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Spirit of America Tribute

Auburn's Spirit of America Tribute



From City of Auburn

AUBURN - It's no secret that this community is incredible! And over the past year, the people of Auburn have pulled together to help one another in the most extraordinary ways.

The Auburn City Council would like to recognize and celebrate some of the individuals, organizations and businesses that have gone above and beyond to support this community.

The Auburn City Council is now accepting nominations for the 2021 Auburn Spirit of America Foundation Tribute for Outstanding Community Service.

Residents are asked to nominate an Auburn resident, project or group they feel deserves the honor of a "Spirit of America" award, by Apr. 30.

The nomination webpage can be found at <http://bitly.ws/cny8>.

The Spirit of America Foundation is a 501(c)(3) public charity established in Augusta, Maine to encourage volunteerism and it allows the Spirit of America Foundation Tribute to be presented in the name of any Maine municipality. The first Spirit of America Foundation award was presented in 1991. For more information on the Foundation, visit their website: <http://spiroaf.com>.

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Maine Maple Sunday sees limited visitors



Roger Gervais, a self-described "wannabe sugarmaker", programs the system that releases finished syrup from the evaporator at Jillson's Farm and Sugarhouse on Jordan Bridge Road in Sabattus. The sugarhouse is expecting to produce about 270 gallons of finished syrup before the season ends in early April this year. (Tsukroff photo)

By Nathan Tsukroff

SABATTUS – A year ago, Maine Maple Sunday was abruptly cancelled by the State of Maine as the COVID-19 pandemic hit the United States.

This year, although with limits on visitors and events, the event was back on the traditional fourth weekend of March.

Jillson's Farm and Sugarhouse on Jordan Bridge Road in Sabattus was planning for just visitor to its sugarhouse and its store, since breakfast gatherings were not allowed this year.

The farm has served upwards of 900 breakfasts in past years, with cars "parked on both sides of the road for half a mile down," owner Ed Jillson said. When breakfast is allowed to be served, Jillson's provides a full meal of eggs, sausage, muffins, milk and juice.

He normally produces around 400

gallons of maple syrup during the season, but the warmer weather this year has lowered production to about 270 gallons. Sap generally starts flowing in mid-February in southern Maine, and is expected to end in April this year.

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 15,500 gallons of sap to make the expected 270 gallons of syrup at Jillson's Sugarhouse this season.

The boiling process removes the water in the sap and brings the sugar content to 66% from a starting point of 2%, 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.

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.

Jillson said his team has about 3,000 taps on "a lot of roadside trees" throughout Androscoggin, Sagadahoc and Kennebec counties. Syrup is collected by pickup trucks carrying tanks for hauling 300-400 gallons of sap.

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.

See **Maple**, page 9

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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

Supplemental Budget Brings Relief for Maine Businesses and Families



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

By Sen. Libby

Earlier this month, the Legislature came together at the Augusta Civic Center to vote on a variety of bills and handle other legislative business. During the early hours of Friday morning, we passed a supplemental budget, and I'm happy to report some of the details to you all. The supplemental budget has a variety of provisions aimed at helping Maine people and Maine businesses that have been hit the hardest during this pandemic. The budget as-

sists over 28,000 Maine businesses that received forgivable loans from the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and the more than 160,000 Mainers who have received unemployment benefits. It focuses its attention on providing relief to the workers who are most in jeopardy, and the family-owned businesses that need the support to survive. Not only does this budget provide necessary relief, it helps provide a path of recovery for our economy and communities.

There's a lot to un-

pack in this budget, but some notable provisions include the relief to Maine businesses, support and relief for direct care workers, as well as investments in Maine veteran services. The supplemental budget protects hardworking Mainers who may have become unemployed during this crisis at no fault of their own by exempting unemployment benefits from state income taxes. If we had not included this provision, Mainers who have depended on unemployment benefits at some point during the pandemic would've had to pay an additional \$200-\$500 per person in state taxes.

Maine businesses that benefited from the PPP program would have been subject to Maine income tax on that benefit had the Legislature not acted. While Democrats initially favored a revenue-neutral approach and Republicans insisted on going beyond that to reduce state revenues and include unrelated and obscure tax breaks benefiting primarily out-of-state companies, we ultimately came together on a deal that provides 100% tax exemption for PPP payments while rejecting additional tax break gimmicks.

Another significant provision that helped finalize the bipartisan deal was restoration of a position

with the Bureau of Veterans Services. This position, a veterans homeless services coordinator who facilitates housing placement for veterans in crisis, was initially eliminated in an earlier budget proposal as part of curtailments, but was restored after a unanimous senate vote.

The budget also provides funds for direct care providers who provide support to Maine seniors and individuals with disabilities. Finally, the supplemental budget included an additional \$8.2 million in the state's budget stabilization fund, more commonly referred to as the "Rainy Day Fund." The Fund has not been tapped during the most recent recession and remains at historically high levels.

This budget and its details are intricate, but the core of what we passed last week is simple: We met Mainers and their businesses where they're at by providing relief where it was needed most at this point and time. Though compromises are essential, I was proud that we didn't give in to demands to give tax breaks to big corporations that don't need the help. If you are a small business owner scraping to get by or someone who found themselves out of work through no fault of your own, we did our best

to help ease the pain.

Update on Maine's COVID-19 vaccine plan

Two weeks ago, Maine DHHS announced a new program to offer free rides for people who need transportation to and from vaccination appointments. The state is partnering with Modivcare, which will partner with Communication Action Programs and other local transportation companies. These rides are available 7 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday-Saturday, and should be scheduled 48 hours ahead of time. People who need a ride should call 1-855-608-5172. People who qualify for rides through MaineCare should schedule rides as they normally do.

Also last week, Gov. Mills accelerated the schedule of Maine's COVID-19 vaccination plan to make all Maine adults eligible for a vaccine by May 1. Following President Biden's announcement last week, the planned vaccine schedule is now:

- March 3: Age 60 and older
- April 1: Age 50 and older
- May 1: All adults

New bill supporting affordable housing, historic preservation

Last week, I introduced a bill to support affordable housing and preserve historic build-

ings in Maine through the extension of a tax credit program. LD 201, "An Act To Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Promote Weatherization in the Buildings Sector by Extending the Sunset Date for the Historic Property Rehabilitation Tax Credit." LD 201 would extend the sunset date for the Maine Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit (MHRTC) from 2025 to 2040.

The MHRTC incentivizes business and real estate owners as well as property developers to rehabilitate and reuse income-producing historic buildings in Maine. The credit encourages investment in downtown areas to spur revitalization and to create affordable housing.

This bill ensures that Maine's historic properties, which contribute so much to the character of our downtowns and neighborhoods, are both protected for future generations and contribute to smart building practices. By reducing the need for new construction, we also reduce Maine's carbon footprint. This tax credit has been extremely successful, and it only makes sense to extend it.

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

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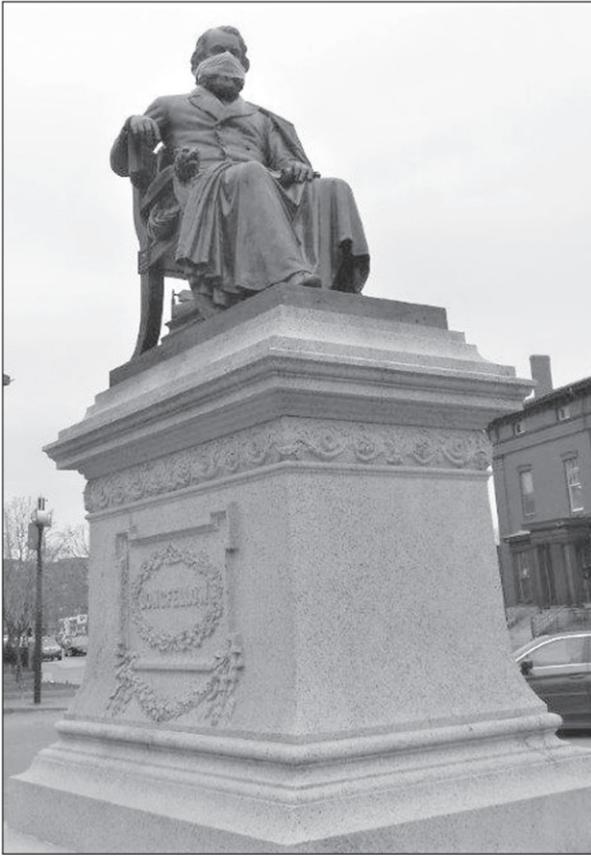
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The Henry Wadsworth Longfellow statue atop the high pedestal in Longfellow Square in Portland sports a mask at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic year last April. (Rachel Morin photo)

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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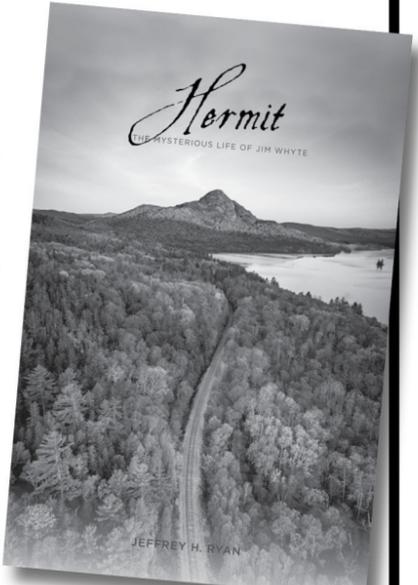
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— George Smith, Bangor Daily News



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Arts & Entertainment

Poland Spring donates water to vaccine site



Poland Spring water recently donated 75 cases of water to the high-volume COVID-19 vaccination site hosted by Central Maine Healthcare in the Auburn Mall. (Photo courtesy of CMH)

From CMH
AUBURN – Poland Spring Water has generously

ly donated 75 cases of water for use at the high-volume vaccination site run by Central Maine Healthcare

at the Auburn Mall, the first such site in Androscoggin County.

“The support of organizations like Poland Spring has been inspiring,” said Amy Lee, MBA, MBHA, MJ, FACMPE, vice president and chief operating officer, Central Maine Medical Group. “Poland Spring’s generous donation is a tremendous help to our patients, team members and our volunteers. So many people and

businesses have selflessly stepped up to help make this vaccination site a success, and we can’t thank them enough.”

Healthy Androscoggin, part of the Central Maine Healthcare system, worked with Auburn Public Works to have the water picked up and delivered to the Auburn Mall.

The high-volume vaccination site opened on March 17. Central Maine Healthcare opened it in partnership with the City of Auburn, the City of Lewiston and the State of Maine and in coordination with the Androscoggin County Emergency Management Agency, St. Mary’s Health System, Tri-County EMS, the National Guard and the Auburn Mall. The site is expected to operate for six months, with the goal of vaccinating up to one thousand people a day, as vaccine supplies allow.

How to Help

Volunteers, both clinical and non-clinical, and donations, both financial and in-kind, can support COVID-19 efforts such as the high-volume site. Please visit cmhc.org/how-to-help for more information.

Vaccination Appointments

Vaccination at the Central Maine Healthcare-run site at the Auburn Mall is available by appointment only. To

check availability, book an appointment or find out more about high-volume vaccination site, visit cmhc.org or telephone the Central Maine Healthcare COVID-19 vaccine call center at 207-520-2917.

For information, please use that website and phone number rather than contacting 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, near Thatcher’s.

With the opening of Auburn Mall site, Central Maine Healthcare is pivoting 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.

Central Maine Healthcare is an integrated healthcare delivery system serving 400,000 people living in central, western and Midcoast Maine. CMH’s hospital facilities include Central Maine Medical Center in Lewiston, Bridgton Hospital and Rumford Hospital. CMH also supports Central Maine Medical Group, a primary and specialty care practice organization. Other system services include the Central Maine Heart and Vascular Institute, a regional trauma program, LifeFlight of Maine’s southern Maine base, the Central Maine Comprehensive Cancer Center and other high-quality clinical services.



A tub with bottles of water donated by Poland Spring Water sits behind patients at the high-volume COVID-19 vaccination site hosted by Central Maine Healthcare in the Auburn Mall. (Photo courtesy of CMH)

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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 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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Lewiston Spring Clean-Up Week

From City of Lewiston

LEWISTON – From April 26 – April 30, the City of Lewiston’s Department of Public Works will collect woody yard debris (butt ends are to face the street) from the City’s residential properties.

This clean-up uses the same route and days as waste and recycle collection.

Quantities are limited to one (1) standard pick-up truck load per residence.

Residents must have all woody yard debris placed curbside no later than Sunday, April 25.

Once Department of Public Works staff has cleared a street of curbside woody yard debris, they will not return to that street to collect additional woody

yard debris.

Curbside collection is restricted to woody yard debris only.

Wood/tree waste items that will not be collected include tree stumps (regardless of size); tree limbs greater than 12 inches diameter; and demolition wood – fencing, decking, and/or wood from construction/demolition projects.

Auburn bulky waste pickup in May

From City of Auburn

AUBURN - The City of Auburn has announced plans for the May 2021 Bulky Waste Pickup Program. This is an opportunity for residents who currently receive weekly trash pickup from the city to dispose of materials not normally picked up during weekly solid waste collection.

Materials eligible for collection:

- Brush (must be placed with the butt ends facing the street in a neat pile; no more than a pickup truck load will be collected; additional brush can be brought to the Public Works Facility on Gracelawn Road)
- Furniture
- Rugs (must be rolled and taped)
- Mattresses and box springs (limit of six combined)
- Tires (four tire limit)
- Metals (excludes large auto parts and metals containing hazardous materials)
- Propane tanks
- White goods (washers, dryers, refrigerators, small appliances)
- Televisions (televisions can also be brought to

the PW facility anytime for free disposal)

Materials that WILL NOT be collected:

- Paints, oils, cleaners, gasoline
- No liquids of any type
- Wood waste, including construction and demolition debris
- Sheetrock
- Shingles

Materials must be separated by type and placed in neat piles. Bulky waste should be separated from normal household waste. No more than one (1) truckload of materials will be collected per residence. Residents are asked to keep all material off the sidewalks.

Crews will collect materials at normal collection points. All waste must be at roadside by 7 a.m. on the date that collection begins for an area. Crews will remove waste on a street-by-street basis and will not return to a street once waste material has been removed.

Residents with Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday collection must not place items curbside before Saturday, May 1. Residents with Thursday or Friday collection must not place items before Saturday, May 8.

Collection Schedule

For bulky waste pickup for residents with Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday waste collection, items must roadside no later than 7 a.m. on Monday, May 3.

For bulky waste pickup for residents with Thursday and Friday waste collection, items must be roadside no later than 7 a.m. on Monday, May 10.

In addition, from May 1 to May 15, Auburn residents may bring their bulky waste materials (excluding brush and tires) directly to the Maine Waste to Energy facility on Goldthwaite Road, free of charge.

Persons dropping off bulky waste must show proof of Auburn residency (i.e., driver’s license, vehicle registration, or tax bill).

Maine Waste to Energy is open 7 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday to Friday, and 7 a.m.-noon on Saturday.

No scavenging

It is a violation of city ordinance for persons to scavenge through piles of debris put curbside for collection. If caught, it is punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000. Anyone observing this activity is encouraged to report it to the PW Department at 333-6670.

What do you think?

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Maple
Continued from page 1

The collection containers on the trees are covered to keep out rainwater and branches.

Roger Gervais, who calls himself “a wannabe sugarmaker”, runs the evaporator at Jillson’s Sugarhouse, which boils off water to make finished syrup. The evaporator is 40 inches wide and 8 feet long. It takes 45 gallons of sap at a two-inch depth to fill the evaporator. As the water boils off, the heavier liquid flows from one end to the other, and fresh sap is slowly added to maintain the level.

At the end of the evaporator, Gervais programs a digital controller that releases finished syrup when it reaches the proper boiling temperature. The syrup is then filtered to remove the impurities

typically found in tree sap, and the finished product is finally ready for bottling or use in foods and candies.

“We used to have to watch the temperature with a thermometer here, and open and close the valve by hand,” Gervais said. That required two people to run the evaporator, so the automated syrup release means that now only one person is needed.

Jillson’s uses a filter press for the finished syrup. “If you didn’t filter it, you would take a quart and fill it with syrup and there would be a half-inch or three quarter-inch of muck in the bottom,” Gervais said. “When we were kids, we’d always have muck in the bottom of our syrup – we didn’t filter. So we’d open the canning jar and pour the syrup, and when the muck would come, we’d stop.”

Several years ago,

Jillson’s purchased a used reverse osmosis machine that removes more than three quarters of the water from the sap, drastically reducing the time needed to create the finished syrup. For a collection of 1500 gallons, boiling might take upwards of 15 to 18 hours, while reverse osmosis removes enough water for the boiling to be completed in four or five hours.

The water that is removed is salvaged in tanks and used for cleaning the filter membranes and the evaporator, Gervais said.

Jillson’s Farm and Sugarhouse bottles the finished syrup, as well as creating candies and using the syrup in foods such as Maple Ice Cream. The store is open year-round, selling seasonal items along with maple syrup products. The farm hosts a craft fair in November.



Ed Jillson, owner of Jillson’s Farm and Sugarhouse, pours finished and filtered maple syrup into a bottle on Maine Maple Sunday at his sugarhouse on Jordan Bridge Road in Sabattus. (Tsukroff photo)



Roger Gervais of Jillson’s Farm and Sugarhouse checks one of the maple sap collection buckets hanging off the tap in a tree near the sugarhouse on Jordan Bridge Road in Sabattus. The cover keeps out rainwater and items falling out of the tree. (Tsukroff photo)



Adeline Johnston of Alna samples a dish of Maple Ice Cream at Jillson’s Farm and Sugarhouse on in Sabattus. (Tsukroff photo)



After more than 40 gallons of maple sap are boiled down to make a gallon of finished syrup, the finished product is still clouded with impurities such as bits of sand and dirt that is typically found in tree sap (left). Filtering removes the impurities to create the finished product that is bottled or used in foods and candies (right). (Tsukroff photo)

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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 or contact him at 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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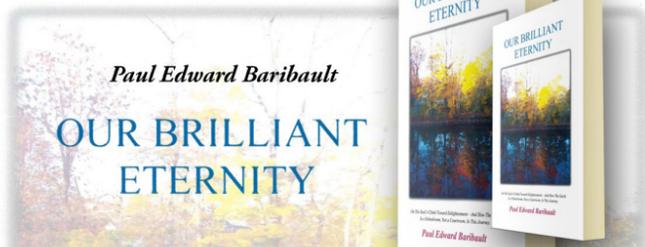


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Guest Column

Pandemic brings a year of upheaval

An update from Sen. Nate Libby

Dear Friends,
A little more than a year ago, COVID-19 turned our lives upside down. I find it remarkable to reflect on how much we didn't know one year ago, and how far we've come. My heart goes out to everyone who has lost family, friends and loved ones. So many others have had limited or no contact with loved ones in order to keep each other safe.

It's been a year of upheaval. Thousands of workers lost their jobs through no fault of their own. Businesses had to rapidly adjust their plans to keep their workers and customers safe; others shut down entirely. All the while, we've had to grapple with the racial, economic, and gender inequities that have only deepened during this crisis.

But the light at the end of the tunnel is getting brighter and brighter, day by day. I want to thank everyone for doing all you could to fight this virus, keep your neighbors safe and support local businesses through this public health and economic crisis. I look forward to when we can once again gather together in person, safely, without having to worry about mask wearing or physical distancing.

Until then, as always, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at nathan.libby@legislature.maine.gov or 207-287-1515. I'm still here for you, and it will take all of our best ideas to get Maine back on track after this pandemic has ended.

Legislature reconvening for session this week

As you may have read in the news, the Maine Legislature was to convene this week at the Augusta Civic Center. We're planning to take up the biennial budget proposal, as well as other measures that are ready for the full Senate and House to consider.

The "Back to Basics" budget is a baseline budget,

substantially the same as the one we passed with bipartisan support two years ago. Instead of waiting until the last minute to pass the biennial budget, we can give Maine teachers, parents, workers and small businesses the stability they need to get back on their feet and plan for the future.

Maine property taxpayers deserve to know whether or not they can continue to count on the homestead exemption program, and we intend to keep our promises on property tax relief.

School districts all across the state need to know what they are getting for funding now so they can plan to fully return to in-person instruction five-days a week in the fall.

Maine small businesses that benefit from the budding outdoor recreation economy need to know that state parks and conserved lands will have the funding necessary to continue attracting tourists at unprecedented rates.

This proposal echoes how the Maine Legislature approached the biennial budget in the 1980s, mid-to-late 1990s and early-to-mid 2000s.

Tax filing deadline extended

Two weeks ago, Gov. Janet T. Mills announced that her administration has moved the deadline for Maine people to pay their state income taxes from April 15 to May 17. This move comes less than 24 hours after the federal government announced the extension of the federal tax deadline.

In Maine, we are beginning to see our state slowly rebound from this public health and economic crisis. This additional month will give hardworking Mainers who owe state income taxes some much-needed room to breathe as they get organized, balance their family budgets and prepare to pay their taxes.

I'm grateful that the governor wasted no time in taking action following the federal government's announcement last week. Making sure the deadlines to pay both state and federal taxes line up will help avoid confusion and provide clarity to Maine taxpayers.

Update on Maine's COVID-19 vaccine schedule

A couple of weeks ago, Gov. Mills announced Maine is further accelerating the schedule of our state's COVID-19 vaccination plan. Because of increased vaccine supply and to help fill schedule slots more efficiently, the vaccine schedule was adjusted to all those age 50 and older to be vaccinated as of last week, with all Miner residents 16 and older eligible for vaccination appointment as of April 19.

If you are eligible or awaiting eligibility for vaccination, you may pre-register at VaccinateME.Maine.gov to be notified when appointments are available. When a vaccination appointment becomes available to you, you'll receive an email with a personal access code that allows you to look for available openings across a number of sites and schedule an appointment. To find a vaccination site, visit Maine's vaccine website.

Summer school meals extended through September

The USDA announced earlier this month that the nationwide extension of several waivers that allow all children to continue to receive nutritious meals this summer when schools are out of session, regardless of their household income. These flexibilities are now available through Sept. 30, 2021.

The waivers extended today allow for safe meal distribution sites that serve all children for free, regardless of income. In addition, the

waivers:

Allow meals served through the Summer Food Service Program and Seamless Summer Option — collectively known as "summer meal programs" — to be made available in all areas at no cost;

Allow meals to be served outside of the normally required group settings and meal times; and

Allow parents and guardians to pick-up meals for their children, including bulk pick-up to cover multiple days of feeding children.

These waivers have been a great relief to so many Mainers throughout the pandemic, as parents dealt with financial hardship and the added stress of trying to help their children learn remotely. I'm glad to see these waivers will be extended through the summer. To learn more, click here.

Celebrating the contributions of Maine women

March was Women's History Month. In 2019, we celebrated the 100th anniversary of Maine becoming the 19th state to ratify the 19th Amendment, which guaranteed women the right to vote. Maine has a long, storied history of producing strong women who break

barriers and make change for the better, including Frances Perkins, Margaret Chase Smith, Dorothea Dix, Doris Twitchell Allen, Mabel Wadsworth, Samantha Smith and Cornelia "Fly Rod" Crosby. I'm grateful for the leadership of all the great women who made way for the young girls who came after them to achieve their dreams, and to my colleagues who continue this tradition of leadership and pioneering.

As a Skowhegan area native, Margaret Chase Smith has always been a hometown inspiration of mine. Margaret Chase Smith was the first woman to serve in both houses of Congress and was also the first woman to seek presidential nomination of a major political party. From her work on foreign policy to her work on women's rights, Margaret Chase Smith was a tough legislator who left us countless lessons we can all learn from.

Spring Clean-Up Assistance Week April 26-30

The city of Lewiston's Department of Public Works will help collect woody yard debris during the week of April 26-30. The Department of Public Works will be using their regular routes and days as waste and recycle. I would

encourage everyone to take a look at the rules laid out by the Public Works and take them up on their offer to help. The rules are:

Quantities are limited to one (1) standard pick-up truck load per residence

Residents must have all woody yard debris placed curbside no later than Sunday, April 25, 2021.

Once the Department of Public Works staff has cleared a street of curbside woody yard debris, they will not return to that street to collect additional woody yard debris.

Curbside collection is restricted to woody yard debris only.

Wood/tree waste items that will not be collected include: tree stumps (regardless of size), tree limbs greater than 12 inches diameter, demolition wood – fencing, decking, and/or wood from construction/demolition projects.

If you have any questions about the Spring Clean-Up Assistance week email smurch@lewiston-maine.gov or mbates@lewistonmaine.gov

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

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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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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.

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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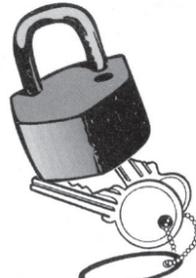
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Calendar

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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-

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. 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.

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!

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. The meeting will be archived on the City's YouTube channel <http://www.lewistonmaine.gov/YouTube> by the next day.

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. 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

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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. 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.

MONDAY Apr. 19
GORHAM - Municipal Center, Administrative Offices & Library closed in observance of Patriot's Day.

LEWISTON – Offices closed.
AUBURN – Offices closed.

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