



# TWIN CITY TIMES

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Worker-owned with Spoke Folks, a cargo bike cooperative business, has fully launched to haul trash, recycling, and compost via bike & trailer in Norway and South Paris. (Photo courtesy of Spoke Folks)

## Bike cooperative hauls trash in Norway

From Spoke Folks

NORWAY - Spoke Folks Cooperative Inc., a worker-owned cargo bike cooperative business, has fully launched to haul trash, recycling, and compost via bike & trailer in Norway and South Paris.

Founding member Jessica Cooper said, "Our mission is to offer a people and bike-powered alternative to gas-powered pickup/hauling services and to help communities reimagine their approach to the waste system."

Spoke Folks is a project of the Center for an Ecology-based Economy (CEBE), a Norway non-profit founded to engage the community in addressing the climate emergency.

CEBE and Spoke Folks established the worker-owned business with essential resources and training provided by The Cooperative Development Institute's Rebuilding the Rural Economy Training Program funded by the USDA. CDI is a New England based non-profit with a mission to build a cooperative economy.

Scott Vlaun, Executive Director of CEBE, was originally inspired to begin a cargo-bike project after hearing about Pedal People; a successful cargo bike co-op in Northampton, MA. He turned the idea into a working project through a CDI training designed for rural communities, and was joined by founding members Cooper, a young mother and climate activist, and Justin Bondesen, a local composting and outdoor enthusiast, in the winter of 2019.

"I've always been passionate about the bicycle, a nearly perfect machine that represents independence and freedom, Vlaun said. "I've used them to commute to work, for cross continental travel and for hauling produce from my farm. When I learned about the Pedal People cooperative I realized that bikes could play a bigger role in an ecology-based economy. CDI helped us take this realization to a viable business model that will provide good jobs in a democratic workplace while helping to tackle the climate crisis, reduce waste and pollution, and increase the quality of life in our downtown."

Cooper said Spoke Folks began as a side project for her - one that would allow her to work outside and learn more about bikes and community waste systems. "It quickly became a large part of the reason that I made a full move to live in Norway and immerse myself in the community here. Learning how to build a cooperative has been some of the most rewarding work I've done, especially knowing that our mission is aligned with my personal values when it comes to climate action and sustainability."

Early in the spring and through the summer of 2020, Spoke Folks changed an initial focus on waste hauling to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic in our community. The group began delivering food via bicycles from local food banks to at-risk residents in the community. With grant funding provided by the Onion Foundation, they were able to provide meal delivery free of charge for local restaurants.

In October of 2020, Spoke Folks officially began hauling trash, recycling, *See Bike, page 9*

## Vaccination site opens March 17

From CMHC

LEWISTON - Central Maine Healthcare, the State of Maine, and the cities of Auburn and Lewiston are launching a regional high-volume COVID-19 vaccination site at the Auburn Mall on March 17.

Vaccinations at the Central Maine Healthcare-run site in the mall will be available by appointment only.

"We are thrilled that this critical resource will get more vaccine into the arms of Maine people quickly and efficiently," said Jeffrey L. Brickman, FACHE, president and CEO of Central Maine Healthcare. "By working together with our partners, this high-volume vaccination site will have a powerful impact in the fight against the pandemic. It's a wonderful example of the community coming together to protect the people we are privileged to serve."

The high-volume vaccination site is the first to open in Androscoggin County. Vaccination will be available to Maine residents in accordance with the State of Maine's age-based eligibility approach.

"The entire Auburn team stands ready to help protect our community in any way we can," said Auburn Mayor Jason Levesque. "Androscoggin County's vaccination rate is lagging behind the rest of the state, so we are extremely pleased to be working with these exceptional community partners to make this site a reality. Its central location will make it quick, simple and safe for our friends, neighbors and family members to protect themselves."

After a ramp-up period, the site will have a goal of vaccinating 1,000 people a day and, if vaccine supplies are sufficient, operating three to five days a week for six months. During that timeframe, the site is expected to administer as many as 145,000 doses if vaccine availability allows.

"With the announcement of the opening of a high-volume vaccination site at the Auburn Mall, our community is one step closer to a return to normalcy," said Lewiston Mayor Mark Cayer. "Local healthcare providers have planned *See Vaccination, page 9*

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# Newsmakers, Names & Faces

## Collins introduces bill to penalize robocalls

From Sen. Collins

WASHINGTON, D.C. - U.S. Senators Susan Collins (R-ME) and Kyrsten Sinema (D-AZ), along with Senators Josh Hawley (R-MO) and Gary Peters (D-MI), introduced the Anti-Spoofing Penalties Modernization Act of 2021 today to aid Americans who are being inundated with robocalls.

Their bipartisan legislation would double the penalties for illegal caller-ID “spoofing,” a tactic scammers often use to trick victims into answering their phone calls. By disguising their true identity, scammers can masquerade as government officials or well-known businesses and convince consumers to share their personal and financial information.

The introduction of the Anti-Spoofing Penalties Modernization Act coincides with National “Slam the Scam” Day, an annual initiative that brings together federal, state, and local government agencies with nonprofits and the private sector to warn the public of government imposter phone scams.

“Older Americans lose billions of dollars each year to an ever-growing array of financial exploitation schemes. These scams vary in nature, from COVID-19 scams to government imposter scams to prize, sweepstakes, and lottery scams,” said Senator Collins. “We must work together to combat the criminals who use illegal robocalls and spoofing to steal Americans’ hard-earned savings and person-

al information. By increasing penalties for spoofing violations, the bipartisan Anti-Spoofing Penalties Modernization Act would provide an additional tool in this fight.”

“Our bipartisan bill holds criminals, who deliberately target vulnerable communities in Arizona, accountable,” said Senator Sinema.

“For years, I have heard from Missourians who are fed up with being bombarded by robocalls at all hours of the day,” Senator Hawley said. “Unfortunately, this scourge has been exacerbated during the pandemic by fraudsters preying on the financial fears of Americans in a time of need. Law enforcement must be given the tools to put a stop to these pests and ensure criminal scammers

who take advantage of the elderly are met with the full force of the law. I am proud to join this important piece of bipartisan legislation that will increase penalties for the criminals behind these invasive robocalls.”

“The millions of robocalls that Michiganders receive are not just annoying, but in many cases are outright scams. Unfortunately, scammers are using ever-sophisticated scams to better ensure their robocalls are answered,” said Senator Peters. “I’m pleased to introduce this commonsense, bipartisan legislation to crack down on these robocalls and increase penalties for illegal spoofing.”

“Spoofing” of caller-IDs is commonly used by criminal robocallers to mask their true identity. Con artists use this tech-

nique to boost their credibility and fool victims by making it appear as though they are calling from the Internal Revenue Service, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the local police department, or another legitimate source. The COVID-19 pandemic has given rise to new phone, text, and email scams that seek to trick or frighten consumers into sharing personal information and financial details.

In 2010, Congress passed the Truth in Caller ID Act, which prohibits the use of misleading or inaccurate caller-ID information to intentionally defraud, cause harm, or wrongfully obtain anything of value. The use of this deceptive tactic has exploded since then, however, underscoring the need for stronger

deterrent measures.

The bipartisan Anti-Spoofing Penalties Modernization Act would double the penalties for illegal spoofing under existing law, increasing the fine per violation from \$10,000 to \$20,000 and increasing the maximum fine from \$1 million to \$2 million.

Consumers can help protect themselves from fraud by:

Hanging up on suspicious calls from “government officials” calling about a problem;

Never making payments with gift cards, wire transfers, or by mailing cash;

Reporting Social Security scams to [www.OIG.SSA.gov](http://www.OIG.SSA.gov); and

Reporting other scams to [www.reportfraud.ftc.gov](http://www.reportfraud.ftc.gov).

## VA begins Janssen vaccinations

From VA Maine

AUGUSTA - VA Maine Healthcare System will begin COVID-19 vaccination with the Janssen

vaccine last week, following the U.S. Food and Drug Administration’s Emergency Use Authorization for this vaccine.

In clinical trials, the

Janssen vaccine showed an efficacy of 66% against moderate to severe/critical COVID-19 disease occurring at least 28 days after vaccination — and demon-

strated greater than 85% efficacy in preventing severe/critical COVID-19 disease occurring at least 28 days after vaccination.

Janssen is a Johnson & Johnson pharmaceutical company.

“VA Maine is eager to be able to offer a second highly effective vaccine to more Veterans,” said Tracey Davis “This one-dose vaccine will help us reach our ultimate goal of offering

COVID-19 vaccination to all Veterans and employees who want to be vaccinated.”

As of March 3, VA Maine had provided Moderna COVID-19 vaccine first doses to more than 6,192 Veterans, employees and federal partners — and both doses to more than 2,482 of these individuals.

Veterans who are enrolled and receiving health care in VA are eligible to get the vaccine when their

facility has vaccine supply and reaches their risk category. Veterans are required to enroll with VA in order to receive health care. However, to receive care in VA, enrollees must meet certain eligibility requirements under current law, which may include income limits.

Veterans can get the latest information and sign up to receive updates on VA’s COVID-19 vaccine webpage.

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# Newsmakers, Names & Faces

## Guest Column

### Legislature voting on bills at Augusta Civic Center



**Sen. Nate Libby (D-Androscoggin), Maine District 21, the City of Lewiston. (Photo courtesy of Sen. Libby)**

**From Sen. Libby**

Dear Friends,  
As I mentioned last week, members of the Senate were able to gather in-person at the State House to vote on a variety of appointments. As you know, legislative committees have been meeting remotely to work on bills. However, when it comes to voting on legislation, Maine's Constitution states we must meet in person.

This week, the full Legislature was to gather at the Augusta Civic Center to vote on bills that have been passed out of committee and are ready for our consideration. It will likely be a marathon two days, and I know my colleagues and I will do all we can to make efficient use of our time.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at nathan.libby@legislature.maine.

gov or 207-287-1515

#### COVID-19 vaccine update

The past 11 months have been extremely tough for Mainers all across the state. With COVID-19 vaccinations available, Mainers are anxious to get their shot and get on with their lives. There has been some good news in recent days. On Tuesday, DHHS Commissioner Jean Lambrew announced 35 Hannaford pharmacies across the state will begin distributing the newly approved Johnson & Johnson vaccines.

Also on Tuesday last week, the Biden administration announced that the U.S. would have enough vaccine doses to vaccinate every adult in the country by the end of May, which is two months sooner than previously announced. The administration also said they'd direct states to prioritize vaccinating teachers. In response to this, Gov. Mills announced on Wednesday that Maine will open vaccination eligibility to pre-K-12 school staff and child care providers, regardless of age.

Under this new policy, participants in the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program – which includes certain Hannaford, Walgreens and Walmart pharmacies in Maine – will give access to appointments exclusively to school staff and licensed

child care workers. Appointments already scheduled for people 60 and older will not be canceled.

If you have any questions, you can call Maine CDC's vaccine consultation line at 866-962-6062, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Please note that you can't use this phone number to make an appointment to get vaccinated. To find a vaccination site near you, go to [www.maine.gov/covid19/vaccines](http://www.maine.gov/covid19/vaccines).

Central Maine Medical Center. Call 207-520-2917 to make an appointment. More information here.

St. Mary's Regional Medical Center. Visit [www.stmarysmaine.com](http://www.stmarysmaine.com) for information or call 207-755-3100.

Hannaford in Lewiston. Visit <http://bitly.ws/c4Aa> to schedule an appointment. If the online scheduler does not have an appointment available, please do not call the pharmacy. The scheduler updates in real time and accurately reflects appointment availability.

Walgreen's in Lewiston. To schedule an appointment, visit <http://bitly.ws/c4Ad> or call 1-800-Walgreens. Walk-ins are not accepted.

#### New rental relief program

The Emergency Rental Assistance Program

opened Monday at noon. This program uses \$200 million in rent relief funds from the federal Emergency Rental Assistance Program and is being administered through MaineHousing. MaineHousing expects that there are enough funds to help all renters who qualify for assistance, but we suggest applying as soon as possible to be safe!

You may be eligible for assistance back to March of 2020 and through the next three calendar months. If you had previously applied and were denied assistance, it may be worth reapplying given adjustments to eligibility and the potential for any family income changes since a previous application was filed.

To learn more, or to apply, go to <http://bitly.ws/c4zB>

#### Maine Maple Weekend returns

Last spring, Maine Maple Sunday was cancelled for the first time in 37 years. While we were able to enjoy a modified Maine Maple Weekend in October, I know many of us are excited to hear that the event is back on this spring, with the event scheduled for the weekend of March 27 and 28!

Sugar houses across the state will once again be open, but be sure to check ahead of time on [mainemapleproducers.com](http://mainemapleproducers.com) or by

calling your local producer to see what safety measures they may have in place, such as adjusted hours or curbside pick-up only. I can't wait to try some delicious treats while supporting our local sugar houses!

Check out one of our local sugar houses:

Jillson Farm Sugarhouse, 143 Jordan Bridge Road

Ricker Hill Orchards, 295 Buckfield Road, Turner  
Pineland Farms, 15 Farm View Drive, New Gloucester

#### Grants available for specialty crops

The Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry has opened applications for the 2021 Specialty Crop Block Grant. Please note that the application period is fairly brief, running from March 1 to March 24. The application template will be very similar to the 2020 form, which can be found on the DACF website.

Specialty crops include fruits and vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, horticulture, and nursery crops (including floriculture). To be eligible for a 2021 Specialty Crop Block Grant, projects must demonstrate a benefit to a broad specialty crop industry rather than an individual producer or organization. The Department encourages new applicants to apply. Visit <http://bitly.ws/c4zI> to learn more or apply.

calling your local producer to see what safety measures they may have in place, such as adjusted hours or curbside pick-up only. I can't wait to try some delicious treats while supporting our local sugar houses!

#### Appointment to Maine Climate Council Equity Subcommittee

I have recently been appointed to the Maine Climate Council's equity subcommittee by Senate President Troy Jackson. The Maine Climate Council is a group of scientists, industry leaders, policymakers and residents tasked with creating a four-year plan to reduce emissions in Maine and to achieve state carbon neutrality by 2045. The Council's plan, *Maine Won't Wait*, was delivered to the Governor and the Legislature in December 2020. The Council will continue to meet quarterly to monitor progress. The equity subcommittee of the Maine Climate Council is tasked with setting equity outcomes for climate actions, monitoring progress and making recommendations to the Council to ensure programs and benefits reach diverse and isolated populations and communities. I am proud to expand my work of advocating for equity in communities across Maine as well as reinforce my strong commitment to Maine's environment.

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

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# Catholics can receive all COVID-19 vaccines

## From Portland Diocese

PORTLAND – Rev. Robert Deeley, Bishop of the Portland Diocese, said recently that Catholics can receive all COVID-19 vaccines currently being offered.

“As I stated in December in regards to COVID-19 vaccines, we must thank God for the scientific advancement and

dedication of those in the medical field that have led to these lifesaving vaccines during a global pandemic,” he said. “When it is your turn to receive a vaccine, you can receive the one that is offered to you without moral reservation.”

The recent approval of Johnson & Johnson’s COVID-19 vaccine for use in the United States has led to an increase in

questions about whether Catholics and others can receive vaccines developed, tested, and/or produced with the help of abortion-derived cell lines. I am in agreement with the recent statement of the US-CCB that reminds us that the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith has judged that “when ethically irreproachable COVID-19 vaccines are not available

... it is morally acceptable to receive COVID-19 vaccines that have used cell lines from aborted fetuses in their research and production process. However, if one can choose among equally safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines, the vaccine with the least connection to abortion-derived cell lines should be chosen.

“Therefore, if one has the ability to choose

a vaccine, Pfizer or Moderna’s vaccines should be chosen over Johnson & Johnson’s,” he said. “While we should continue to insist that pharmaceutical companies stop using abortion-derived cell lines, given the world-wide suffering that this pandemic is causing, we affirm again that being vaccinated can be an act of charity that serves the common good.”

“In sum, as Catholics we are called to serve humanity in caring for one another,” Deeley said. “Consider the fact that, during this pandemic, receiving a vaccine is not just for one’s own health, but for the health and safety of those around you. We continue to pray that God will grant healing, comfort, and peace to all affected by this pandemic.”

## Health Affiliates Maine Promotes Two



Michelle Nadeau was recently named as the Assistant Director of Human Resources at Health Affiliates Maine, which provides services and support to Mainers affected by mental health and substance abuse issues. (Photo courtesy of HAM)



Janet Verrill is new Assistant Director of Program Integrity at Health Affiliates Maine, which provides services and support to Mainers affected by mental health and substance abuse issues. (Photo courtesy of HAM)

### From HAM

AUBURN - Health Affiliates Maine recently promoted Janet Verrill to Assistant Director of Program Integrity, a new department within the agency, and Michelle Nadeau to Assistant Director of Human Resources.

Verrill began with Health Affiliates Maine in 2010 when the agency was established. She has been a Case Manager, UR Specialist and most recently a Utilization Review Supervisor. Her recent promotion to Assistant Director of Program Integrity puts her in a leadership position in a new department that was created to further aid affiliates in insurance authorizations, licens-

ing regulations and more.

Verrill will be overseeing the agency’s policies and procedures of quality assurance within the services provided by the agency. “It is in my nature to help reduce the stigma of mental health services as I am personally connected to this field,” said Verrill. “Within my work, I advocate for services and interventions for our community members so they can work towards their own journey to wellness.”

Nadeau joined Health Affiliates Maine in 2019 as Human Resources Manager. She graduated from Concordia University in Montreal, Quebec with a bachelors degree in Applied Human Sciences. She holds PHR (Professional in Human

Resources) and SHRM-CP (Society Human Resources Management Certified Professional) certifications, is a notary public, and has over five years’ experience in human resources.

Nadeau will provide guidance and leadership in her new role to ensure legal compliance while implementing the agency’s mission relating to talent and overall strategy. “I love working at Health Affiliates Maine because at the end of the day I feel as though I have had some contribution to the larger picture,” said Nadeau. “Specifically, the impact the agency has on the community by helping Mainers access mental healthcare. We need

each other now maybe more than ever.”

“Michelle and Janet have been a part of the Health Affiliates Maine family for many years,” said Andrea Krebs, Health Affiliates Maine Executive Director. “Their dedication to our organization’s mission and to the communities of Maine are second to none. We’re thrilled that they’ve accepted their new roles and are confident they’ll continue to fulfill the HAM vision.”

A statewide agency, Health Affiliates Maine provides services and support to Mainers affected by mental health and substance abuse issues. [www.healthaffiliatesmaine.com](http://www.healthaffiliatesmaine.com)

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— Bill Bushnell, *Bushnell on Books*

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— George Smith, *Bangor Daily News*

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# Arts & Entertainment

## I AND YOU... streaming at The Public Theatre



Emma Wisniewski and London Carlisle in *I and You* at The Public Theatre, which is streaming live through March 21. Tickets can be purchased online at [thepublictheatre.org](http://thepublictheatre.org). (Photo courtesy of The Public Theatre)

### From The Public Theatre

The Public Theatre, Lewiston/Auburn's Professional Theatre's production of *I AND YOU* has begun streaming, and can be watched on-line through March 21.

A year ago, The Public Theatre had to cancel this wonderful production on the day it was scheduled to open. Only the preview audiences had the pleasure of seeing the show. Before sending the actors home to New York, this performance was recorded in front of a small audience and now The Public Theatre has been granted

permission to share it.

Mysteriously forced together to complete a book report, an unlikely pair of teenagers discover a shocking secret that will connect them forever. Joyful and heart-breaking, *I AND YOU* carries an uplifting message for this moment in time when we all miss feeling connected.

Tickets can be purchased online at [thepublictheatre.org](http://thepublictheatre.org) or by calling 782-3200. A single ticket, (one person watching) is \$15, and a household ticket (2+ people watching together) is \$25.

## Pleasant Note celebrates 15 years of Open Mic



Playing at a recent edition of the Open Mic & Poetry Slam at the Pleasant Note Coffeeshouse at the First Universalist Church of Auburn, Unitarian Universalist, are Graham Duvall (left), Ray Lacombe, Jody Alexander, and Dave Foster. The Pleasant Note will celebrate 15 years of the Open Mic events on Friday. (Photo courtesy of Auburn UU)

### From Auburn UU

AUBURN - The Pleasant Note Coffeeshouse will celebrate the 15th anniversary of its Open Mic & Poetry Slam at the First Universalist Church of Auburn, Unitarian Universalist at 7:30 p.m. on Friday.

Since 2006, this free monthly show has drawn people of all ages who share the spirituality of music and spoken word. During the past year, the show has seamlessly adapted to the Zoom platform.

Guitars and singers are to be expected, yet Open Mic has welcomed belly dancers, poets, rappers, storytellers and dogs over the years. Participants say they like this

monthly forum for its focus on the performers.

Residents may recall that years ago, a musical "scene" had sprung up around Cafe Bon Bon in Lewiston. When the cafe closed, some members of the First Universalist Church of Auburn decided to provide an outlet for all that creative energy. The Pleasant Note has continued on for 15 years, consistently attracting new performers and developing regulars.

The Pleasant Note Coffeeshouse presents its Open Mic & Poetry Slam on the second Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. See the Auburn UU Facebook page or <https://zoom.us/j/206058928>, Password: 500681.

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Out and About

# Scrolling wooden figurines and decorative pieces



The Christmas Tree is decorated with Gerry Martel's artistic scrolling heirloom pieces, all made with different kinds of wood. (Rachel Morin photo)

By Rachel Morin

I was fascinated to learn about Gerry Martel of Auburn's scrolling hobby. I had never heard of scrolling before. Gerry has been scrolling for close to 30 years and has created thousands of artistic wooden figurines and other wooden decorative pieces which he has given to his relatives and friends over the years.

What got Gerry interested in this craft? He was attracted to it at a very

young age when he saw the beauty in the delicate figurines made with different kinds of wood. He thought he could do it. This was in his pre-teen years!

As a teenager, he began in earnest reading instructive magazines and books on the craft, visiting tool shops, and looking into the kinds of machines and tools he would need. He visited other craftsmen and visited displays and visited workshops, learning as much as he could on his own. The more he

learned, the more advanced material he sought. He never had a lesson and was self-taught.

His very first artistic piece was at age 14 which he made especially for his parents. He fashioned shelving with 1/2 inch plywood to place their photos and other items for display in their living room. It was a good start and completed on his own.

What is scrolling and how is it done? The artist or craftsman uses a small electric or pedal-operated saw used cut intricate curves in wood, metal or other materials. The fineness of the blade allows it to cut more delicately than a power jigsaw, and more easily than a hand coping saw or fretsaw.

Over the years, the scrolling artist plied his craft in his large workshop in the basement of his Auburn home, fully stocked with different scrolling machines, tools and a large inventory of species of wood, including Baltic birch, cherry, pine, oak and even plexiglass. These pieces of wood were transformed into delicate wooden figurines or fancy and intricately fashioned, delicate Christmas tree ornaments, as well as framed art pieces for wall décor and fancy wooden boxes, bread boards and welcome signs. His favorite woods to work with were cherry and Baltic birch.

Gerry likes to tell the story of how one of

his sons has two Christmas trees every year in his living room at Christmas time. One tree is decorated with the traditional Christmas balls. The second Christmas tree is filled with his father's exquisite Christmas tree ornaments fashioned from his scrolling art with different kinds of wood.

As busy as Gerry was with scrolling, he had other interests as well. He and his wife Claudette were active with The Country-side Dancers and danced with them for many years. Oh, and his regular job was working in the banking industry his entire working career. After his retirement from the bank, Gerry worked five years at Central Maine Medical Center in Lewiston as a very active fundraiser for the Hospital.

Gerry and his wife Claudette kindly invited me into their apartment at Schooner Estates Community Living in Auburn to view his artwork and take pictures for this article. The Martels' apartment is like a lovely art museum with all the beautiful art pieces attractively arranged. All artwork in the pictures and in the apartment are the artistic creations by Gerry Martel.

Life is a little quieter now for Gerry and Claudette, but they are still involved with learning via ZOOM classes and other educational programs on See *Figurines*, page 10



The delicate Angels topping the tree are made of Baltic birch. (Rachel Morin photo)



Claudette and Gerry Martel stand in front of Claudette's favorite art piece, the heart, fashioned from Baltic birch and made especially for her by Gerry. (Rachel Morin photo)

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Guest Column

# An update on Maine's vaccination plan

From Sen. Claxton

When we first got word of an approved vaccine for COVID-19, it felt like we were seeing a light at the end of the tunnel. The next questions folks naturally asked were: Where can I get the vaccine? And when can I get it? The good news is, the "where" is expanding every day. The answer to "when" has been changing pretty quickly recently. Here's an overview of how things stand right now.

Starting March 17, people will be able to get vaccinated right at the Auburn Mall. With mass vaccination sites announced for cities like Portland, Bangor

and Augusta, I'm happy residents of the L-A area will soon have the same access to the COVID-19 vaccine. Once things ramp up and there is adequate supply of vaccine, providers at the site will be able to distribute 1,400 doses of the vaccine every day. That's a huge boost for our area. I want to thank everyone who put in the hard work of planning for this site and getting it up and running. To find a list of other vaccination sites around the state, you can go to <http://bitly.ws/borN>. Please note that no matter where you choose to go, you'll need to schedule an appointment.

The guidelines for who can get a vaccine and

when have changed pretty rapidly. On Friday, Feb. 26, the Mills administration announced the state was switching to an age-based vaccination schedule. That meant starting on March 3, eligibility was opened to people 60 and older; in April, it expanded to people 50 and older, continuing with similar age brackets through July. This change took a lot of people by surprise and is a mixed bag for many families. Dr. Nirav Shah of Maine CDC explained at a public briefing that this decision was made after the administration reviewed multiple studies showing age, even more than most pre-existing medical conditions, was the

best indicator of whether someone is likely to suffer severe or fatal symptoms from COVID-19. Given this data, along with Maine's older population, I understand why Maine CDC made this decision. Still, I know this change is a big blow to a lot of folks around the state. For every person over 60 who is happy to be able to get the vaccine, there is someone who is unhappy that their shot will be delayed.

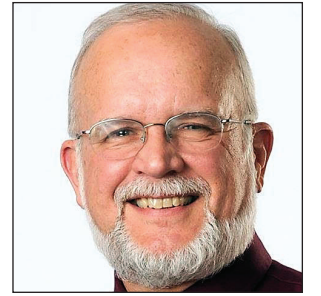
The following Tuesday, we got some good news. With the approval of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine, Maine's allotment of doses will increase. Further, this newly approved, single-dose vaccine will be distributed through 35 Hannaford pharmacies around the state.

Then, later that same day, the Biden administration announced some even better news: Thanks to an increase in vaccine production, the U.S. will have enough vaccine doses for every adult in the country by the end of May. That's two months sooner than we originally anticipated. In

light of this, the Biden administration advised states to prioritize educators for vaccinations.

Maine is following through on this advice. That means teachers, school staff and licensed child-care providers will be able to receive a vaccine at retail locations around the state through a federal program. That includes pharmacies at Walmart, Walgreens and Hannaford stores. Discussions continue with other pharmacies to see if they are ready to participate. If you are an educator wanting to get vaccinated through this program, please schedule an appointment and bring a school ID, pay stub or other proof of your employment to verify you qualify. You can find a list of these sites at the link I listed above.

If you have any questions about the COVID-19 vaccine, please reach out to your doctor. You can also call the Maine CDC's vaccine consult line at 866-962-6062, which is staffed 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. So far, more than 375,000 vaccine doses have been distribut-



Sen. Ned Claxton (D-Androscoggin), Maine District 20, Auburn, Mechanic Falls, Minot, New Gloucester, and Poland (Photo courtesy of Sen. Claxton)

ed in Maine, with nearly 131,000 Mainers fully vaccinated.

I know things have changed quickly, and it's a lot to take in. If you have any questions or concerns about this or other issues, please don't hesitate to contact me. You can reach me by email at [ned.claxton@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:ned.claxton@legislature.maine.gov) or by calling my office at 287-1515.

Sen. Ned Claxton (D-Androscoggin) represents Maine Senate District 20, which includes Auburn, Mechanic Falls, Minot, New Gloucester, and Poland.

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**Bike**

*Continued from page 1*

and compost for customers. They also offer general hauling services for a flat rate of \$25/hour, delivery services from the local food co-op, and meal deliveries from a local farm fresh meal program, Foot-hills Foodworks. Prices for service are in the same range as other trash hauling companies in the area, making Spoke Folks a competitive service with an environmental benefit.

Kim Hamlin of Fiber & Vine said, "I wanted to go with Spoke Folks mostly because they are a community-minded, Main Street business like me! I love that they are worker owned, value driven and that my trash pick up won't be burning fossil fuels unnecessarily. They are affordable, convenient, and quiet. Also, it may sound like a minor detail, but their recycling bins are aesthetically pleasing and compact, so they work quite well in my retail space!"

Lu Brown, a Casco native and avid biker, joined Spoke Folks as a steering committee member in the summer of 2020 and quickly became an enthusiastic worker-owner and a main rider.

The four member-owners seek to re-imagine waste management in their community, and with the launch of Spoke Folks, provide the community with the option to choose an environmentally friendly pickup



**A Spoke Folks member-owner pulls a trailer loaded with trash and recyclables behind his bike through downtown Norway last fall. (Photo courtesy of Spoke Folks)**

service, while offering education on compost, recycling, and cooperatives.

Spoke Folks is currently the only hauling service of its kind in Maine.

With the success in Norway, the worker-owners hope to replicate their cooperative bike-powered model in other towns and cities throughout Maine where Spoke Folks can help create good jobs and provide a valuable, fossil fuel free waste man-

agement service, Cooper said.

Learn more about Spoke Folks Co-op and sign up for services at: [www.spokefolks.me](http://www.spokefolks.me).

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

**Vaccination**

*Continued from page 1*

and worked collaboratively to bring this to fruition; although work is ongoing to assure accessibility and equity for our community's senior citizens and our underserved populations. I'm confident we will identify fair access to the vaccination for all residents of this region."

Central Maine Healthcare's vaccination clinics at Central Maine Medical Center in Lewiston, Bridgton Hospital and Rumford Hospital have prepared the health system well for the high-volume operation. The system, for example, administered a total of 1,269 doses at Central Maine Medical Center and Bridgton Hospital on

Feb. 27. In all, the system has administered nearly 16,000 doses to more than 10,000 people within the constraints of vaccine and resource availability.

In addition to operating the high-volume site at the Auburn Mall, community partners are coordinating to ensure that vaccination efforts reach all members of the community. Central Maine Healthcare, municipal and state leaders are working with Androscoggin County Emergency Management Agency, St. Mary's Health System and Tri-County EMS.

**Vaccination Appointments**

To check availability, book an appointment or find out more about

high-volume vaccination site, visit [cmhc.org](http://cmhc.org) or telephone the Central Maine Healthcare COVID vaccine call center at 207-520-2917. Please direct all inquiries to this website and phone number, not to the mall or the cities.

Vaccinations will take place at the Center Court of the Auburn Mall. The entrance will be through the south entrance leading directly to Center Court.

With the opening of Auburn Mall site, Central Maine Healthcare will pivot resources from the clinics at Central Maine Medical Center in Lewiston to the high-volume site. Community vaccination clinics will continue at Bridgton Hospital and Rumford Hospital.

**Food Pantry has ongoing needs**

**From Auburn UMC**

AUBURN - The High Street Food Pantry has on-going needs for peanut butter, canned vegetables, soup, canned pasta (spaghetti, ravi-

oli, Spaghetti-O's, etc.) canned meats, canned fruit, dry cereal, baking items (mixes, sugar, flour, etc.), soup, crackers, and toilet paper.

Please support this mission of helping local

people meet their most basic needs.

Drop off donations at Auburn United Methodist Church at 439 Park Avenue in Auburn, or contact the Church Office at 782-3972.

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# Local Students on Deans' Lists

## UMass Lowell dean's list

LOWELL, MA - Local residents have been named to the dean's list at the University of Massachusetts Lowell.

Among those recognized for achieving academic distinction for the fall 2020 semester at UMass Lowell are Julia St-Laurent of Lewiston, majoring in nursing, and Benjamin Dowe of New Gloucester, majoring in chemical engineering.

## UMF Dean's List for fall

### 2020

**FARMINGTON** - The University of Maine at Farmington recently announced its Dean's List for the fall 2020 semester.

UMF maintains a Dean's List each semester for those students completing a minimum of 12 credits in courses producing quality points. Students whose grade point average for the semester is equal to or greater than 3.8 are listed with High Honors. Students whose grade point average for the semester is less than 3.8 but equal to or greater than 3.5 are listed with Honors. Any incompletes must

be satisfactorily completed before the student is honored with Dean's List status. Academic achievement awarded at commencement is based on all course work taken at UMF.

Auburn: Christian Bellevue, Honors; Jeremy Daigne, Honors; Charlotte Emerson, High Honors; Emily Farrington, Honors; Katherine Gilpatrick, Honors; Haley Knowlton, Honors; Lea Violette, High Honors;

Buxton: Lauren Bearor, High Honors; Sam Michelson, High Honors; Brittney Reed, Honors;

Gorham: David Blattstein, Honors; AJ Booth, High Honors; Lindsey Boylen, Honors; Makenna Canty, High Honors; Jackson Crockett, High Honors; Alyssa Dolley, High Honors; Riley Ferrigan, Honors; Jacqui Hamilton, Honors; Sophie Hendrix, Honors; Taylor Perkins, High Honors; Emma Pierce, High Honors; Samantha Rockwell, High Honors;

Gray: Chelsea Davis, High Honors;

Greene: Tania Bureau, High Honors; Averie Cloutier, Honors; Sam Martineau, Honors; Paris Pierce, High Honors; Brady Stockwell,

Honors;

Lewiston: Ashley Hill, High Honors; Sara Laroche, High Honors; Jayme Loisel, High Honors; Nik Peterson, High Honors; Nicole Pilote, High Honors; Bailee Sabine, High Honors; Kasey Talarico, High Honors; Ashley Ward, High Honors; Logan Whitley, Honors; Emma Williams, High Honors; Abbie Zandoni, High Honors;

Lisbon: Abby Lebel, High Honors; Rosalie White, Honors;

Mechanic Falls: Cordelia Christopher, Honors; Spencer Davis, Honors; Chelsea Roy, High Honors; Twilight Smart-Benson, High Honors;

New Gloucester: Abby Cloutier, Honors;

Norway: Marie Martin, High Honors; Miles Stevens, High Honors;

Oxford: Hope Akers, High Honors; Brandi Farnum, High Honors; Troy Johnson, Honors;

Poland: Magnus Sibley, Honors; Sara Szantyr, Honors;

Portland: Danielle Chambers, High Honors; Antonio Ciccomancini, High Honors; Maximus Desalle, High Honors; Leanna Farr, High Honors; Eve

Fischer, High Honors; Neima Houssein, Honors; Yifu Liu, Honors; Ross McCabe, High Honors; Simon Murphy, High Honors; Justin Reid, High Honors; Tawnee Roberts, High Honors; Charlie Scalia-Bruce, Honors;

Sabattus: Makenzie LeBlanc, High Honors; Heaven Martin, High Honors;

Scarborough: Brian Austin, Honors; Madi Blanchard, Honors; Caroline Granata, High Honors; Erick Larkin, High Honors; Andrew Parent, Honors; Eric Parent, High Honors; Mehgan Warner, Honors;

South Paris: Emily Lathrop, High Honors; Cait Riggott, High Honors; Kelsey Riggott, High Honors;

Turner: Alex Brooks, High Honors; Haylee Janosco, Honors; Jason Labbe, High Honors; Alex Leadbetter, Honors; Maddie Lenfest, High Honors; Audrey Spear, High Honors;

Westbrook: Aubine Kalisa, High Honors; Aidan Lucas, High Honors; Ariana St Clair, High Honors; Sarah Viar, Honors;

Windham: Stacie Bourassa, High Honors; Heather Carper, Honors; Trevor Crowley, Honors; Julia Preston, Honors;

A nationally-recognized public liberal arts college, UMF enjoys a 150-year tradition of providing a quality academic experience combined with the personal attention and close student / faculty collaboration that help prepare all students to be successful.

See Students, page 12

## Figurines

Continued from page 7

television. They maintain an active daily walking schedule to keep limber.

The Martels partici-

pate in the educational programs offered at Schooner Estates and have blended in very well with fellow residents and have made new friends.



This artistic rendering of a Mandolin was created with Baltic birch. (Rachel Morin photo)



Art figures on the display shelves with a lacy backdrop behind the shelves make for a beautiful setting. (Rachel Morin photo)

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# Free child care in Auburn

**From City of Auburn**

AUBURN – The Auburn School Department will use grant funds to continue to provide FREE daycare during school hours for children in grades K 6 through the end of the current school year, projected to be Tuesday, June 8.

Daycare slots are offered by Auburn School Department, Auburn Recreation Department, YMCA of Auburn-Lewiston and Boys & Girls Clubs of Southern Maine.

Breakfast and Lunch are provided at each site at no cost through Auburn School Department

Slots are prioritized, first to children of Auburn residents who are considered essential workers (including school department employees) with students enrolled in Auburn

public schools, then to children of Auburn residents who are economically disadvantaged, based on the state's free and reduced meal guidelines. Remaining slots will be made available to all Auburn residents with children in Auburn public schools, as well as ASD employees with children enrolled outside of Auburn public schools.

Families must provide their own transportation to and from the programs.

Before and After School Care is also available at most sites for a fee.

For information & availability, contact the program of your choice:

Auburn School Department: Fairview Elementary School, Park Avenue Elementary School, Sherwood Heights Elementary School. Registration:

<https://auburnschl.ce.eleyo.com/>, Email: [slevine@auburnschl.edu](mailto:slevine@auburnschl.edu) | Phone: (207) 333 6601 x1308.

Auburn Recreation: Ingersoll Turf Facility, Hasty Community Center, Auburn Public Library, Family Development Center (Valerie Circle). Registration: [www.auburnmaine.gov](http://www.auburnmaine.gov), Email: [auburnrec@auburnmaine.gov](mailto:auburnrec@auburnmaine.gov) | Phone: (207) 333 6611.

Boys & Girls Club of Southern Maine, Auburn/Lewiston Clubhouse. Registration: [www.bgmaine.org/register](http://www.bgmaine.org/register) | Gary Violette, Auburn/Lewiston Clubhouse Director; Email: [gviolette@bgmaine.org](mailto:gviolette@bgmaine.org) | Phone: (207) 782 2446

YMCA of Auburn-Lewiston. Chris Shea - Email: [cshea@alymca.org](mailto:cshea@alymca.org) | Phone: (207) 795 4095, ext. 206

# MDOT work plan is available

**From Rep. Arata**

AUGUSTA – The Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT) Work Plan for Calendar Years 2021, 2022, and 2023 is available.

The estimated value of work in the plan includes more than 2,180 individual work items with a total value of \$2.71 billion.

"I am happy to announce that the MDOT

Work Plan again contains projects in New Gloucester and Poland," said State Representative Amy B. Arata (R - New Gloucester). "These projects scheduled over the next three years will make roads safer and reduce vehicle damage for citizens and businesses in my district."

The MDOT Work Plan for District 65 includes four projects totaling \$446,000 for the towns

of New Gloucester and Poland.

The work includes paving over three miles of Route 231 in New Gloucester. For Poland, there will be drainage maintenance on McGuire Hill Road, Poland Corner Road paving, and safety improvements on Route 26.

The full work plan, searchable by municipality, can be found at <http://bitly.ws/c527>

# SeniorsPlus seeks members for Advisory Council

**From Seniors Plus**

LEWISTON - SeniorsPlus, the designated Area Agency on Aging serving Androscoggin, Franklin, and Oxford counties, is seeking new members for its Advisory Council.

The Advisory Council is a requirement under the Older Americans Act and is responsible for advising on issues concerning older adults and Older Americans Act programs.

The Advisory Council serves as the "eyes and ears" of local older people and their caregivers, represents the interest of older persons, identifies gaps in services to older persons and provides recommendations for corrective action, reviews and comments on policies, programs, and actions that affect older people, and acts in an advisory capacity, not a governing capacity. It may have opportunities to communicate with local, state and federally elected officials, make community presentations, and provide testimony at public hearings

resents the interest of older persons, identifies gaps in services to older persons and provides recommendations for corrective action, reviews and comments on policies, programs, and actions that affect older people, and acts in an advisory capacity, not a governing capacity. It may have opportunities to communicate with local, state and federally elected officials, make community presentations, and provide testimony at public hearings

The SeniorsPlus Advisory Council meets five times a year and members must live in one of the three

counties served by SeniorsPlus. Currently meetings are conducted on Zoom.

If interested in learning more and joining the Advisory Council, contact Heather Davis, Chief Operating Officer, at [hdavis@seniorsplus.org](mailto:hdavis@seniorsplus.org) or by calling 207 795-4010.

Established in 1972 and headquartered in Lewiston, SeniorsPlus is the Western Maine designated Area Agency on Aging. The overall program goal is to assist older people and adults with disabilities in its tri-county area to remain safely at home for as long as possible.

# Reeve Wood joins Skelton Taintor & Abbott

**From Skelton Taintor & Abbott**

AUBURN – Skelton Taintor & Abbott recently hired Reeve Wood as Of Counsel, focusing on title work and real estate transactions, effective November 23, 2020.

Wood began his career as a teacher in New York and then moved on to work as an investigator of police misconduct for the City of New York. A native of Brunswick, Wood returned to Maine where he attended the University of Maine School of Law, serving as a Teaching Assistant in the Legal Writing Program and graduating summa cum laude.

Wood began his legal career in 2012 when he joined the Maine Farmland Trust (MFT) as Legal Counsel. At MFT he was involved in all elements of land conservation, including: structuring of complex farmland conservation projects, drafting conservation easements, and advising on the

stewardship and enforcement of those easements. He also has significant experience in real estate transactions, working on both buyer and seller sides of residential and farm real estate transactions, conducting title examination and clearance, and negotiating and drafting agricultural leases. His expertise with non-profit issues includes advising on governance and compliance with state and federal regulation.

Wood said, "During my time at Maine Farmland Trust, I worked closely with Skelton Taintor & Abbott to facilitate our farmland conservation work throughout Maine and, as a very satisfied client, I'm particularly excited to join their team of talented and dedicated attorneys and staff."

Sarah Mitchell, President of Skelton Taintor & Abbott, said, "We are excited to welcome Reeve to our firm as part of our real estate practice group. His extensive background in real estate at

Maine Farmland Trust will be extremely valuable to our existing and future clients who come to us for complex real estate transactions."

Wood serves as President of the Board of the Kennebec Estuary Land Trust and as a member of its Lands Acquisition Committee. He also serves on the Bowdoinham Planning Board and the Bowdoinham Comprehensive Planning Committee. His other contributions to the community include coaching for the Merrymeeting Soccer Club. He lives with his wife Hannah, two sons, and his bird dog, Myrtle, in Bowdoinham. The family operates a small farmers' market bakery.

Skelton Taintor & Abbott is a Maine law firm that has served individuals and businesses in litigation and general representation throughout northern New England for more than 150 years. The firm's main office is located in Auburn, with a mid-coast office in Waldoboro.

# Home for Sale

Pre-sale priced right! Don't let this home get away! Will not last! Beautiful, spacious home with unique architecture and lots of character. The layout has a pleasant flow and rooms have high ceilings. So many options with this home. Very spacious single family - easily converted into a two family - or bring the in-laws and keep your own space.

Renovated large kitchen with new shaker cabinets, under cabinet lighting and recessed lighting. Oversized dining room with large walk-in pantry. New laminate flooring being installed in kitchen, dining room and pantry.

Six bedrooms, master suite, jacuzzi tub, two full bathrooms - one with laundry hook-up. Plenty of closet space.

Side entry. Enter through over-sized enclosed porch. Easily converted to three-season porch. Large front entry mudroom.

Brand new electrical service with new panels. New hardwired smoke and carbon monoxide detector system. New propane high-efficiency Viessmann combi boiler (heat and hot water). Natural gas is in town and headed to Maple street. This new system easily converts to natural gas.

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## Students

Continued from page 10

**U. of Hartford Dean's List**  
WEST HARTFORD, CT - The University of Hartford recently announced that Bethany Welch of Auburn was named to the Dean's List for Fall 2020.

Spread across seven dynamic schools and colleges, the University of Hartford has been guiding the purpose and passion of students for over six decades. On a 350-acre campus alongside Connecticut's capital city, approximately 4,600 undergraduate and 2,000 graduate students representing 49 states and 47 countries come together for a common purpose: to collaborate across different disciplines, diversify perspectives, and broaden worldviews.

## Guest Column

## A column that reads like an N\*SYNC song

By Grammar Guy

I hope that headline grabbed your attention. As much as I'd love to see a reunion tour of Justin Timberlake and the other guys, the closest thing to an N\*SYNC lyric you're going to get today is in this article.

It might sound crazy, but it isn't a lie; today we're reviewing the words "buy," "bye" and "by."

As much as I wanted to quote the chorus of N\*SYNC's turn-of-the-millennium chart-topper "Bye Bye Bye" word-for-word, I have some serious grammatical grumbles with the song's subpar syntax. Feel free to re-discover the

swoon-worthy lyrics for yourself in your search engine of choice.

The words "buy," "bye" and "by" are easy to switch around, especially because they only require a few letters and they're pronounced identically. It's kind of like trying to distinguish the boy bands from the late '90s and early aughts from each other — they all sound the same.

The primary definition of the word "buy" is to purchase something with money: Pat, I'd like to buy a vowel. If something is considered a bargain, someone might say it's a "good buy." Another definition of "buy" is to believe or accept something: Byron doesn't buy the fact

that the Apollo 11 crew landed on the moon.

The word "bye" has its own set of definitions. The primary definition of "bye" comes from the word "goodbye," which is a compound word combining the words "good" and "bye." The word "goodbye" originated as the contraction "Godbwyte," which was a shortened form of "God be with ye." Today, we just say "bye," but the word's roots lie in the pious society of sixteenth-century England. "Bye" can also mean when a player or team advances to the next round of a competition without playing: The Chiefs got a bye in the first round of the NFL playoffs.

"By" may be the most versatile of this word trio. As a preposition, "by" means "near," "toward," "no later than," or to indicate the person who created a work, just to name a few. As an adverb, "by" can mean "past," "near," or "aside." "By" can also function as an adjective, meaning "being off the main route." By golly, the word "by" can get by in just about any sentence!

By now, there are even a few more homophones for "buy," "bye" and "by." The word "bi" stands alone in the dictionary as an abbreviated way to describe someone who is bisexual. Finally, you can travel to the tiny Swedish town of "Bie," although

it may be pronounced like "bee." Now that we've said all our "bys," it's time to standby until the next installment of Grammar Guy.

*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](http://curtishoneycutt.com).*

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## Guest Column

## With friends like these

By Grammar Guy

I love reader feedback, especially when it is glowing. Luann wrote in with a great question. She asked, "How do you keep from correcting other people? My friends think I am obnoxious."

Luann, you're not alone in that your friends think you're obnoxious. My friends couldn't stand me if it weren't for my mom sending them large checks every month. They've actually told me so to my face.

Although my friends can barely stand me, I do not correct their grammar, except for under very specific circumstances. You can have friends or correct people's grammar; you can't have both.

The only reason to publicly correct a friend's grammar is to stop them from getting a misspelled word tattooed on her body. You'd better speak up before your buddy gets "No regrets" tattooed on his forearm. If you're wondering how prevalent misspelled tattoos are, simply perform a Google Images search for "misspelled tattoos."

The only other acceptable way to correct a friend's grammar is to do so in private. To judge someone out loud in public is an impeachable friend offense. It will make them feel dumb, and it's not a good look for you, either. A private grammar correction is akin to pulling someone aside to tell them they have some spinach stuck between their teeth. A friend only corrects another friend's grammar in

confidence.

Now I'll stop dancing around answering Luann's question: how do you keep from correcting other people? This is difficult! Believe me, I am constantly correcting other people's grammar in my head, but it stays there. To learn restraint, you have to ask whether or not you'd like your friend to correct you if your roles were reversed.

Just as nobody's mind has ever been changed through a Facebook political debate, no good will come out of a public grammar correction. Here's an idea for Luann, as well as other self-deputized grammar police officers: when you want to correct someone's grammar, instead send yourself a text message with the grammar gaffe. Later on, if you remember it, you can allow yourself to gently correct your friend in the privacy of a one-on-one conversation.

I strongly believe that possessing and practicing good grammar can make your life roughly 17% better, and I appreciate people who want to help their friends achieve grammar greatness. Just as there is a proper place to put quotation marks in a sentence, there are also proper times and places for correction. However, if your friend is on the tattoo chair, feel free to exercise your spell check skills on the spot.

*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](http://curtishoneycutt.com).*



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**1ST AND 3RD  
TUESDAYS  
11:30 a.m.**

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

**MONDAY  
Mar. 15**

**5:30 p.m.**  
**AUBURN** – City Council workshop and meeting.

**TUESDAY  
Mar. 16**

# Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

**7:30 a.m.**

**AUBURN** – Public Library Board of Trustees meeting.

**8 a.m.**

**GORHAM** – Ordinance Committee Meeting via Zoom.

**4 p.m.**

**AUBURN** – Auburn Sewer District Trustees annual meeting.

**6 p.m.**

**AUBURN** – Conservation Commission meeting.

**6:30 p.m.**

**GORHAM** – Tentative recurring Town Council, workshop via Zoom.

**WEDNESDAY  
Mar. 17**

**8 a.m.**

**GORHAM** – Gorham Economic Development Commission meeting via Zoom.

**4 p.m.**

**AUBURN** – Auburn Water District Trustees annual meeting.

**THURSDAY  
Mar. 18**

**8 a.m.**

**AUBURN** – 9-1-1 Committee meeting.

**Noon-1 p.m.**

**LEWISTON** – Lewiston Public Library - Great Falls Forum, 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 Rose Barboza and Jerry Edwards.

**6:30 p.m.**

**GORHAM** – Board of Appeals meeting via Zoom.

**7 p.m.**

**Community Forest Subcommittee meeting.**

**FRIDAY  
Mar. 19**

**7:30-9 a.m.**

**VIRTUAL** - Fill the

Plate Breakfast to benefit Meals on Wheels of SeniorsPlus. Tickets for this virtual event are \$20 per person; available at <http://bitly.ws/bQnD> or by calling 207- 795-4010. Advance registration required by March 17. Attendees who register by March 1 will receive a goody bag with a ticket for "door" prizes.

**MONDAY  
Mar. 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.

**6 p.m.**

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

**TUESDAY  
Mar. 23**

**5:30 p.m.**

**AUBURN** – Agricul-

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ture Committee Meeting.

**MONDAY  
Mar. 29**

**7:30 a.m.**

**AUBURN** – Auburn Housing Authority Board of Commissioners meeting.

**5:30 p.m.**

**GORHAM** – Finance Committee meeting via Zoom.

**6 p.m.**

**AUBURN** – Complete Streets Committee meeting.

**WEDNESDAY  
Mar. 31**

**Noon**

**LEWISTON** – Lewiston Public Library - Read Your Mind: Exploring Mental Health in Teen Books - a monthly, virtual series focusing on teen mental health & wellness with YA authors and community health experts. In March we will host authors Ceylan Scott & Julia Drake to discuss self-harm behaviors, the influence of guilt and loss, and honest portrayals of hospitalization experiences. Contact [hchance@lewistonmaine.gov](mailto:hchance@lewistonmaine.gov) or call 207-513-3135 to register.

## Maine State Bar Association Law Day Contests

**From Maine State Bar Assoc.**

Augusta, ME (March 4, 2021) —Maine students in grades 4-12 are invited to submit entries for this year's Law Day contests sponsored by the Maine State Bar Association.

Students in grades 4-8 may participate in the art poster contest and students in grades 9-12 may participate in the essay contest. The entry deadline is April 1.

This year's theme is "Advancing the Rule of Law Now." The rule of law is a set of principles, or ideals, for ensuring an orderly and just society. Many countries throughout the world strive to uphold the rule of law where no one is above the law, everyone is treated equally under the law, everyone is held accountable to the same laws, there are clear and fair processes for enforcing laws, there is an independent judiciary, and human rights

are guaranteed for all.

All entries should reflect the student's interpretation of the 2021 Law Day theme by responding to the following prompt: "What steps, if any, do you feel need to be taken in order to make the rule of law more fair and just for all?"

The art poster contest has cash prizes of \$50 each for the student and teacher in two grade categories: 4-5 and 6-8. The essay contest has a \$75 first-place cash prize for

both the student and teacher and a \$50 second-place cash prize for both the student and teacher. Winning essays and posters will be published online and in the Maine Bar Journal. Winners will be announced on April 30.

Law Day was established in 1958 by President Dwight Eisenhower to mark the nation's commitment to the rule of law. For more information about Law Day or to download the Law Day contest bro-

chures, visit [www.maine-bar.org/lawday](http://www.maine-bar.org/lawday).

The Maine State Bar Association is a professional and public service organization of nearly 3,000 member lawyers licensed to practice in Maine. the Association works to promote its members' professionalism and advance their skills and knowledge, helping them meet the legal needs of all Maine people, and to advance Maine's system of justice.

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Book lovers and bookstores: looking for unique and eclectic books? Check out author Casey Bell: [www.authorcaseybell.com](http://www.authorcaseybell.com).

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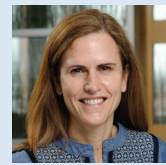
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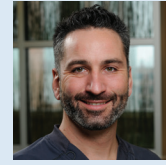
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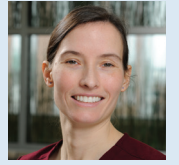
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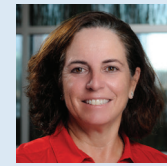
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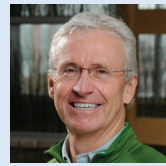
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