



Otis Soohey is General Manager of the new Darling's Ford on Bath Road in Brunswick. Darling's Auto Group purchased the dealership from Yankee Ford in December. Soohey stresses taking care of employees so they will take care of the customers. (Tsukroff photo)

New auto dealership in Brunswick sees employees as best assets

By Nathan Tsukroff

BRUNSWICK – Caring about your customers starts with caring about your employees.

That's the philosophy of Otis Soohey, the general manager of the new Darling's Ford dealership at 262 Bath Road in Brunswick. "Our belief at Darling's is that our employees are our best assets," he said.

Yankee Ford "was very concerned about their employees, as are we," Soohey said. The dealerships worked closely to ensure a smooth transition of ownership. "Whether they've been with us for a day or thirty years, we feel (the employees) are part of the Darling's family right away."

"We know the old adage – if you take care of your employees, they take of your customers. Quite frankly, it works!"

Soohey said.

The majority of the approximately 35 employees remained with the dealership, and Soohey said Darling's is actually looking to add employees for its full service department. The dealership has 16 service bays and is looking to hire auto technicians of all levels of ability, from entry-level technicians to change tires and fix brakes tire-changers "all the way up to diesel mechanics."

Modern auto repair requires technical knowledge of automotive electronics in order to diagnose issues, Soohey said. "I've become very impressed with technicians today. They can do both – they can do old-school, but with modern technology, they combine the two together. It's pretty impressive!"

Darling's Ford also sells new and used parts in its parts department.

Darling's Auto Group purchased the dealership from Yankee Ford in December to expand the Darling's Auto Group family of businesses to the southern Maine region.

Darling's has five other dealerships in Bangor, Ellsworth, and Augusta, and represents Ford, Volkswagen, Audi, GMC, Buick, Chrysler, Dodge, Ram, Jeep, Chevrolet, Honda, Nissan, Volvo, and Hyundai brands across these locations.

The Yankee Ford Brunswick acquisition adds a second Ford dealership to their roster. The other Ford dealership is in Bangor.

Darling's has been a Ford dealership for more than 30 years, and has followed other Ford dealers in Maine throughout the years, Soohey said. "We always thought the Yankee Ford in Brunswick showed

See *Dealership*, page 9

No permits unless taxes are paid

By Nathan Tsukroff

GORHAM – Property owners in Gorham who need a permit for changes to their property must first pay any outstanding taxes, under an ordinance passed by the Town Council in November.

The ordinance establishes conditions for the issuance of all licenses, permits, and other approvals from the Town of Gorham.

The ordinance calls for applicants to be denied approval if the owner or lessee of the property or building has any outstanding real estate or personal property taxes due to the town.

The November ordinance covers permits related to zoning regulations, subdivisions, site plan review, massage establishment and massage therapist regulations, mobile home parks, marijuana cultivation or manufacturing facilities, victualers (anyone selling prepared food, such as restaurants, caterers, and mobile vending units), the optional program for local building plan review, historic preservation, special amusements, fire suppression systems, fraternity and sorority houses, variance requests for vacant properties, and large outdoor events.

There are some exceptions, such as taxes that are less than 30-days past due and under \$250, or that are determined by the Town Manager's office not to be owed by the applicant or property owner. The Town Council may waive the requirements if an applicant makes a written request to show good cause for the waiver.

The ordinance sets aside the requirement to allow for approval for permits necessitated by the disability of the applicant or property owner.

The ordinance, titled "Municipal License Ordinance", can be found at: <http://bitly.ws/bJkw>

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Community groups overwhelmed by generosity of students



the Greater Androscoggin Humane Society. At the Lewiston campus, students collected items for patients at Androscoggin Home Healthcare and Hospice as well as family members who might be staying with loved ones.

“Community service at St. Dom’s gives us an opportunity to get out and put others first,” said senior Lauren Theriault. “It is important to take time away from academics and sports and clubs and do something for other people.”

St. Brigid School, Portland

Students at St. Brigid collected and assembled items to create over 110 cleaning and toiletry kits for St. Elizabeth’s Essential Pantry on Park Street in Portland. The kits went directly out to community members in need over the weekend. An additional 112 art kits created by the students were given to Maine Needs for distribution to families as well.

“Maine Needs was overwhelmed by the total of 232 cleaning/toiletry and art kits created by the St. Brigid School community,” said Ellen Couture, director of admissions and marketing at St. Brigid. “It is wonderful to know that the kits were immediately distributed to people who needed them. This was a fabulous service project for Catholic Schools Week.”

St. James School, Biddeford

Students at St. James brought in soup and monetary donations for the Biddeford Food Pantry.

“They raised over \$250 and many donations of soup and non-perishable food,” said Principal Nancy Naimey. “I didn’t count it but it was a trunkful!”

St. John’s Catholic School, Brunswick

Students, teachers, and staff participated in a food collection contest between classrooms with all proceeds benefitting the Mid Coast Hunger Prevention Program. The school traditionally donates well over 2,000 pounds of food to the program each year, helping hundreds of local families in the process. Last week alone, the school donated nearly 800 pounds of food.

St. Thomas School, Sanford

St. Thomas School donated boxes and boxes of food for the St. Thérèse Food Closet and participated in a “stuff the bus” event to provide school supplies for York County children in need. In addition, the students collected monetary donations in water jugs to raise money for Waban, which serves adults and children with disabilities.

“Our school tries to raise as much money as possible,” said Ellery, a seventh grader. “We are honored to be helping such a kind and respectable organization.”

Holy Cross School, South Portland

Holy Cross School in South Portland held a penny challenge that raised over \$1,500 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation, which grants the wishes of children diagnosed with a critical illness. In the United States and its territories, on average, a wish is granted every 34 minutes.

Cheverus High School, Portland

Cheverus High School in Portland held a personal care items drive to support Sacred Heart/St. Dominic Food Pantry in Portland.



“The Key Club and student government coordinated and sorted the donations, creating over 100 bags of essential toiletries for men, women, and families,” said Dr. John Moran, principal of Cheverus. “They did an amazing job.”

Students also wrote letters of gratitude to many individuals and groups, including first responders, postal workers, local businesses and organizations, active military, veterans, teachers, staff, clergy, women religious, parents/guardians, grandparents, volunteers, seminarians,

and made Valentine’s cards for residents at local nursing homes and veterans’ homes.

“Through the enthusiasm and hope they create in these difficult times, our Catholic schools continue to be warm and caring places where excellence in academics is encouraged, service is valued, and the importance of loving God and neighbor is celebrated,” said Bishop Robert Deeley. “May our schools continue to help our children appreciate God’s love for them and bring hope to our world.”

From Portland Diocese Saint Dominic Academy, Lewiston/Auburn

PORTLAND - Part of the mission of Maine Catholic schools is to accentuate the importance of service with the hope of building a lifelong commitment and appreciation in each student to give back to those in need.

Two weeks ago, Last week, that lesson was on full display at schools across Maine during Maine Catholic Schools Week as students designed and completed many service projects to help local organizations

At the St. Dom’s campus in Auburn (Grades 6-12), students collected toiletries for those staying at homeless shelters; constructed bookshelves for the Trinity Jubilee Center in Lewiston, which provides food and shelter to those in need; built birdfeeders for area nursing homes; designed coffee mugs and face mask extenders for caregivers at St. Mary’s Urgent Care in Auburn; and made fleece blankets for the animals at

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Local students on Deans' Lists

WPI Fall 2020 Dean's List

WORCESTER, MA - Jonathan Scribner of Gorham, class of '22, majoring in Civil Engineering, was named to the Worcester Polytechnic Institute Dean's List for the Fall 2020 semester

The criteria for the WPI Dean's List differs from most other universities as WPI does not compute a grade point average (GPA). Instead, WPI defines the Dean's List by the amount of work completed at the A level in courses and projects.

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ed in 1865 on the principle that students learn most effectively by applying the theory learned in the classroom to the practice of solving real-world problems.

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ments in science, engineering, technology, business, the social sciences, and the humanities and arts. Its faculty and students pursue groundbreaking research to meet ongoing challenges in health and biotechnology; robotics and the internet of things; advanced materials and manufacturing; cyber, data, and security systems; learning science; and more. www.wpi.edu

Stonehill College Dean's List

EASTON, MA - Diana Kolb of Gorham, Class of 2021, was named to the Dean's List at Stonehill College for the Fall 2020

semester.

To qualify for the Dean's List, students must have a semester grade point average of 3.50 or better and must have successfully completed all courses for which they were registered.

Stonehill is a Catholic college located near Boston on a beautiful 384-acre campus in Easton, Massachusetts. With a student-faculty ratio of 12:1, the College engages over 2,500 students in 80+ rigorous academic programs in the liberal arts, sciences, and pre-professional fields. The Stonehill community helps students to develop the knowledge, skills, and character to meet their professional goals and to live lives of purpose and integrity.

Student on Holy Cross' Dean's List

From Holy Cross

WORCESTER, MA - Caitlin McCutcheon of Gorham was among 1,453 students named to College of the Holy Cross' Dean's List for outstanding academic achievement during the fall semester of the 2020-21 academic year.

McCutcheon is a member of the Class of 2023 and has not yet declared a major.

To qualify for the

Dean's List, students must pass four or more letter-graded courses with no failing grades during the semester and earn a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

The College of the Holy Cross, in Worcester, MA, is a highly selective, four-year, exclusively undergraduate college of 3,100 students. The college is renowned for offering a rigorous, personalized education in the Jesuit, Catholic tradition since its founding in 1843.

Send all items for Names & Faces to the editor. Deadline is Friday by five pm.

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First auction of the year coming to Thomaston Place



A Patek Philippe 18K gold gent's wristwatch is among the items to be auctioned in the Thomaston Place Auction Galleries first event of the year from Feb. 26-28. (Photo courtesy of Thomaston Place)

THOMASTON - In its first major sale of 2021 on Feb. 26, 27 and 28, Thomaston Place Auction Galleries will present collections of fine paintings, American and European furniture, folk art, sculpture, country antique accessories, and Asian items.

Out of an abundance of caution in light of the Covid-19 pandemic, the sale will be conducted as a live virtual sale, with telephone, absentee and internet bidding. The gallery will open for previews every day from February 15 through February 25.

Thomaston Place owner and auctioneer Kaja Veilleux said: "We've put together an exciting and diverse offering, from antiquities to contemporary art and furniture, with something to entice every interest."

A seascape painting by Joseph DeCamp (ME/MA/PA/FL/OH, 1858-1923) will headline the sale. Titled "View from the Sprague House, Prouts Neck, Maine", the work was a gift from DeCamp to his Prouts Neck neighbor, late 19th c. coal baron and shipping magnate Phineas W. Sprague. DeCamp paintings are rare – less than 100 canvases are known, as 1904 fires in his Boston and Maine studios destroyed most of his life's work.

There will be a group of important 20th Century paintings by Latin American artists, including works by Carlos (Gomez) Enriquez (PA/Cuba, 1900-1957), Antonio Ruiz, El Corcito (CA/Mexico, 1895-1964), and Rene Portocarrero (Cuba, 1912-1985).



An 18th Century Burmese Buddhist temple wood carved kneeling disciple figure is being auctioned in the Thomaston Place Auction Galleries first event of the year from Feb. 26-28. (Photo courtesy of Thomaston Place)

The sale will also present artwork by: John Frederick Kensett (NY/CT, 1816-1872), William Sidney Mount (NY, 1807-1869), William Leroy Metcalf (NY/MA, 1858-1925), John William Casilear (NY/VT, 1811-1893), Josef Israels (Netherlands, 1824-1911), Harrison Bird Brown (CA/ME/UK, 1831-1915), Stephen Etnier (ME/CA, 1903-1984), Paul Black (ME, 1951-2014), Andrew Winter (NY/ME/MA, 1893-1958), William Thon (ME/NY/Italy, 1906-2000) (and Bruno Zach (Austria/Germany/Russia/Ukraine, 1891-1945).

"American Flamingo, Old Male", a Havell double elephant folio chromo-

lithograph by Bien, New York, 1860, from a work by John James Audubon (NY/France, 1785-1851) will be offered, along with three Audubon elephant folio hand colored lithographs from "North American Quadrupeds" (J.T. Bowen, 1845).

Each day of the sale will have particular emphasis – on Friday, Feb. 26, the focus will be on Americana furniture, folk



A 103-Piece set of Meissen porcelain dishes is included in the items to be auctioned in the Thomaston Place Auction Galleries first event of the year from Feb. 26-28. (Photo courtesy of Thomaston Place)

art and accessories; fine art and antiques will be featured on Saturday, Feb. 27; and 20th Century decorative arts and jewelry on Sunday, Feb. 28.

The auction will begin at 11 a.m. each day.

All lots can be viewed at Thomaston Place Auction Galleries' website, www.thomastonauction.com. Telephone, absentee, and online bidding on three internet platforms will allow multiple bidding options. Visit the Thomaston Place website or call 207-354-8141 for more information.

Thomaston Place

Auction Galleries is Maine's premier international auction company located on U.S. Route 1 in Thomaston. Thomaston Place is a leader in discovering Maine's antique and fine art treasures by offering Free Appraisals each Tuesday at the gallery, creating fundraiser events for civic and charitable organizations, and providing house call appraisal services. Their expertise in researching and marketing antiques and fine art has earned Thomaston Place the respect of buyers, collectors and experts worldwide.

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Wreaths Across America starts national tour

From WAA

COLUMBIA FALLS, ME - Wreaths Across America (WAA) has started the 2021 national tour for its Mobile Education Exhibit (MEE).

The MEE will hit the road this month in Maine and head Southwest towards Texas for both private and public scheduled events.

"The goal of the Wreaths Across America Mobile Education Exhibit is to bring community together and teach patriotism while remembering the service and sacrifice of our nation's heroes," said Karen Worcester, executive director, Wreaths Across America. "However, over the last year, in light of the

current health crisis, we feel this exhibit has taken on even more meaning by providing the opportunity for people to safely participate in something that is both educational and inspiring, while supporting and giving back to the communities it visits."

The MEE achieves this goal by bringing the local community, veterans, active-duty military and their families together through interactive exhibits, short films, and shared stories. The exhibit serves as a mobile museum, educating visitors about the service and sacrifice of our nation's heroes as well as to serve as an official 'welcome home' station for our nation's Vietnam Veterans.

All veterans, ac-

tive-duty military, their families, and the local community members are invited and encouraged to visit, take a tour and speak with WAA representatives and volunteers. They can also share more about the national nonprofit, and the work its volunteers do to support our heroes and their communities year-round.

To host the MEE in your community, whether for a parade, a school-related or veterans' organization, or a public or private event, visit <https://wreathcrossamerica.org/mee>.

Initial planned stops

include two private events in Alabama and seven Public events in Texas:

The MEE has planned stops in Alabama and Texas the last week of February and the first week of March.

The public tours for the MEE are free and open to the public with social distancing, sanitation and COVID-19 safety procedures in place to protect the health of all visitors in accordance with the CDC's recommendation for large gatherings stemming from concerns surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic.

Members of the media,

dignitaries, veterans and other interested groups are urged to come, ask questions, share stories and experience this one-of-a-kind exhibit.

Wreaths Across America is the non-profit organization best known for placing wreaths on veteran's headstones at Arlington National Cemetery. However, in 2020 alone, the organization placed more than 1.7 million sponsored veterans' wreaths at 2,557 participating locations nationwide. Throughout the calendar year you can tune in to Wreaths Across America Internet

Radio, 24/7, to learn more about the mission and those who support it across the country, as well as the hundreds of local charitable efforts nationwide that are funded through wreath sponsorships.

A veteran's wreath can be sponsored for \$15 at www.wreathcrossamerica.org. Each sponsorship goes toward a live, balsam wreath that will be placed on the headstone of an American hero as we endeavor to honor all veterans laid to rest at noon on Saturday, Dec. 18, 2021, as part of National Wreaths across America Day.

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Arts & Entertainment

Baxter Library events for February

From BML

GORHAM - Events at Baxter Memorial Library at 71 South Street, during February.

Thursday Feb. 18 10 a.m.

Gorham Feathered Friends
Come to Baxter Memorial Library and

stroll along the walkway and gazebo area. Bring your binoculars to find all 12 "birds" and learn some fun facts. An identification/color page will be available inside the doors of BML and also to print off at home to use in your own yard.

Friday Feb. 19 10 a.m.

Lava Lamp

Join Ms Heidi for this groovy experiment. She will show you how to make a lava lamp with common household items. You will need: a smooth-sided plastic or glass container, vegetable oil, water, food coloring drops, and Alka Seltzer tablets. We've bought plenty of Alka Seltzer tablets, so stop by the library if you need one.

Tuesday

Feb. 23 9:30 a.m.
Preschool Discovery Time

If you love picture books watch Ms Heidi on Facebook as she reads a new book each week. (ages 3-5)

Wednesday Feb. 24 10 a.m.

STEAM - Tin Can Telephones

Join Ms. Deb on Facebook for a virtual STEAM activity. Activities are geared toward K-5 learners and require minimal supplies that you'll likely have right on-hand at home. In this program, we'll learn a bit about how sound works. We'll recycle some aluminum cans and turn them into simple yet effective phones that you can use around your house

any time you want.

Thursday Feb. 25 9:30 a.m.

Toddler Discovery Time

Join Ms. Dani for a Virtual Discovery Time on Facebook. She will read a story and present an extension activity related to the book. So much fun for this age group! (18months-3 yrs)

Casco FCU Spreads Love to Gorham Seniors



Staff members from Casco Federal Credit Union deliver hand-made cards to residents at Gorham House for Valentine's Day. (Photo courtesy of Casco FCU)

From Casco FCU

GORHAM - The cupid's at the Casco Federal Credit Union branches in Gorham were hard at work this month to show their neighbors they are cared for, even while we have to stay six feet apart.

The staff at Casco FCU put their crafting skills to good use to make over 160 cards for senior citizens in Gorham.

The cards were de-

livered to the residents at Gorham House, a senior living center located on New Portland Road, just in time to celebrate Valentine's Day. Gorham House provides a variety of retirement and living options including independent living, assisted living, rehabilitation

"In this ongoing pandemic, many people feel isolated or lonely. This can be especially true for seniors who may

be separated from family and friends," said Kelsey Gillespie, Marketing and Sales Director at Casco FCU. "This project was one small way that we can help our seniors feel connected to their community."

This Valentine's delivery was a part of Casco FCU's ongoing Casco Cares Campaign, an effort to find creative ways to build community during the COVID-19 cri-

sis. To learn more about Casco FCU's charitable efforts, visit their website at www.cascofcu.com or find them on social media.

Casco FCU is a not-for-profit financial institution with assets of over \$81 million, providing banking services to more than 9,000 members. Branches are located at 375 Main Street and 393 Ossipee Trail in Gorham.



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All counties now “green”

From Maine DOE

AUGUSTA — The Mills Administration released an update to its color-coded Health Advisory System on Friday that shows Androscoggin, Oxford, Franklin and York counties returning to a “green” designation.

The state classifies counties’ relative risk of COVID-19 transmission to assist schools as they

continue with their plans to deliver instruction and support to students safely.

The Maine Department of Education said that the Maine Department of Health and Human Services and Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention continue to review evidence that indicates lower transmission of COVID-19 in schools compared to the general population.

Over the last 30 days, the rate of new cases is 36 per 10,000 staff and students, compared to 81 per 10,000 people statewide. Evidence continues to demonstrate that in-person learning in schools that follow public health precautions can be conducted safely without increased transmission of COVID-19.

DHHS and Maine CDC assessed COVID-19

data and determined that Androscoggin, Franklin, Oxford and York counties have seen dramatic drops in their new case rates and positivity rates for the past two weeks, and are now aligned with other counties.

All other counties continue to remain in the green designation. All counties were last in the green designation during the week of October 16,

2020.

These designations are provided for the consideration of school administrative units in their decisions to deliver instruction.

The Maine DOE said it is essential that school districts across the State of Maine continue to implement plans that adhere to the six requirements for returning to in-person instruction, regardless of their county’s designation.

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5 In "A" Row



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The Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade is an elite designation from The Leapfrog Group, a national, independent watchdog that sets the highest standards for patient safety in the United States.



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Dealership

Continued from page 1
some promise.”

Darling’s Auto Group President Jay Darling said, “As the current Yankee Brunswick Ford staff joins the Darling’s family, customers can expect we’ll all be going above and beyond in their community.”

“I’m excited to see how the staff at Yankee Ford has been operating and to learn from their experiences in this region. We’ve been doing this a long time in Bangor, Ellsworth and Augusta, but southern Maine offers us an opportunity to serve a new demographic which can help us grow our business in both locations as we learn from each other,” Darling said.

The acquisition represents a continued investment in profitable growth and community development, two pillars in the vision goals of Darling’s Auto Group.

“We think this is a great area and a wonderful market to expand our operations,” Darling said. “The Brunswick and Bath area is incredibly vibrant and we are very excited to become a part of this region. With its close proximity to Bath Iron Works, Bowdoin College, and the many other existing businesses in the area, we see a huge potential for growth in this market. We will be sure to do everything we can to make this transition smooth and efficient both for the current employees there as well as their customers.”

Soohey said Brunswick “is a new market for us.” He said Darling researched the area and sees a lot of promise for growth. The dealership is just down the street from the local Walmart and Lowe’s Home Improvement stores. Plus, “We have Bath Iron Works and Bowdoin College” nearby, he said.

Yankee Ford updat-

ed the look of the building several years ago, Soohey said, adding the trademark Ford “sail”, a standing curved piece at the entrance to the building.

A Maine-based family and employee owned company, Darling’s has been doing business in Maine for over 100 years with roots going back to 1903. Today, it is one of the largest dealership groups in the state.

With a corporate office in Brewer, Darling’s currently has more than 400 full time employees.

The company also owns and operates The Darling’s Agency, an independent insurance agency that has been in business since 2007 as well as Green Point Auto Parts and Auto Sales in Brewer, Maine.

Soohey said the Yankee dealerships “are solid” and continue to sell cars at their other locations in South Portland and Rockland.



A Ford pickup truck sits under a temporary sign at the new Darling’s Ford dealership on Bath Road in Brunswick. Yankee Ford sold the dealership to Darling’s Auto Group in December. The trademark Ford “sail” graces the front of the building. (Tsukroff photo)



Darling’s Ford Service Manager Shaun Randall steps out to greet a customer at the dealership’s service area. The facility has 16 service bays and sells new and used parts from its parts department. Darling’s Auto Group purchased the dealership on Bath Road in Brunswick from Yankee Ford in December. (Tsukroff Photo)





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MESCA names Counselor of the Year



Kim Raymond, the School Counselor at Leroy H. Smith School in RSU 22 was recently named as the 2021 Maine School Counselor of the Year by the Maine School Counselor Association. (Photo courtesy of Maine DOE)

From Maine DOE

AUGUSTA - The 2021 Maine School Counselor of the Year was recently named by the Maine School Counselor Association at a surprise virtual ceremony.

Kim Raymond, the School Counselor at Leroy H. Smith School in RSU 22 was honored as the 2021 Maine School Counselor of the Year. The Maine School Counselor of the Year Award is a program of MESCA that honors school counselors who are running a top-notch, comprehensive school counseling program at either the

elementary, middle or high school level.

The Maine Department of Education joined the MESCA in celebrating the 2021 National School Counseling Week Feb. 1-5. The week honors and celebrates the contributions of school counselors, and highlights the tremendous impact they have in helping students achieve school success.

“My goal is and always has been to help all students know how much they matter every day,” said Mrs. Raymond. “School counselors make a difference in the lives of students. I’m thankful that I have a career that I love

that impacts students in a positive way.”

Mrs. Raymond graduated with a bachelor’s degree in Psychology in 2004 from the University of Maine and obtained her master’s degree in counselor education in 2006. She has been working as a school counselor for the last ten years, six of which have been in a Pre-K through 8th grade school in Etna before she started working for RSU 22 in 2012.

With a strong passion for working with children and helping others, Mrs. Raymond is also the advisor of Smith School’s Civil Rights team, works as a

cheerleading official, and sits on the Maine School Counselor’s Association’s Board of Directors. When she not at school, she enjoys spending time outside, reading and writing stories and poetry, and spending time with her husband and two young daughters.

“What makes her an outstanding candidate for this award is her infectious enthusiasm,” said Mrs. Patterson, a Kindergarten Teacher and colleague of Mrs. Raymond. “Mrs. Raymond doesn’t hesitate to throw on a school mascot costume to engage students in an assembly or lead the school in a cheer.”

“Kim is the kind of School Counselor that all schools need,” said Melissa Davis, a parent and community member. “She makes our school a place where children feel safe, loved, and supported.”

“She is more than a school counselor, she is a change agent,” said Smith School Principal Mrs. Moore.

In the year ahead, Mrs. Raymond will have several speaking engagements, event appearances, and will be invited to a formal Gala in Washington, DC in Winter, 2022 as well as honored at the American School Counseling Conference in Austin, Texas in Summer, 2022.

National School Counseling Week is celebrated annually the first full week in February.

Guest Column Phrop it like it’s hot

By Grammar Guy

I have a new favorite word and, no, it’s not “hygge.”

Similar to “hygge,” though, this word looks like you dropped a random handful of Scrabble letters onto the gameboard in an attempt to convince your friend that it’s a real word. My new favorite word is “phrop.”

Coined by Sir Arnold Lunn in the late 1940s, “phrop” was Lunn’s entry in a made-up word competition in “The New Statesman,” according to Philip Howard in his 1984 book “The State of Language.” It seems Sir Arnold created the word “phrop” as a combination of the words “phrase” and “opposite.”

When you break down this idea, you get a phrase that means the opposite of what it actually means. A classic example of this comes from Jerry Seinfeld’s stand-up comedy. At the end of a date where you don’t want to see that person ever again, Seinfeld quips, “What do you say?” So he goes with, “Take care now.” The reason, he states, is because “I’m not going to be taking care of you. So you should take care of yourself now.”

Phrops appear in social settings to put a misleading face on a less-than-polite statement. Notice that when someone starts a sentence with, “With all due respect,” they proceed to tee off on the other person’s po-

sition or opinion. “With all due respect” gets used as a license to tear the other person apart. I give “with all due respect” mad phrops.

The “humblebrag” is a great example of a modern-day phrop. Humblebrags are the epitome of false humility, and they often show up on social media feeds. To avoid using a real example, I’ll make one up. Suppose you see a friend post something like this: “I am SO tired after working at the soup kitchen all day. My Jimmy Choo’s are toast after standing up all day ... but it feels great knowing I could shine my light.” This is annoying on many levels; not only did your “friend” brag about how much she volunteered, but she did it while wearing incredibly expensive shoes. That one’s a real mic-phrop moment.

How can you avoid dropping a casual phrop while speaking with your closest frenemy? Phrops are an easy way to passively-aggressively drop a “sick burn” on someone. My advice? Pick one thing about your “friend” that you can genuinely compliment (even if it is her ringtone). Say it, mean it, and then get out of there before you accidentally say “I’ll call you.”

Curtis Honeycutt is a syndicated humor columnist. He is the author of “Good Grammar is the Life of the Party: Tips for a Wildly Successful Life”. Find more at curtishoneycutt.com.

Ocean State Job Lot donates 42,000 coats

From OSJL

NORTH KINGS-TOWN, RI – Ocean State Job Lot collected 42,000 winter coats, nearly 12,000 more than last year, through its 2020 “Buy, Give, Get” program to donate coats to veterans in

need this winter.

From late October through early January, the “Buy, Give, Get” program at the closeout discount retailer’s 142 stores in nine states encouraged customers to purchase a quality, brand-name men’s or women’s winter coat

for \$40.00 (retail value: \$80.00-\$120.00) and give it back to the store for donation to a veteran. In appreciation of the donation, customers received a \$40.00 Crazy Deal Gift Card to be used for a future purchase at Ocean State Job Lot, effectively allow-

ing customers to donate winter coats for free.

“We are so pleased with the results of this year’s program,” said David Sarlitto, Executive Director, Ocean State Job Lot Charitable Foundation. “What started out as a 600-coat test donation just a few

years ago has grown into one of the largest programs of its kind serving veterans in need across the region. The fact that we exceeded last year’s donation - in the midst of a pandemic no less - is a true testament to the loyalty and generosity of our customers.”

The coats are currently being distributed to veterans’ organizations throughout the Northeast, in partnership with a multi-state network of more than 50 veteran support agencies, organizations, assistance programs and action groups serving New England, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

Ocean State Job Lot has six stores in southern and central Maine.

Founded in 1977, Ocean State Job Lot is a growing, privately held discount retail chain with 142 stores in New England, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, approximately 5,600 employees, and annual sales of approximately \$800 million.

Job Lot sells brand name, first quality merchandise at closeout prices. Shoppers find an ever-changing array of household goods, apparel, pet supplies, seasonal products (holiday, gardening, patio, pool and beach supplies), and kitchen pantry staples at a fraction of their typical price. The company was named a “Best Midsize Employer” by Forbes Magazine.

The Ocean State Job Lot Charitable Foundation has a long history of philanthropic leadership, supporting numerous causes, including feeding the hungry, helping the homeless, assisting veterans and military families, aiding animal rescue, caring for children, advancing healthcare, supporting the arts and promoting learning. Ocean State Job Lot is headquartered at 375 Commerce Park Road in the Quonset Point Business Park, North Kingstown, RI 02852. Phone: (401) 295-2672; Web: OceanStateJobLot.com.

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Junction Bowl league scores - Week 4

From Junction Bowl

GORHAM – League scores from Junction Bowl on Railroad Avenue in Gorham. Scores include the player handicap.

Week 4 Monday Night Strikes

Cobra Kai bested Right Lane 2 games to 1, taking the team series for the week, 2249-2234.

Cobra Kai
Romeo Jalbert 160-181-233 – 574

Eric Bretton 211-216-188 – 615

Kenneth Reno 182-173-204 – 559

Tim Perry 180-167-154 – 501

Right Lane
Brian Gonneville 173-161-207 – 541

Adam Homan 151-171-146 – 468

Colin McLean 199-209-198 606

Bill Haskell 224-181-214 – 619

The Gutter Rats overcame Split Happens by 2 games to 1 to take the team series for the week, 2189-2141.

The Gutter Rats
Ben Smith 151-174-202 – 527

Amy Pompeo 179-143-202 – 524

Shawna LaPierre 164-186-166 – 516

Gary LaPierre 237-214-171 – 622

Split Happens
Heather Bryant 150-159-163 – 472

Kaitlyn Lemieux 189-177-162 – 528

Erica Jackson 221-172-160 – 553

Elixabeth Maxfield 225-200-163 – 588

Pin Me Please grabbed 2 games and the team series over Hammond Eggs with 1 game, 2267-2226.

Pin Me Please
Ashley Calvert 184-190-183 – 557

Rick Cormier 217-188-203 – 608

Heather Lavallee 168-199-209 – 576

Brendan Gow 179-176-171 – 526

Hammond Eggs
Scott Merrill 162-190-192 – 544

Bobby Brown 146-214-184 – 544

Ronald Barter 179-234-185 – 598

Ryan Stuart 182-189-169 – 540

Two Finger Death Punch grabbed 2 games and the team series from The (League) Office with 1 game, 2346-2227.

Two Finger Death Punch

Jon Talbot 204-180-215 – 599

Charlie Pasquerillo 237-197-195 – 629

Thomas Franchetti 209-176-194 – 579

Timothy Bola 156-185-198 – 539

The (League) Office

Sebastian Pettitt 190-233-227 – 650

Aidan Underwood 175-132-163 – 470

Nick Calvert 210-198-147 – 555

(Vacant) 184-184-184 - 552

Thursday Night Dynamite

Split Happens outlasted Smelt Camp Swim Team by 2 games to 1, taking the team series for the week, 2207-2145.

Split Happens
Denise Williams 191-181-174 – 546

Chris Lee 201-181-183 – 565

Matt Lelansky 176-189*-168 – 533

Duayne Frank 176-170-217 – 563

Smelt Camp Swim Team

Kevin Kassa 204-191-177 – 572

Tonya Kassa 157-191-154 – 502

Brian Waild 167-161-251 – 579

Jenn Leanheart

153-161-178 – 492

Minds in The Gutter took all 3 games and the weekly team series from Bowler? I Barely Know . . . , 2211-2097.

Minds in The Gutter

Scott Verrill 174-214-154 – 542

Jay Sutton 187-162-223 – 572

Jason 190-165-206 – 561

Matt Ferrante 173-185-178 – 536

Bowler? I Barely Know . . .

Dylann Swisley 179-190-205 – 574

Deanna Boisvert 153-169-166 – 488

Donna Gagnon 162-180-169 – 511

Derrick Sellitto 170-183-171 – 524

Strike First rolled to victory in 2 games against Sexy Ginger with 1 game, but Sexy Ginger took the weekly team series 2191-2181.

Strike First

Romeo Jalbert 164-175-189 – 528

Kenneth Reno 166-170-230 – 566

Sherry Coyne 180-156-168 – 504

Roni Bretton 196-173-214 – 583

Sexy Ginger

Shawn McCurdy 169-164-219 – 552

Jacob Bourgeois 167-207-212 – 586

Clayton Ferrin 186-

171-199 – 556

Keith Durgin (Sub) 172-158-167 – 497

XXX Turkeys rolled over the House Balls 2 games to 1, taking the weekly team series 2299-2217.

XXX Turkeys

Peter Luciano 204-281-204 – 689

Terry Moore 148-181-180 – 509

Jake Ouellette 172-163-206 – 541

Ken Foss 211-165-184 – 560

House Balls

Bruce Russell 211-191-155 – 557

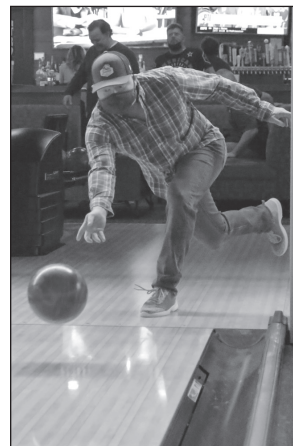
Reena Russell 180-207-216 – 603

Christian DeLuca 180-186-173 – 539

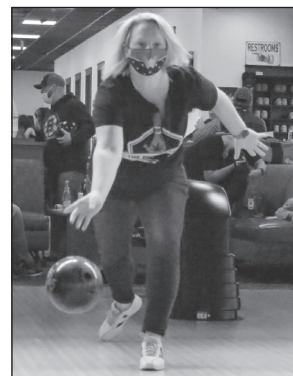
Anna Deluca 178-181-159 – 518



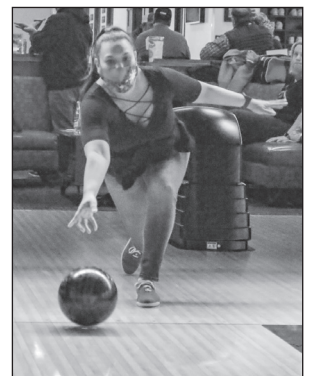
Terry Moore with the XXX Turkeys rolls in a game against House Balls in the Thursday Night Dynamite league play last week at Junction Bowl on Railroad Avenue in Gorham. The XXX Turkeys took 2 of the 3 games and the weekly series with a total score of 2299-2217. (Tsukroff photo)



Peter Luciano led the XXX Turkeys to wins in two of three games against House Balls. Luciano rolled 689, the high score for the evening. (Tsukroff photo)



Anna DeLuca of House Balls delivers in a game against XXX Turkeys last week in play for the Thursday Night Dynamite League. (Tsukroff photo)



Reena Russell delivers for House Balls in play against XXX Turkeys. She had the second highest score in league play for the night with 603. (Tsukroff photo)



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Free Fishing License week

From Maine DIFW

AUGUSTA – This is Free Fishing License Week and is a perfect time to introduce someone to the sport of ice fishing!

For beginners, it is all about making sure they stay comfortable and have a day full of fun!

After all, ice fishing is about so much more than the “catch.” For many, it is about the views, time spent outside with friends and family, and memories made.

The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife suggests fishing for warmwater species such as bass, pickerel, and perch for a fast-action day! Once the angler is hooked, you can move onto the harder to catch coldwater game fish if you desire.

Cook a warm meal. It is hard to beat a hamburg-

er or homemade breakfast sandwich on the ice! Pair it with hot chocolate for a perfect winter picnic.

Pick a sunny, low-wind day. Otherwise, set up in a wind-protected cove or shore.

Pack extra, dry pairs of socks, mittens, and a hat and make sure your new fishing partner dresses warm.

Bring other activities to keep the group engaged between flags. Consider bringing ice skates, a hockey stick and puck, a football to toss, binoculars, or cards. Or, build a snowman!

Choose an easily accessible location. For beginners, comfort is a priority. Pick locations close to access points when snow depths are minimum for easy walking.

Keep the day short. Save your more adventur-

ous trips for another day.

Enjoy! For many outdoor enthusiasts, the thrill of sharing knowledge with a novice is as exciting as the hobby itself.

For additional tips and recommended places to go fishing, see <http://bitly.ws/bJR2>

Free Fishing License Week was created to give everyone a chance to enjoy ice fishing! On these days, February 13-21, 2021, any person (except those whose license has been suspended or revoked) who registers with the Department may fish without a license. All other laws and regulations apply on these days.

Those planning to fish during Free Fishing License Week who do not have a fishing license must register online at <http://bitly.ws/bJR3>. Ages 15 and younger do not need to register.

MISSION BBQ Donates \$362,320 to Wreaths Across America

From WAA

COLUMBIA, MD - MISSION BBQ announced the donation of \$362,320, to Wreaths Across America (WAA) last week.

The contribution was made possible thanks to the generosity of customers and their support of the American Heroes Cups. The donation will help to sponsor over 36,000 veterans' wreaths to remember fallen U.S. service members during the 2021 holiday season.

“We remain proud and humbled to stand with Wreaths Across America and the amazing work they continue to do to Remember, Honor and Teach,” said Bill Kraus, co-founder for MISSION BBQ.

Wreaths Across America is known for its annual wreath-laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery. Their mission is to remember our fallen U.S. veterans, honor those who serve and teach the next generation the value of freedom. In addition to the wreath-laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery, Wreaths Across America coordinates wreath-laying ceremonies at more than 2,500 locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea and abroad.

“MISSION BBQ, through service and education, and in giving back to the communities in which their team lives and works, is a perfect example of all that is good in our country,” said Karen Worcester, Exec-

utive Director, Wreaths Across America. “We could not be more proud to have them as a partner in supporting our mission throughout the country.” Karen along with her husband Morrill Worcester, Wayne Hanson, Chairman of the Board of Directors, and other members of the WAA family were present to receive the donation.

“We wouldn't have the freedoms we have today if it wasn't for our nation's veterans who stepped up for us time and time again,” said Kraus and Steve Newton, founders of MISSION BBQ. “We are humbled by the wonderful support of our customers and all the good that will be done for our so deserving American Heroes in remembering their lives, their service and their sacrifices.”

American Heroes Cups are available year-round, retailing at \$3.99 with \$2 of every cup purchase donated to a charity supporting national military charities and local first-responders. Customers are encouraged to bring back their American Heroes Cup on return visits to the restaurant and receive \$.99 refills.

MISSION BBQ opened its doors for business on September 11, 2011, 10 years after the world changed. The company believes there is nothing more American than BBQ. And nobody more American than the brave men and women who have sworn to protect and serve Our Communities and Our Country. MISSION BBQ does what it does for the love of the soldiers, firefighters, police officers, and first responders—all our loved ones in service. For more information about MISSION BBQ: <http://mission-bbq.com/>

Wreaths Across America is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded to continue and expand the annual wreath-laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery. Begun by Maine businessman Morrill Worcester in 1992, the organization's mission – Remember, Honor, Teach, -- is carried out in part each year by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies each December at Arlington, as well as at thousands of veterans' cemeteries and other locations in all 50 states and beyond. For more information, to sponsor wreaths or to sign up to volunteer, please visit www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org.

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EVERY TUESDAY

10:30-11:15 a.m.

LEWISTON – Lewiston Public Library - Virtual Preschool Babytime & Storytime. Children 0-5 are welcome to join the fun on Zoom as Ms. Jackie uses interactive songs and stories to introduce children to the world of books, learning, and the library. Call 207-513-3133 for details and registration.

1ST AND 3RD TUESDAYS

11:30 a.m.

LEWISTON – Lewiston Public Library - Virtual Book Chat. Join LPL staff via Facebook Live for a weekly conversation about what we're reading. Make suggestions, share your thoughts, find resources, and get personalized recommendations from our librarians!

MONDAYS IN FEBRUARY

LEWISTON - Green Dot Bystander Intervention techniques! For every member of a community to use, both proactively to change our culture for the better and reactively to minimize harm. None of us can do everything, but each of us can do our part to make Lewiston-Auburn a safer and more welcoming community.

Hosted by Lewiston Public Library, Green Dot Lewiston-Auburn is offering 2-hour bystander intervention training using Zoom. These are interactive, last about two hours, and are limited to 15 adult participants per session. Registration is required at <https://www.greendotla.org/schedule>.

Choose from one of the following sessions:

Monday, Feb. 15, at 10 a.m.

Monday, Feb. 22, at 2 p.m.

Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

THURSDAY Feb. 18

8 a.m.

AUBURN – 9-1-1 Committee meeting.

10 a.m.

GORHAM – Baxter Memorial Library – Gorham Feathered Friends. Come to Baxter Memorial Library and stroll along the walkway and gazebo area. Bring your binoculars to find all 12 “birds” and learn some fun facts. An identification/color page will be available inside the doors of BML and also to print off at home to use in your own yard.

Noon-1 p.m.

LEWISTON – Lewiston Public Library - Great Falls Forum. This is a free, monthly series featuring statewide and regional leaders in public policy, business, academia and the arts streaming virtually via Zoom and streamed to the Lewiston Public Library Facebook page. This month's forum features Youth Studies scholar Dr. Andrea Breau, on the topic, “It's a lot of pressure for us to understand this stuff: Lessons About Race and Place from Lewiston's Teenagers.”

6:30 p.m.

GORHAM – Board of Appeals meeting via Zoom.

FRIDAY Feb. 19

10 a.m.

GORHAM – Baxter Memorial Library – Lava Lamp. Join Ms Heidi for this groovy experiment. She will show you how to make a lava lamp with common house-

hold items. You will need: a smooth-sided plastic or glass container, vegetable oil, water, food coloring drops, and Alka Seltzer tablets. We've bought plenty of Alka Seltzer tablets, so stop by the library if you need one.

MONDAY Feb. 22

5:30 p.m.

LEWISTON – Planning Board meeting via Zoom.

5:30-6:30 p.m.

LEWISTON – Finance Committee meeting at City Hall Administrator's Conference Room.

TUESDAY Feb. 23

9:30 a.m.

GORHAM – Baxter Memorial Library – Preschool Discovery Time. If you love picture books watch Ms Heidi on Facebook as she reads a new book each week. (ages 3-5)

5:30 p.m.

AUBURN – Agriculture Committee meeting.

6 p.m.

LEWISTON – City Council Workshop, via ZOOM - <http://www.lewistonmaine.gov/2021cc> Also, public comment will be possible at publiccomment@lewistonmaine.gov.

WEDNESDAY Feb. 24

7:30 a.m.

AUBURN – Auburn Housing Authority Board of Commissioners meeting.

10 a.m.

GORHAM – Baxter Memorial Library - STEAM - Tin Can Tele-

phones. Join Ms. Deb on Facebook for a virtual STEAM activity. Activities are geared toward K-5 learners and require minimal supplies that you'll likely have right on-hand at home. In this program, we'll learn a bit about how sound works. We'll recycle some aluminum cans and turn them into simple yet effective phones that you can use around your house any time you want.

Noon

LEWISTON – Lewiston Public Library - Read Your Mind: Exploring Mental Health in Teen Books.

This is a monthly, virtual series focusing on teen mental health & wellness with YA authors and community health experts. In February, the library is hosting authors Adib Khorram, Mark Oshiro & Julian Winters to discuss how the intersection of masculinity, queerness, and racial and cultural identity impact teen mental health. Contact hchance@lewistonmaine.gov or call 207-513-3135 to register.

6 p.m.

AUBURN – Complete Streets Committee meeting.

6 p.m.

AUBURN – School Committee meeting.

THURSDAY Feb. 25

9:30 AM

GORHAM – Baxter Memorial Library - Toddler Discovery Time. Join Ms. Dani for a Virtual Discovery Time on Facebook. She will read a story and present an extension activity related to the book. So much fun for this age group! (18months-3 yrs)

MONDAY Mar. 1

5:30 p.m.

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DOORS OPEN AT:
12:00pm

AUBURN

746 Center Street

Auburn Movie Hotline — 786-8605

VISIT OUR WEBSITE OR CALL THE HOTLINE AT 786-8605 FOR SHOWTIMES

AUBURN – City Council workshop and meeting.

7 p.m.

GORHAM – Planning Board meeting via Zoom.

TUESDAY Mar. 2

5:30 p.m.

AUBURN – Age-Friendly Community Committee meeting.

6 p.m.

LEWISTON - City Council meeting, via ZOOM - <http://www.lewistonmaine.gov/2021cc> Also, public comment will be possible at publiccomment@lewistonmaine.gov.

6:30 p.m.

GORHAM – Regular Town Council meeting via Zoom.

THURSDAY Mar. 4

4 p.m.

AUBURN – Cable TV Advisory Board meeting.

5:30 p.m.

AUBURN – Auburn-Lewiston Airport Board Meeting.

MONDAY Mar. 8

5:30-6:30 p.m.

LEWISTON – Finance Committee meeting

TUESDAY Mar. 9

6 p.m.

LEWISTON – City Council workshop, via ZOOM - <http://www.lewistonmaine.gov/2021cc> Also, public comment will be possible at publiccomment@lewistonmaine.gov.

6 p.m.

AUBURN – Planning Board meeting.

7 p.m.

GORHAM – Conservation Commission meeting via Zoom.

WEDNESDAY Mar. 10

4:30 p.m.

AUBURN – Lewiston-Auburn Transit Committee (LATC) meeting.

6:30 p.m.

AUBURN – Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting.

7 p.m.

GORHAM – School Committee Meeting via Zoom.

MONDAY Mar. 15

5:30 p.m.

AUBURN – City Council workshop and meeting.

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BOOKS

"To College or Not to College" is the question and this book has the answers. Check it out: www.authorcaseybell.com.

Book lovers and bookstores: looking for unique and eclectic books? Check out author Casey Bell: www.authorcaseybell.com.

BUSINESSES FOR SALE

Working small engine/ outdoor Power equipment business.
Parts inventory B&S, Kohler, Tecumseh, MTD, Ariens, Toro and more. Special tools and equipment. Good opportunity to expand or add to your business. Call Glen 207-655-4635 daytime for more information.

ESTATE SALE

Estate - Garage
Safe environment - one seller with mask and gloves. By appointment only. One to two people. We maintain ten feet apart. Two bedroom sets, double and queen - wicker 5 pieces - Bench with microfiber cushion. Two living room chairs. All plus more. All priced low for quick sale. (207) 883-0808

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Cutting Boards
I have many different sizes of wooden cutting boards made from maple, oak, walnut, cherry, poplar and ash in different designs. Priced from \$10 to \$25. Would make very nice gifts. Call me at 207-577-2724.

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Big Blowout sale at House of Lady Debra's Our: Old Goat + His Lady. Gourmet 21 soups, 20 dips, 4 cheeseales sale. Buy 3 dips, get 2 free. Buy 2 soups, get 1 free. Going fast, call now. Lady Debra -207-891-1968.

HAIR SERVICES

Hair at Home! Can't get out to the hair salon? We'll come to you anywhere in the L/A area! We offer services in the privacy of your own home. Great rates. Excellent service. Call cell phone 754-9805 or 782-1271.

HEALTH & FITNESS

DO YOU HAVE CHRONIC KNEE OR BACK PAIN?
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Deadline is 5pm every Friday.

HELP WANTED

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HOUSING

Seeking two bedroom apartment or house to rent. One story with garage near the Windham or Raymond area. Prefer hardwood floors. Jimmy and Cheryl Burnham. 207-572-2714 or 207-633 3380.

PAINTING

Stepladder Enterprise Painting Co. Interior & Exterior. Drywall repair, paint and wallpaper. Pressure washing. Insured. 20+ years in business 207-786-9849.

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

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LEWISTON SENIOR CITIZENS TRAVEL WASHINGTON, D.C. - TRIPS POSTPONED TIL FURTHER NOTICE: MACKINAC ISLAND - 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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