8002.

Friday, Oct. 30

Restorative practices certificate program offered by UMaine Hutchinson Center and Restorative Justice Center. Six-session course from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Michelle Patten, um.fhc.pd@maine.edu; (207) 338-8002.

Thursday, Nov. 19

Restorative practices certificate program offered by UMaine Hutchinson Center and Restorative Justice Center. Six-session course from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Michelle Patten, um.fhc.pd@maine.edu; (207) 338-8002.

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Camden

Continued from page 2

group, and he was named Camden National Bank's Officer of the Year in 2014. He grew the treasury management line of business through 2015, when he became Director of Commercial Banking for central and mid-coast Maine. In 2019, he was promoted to Senior Vice President, Director of Credit Administration.

Originally from Maine, Smith currently lives in Auburn with his family. He is actively involved in the local community as a volunteer coach for youth baseball. He also serves as a Board Director and Past President of the Maine Building Materials Exchange. He is a member of the Commercial Lending Committee for the Maine Bankers Association. He received a Bachelor of Science in Finance degree from the University of Maine.

"We look forward to the next chapter of Tim and Ryan's service on our executive management team," Dufour said. "They will work closely to build upon our strong foundation in commercial banking."

Relief

Continued from page 4

roduced the Farming Support to States Act (<http://bitly.ws/9uCP>), a bipartisan bill to provide states access to immediate, flexible funding to aid in responding to urgent and emerging issues

caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in America's agriculture economy and food supply chain.

Teacher

Continued from page 10

Science Teams. On behalf of students, Soule is a recipient of Portland Education Foundation, TD Banknorth and DonorsChoose grants.

Soule holds a Master of Science in Special Education from the University of Southern Maine and a Bachelor of Arts in Social Work from the University of Maine at Orono. A 2020 Funds for Teachers Fellow, she looks forward to continued professional discovery and learning.

Alison Babb-Brott, St. George School, St. George - 2020 Knox County Teacher of the Year

Alison Babb-Brott is the second grade teacher at St. George School in St. George, Maine, where she has taught since 2016. Babb-Brott is inspired by the power and potential of young students and sets the bar for high expectations, as evidenced by her students' engagement and achievement. She believes that by teaching students to be the leaders of their classroom and academic careers, they will in turn become leaders of their communities and their world.

Babb-Brott teaches learning expeditions that

connect students with authentic, local experiences - like her "Plants and Pollinators" expedition, in which students study local flora and fauna and plant pollinator gardens - and also expose students to global perspectives - like her "Schools and Community" expedition, in which students explore schools around the world to find similarities that connect them and differences that challenge them.

Underlying Babb-Brott's content delivery is a fierce commitment to the development of her students' character. Every interaction is designed to teach and support integrous care for student dialogue, classroom culture, and academic achievement.

Babb-Brott graduated from the University of Massachusetts Amherst in 2012 with a Bachelor of Science in Hospitality and Tourism Management. She later received her Master of Education at the University of Massachusetts Boston in 2015.

She returned to teach in Maine as the ocean and her family called her home. On a boat in Penobscot Bay or in the stands at her younger sister's soccer games, she is happiest surrounded by friends and family.

Heather Webster, Medomak Valley High School, Waldoboro - 2020 Lincoln County Teacher of the Year

Heather Webster is an English teach-

er at Medomak Valley High School in Waldoboro, Maine, where she has just completed her 19th year. Webster is an active teacher-leader who is always focused on improving the school experience for all students; she has served on many and varied committees and particularly enjoys developing student-centered curriculum. She is the co-founder of the school's student-staffed writing center. She also started Storybook Theater, a community service drama program

where high school students bring a book to life for elementary students.

Webster recognizes the importance of relationships and works to establish positive ones both in and out of the classroom. Her classroom motto, from the Apollo 13 mission, is "Failure is not an option," and she works to provide students with choices and multiple opportunities to demonstrate knowledge, often seeking out or creating, project-based activities to employ in her classroom.

Webster graduated from the University of Maine in 1991, where she received her Bachelor of Arts in English. She later completed the coursework for teaching certification and is currently pursuing a Master of Education in Literacy with a concentration in Writing and the Teaching of Writing, at the Univer-

sity of Maine. Family, both nuclear and extended, are of utmost importance to Webster. Her husband, Phil, supports her endeavors, and parenting her 16-year-old son Russell has definitely contributed to making her a better teacher. She loves reading, writing, and scrapbooking, and can often be found on horseback navigating woods trails or circling a show ring.

One of these three teachers will be named the 2021 Maine Teacher of the Year, an honor awarded each year to one teacher in Maine. The announcement will be in October after the final stages of the selection process are complete.

Maine Teacher of the Year is a program of the Maine Department of Education, administered by Educate Maine. More information can be found at: <http://www.mainetoy.org>.

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FURTHER NOTICE: MACKINAC ISLAND - JUNE 13 - 21, 2020. Trip includes 8 nights lodging and 14 meals, visit to Mackinac Island with a guided Carriage Tour during their Tulip Celebration. Also includes boat ride through Soo Locks, Sault Saint Marie and Makinaw Crossings with a visit to "Michigan's Little Bavaria". A \$75.00 deposit is due when signing up. Price is \$859.00 pp double occupancy. VIRGINIA BEACH, COLONIAL WILLIAMS-BURG & HISTORIC NORFOLK - SEPTEMBER 14 - 19, 2020. Trip includes 5 nights lodging, 8 meals, Colonial Williamsburg, free time on the Virginia Beach Boardwalk, dinner cruise with entertainment on the Spirit of Norfolk,

admission to Nauticus and Battleship Wisconsin, Virginia Beach Aquarium and Marine Science Center. A \$75.00 deposit is due when signing up. Price is \$775.00 pp double occupancy. For questions and detailed information on these trips, please call: Claire - 207-784-0302 or Cindy- 207-345-9569.

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ELHS receives Chromebook donation

AUBURN - Edward Little High School (ELHS) in Auburn, Maine was at the center of a Boston Globe Magazine report last year highlighting racial incidents in which Muslim immigrant students were targeted. This racially motivated bullying was captured in videos where immigrant students were taunted and harassed. These incidents were recorded by immigrant students and several parents, all of whom say the racism had gone unchecked by school officials as tensions festered within the 1,000-person student body. The report focused on ELHS as a glaring example of how racial tensions have become most severe across the nation at historically white high schools that are becoming less white due to rapid changes in student demographics.

This report was heartbreaking to Stephen Whalen, a member of the Class of 1988 at Edward Little High School.

Steve Whalen is currently managing partner at City Realty Group in Brookline, Massachusetts. His firm employs many immigrants, from high-level executives to entry level workers and interns. Steve is also passionate about giving back and helping people from underserved communities in Boston and beyond.

Last Friday, ELHS alum Steve Whalen returned to his old high school to donate brand new Chromebooks to every immigrant student (14) in the ELHS Senior Class.

Steve Whalen employs many immigrants at his company, City Realty Group, and is a passionate advocate for immigrants and all people from underserved communities. He and fellow CRG Managing Partner Fred Starikov founded a nonprofit, City Kids, to provide Boston's inner city children with educational resources to help them thrive at school. Whalen reached

out to the school and to the immigrant advocacy organization, Maine Community Integration, and made arrangements to provide this donation to these students and to send a message that there is no place for hate anywhere. At ELHS, the number of students of color has grown fivefold during the last two decades, largely due to immigrants from Somalia, Iraq, and other countries. Still, students of color make up only 14 percent of the student body. Meanwhile, the faculty is nearly monochromatic: Only one of almost 80 teachers is nonwhite. Maine Community Integration is a nonprofit organization promoting support and understanding of the immigrant communities and their various cultures, through enhancing and improving the opportunities of the communities to better integrate in the American culture through education, advocacy, and social change empowerment.

SeniorsPlus makes CARES Act mini-grant awards

SeniorsPlus, Western Maine's designated Area Agency on Aging, distributed \$67,000 in Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act mini-grant awards. These grants were distributed by SeniorsPlus to fifteen businesses, organizations, and agencies that serve older people and adults with disabilities in Androscoggin, Oxford, and Franklin counties.

Signed into law March 27, 2020, the CARES Act provides additional funding to states, territories, and tribes for the various programs authorized by the Older Americans Act (OAA) of 1965. CARES Act funds will help strengthen services that support the health, safety, and independence of older adults and adults with disabilities challenged by the coronavirus (COVID-19) public health emergency. Each of the five designated Area Agencies on Aging in Maine were assigned to seek grant applica-

tions in their individual territories in the state.

SeniorsPlus disseminated CARES Act funds by giving one-time mini-grants to organizations delivering vital support services to vulnerable residents of its tri-county area.

These grant awards were for up to \$5,000 each and were made to the following groups: Auburn Recreation Dept., Bedard Pharmacy, Catholic Charities, Fairbanks Union and New Portland Community churches, Green Ladle-Lewiston Regional Technical Center, Healthy Community Coalition of Greater Franklin County, High Street Food Pantry - High Street Congregational Church, LA Hearing Center, Rangeley Health and Wellness, Rural Community Action Ministry, Safe Voices, Trinity Jubilee Center, University of Southern Maine Senior College, United Way of the Tri-Valley Area, and Western Maine Transportation Services.

Established in 1972 and headquartered in Lewiston, SeniorsPlus is the Western Maine designated Area Agency on Aging covering Franklin, Oxford and Androscoggin counties. The overall program goal of SeniorsPlus is to assist older people and adults with disabilities in its tri-county area to remain safely at home for as long as possible. The mission of SeniorsPlus is to enrich the lives of older people and adults with disabilities. SeniorsPlus believes in supporting the independence, dignity and quality of life of those they serve. Annually, SeniorsPlus serves more than 19,000 individuals and fields 120,000 phone inquiries.

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