

## Visitors return for Maine Maple Sunday



Dori Madsen passes a bottle of maple syrup to Brenda Stoudt at the small storefront of Jo's Sugarhouse on Sebago Lake Road in Gorham at the start of Maine Maple Sunday last weekend. Madsen and Stoudt help owner Jo Hartwell at her facility during maple sugar season, which typically runs from about mid-February through the end of March in southern Maine. (Tsukroff photo)

By Nathan Tsukroff

GORHAM – Jo's Sugarhouse on Sebago Lake Road in Gorham had visitors again for Maine Maple Sunday, but not the crowds from past years.

Owner Jo Hartwell said they generally see "a couple of thousand" guests for the traditional weekend, and serve around 900 breakfasts on Sunday.

Not this year, though.

After being cancelled by the State of Maine last year just a week before the event, as the COVID-19 pandemic began, Maine Maple Sunday was allowed to take place this year with limits on the number of guests. The event is always the fourth weekend in March.

Hartwell opened the sugarhouse in 2003 on the farm she owns with her husband, Karl, on the north side of Gorham near the Sebago town line.

She expects to produce only about 25 gallons of finished syrup this year, down from the 40 or so gallons her small facility has made in the past.

A newly-installed reverse-osmosis machine failed, and the sugarhouse lost

about two weeks of processing while waiting for a replacement. Plus, warmer weather this year meant that the maple trees didn't run as much sap as in past years.

Sap usually starts to flow in mid-February in southern Maine, when daytime temperatures rise above freezing and nighttime temperatures fall below freezing. When the temperature stays above freezing for days at a time, the sap stops running.

Sugarhouses in this part of Maine have had about 7 sap runs this year, while past years have generally seen 10 sap runs. The best years have seen as many as 15 sap runs.

A little more than 40 gallons of sap has to be boiled down to make a gallon of the finished syrup. So it will take about 1,100 gallons of sap to make the expected 25 gallons of syrup at Jo's Sugarhouse this season.

The boiling process removes the water in the sap and brings the sugar content to 66%, at which point the syrup is boiling at 219 degrees Fahrenheit, or about 7 degrees above the boiling temperature of

water. This process takes hours and hours, and has to be watched constantly.

Using reverse osmosis, most of the water is removed from the sap, so the boiling to convert the sap to finished syrup is much faster. For a collection of several hundred gallons, boiling might take all day, while reverse osmosis removes enough water for the boiling to be completed in a couple of hours.

For collecting the sap, taps are installed into trees that are at least 10-inches in diameter. Two taps can be placed in a 14-inch-diameter tree, and three in an 18-inch-diameter tree. Some trees have a collection container on each tap, or plastic tubing can be run from tree to tree, down to a single collection container.

The finished syrup is filtered before being bottled or used for candies or other foods, to remove specks of dirt and other particles that are found in tree sap. The collection containers on the trees are covered to keep out rainwater and branches.

Hartwell runs the sugarhouse with the help of several friends who collect the sap and man the counter at her small store

See **Maple**, page 9

## Bean supper this Saturday

From WRCC

GORHAM – White Rock Community Clubhouse is hosting its next Pre-Order Bean Supper this Saturday.

Pre-order dinner to go, \$20 for double or \$10 for single orders.

Meal includes kidney & pea beans, cole slaw, potato salad, macaroni & cheese, biscuits, hot dogs and a dessert bar.

Please call 892-9521 to reserve your order.

Pick up at the clubhouse at 34 Wilson Road, Gorham, from 4:40-5:30 p.m. Saturday.

## Baxter Library events in April

From BML

GORHAM – Baxter Memorial Library has a series of events in April.

**Thursday Apr. 1**

9:30 a.m.

**Toddler Discovery Time**

Join Ms. Dani for a Virtual Discovery Time on Facebook as she reads a picture book to our youngest listeners. (18months-3 yrs)

**Tuesday Apr. 6**

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 Apr. 7**

10 a.m.

**STEAM - Egg Muffins**

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, join us to make egg muffins. They're easy to make, tasty, and good to have on-hand in the freezer. The possibilities are endless -- mix in cheese, broccoli, peppers, ham, tofu, whatever you have!

**Thursday Apr. 8**

9:30 a.m.

**Toddler Discovery Time**

Join Ms. Dani for a Virtual Discovery Time on Facebook as she reads a picture book to our youngest listeners. (18months-3 yrs)

See **Library**, page 8

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# Newsmakers, Names & Faces

## Free summer classes at community colleges

**From Maine CC System**

AUGUSTA - Maine's community colleges are offering free classes this summer to re-engage Maine's high school students in their educational journey.

Maine high school seniors graduating this spring and attending a community college this fall can take a free summer class under the new "Momentum from the Start" program. All tuition and fees are waived and students only pay for books or materials. More information about Momentum from the Start is available from the college admission offices at <http://bitly.ws/cnTZ>.

Maine students who are still in high school this summer can also take a free summer class under the state's early college "Aspirations" program, which allows all high school students to take free college credits each academic year. Any student who has already earned the maximum number of free college credits for the year, or is

not eligible for Aspirations, can still take a class at half-price under a special Early College rate. Students interested in this program should contact their high school counselor or apply directly at our new On-Course portal (<https://on-course.mccs.me.edu/>.)

Education experts across the country have noted a dip in high school student engagement during the pandemic, and these free classes make it easy for Maine students to re-engage with the educational opportunities around them. Courses are free, available online or in-person if there is a hands-on component, and with flexible start times to accommodate work and life schedules.

"This has been a very tough year for high school students, and we know many of them couldn't take the classes they wanted - including Early College classes - for a number of reasons. This gives them a chance to catch up, re-engage on pursuing their interests and experience col-

lege-level instruction," said Janet Sortor, vice president and chief academic officer of the Maine Community College System.

Studies show that students who take Early College courses are more likely to go to college after high school, and earn more money as adults. We don't want anyone to miss out on that opportunity. It's a great deal."

"The Momentum from the Start program is also a great way to help incoming students get acclimated and get a free head start on their studies," Sortor said. "Some students lose their initiative to attend college over the summer - it's known as "summer melt" - and we don't want that to happen to a single person."

Maine's seven community colleges have the lowest tuition and fees in New England and offer nearly 300 career and transfer programs of study, customized training for business and industry, and continuing education.

## Virtual tour for UMaine music ensembles

**From UMaine**

ORONO - Each spring, ensembles from the University of Maine School of Performing Arts's Division of Music depart from campus for performance tours around Maine, stopping to play concerts in schools, churches and community centers across the state and beyond.

This year, with the COVID-19 pandemic still limiting gatherings and travel, the spring tour will nevertheless go on - albeit virtually, with performance programs by the University Singers, the University of Maine Symphonic Band and the University of Maine Jazz Ensemble livestreamed via YouTube on Wednesday mornings in March and April.

The University of Maine Symphonic Band performs at 8:15 and 9:45 a.m. on April 7, and the University Jazz Ensemble plays at 8:15 and 9:45 a.m. on April.

Christopher White, director of the UMaine Symphonic Band, says his student performers are looking forward to the series, and especially the opportunity to make live music available to students during the school day. "Since we can't tour,"

he says, "livestreaming allows us to reach school students during a time when it is not possible to do so in person." Spring tours have long been a chance to reach into the community and foster interest in and commitment to the performing arts. Beyond enjoyment, White says, "we want students to realize performing music does last beyond the public school years, for all students regardless of major."

Jack Burt, professor of trumpet and director of the Jazz Ensemble, agrees. "We've worked hard to continue making music during these times," he says, and despite the challenges and the university safety protocols in place, music ensembles at UMaine have thrived. Burt says this tour is a chance for them to show off a year of hard work under extraordinary conditions: "We've got a wonderful program prepared."

For Nola Prevost, an English major and member of the University Singers, the abrupt cancellation of last year's spring tour during the first wave of COVID-19 was a blow. "The tour has always been such a special time for us, because we get to be immersed in the music and we grow closer as a group.

Losing that to the pandemic was hard." A virtual tour, she says, isn't quite the same, but it's a reminder of past successes and the possibilities post-pandemic.

"I'm just glad we're able to fall into some semblance of normal."

The University of Maine, founded in Orono in 1865, is the state's land grant, sea grant and space grant university. It is located on Marsh Island in the homeland of the Penobscot Nation. As Maine's flagship public university, UMaine has a statewide mission of teaching, research and economic development, and community service.

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# Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Guest Column

## Taking it to ludicrous extents

By Grammar Guy

By this point in your life, you probably know what an acronym is. Examples include NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration), NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization), and GIF (graphics interchange format). Note that an acronym is pronounced the way the beginning letters of each word “spell out” a new word.

An initialism, on the other hand, is an abbreviation containing the first letter of each word. When we pronounce initialisms, we simply say the letters (e.g., BBC, CIA, NCAA).

We find acronyms and initialisms all over the place, but I want to take a look at a subset of acronyms known as “backronyms” (or “bacronyms”). Backronyms are acronyms that have been reverse-engineered to conveniently spell a certain word. I’m going to show my hand early here and say that backronyms are the dad jokes of acronyms — they’re only clever to the person who came up with them. Everyone else simply rolls their eyes.

For instance, have

you ever heard of the computer-programming language called BASIC? It stands for “Beginner’s All-Purpose Symbolic Instruction Code.” That’s a stretch. James Bond creator Ian Fleming created the fictional crime syndicate called SPECTRE (Special Executive for Counter-intelligence, Terrorism, Revenge and Extortion). In comics, Marvel’s SHIELD has stood for a few things over its existence, but, as of this writing, it stands for “Strategic Homeland Intervention, Enforcement and Logistics Division.” I’ll admit — I don’t mind a good backronym in fiction, but in reality, they make me groan.

While backronyms are less common than acronyms, they tend to flourish in one place: Washington, D.C. Congressional leaders love cringeworthy backronyms. Most Americans benefitted from 2020’s CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act. And who can possibly forget 2001’s USA PATRIOT (Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and

Obstruct Terrorism) Act?

I don’t doubt that members of Congress intend for their bills to help the American people, but they don’t have to literally spell it out. Other sessions of Congress have introduced the AMMO (Ammunition Management for More Obtainability) Act, the DREAM (Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors) Act, and even the Fair BEER (Brewers Excise and Economic Relief) Act. We get it, guys. I wonder how much time in meetings is devoted to reverse-engineering titles to spell stuff?

Perhaps we can rally our legislators behind a way to halt backronyms in proposed laws. We could call it the STOP IT ACT Act, which, of course, stands for Stopping the Obscenely Preposterous, Idiotic, Trivial Acronym-Creating Titles Act. Kinda catchy, don’t you think?

*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.*

## Husson plans for outdoor graduation

From Husson

BANGOR - Husson University will have a traditional commencement exercises for undergraduate and graduate students on Saturday, May 8, at the Dr. John W. Winkin Sports Complex on the university’s Bangor campus.

Maine’s Governor Mills recently announced that state COVID-19 restrictions would be updated to allow public gatherings of up to 75% of an outdoor venue’s capacity with social distancing and masking in place, which allowed for this outdoor ceremony.

“In an effort to protect the health of our students, we were previously planning to hold a series of seven different Commencement exercises in the Gracie Theatre over a three-day period where students were present, but guests could only attend virtually,” said Robert A. Clark, PhD, CFA, president of Husson University. “In light of the recent announcement by Governor Mills, we have changed our plans. Now, we will be holding two outdoor Commencement exercises instead.”

Commencement at the Dr. John W. Winkin Sports Complex will consist of two ceremonies on

May 8. At 10 a.m., there will be a Commencement ceremony for students who have completed master’s degrees, doctoral degrees and/or graduate certificates. Later that day, at 2 p.m., there will be a Commencement ceremony for all undergraduate students.

This change will allow each student to invite two guests of their choice to attend. The presence of family and friends at Commencement will make the event all the more special for students whose college experience included the challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Each student’s two designated guests will be required to sit in assigned seats in order to ensure appropriate physical distancing and facilitate contact tracing. In addition, in accordance with CDC guidelines, all guests and graduating students will also need to wear masks. Every student will have the opportunity to cross the stage in full regalia.

“Our students have devoted years to earning degrees that will positively transform their lives,” said Lynne Coy-Ogan, EdD, Husson University’s senior vice president for academic affairs and provost. “We wanted to make sure we were doing everything pos-

sible to honor our students’ academic achievements and the personal sacrifices they made as they transition to the workforce as knowledgeable and well-prepared professionals.”

Husson’s graduation ceremony will recognize individuals who have completed their degrees from Husson University’s College of Business, College of Health and Pharmacy, College of Science and Humanities, and the New England School of Communications (NESCom). This year, Husson University will award over 790 degrees to approximately 720 graduates.

“Husson’s willingness to adapt our Commencement plans to changing conditions is part of our University’s culture,” said Clark. “We are constantly evaluating our programs and responding to changing situations as necessary. For example, Husson is currently building a new College of Business building to respond to the increased demands for quality professional education, and hiring knowledgeable faculty members who can help our students find career success in today’s global economy. It’s all part of what makes us one of the nation’s leading professional educators.”

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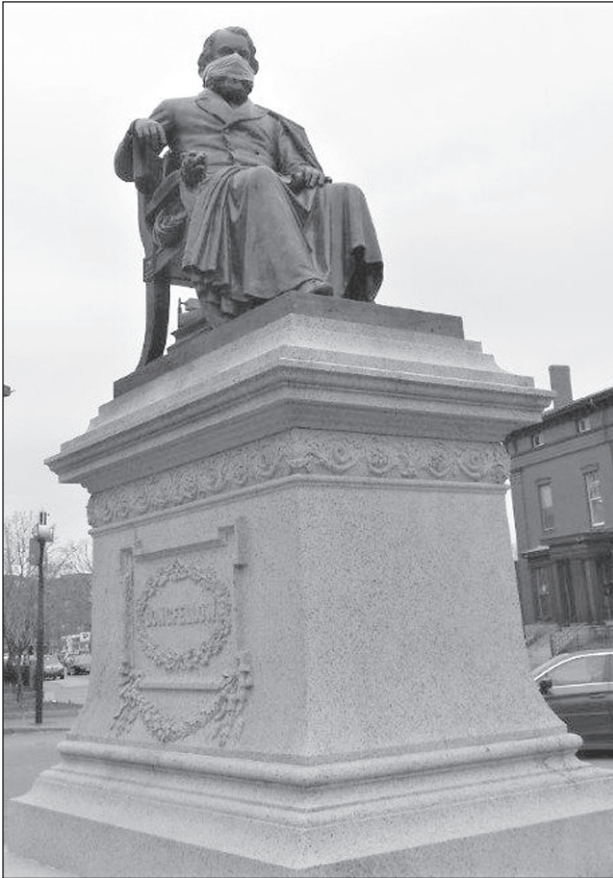
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The Henry Wadsworth Longfellow statue atop the high pedestal in Longfellow Square in Portland sports a mask at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic year last April. (Rachel Morin photo)

Out and About

# A Year for a pandemic

By Rachel Morin

It seems everyone is remarking on the year's end of observing our pandemic - March, 2020 to March 2021.

The COVID-19 pandemic is still with us, and as people like to say, "It ain't over yet."

And our own Dr. Fauci says "We are not out of the woods yet."

Dr. Fauci is deeply concerned about people letting their guard down and not following the strict guidelines for avoiding large gatherings, distancing, masking and hand hygiene.

My friends and I still follow these guidelines and do not feel stifled. We are committed!

That is not to say we are happy with the lack of our social gatherings. Yes, we miss the times we enjoyed on our restaurant outings, at our live theatre performances, during our library visits, and with our in-person classes at USM's Lewiston-Auburn Senior College with teachers at the front of the class, and our classmates seated around us in rows of desks and chairs.

We missed our home and garden tours last summer and our annual Church Christmas Fairs and the Church suppers. Even Church attendance on weekends were different.

But what we missed most was seeing our Family and Friends.

What was I doing at

the beginning of the past year's Big Change? Hmmmm, there were some good times. My daughter, Elizabeth, invited me to "come for a while" and live with her in her home in South Portland.

What started out as two to three weeks turned into six months. Time flew by and we practiced the pandemic safety guidelines strictly. My favorite times included my other children who live in Portland and Bath coming to visit us in the back yard, masked, and properly distanced and just sitting around and talking.

My earliest memory of living at Liz's house during the pandemic is of the wonderful walks we took.

One late afternoon

we walked the streets of downtown Portland and enjoyed window shopping at the stores we passed.

It was April and signs of Spring were evident. There was no snow, but the weather was still cold. So we headed towards home and crossed Longfellow Square.

And that's when I saw the statue of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow perched high on its pedestal . . . and the beloved poet was wearing a mask!

I always have my camera with me and couldn't help but whisking it out and taking his picture. I hope you enjoy it as much as I do.

You will see he is wearing his mask correctly.

## Committee approves bill to expand ranked-choice vote

From Maine Senate

AUGUSTA — Last Friday, the Legislature's Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee approved a bill from Sen. David Miramant, D-Camden, to expand the use of Ranked Choice Voting in Maine elections. LD 202, "Resolution, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Implement Ranked-choice Voting," was voted out of committee 6-4 Ought to Pass as Amended, with three members absent.

"I am very pleased that my colleagues in the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee voted to send this bill to expand ranked-choice voting to the full Legislature for a vote," said Sen. Miramant. "Here in Maine, we've been using ranked-choice voting in many of our elections for years.

The people of Maine have voted twice in the last five years to show their support for ranked-choice voting in our elections, including for the offices of governor and state legislature. We've had a long public education process, and we know that not only does this system work, it works better than we even expected."

This resolution would amend the Constitution of Maine to require candidates for the offices of Governor, State Senator and State Representative to be elected by a majority of the votes cast for that office. Currently, those offices are elected by a plurality of the votes cast. In 2016, Maine voters adopted ranked-choice voting, including for the offices of governor and state legislature, by referendum.

This voter-approved

law was repealed by lawmakers in 2017. That repeal then was overturned by Maine's voters in a second referendum in 2018. In 2019, the legisla-

ture expanded the ranked-choice system to include presidential primary and general elections. Currently, ranked-choice voting is used in Maine for all elec-

tions to federal office and for presidential primaries. LD 202 now faces votes in the Senate and the House.

As a Constitutional Amendment, LD 202

would require 2/3 approval in both chambers of the Legislature, and would need to be approved by a majority of voters at the next general election.

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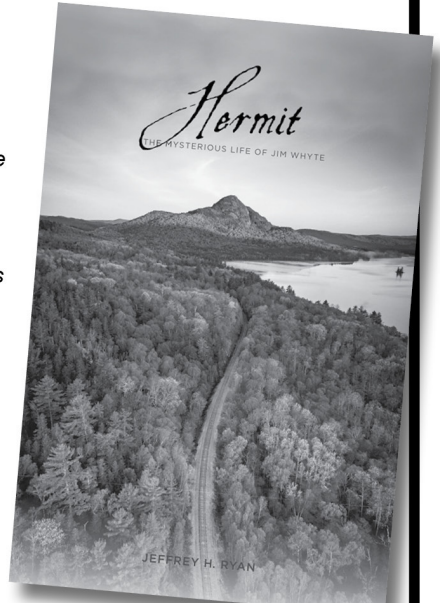
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— Bill Bushnell, Bushnell on Books

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— George Smith, Bangor Daily News



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# Arts & Entertainment

## UMaine art program promotes vaccination

### From UMaine

ORONO - University of Maine intermedia students are creating and sharing art that advocates for COVID-19 vaccination and equitable distribution of doses.

In an awareness campaign led by Intermedia MFA Program Director Susan Smith, about 20 graduate and undergraduate students have been developing various media that reinforce the hardships of the pandemic and encourage spectators to help bring about its end through inoc-

ulation.

The effort, known as “Creativity vs. COVID,” builds on another campaign launched by the Center for Artistic Activism and Universities Allied for Essential Medicine called “Free the Vaccine for COVID-19,” which includes a traveling exhibit touring several universities. UMaine’s Innovative Media Research and Commercialization (IMRC) Center is the first stop for the exhibit, which is on display through April 16.

“We are in a unique position as artists to be able

to present what’s happening around us and confront an issue in a different way than just reading it on the news or looking at the statistics,” Smith says.

As part of the UMaine campaign, 10 intermedia students are creating animations evoking imagery from “Free the Vaccine for COVID-19,” including a bird equitably distributing vaccines — the campaign’s logo. They will use projectors to display their work, collectively titled “A Shot in the Dark,” on the front of Fogler Library and front of New Balance Field



Conceptual COVID-19 masks crafted by students from the University of Maine Intermedia Programs in the fall 2020 semester are included in a traveling exhibit housed at UMaine’s Innovative Media Research and Commercialization (IMRC) Center through April 16.

House at 8:30 p.m. April 2.

Other student projects for outreach effort

include promotional buttons distributed at the Wabanaki Health Center on Indian Island and stickers offered at COVID-19 testing sites on campus. Some students also have created a postcard campaign titled “The Outbreak Diaries,” in which community members will be asked to share their experiences during the pandemic with Intermedia Programs and the community.

Smith says their work will be incorporated into the Center for Artistic Activism’s exhibit at the IMRC alongside graphic designs, parody music videos and other work created by artists worldwide as part of “Free the Vaccine for COVID-19” and other global outreach projects. They also will join conceptual COVID-19 masks crafted by Smith’s students in fall 2020. The exhibit, including the additions will be a part of Maine Impact Week before travelling to other institutions. Its next destination is the University of Maryland.

Artwork has the ability to humanize death and hospitalization statistics and connect with community members through shared understanding, suffering and yearning to end the pandemic, Smith says. She says she hopes her students’ work will help alleviate any trepidations people have about receiving a COVID-19 vaccine, for increasing vaccination rates can help curtail the pandemic.

“Art, whether it’d be

a poster or costume, has a real accessibility for messaging that for fliers and brochures, it can be hard to bring,” Smith says. “It’s just a good way to visualize the data and humanize the statistics.”

Participating in the multipronged outreach effort has taught intermedia students multiple lessons. Those who are creating animations to display in April learned how to use video and design programs, as well as various technical skills, Smith says. All her students also learned how to collaborate with their fellow artists, and the importance of creating art for a community that can affect people’s lives.

“The experience of doing something for the common good is very different than doing something for a gallery or exhibition,” Smith says. “I think the most important thing has been learning to situate their work within a community.”

The University of Maine, founded in Orono in 1865, is the state’s land grant, sea grant and space grant university. It is located on Marsh Island in the homeland of the Penobscot Nation. As Maine’s flagship public university, UMaine has a statewide mission of teaching, research and economic development, and community service. UMaine is the state’s only public research university and among the most comprehensive higher education institutions in the Northeast.

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# BCM announces three new cycling events

**From BCM**

PORTLAND - The Bicycle Coalition of Maine (BCM) has announced three new cycling events to take place in 2021, including a women's ride, a gravel grind, and an abbreviated version of their signature BikeMaine event.

"These rides are being built from the ground up with health and safety as the number one priority," says Bicycle Coalition of Maine Events Director Will Elting. "They will mix some memorable elements of the classic BikeMaine experience into smaller-sized events, while also offering a huge

range of opportunities for riders of all kinds throughout the state."

The three events—all of which fall under the new "BikeMaine Rides" umbrella—will be the Women's Ride, the BikeMaine Weekend, and the Maine Woods Rambler. Registration for all three events will open in April.

The BikeMaine Women's Ride is a reimagined version of the annual event that was held in Freeport until 2018. Instead of one big ride, the new version will feature multiple small, socially distanced rides hosted by local clubs, shops, and other organizations through-

out Maine—all of which will be led by women on the same day: Saturday, June 5.

"This new design will provide an opportunity for all self-identifying women—including trans, femme/feminine-identifying genderqueer, and non-binary individuals—to gather, celebrate, and support each other while riding," says BCM Event Coordinator Emily Lozeau. "It will also allow us to cater to different confidence levels, geographic areas, and both on- and off-road riding, as the hosts can choose what type of ride they will offer in their area."

Host registration is currently open to interested organizations.

The BikeMaine Weekend is a two-day version of the BCM's signature, weeklong BikeMaine event that is traditionally held in a different part of the state each year and features overnight stays in multiple Maine towns connected by 55-mile daily cycling routes. The event, which included 450 rides and more than 70 volunteers, was canceled in 2020 and 2021 due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

The 2021 version will take place from September 11-12 in Machias,

and offers three different ride lengths—10 miles, 35 miles, and 65-75 miles—all of which showcase the breathtaking scenery of Maine's Bold Coast.

The third event is the return of the Maine Woods Rambler, a single-day gravel-grind event that was introduced by the BCM in 2019 and held in Greenville. After a year off, the ride will return on September 26, 2021, with the ride's new partner and location to be announced at a later date.

"All three of these events will have far fewer spots than the classic BikeMaine, so we encourage riders to stay tuned

for updates and sign up as soon as registration opens in April," Elting says.

More information about each event and details of the BCM's commitment to COVID-19 safety protocols will be available via [bikemaine.org/events](http://bikemaine.org/events) as planning progresses.

The Bicycle Coalition of Maine is the statewide voice of cyclists and pedestrians. Since 1992, the BCM has led the effort to make Maine better for bicycling and walking by protecting the rights and safety of cyclists and pedestrians through education, advocacy, legislation, and encouragement.

# Trek Across Maine will be virtual this year

**From Am. Lung Assoc.**

AUGUSTA - Due to the potential spread of COVID-19, the American Lung Association has announced the 37th annual Trek Across Maine fundraising bike ride scheduled for June 18-20 will take place virtually.

Effective immediately, participants around the world will be able to register, track their own progress and complete their mileage goals for Trek Across Maine by cycling 60, 120 or 180 miles at their own pace before June 30

Since 1985, the event has raised more than \$29.5 million for lung health. This year, funds from the event will go toward



Eva McKenna, 9, (left) Kelsey Glynn, 8 and her father, Greg Glynn of Augusta, Maine take a photo together during a ride on the Kennebec River Rail Trail in June 2020. (Photo courtesy of Trek Across Maine)

the American Lung Association's efforts to end COVID-19 and other lung diseases.

"This was a really

hard decision for us, but we feel it is the right thing to do. Based on the guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC)

and local government officials, we want to avoid creating large gatherings of people, which is a natural part of our fun and

exciting cycling fundraiser. Our top priority is to protect the health of our participants, volunteers and staff. We are grateful for the many people who have already registered for the event. Together, our goal is to build on the momentum we have seen from our participants and supporters across the globe to help create a world in which we work together to improve lung health and end all lung disease, including COVID-19. Unlike last year, we've had a lot more time to plan for a virtual event and have created tons of fun ways for people to participate virtually. People will be able to enjoy a lot of exciting challenges, giveaways and surprises," said Kim Chamard, senior

manager of development for the Trek Across Maine.

The 37th annual Trek Across Maine was originally scheduled for Father's Day Weekend, June 18-20 as a three-day event for riders ages seven and above, departing from Brunswick Landing in Brunswick. Organizers have developed new ways for people to participate virtually now through June 30, including using the American Lung Association's new app.

New for this year, Trekkers can download the new Cycle for Air app or join the Trek Strava Club to ride virtually with friends. There will also be recommended ride routes, scavenger hunts, Trek Bingo and weekly giveaways

See *Trek*, page 12



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# Senators urges diplomatic approach towards Iran

From Sen. Collins

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senators Susan Collins (R-Maine) and Angus King (I-Maine) joined 40 of their Senate colleagues last week in sending a letter to President Joe Biden outlining the pillars of a comprehensive diplomatic Iran strategy that will garner bipartisan support in Congress.

“While we may have differing views on the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action of 2015 and the overall approach of the Trump Administration’s maximum pressure campaign, we must confront the reality that Iran has accelerat-

ed its nuclear activity in alarming ways including increasing its centrifuge research and production and enriching uranium up to 20 percent,” the Senators wrote. “Iran should have no doubt about America’s policy. Democrats and Republicans may have tactical differences, but we are united on preventing an Iranian nuclear weapon and addressing the wide range of illicit Iranian behavior.”

The Senators urged President Biden to use the full force of our diplomatic and economic tools in concert with our allies to reach an agreement with Iran that prevents it from

ever acquiring a nuclear weapon and meaningfully constrains its destabilizing activity throughout the Middle East and its ballistic missile program. The Senators also urged the administration to prioritize human rights and the release of American citizens unjustly detained in Iran.

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

## Library

Continued from page 1

**Tuesday Apr. 13  
9:30 a.m.**

**Unicorn Yoga**  
Attention Unicorn Lovers! Pearl the Unicorn (psst it’s actually Ms. Sam the Children’s Librarian at Windham Public Library) will be visiting Youth Services Librarian Ms. Heidi at Baxter Memorial Library. Ms. Heidi will read the book Unicorn Yoga while she and Pearl demonstrate the moves for you! You can find the program on Facebook on or after Apr. 13th at 9:30a.m.

\*Visit the library to pick up a make your own unicorn headband kit so that you too can do Unicorn Yoga with Ms. Sam (aka Pearl) and Ms. Heidi!

**Wednesday Apr. 14  
10 a.m.**

**STEAM - Suspension Bridge**

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 today’s activity, we’ll learn a bit about

basic engineering and use some of our own creativity to build a suspension bridge.

**Thursday Apr. 15  
9:30 a.m.**

**Toddler Discovery Time**

Join Ms. Dani for a Virtual Discovery Time on Facebook as she reads a picture book to our youngest listeners. (18months-3 yrs)

**Tuesday Apr. 20  
10 a.m.**

**Chewonki Virtual Tour**

Description coming soon.....

**Wednesday Apr. 21  
10 a.m.**

**Spring Scavenger Hunt**

Join Mr. Jeff on Facebook for a Spring Scavenger Hunt. Enjoy watching Mr. Jeff traversing the trails of Shaw Park looking for spring themed items, including blooming flowers, new leaves on trees, singing birds, and more! Want to try to find all the items on his list for yourself? Click here (on or after Apr. 21st) to download a digital file to print off at home or save to your de-

**Thursday Apr. 22  
10 a.m.**

**Solar Oven**

Ms. Deb is excited to celebrate Earth Day with you, and she’s even more excited to make solar ovens! You’ll learn a bit about the science behind solar energy and then put your knowledge to the test as you use some basic household items (including a recycled pizza box) to cook actual food. Will you bake a potato, warm up a leftover slice of pizza, or try solar s’mores? The possibilities are endless! Join us on Facebook for some fun!

**Friday Apr. 23  
10 a.m.**

**Garden Creature with Ms. Dani**

Visit Baxter Memorial Library to pick up supplies to create your own garden creature.

Packet includes a container, soil, grass seeds and googly eyes. After the “hair” grows you can style it with scissors into the wildest new creature at your house!



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**Maple**  
*Continued from page 1*

at the front of the building, which is about the size of a large, two-car garage.

Besides the bottled syrup, Hartwell and her friends make cream filled whoopie pies, maple and chocolate fudge, maple needhams, maple cotton candy, smoke maple cheese, and maple candies such as lollipops.

Jo's Sugarhouse has been open weekdays during March by appointment, and she was planning to make home deliveries this week, following Maine Maple Sunday.

In past years, the sugarhouse has served breakfast in the morning, then switched to a lunch meal featuring the grass-fed beef burgers from cattle raised by her son, Ben Hartwell, who is on the town council in Gorham. He keeps the bulls on the farm next to the sugarhouse, while the other cattle are currently out on a 200-acre area across town.

Hartwell Farm sells eggs, and this past year Jo Hartwell raised turkeys and meat chickens, often called "broilers", for the first time. "I sold the turkeys at Thanksgiving time, and I had no problem selling them," she said.



Jo's Sugarhouse owner Jo Hartwell draws syrup into a bucket for transfer to the final filtering machine as the syrup is prepared to be bottled or used for foods and candies. Located on Sebago Lake Road on the north side of Gorham, the sugarhouse expects to produce about 25 gallons of finished syrup this year. (Tsukroff photo)



Bottles of maple syrup are ready for visitors to Jo's Sugarhouse on Sebago Lake Road in Gorham for the annual Maine Maple Sunday event. (Tsukroff photo)



More than 40 gallons of maple sap are needed to make a gallon of maple syrup. The final syrup that comes out of the evaporator is very dark, since it still contains the particles and impurities that are found in the sap (left). After filtering, the syrup is much lighter, and is ready to be bottled for sale (right) or used in foods and candies. (Tsukroff photo)



Jo Hartwell, the owner of Jo's Sugarhouse on Sebago Lake Road on the north end of Gorham, checks the drain plug on the evaporator used to boil down maple sap to make maple syrup. It takes more than 40 gallons of sap to make a gallon of syrup. (Tsukroff photo)

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

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# Seniors Not Acting Their Age

## Frozen Cranberry Peak

By Ron Chase

Scheduled to lead a late February Penobscot Paddle & Chowder Society outing, my preference was to ski. An untimely freezing rainstorm limited the choices. As late as the day before, I was still searching for the ideal skiing option.

My final decision was motivated by my son, Adam, who preferred the alternative suggestion, hiking Cranberry Peak, the western most summit in the Bigelow Range. Despite the late notice, two others signed on for the 6.5 mile roundtrip excursion to the 3,213 foot mountaintop.

My experience suggests it's usually snowing in Carrabassett Valley in the winter. Clear for most of the drive, contrary to the forecast, steady snow began once Route 27 joined the Carrabassett River near Kingfield. Doddering old people like me don't like driving in stormy weather. We can't see well and incipient senescence has diminished our reaction times. Concerned about our limitations, we nervously creep along on

slippery roads. Invariably, youngsters start tailgating us. In short, we don't have a good time.

The snowfall continued uninterrupted until we arrived at the winter trailhead at the end of Currie Road in Stratton. The probability of enjoying the phenomenal views the summit had to offer appeared unlikely.

The small parking area at the winter trailhead is bewildering since there are no trail signs. The Bigelow Range Trail leading to Cranberry Peak and beyond doesn't actually begin for another .3 mile. Rather, an active snowmobile super highway must be carefully crossed first.

An inspection of the trail indicated a couple of inches of fresh powder covered a surface previously packed by snowshoe traffic. The usual debate about whether or not to wear or carry snowshoes ensued. Three of us began wearing them while one member chose trail crampons. By the time we finished, everyone was toting their snowshoes.

The beginning of the

trek was arguably the most hazardous part of the expedition. Eluding a seemingly endless continuum of speeding snowmobiles was required to reach the summer trailhead. The snow abated and glimpses of sunshine penetrated the cloud cover as we proceeded up a moderate gradient on a narrow path in a predominantly conifer forest. After about a mile, the first of several fallen trees that blocked the trail was encountered. Crawling under the impediment was the only option. Shortly after, we began climbing steeply up a twisting attenuated incline.

Persisting through a constricted passageway between a series of massive boulders, we emerged onto a succession of partially open ledges with limited views of nearby Flagstaff Lake. While the top of the escarpment deceptively appeared to be the mountain high point, the actual summit was still more than a mile away.

The gradient moderated as we began advancing through an extended rolling traverse along the

rugged north slope of a substantial prominence. Persisting easterly, periodic sightings of Flagstaff Lake were observed on our left. Pivoting south, we ascended precipitously in stunted mountain scrub to a ridge where the barren Cranberry summit was visible in the east. Energized after identifying our goal, a new obstacle was confronted. Powerful northwest winds gusted over the partially exposed height of land causing severe wind chills. Everyone huddled in a sheltered decline to add parkas and protective gear before attempting the final ascent.

Persevering cautiously up the abrupt summit cone, the forceful winds and arctic cold distracted from the stupendous views. Attaining the blustery alpine peak, we struggled to savor the wonderful surroundings in the otherwise inhospitable environment. A panoramic vista of frozen Flagstaff Lake was the backdrop for a hurried photo. The summits on the Bigelow Range could be discerned extending farther east and Sugarloaf Mountain and the peaks of western Maine dominated the landscape south and west.

Hastily retreating below tree line for refuge from the piercing wind, a brief respite for an overdue snack provided needed sustenance before beginning our descent. Once below the ridge, winds moderated allowing for a relaxed return.

The continuous roar of snowmobile engines could be heard during our approach to the summer trailhead. Fortuitously, none of the streaking ma-

chines were encountered during the final segment of the journey. While unpacking and preparing for the ride home, it began to snow.

That made sense; after all we were in Carrabassett Valley.

Author of the "The Great Mars Hill Bank Robbery" and "Mountains for

Mortals – New England," Ron Chase resides in Topsham. His latest book, "The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine" is scheduled to be released by North Country Press later this year. Visit his website at [www.ronchaseoutdoors.com](http://www.ronchaseoutdoors.com) or contact him at [ronchaseoutdoors@comcast.net](mailto:ronchaseoutdoors@comcast.net).



A hiker crawls under a fallen tree on a Cranberry Peak trek in February. (Ron Chase photo)



While traversing the north slope of Cranberry Mountain, Flagstaff Lake is visible in the distance. (Ron Chase photo)



A hurried photo on the summit of Cranberry Peak as hikers face blustery conditions. (Ron Chase photo)

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# Junction Bowl league scores

## From Junction Bowl

GORHAM – League scores from Junction Bowl on Railroad Avenue in Gorham.

Scores include the player handicap.

### Week 10

#### Monday Night Strikes

Kenneth Reno had a strong night with a 651 total as he led Cobra Kai to all 3 games and the weekly team series against Hammond Eggs, 2337-2227.

#### Cobra Kai

Tim Perry  
181-212-187 – 580  
Kenneth Reno  
235-210-206 – 651  
Eric Bretton  
160-177-194 – 531  
Romeo Jalbert  
189-212-174 – 575

#### Hammond Eggs

Ryan Stuart  
155-203-191 – 549  
Bobby Brown  
182-196-166 – 544  
Alex Benner  
200-183-154 – 537  
Substitute  
188-207-202 – 597  
The Gutter Rats took 2 games and the weekly team series, losing the third game to Two Finger Death Punch, 2223-2103

#### The Gutter Rats

Gary LaPierre  
190-212-155 – 557  
Ben Smith  
174-204-183 – 561  
Amy Pompeo  
187-172-183 – 542  
Shawna LaPierre  
199-192-172-563

#### Two Finger Death Punch

Jon Talbot  
166-163-212 – 541  
Charlie Pasquerillo  
172-143-175 – 490  
Substitute

183-164-203 – 550

Substitute

222-147-153 – 522

Strong games by Brian Gonville, 618, and Colin McLean, 620, helped Right Lane prevail with 2 games and the weekly team series over The (League) Office with 1 game, 2433-2218.

#### Right Lane

Brian Gonville  
184-185-246 – 618  
Colin McLean  
194-231-195 – 620  
Adam Homan  
179-177-241 – 597  
Bill Haskell  
193-200-205 – 598

#### The (League) Office

Sebastian Pettitt  
207-177-194 – 578  
Nick Calvert  
202-201-199 – 602  
Aidan Underwood  
(Blind-180)-161-157 – 498

#### Vacant

180-180-180 – 540

Pin Me Please had another big night from Rick Cormier, 649, to take all 3 games the weekly team series from Split Happens, 2314-2109.

#### Pin Me Please

Ashley Calvert  
182-185-232 – 599  
Rick Cormier  
233-222-194 – 649  
Substitute  
155-202-179 – 536  
Brendan Gow  
168-201-161 – 530

#### Split Happens

Heather Bryant  
158-194-173 – 525  
Kaitlyn Lemieux  
192-167-204 – 563  
Erica Jackson  
168-183-187 – 538  
Elisabeth Maxfield  
161-145-177 – 483

#### Thursday Night

#### Dynamite

Bruce Russell had an impressive 758 as House Balls rolled for 2 games and the weekly team series over Smelt Camp Swim Team with 1 game, 2350-2228.

#### House Balls

Bruce Russell  
285-233-240 – 758  
Reena Russell  
176-194-184 – 554  
Christian DeLuca  
167-156-162 – 485  
Ann DeLuca  
186-173-194 – 553

#### Smelt Camp Swim Team

Kevin Kassa  
186-194-219 – 599  
Tonya Kassa  
170-192-160 – 522  
Substitute  
135-199-191 – 525  
Jenn Leanhart  
231-173-178 – 582

Split Happens took 2 games and the weekly team series as they roasted XXX Turkeys with 1 game, 2347-2214.

#### Split Happens

Chris Lee  
213-214-200 – 627  
Matt Lelansky  
173-206-227 – 606  
Substitute  
170-186-205 – 561  
Substitute  
179-194-180 – 553

#### XXX Turkeys

Ken Foss  
230-199-172 – 601  
Terry Moore  
173-161-211 – 545  
Jake Ouellette  
156-157-167 – 480  
Peter Luciano  
188-192-208 – 588

Strike First struck hard in the first game with a team total of 797 for 1 game and the weekly team series against Minds In The Gutter with 2 games, 2250-

2205.

#### Strike First

Romeo Jalbert  
190-180-203 – 573  
Kenneth Reno  
229-214-201 – 644  
Sherry Coyne  
204-178-164 – 546  
Roni Bretton  
174-154-159 – 487

#### Minds In The

#### Gutter

Scott Verrill  
169-184-206 – 559  
Jay Sutton  
193-193-190 – 576  
Doug Mercier  
159-195-180 – 534  
Matt Ferrante  
178-192-166 – 536

Sexy Ginger bowled for 2 games and the weekly team series over Bowler? I Barely Know Her!, 2302-2245.

#### Sexy Ginger

Shawn McCurdy  
165-189-192 – 546  
Jacob Bourgeois  
171-221-271 – 663  
PT  
191-171-207 – 569  
Clayton Farrin  
181-174-169 – 524

#### Bowler? I Barely Know Her!

Dylann Swisley  
215-172-200 – 587  
Deanna Boisvert  
186-201-226 – 613  
Substitute  
192-180-148 – 520  
Blind  
175-175-175 – 525

## Guest Column

# Home Country

### By Slim Randles

We hadn't seen our pal, Steve the cowboy, at the philosophy counter at the Mule Barn truck stop for a while. After a week's absence, he showed back up for his daily ration of caffeine, and it was obvious he'd lost some weight, if not attitude.

"Hospital again," he said. We nodded. Steve has internal workings situations from time to time. Usually, these happen during a cold snap when the bunkhouse needs extra firewood. He swears this is just a coincidence.

He appreciates doctors a lot, it turns out. Especially young, cute, female-lady-type doctors. He has two of them that look after him. To quote Steve: "Cuter'n a pocketful of baby mouses!"

But nurses? That's another thing entirely.

"They run this nurse in on me," he said, "to give me one of them baths, you know?"

Doc grinned. "Cute, was she, Steve?"

"Cute? Doc, her face looked like it had worn out two bodies. She had the exact aerodynamics of a milk carton, and the human kindness of a meter maid. I

didn't stand a chance!"

"Food any better this year?" asked Herb.

We had heard all about 12,000 mile-an-hour toast last year and how they had used it as heat shields on the space shuttle.

"Boys, they don't have food in that hospital. They just want to tease you by telling you it's edible stuff. You just take our special Sunday dinner. They called it ribeye steak."

We waited while he sucked down another cup of coffee and asked Loretta to bring him something that wasn't good for his situation.

"Ribeye sounds good, Steve."

"Ribeye? RIBEYE? Say listen, guys, I don't know what gopher they cut that off of, but it was sure as sin a long-distance gopher. That was so small and tough ... I'll bet that steak had more miles on it than my pickup."

*Brought to you by "Packing the Backyard Horse" by Slim Randles. Available at Amazon.com.*

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

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**Trek**  
*Continued from page 7*

on the Trek website and social media pages. The Trek is also introducing a video series with healthy recipes related to classic Trek traditions.

Participants can track their miles using activity trackers (Apple Watch, Fitbit, Garmin devices, etc.) and share their personal achievements and fundraising efforts on social media. Trekkers, volunteers or the public can make a donation to the event to support a participant and raise funds for COVID-19 research and other lung disease research. To make a donation to the event and support the work of the American Lung Association go to <http://bit.ly/2021Trek>.

Registration for the event is \$25. Based on the current economic conditions around the world, the Trek has reduced the

fundraising minimum to \$250. All registrants who raise \$250 by June 30 will receive a 2021 Trek Across Maine event T-shirt, medal and sticker. Registrants who raise more than \$750 will also receive an official Trek Across Maine cycling jersey.

Last year, more than 1,200 cyclists from across the country registered for the Trek Across Maine. The event raised \$550,000 for health education, advocacy and lung research. The Trek Across Maine is the largest fundraiser in the country for the American Lung Association. Funds from the event will support programs such as research to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and help save lives by improving lung health and preventing lung disease.

The event supports the American Lung Association's \$25 million ini-

tiative to end COVID-19 and defend against future respiratory virus pandemics. The initiative includes allocating funds to provide free lung health education and masks to those in need. Advocacy efforts will focus on addressing racial health disparities and ensuring all Americans have access to quality and affordable health-care.

"We recognize the coronavirus has impacted so many people in so many ways. Our staff is always inspired by the people who ride in memory of a friend or family member. Cycling and raising money for research to end lung diseases and lung-related viruses like COVID-19 is something we want to empower people to do. People stepped up big time last year. In 2021, we are confident the virtual event will be an

incredible and rewarding experience for everyone involved," said Jeff Seyler, chief division officer, Eastern Division, for the American Lung Association.

The Trek Across Maine is a three-day, 180-mile cycling event in Maine. The event is the largest fundraising event in the country for the American Lung Association. The American Lung Association is the leading organization working to save lives by improving lung health and preventing lung disease, through research, education and advocacy. Learn more at [TrekAcrossMaine.org](http://TrekAcrossMaine.org).

The American Lung Association is the leading organization working to save lives by improving lung health and preventing lung disease, through research, education and advocacy.

## Maine custodian in running for national title

### From Maine DOE

AUGUSTA - Portland Public Schools' Ocean Avenue Elementary School (OAES) lead custodian Donna Colello has been chosen as one of the top 10 finalists nationally in Cintas' 2021 Custodian of the Year contest, the Maine Department of Education announced last week.

Colello is the only finalist from the Northeast and one of only two women in the top 10. From now through April 16, anyone can vote for Colello at <http://bitly.ws/cnS4>. Each person can vote once per day.

In its eighth year, the annual Custodian of the Year contest honors custodians for their exemplary work in schools across the nation. The school custodian of the Year will receive a \$10,000 cash prize, along with products and services for their school, a comprehensive training and development package, and enrollment in the GBAC Fundamentals Online Course that teaches cleaning professionals to prepare for, respond to and recover from biohazards in the workplace, from the Global Biorisk Advisory Council (GBAC), a Division of ISSA.

In nominating Colello for the contest, OAES Principal Beverly Stevens described her as outstanding. "Miss Donna works tirelessly every day and always brings a smile to all students and staff," Stevens wrote. "What started as a job 25 years ago to support herself and newborn child, then flourished into a dedicated and fulfilling career where she goes out of her way to help students build up their self-confidence and help those in need. She's meticulous in her level of higher cleaning techniques and standards, and takes great pride and care in the work she and her team accomplishes. Donna is an integral part of the Ocean Avenue Elementary community and is the one that both staff and students rely on the most."

Stevens praised Colello's impressive work ethic. "Donna is always one-step ahead, knowing not only what to do next, but what is coming up over the next few months. For two years in a row, 100% of the teaching staff rated the building clean and orderly on the climate survey," Stevens wrote. "She does side-by-side training on best practices for cleaning the school and keeping our equipment maintained.



Portland Public Schools' Ocean Avenue Elementary School (OAES) lead custodian Donna Colello is one of the top 10 finalists nationally in Cintas' 2021 Custodian of the Year contest. (Photo courtesy of Maine DOE)

She is passionate about her team and keeping our building healthy, secure, and looking top-notch. Donna is thoughtful, kind, and puts students, staff, and safety at the core of her work. She is an ethical compass, and leads by example. Donna has created and maintained lasting connections to everyone in the Portland Public Schools and city community, including parents and neighborhood groups. Donna's mantra is: "We're doing it for the kids."

"Donna Colello is one of the most respected, hard-working custodians in the district. We are so grateful to Donna for her dedicated service to our students and staff," said Superintendent Xavier Botana. "She goes above and beyond at Ocean Avenue School and she also is a leader in the district. This past summer, she volunteered to serve on the district's custodial 'Tiger Team,' working to figure out how to best keep our school buildings safe during the pandemic. In our eyes, Donna already is a winner, but I encourage everyone to vote for her to come out on top in this national contest and receive the recognition of which she is so worthy."

Cintas Marketing Manager Christiny Betsch said in a statement: "With over 2,000 deserving nominations, it was difficult choosing only 10 finalists. This contest shows us that custodians are much more than cleaners. They're true role models who go above and beyond to have a positive impact on students, faculty, teachers and communities across the U.S."

The nine other finalists are Christopher Bowman (Ohio); Bobbi Sue Burbey (Wisconsin); Robert Buster (Colorado); Francesco Catalano (Illinois); Charles Harris (Georgia); Mike Heiry (Pennsylvania); Edward Straub (South Carolina); Terry Tackett (Kentucky); and John Wheeler (Florida).

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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 conversation about what we're reading. Make suggestions, share your thoughts, find resources, and get personalized recommendations from our librarians!

**THURSDAY Apr. 1**  
 April Fool's Day.  
**9:30 a.m.**  
**GORHAM** – Baxter Memorial Library. Toddler Discovery Time. Join Ms. Dani for a Virtual Discovery Time on Facebook as she reads a picture book to our youngest listeners. (18 months-3 yrs)  
**4 p.m.**  
**AUBURN** – Cable TV Advisory Board meeting.

**5:30 p.m.**  
**AUBURN** – Auburn-Lewiston Airport Board meeting.

**MONDAY Apr. 5**  
**5:30 p.m.**  
**AUBURN** – City Council Workshop and Meeting.  
**5:30-6:30 p.m.**  
**LEWISTON** – Finance Committee meeting in City Hall Administrator's Conference Room.  
**7 p.m.**  
**GORHAM** – Plan-

# Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

ning Board meeting via Zoom.

**TUESDAY Apr. 6**  
**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** – Age-Friendly Community Committee.  
**6 p.m.**  
**LEWISTON** – City Council Budget Workshop and Meeting. CAN BE VIEWED REMOTELY VIA ZOOM: Due to necessary COVID19 precautions, the April 6 City Council meeting will be broadcast via ZOOM - <http://www.lewistonmaine.gov/2021cc> Also, public comment will be possible at [publiccomment@lewistonmaine.gov](mailto:publiccomment@lewistonmaine.gov). The meeting will be archived on the City's YouTube channel <http://www.lewistonmaine.gov/YouTube> by the next day.  
**6:30 p.m.**  
**GORHAM** – Regular Town Council meeting via Zoom.

**THURSDAY Apr. 8**  
**9:30 a.m.**  
**GORHAM** – Baxter Memorial Library. Toddler Discovery Time. Join Ms. Dani for a Virtual Discovery Time on Facebook as she reads a picture book to our youngest listeners. (18 months-3 yrs)  
**4-5 p.m.**  
**GORHAM** – Eco-maine Outreach & Recycling Committee meeting via an online video conference.  
**6 p.m.**  
**LEWISTON** – City Council Budget Workshop. CAN BE VIEWED REMOTELY VIA ZOOM: Due to necessary COVID19 precautions, the April 8 City Council meeting will be broadcast via ZOOM - <http://www.lewistonmaine.gov/2021cc>. Also, public comment will be possible at [publiccomment@lewistonmaine.gov](mailto:publiccomment@lewistonmaine.gov). The meeting will be archived on the City's YouTube channel <http://www.lewistonmaine.gov/YouTube> by the next day.

**WEDNESDAY Apr. 7**  
**10 a.m.**  
**GORHAM** – Baxter Memorial Library. STEAM - Egg Muffins. 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, join us to make egg muffins. They're

easy to make, tasty, and good to have on-hand in the freezer. The possibilities are endless -- mix in cheese, broccoli, peppers, ham, tofu, whatever you have!

**MONDAY Apr. 12**  
**5:30 p.m.**  
**LEWISTON** – Planning Board Meeting via Zoom video conference. The Planning Board Agenda and information for this meeting will be available on the website on the Friday before the meeting date.

**TUESDAY Apr. 13**  
**9:30 a.m.**  
**GORHAM** – Baxter Memorial Library. Unicorn Yoga. Attention Unicorn Lovers! Pearl the Unicorn (psst it's actually Ms. Sam the Children's Librarian at Windham Public Library) will be visiting Youth Services Librarian Ms. Heidi at Baxter Memorial Library. Ms. Heidi will read the book Unicorn Yoga while she and Pearl demonstrate the moves for you! You can find the program on Facebook on or after Apr. 13 at 9:30 a.m.

\*Visit the library to pick up a make-your-own unicorn headband kit so that you too can do Unicorn Yoga with Ms. Sam (aka Pearl) and Ms. Heidi!

**6 p.m.**  
**AUBURN** – Planning Board meeting.  
**6 p.m.**  
**LEWISTON** – City Council Budget Workshop. CAN BE VIEWED REMOTELY VIA ZOOM: Due to necessary COVID19 precautions, the April 8 City Council meeting will be broadcast via ZOOM - <http://www.lewistonmaine.gov/2021cc>. Also, public comment will be possible at [publiccomment@lewistonmaine.gov](mailto:publiccomment@lewistonmaine.gov). The meeting will be archived on the City's YouTube channel <http://www.lewistonmaine.gov/YouTube> by the next day.  
**6:30 p.m.**  
**GORHAM** – Tentative Appointments Committee meeting – to be determined if this is a Zoom session.  
**6:30-8:30 p.m.**  
**GORHAM** – Tentative Town Council budget workshop – to be determined if this is a Zoom session.

**WEDNESDAY Apr. 14**  
**6 p.m.**  
**LEWISTON** – City Council Budget Workshop. CAN BE VIEWED REMOTELY VIA ZOOM: Due to necessary COVID19 precautions, the April 8 City Council meeting will be broadcast via ZOOM - <http://www.lewistonmaine.gov/2021cc>. Also, public comment will be possible at [publiccomment@lewistonmaine.gov](mailto:publiccomment@lewistonmaine.gov). The meeting will be archived on the City's YouTube channel <http://www.lewistonmaine.gov/YouTube> by the next day.

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**10 a.m.**  
**GORHAM** – Baxter Memorial Library. STEAM - Suspension Bridge. 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 today's activity, we'll learn a bit about basic engineering and use some of our own creativity to build a suspension bridge.  
**4:30 p.m.**  
**AUBURN** – Lewiston-Auburn Transit Committee (LATC) meeting.  
**6:30 p.m.**  
**AUBURN** – Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting.  
**7 p.m.**  
**GORHAM** – School Committee meeting via Zoom.

**THURSDAY Apr. 15**  
**8 a.m.**  
**AUBURN** – 9-1-1 Committee meeting.  
**9:30 a.m.**  
**GORHAM** – Baxter Memorial Library. Toddler Discovery Time. Join Ms. Dani for a Virtual Discovery Time on Facebook as she reads a picture book to our youngest listeners. (18 months-3 yrs)  
**6 p.m.**  
**LEWISTON** – City Council Budget Workshop. CAN BE VIEWED REMOTELY VIA ZOOM: Due to necessary COVID19 precautions, the April 8 City Council meeting will be broadcast via ZOOM - <http://www.lewistonmaine.gov/2021cc>. Also, public comment will be possible at [publiccomment@lewistonmaine.gov](mailto:publiccomment@lewistonmaine.gov). The meeting will be archived on the City's YouTube channel <http://www.lewistonmaine.gov/YouTube> by the next day.

**MONDAY Apr. 19**  
**7 p.m.**  
**GORHAM** – Board of Appeals meeting via Zoom.  
**6:30 p.m.**  
**GORHAM** - Tentative Capital Improvement Projects/Economic Development Committee meeting via Zoom.  
**7 p.m.**  
**AUBURN** – Community Forest Subcommittee meeting.  
**MONDAY Apr. 19**  
**GORHAM** - *Municipal Center, Administrative Offices & Library closed in observance of Patriot's Day.*  
**LEWISTON** – *Offices closed.*  
**AUBURN** – *Offices closed.*

Council Budget Workshop. CAN BE VIEWED REMOTELY VIA ZOOM: Due to necessary COVID19 precautions, the April 8 City Council meeting will be broadcast via ZOOM - <http://www.lewistonmaine.gov/2021cc>. Also, public comment will be possible at [publiccomment@lewistonmaine.gov](mailto:publiccomment@lewistonmaine.gov). The meeting will be archived on the City's YouTube channel <http://www.lewistonmaine.gov/YouTube> by the next day.

**6:30 p.m.**  
**GORHAM** – Board of Appeals meeting via Zoom.  
**6:30 p.m.**  
**GORHAM** - Tentative Capital Improvement Projects/Economic Development Committee meeting via Zoom.  
**7 p.m.**  
**AUBURN** – Community Forest Subcommittee meeting.

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