

## Broadcaster live streams USM Huskies games



Calling the plays at a recent live stream of a University of Southern Maine Huskies baseball game, Sebastian “Bass” Pettitt uses a video camera tied to a laptop for his broadcasts over the internet. (Photo by Olivia Holbrook, USM Athletics)

By Nathan Tsukroff

GORHAM – Watching springs sports at the University of Southern Maine is lots of fun . . . you just can’t watch the games in person during the pandemic.

Instead, you’ll be enjoying the Huskies on live streams over your computer or smartphone. And you’ll be hearing the voice of Sebastian “Bass” Pettitt as he calls the play-by-play for the games.

Pettitt began his announcing career in September, 2016, while working towards a Communications degree at USM. He was assisting men’s soccer coach Mike Keller as a team manager when the communications side of the USM Athletic Department asked him if he had any knowledge about broadcasting and communications.

“I told them I’d been around sports my whole life – it’s something I played and enjoyed . . . and I would definitely be able and willing to learn and lend a hand, and all of that, not really knowing where it was going,” he said.

“At first it was just the fall sports, really just soccer, something I was comfortable working with,” Pettitt said. “And there were days where people who were

calling the games at that point in time weren’t able to . . . so I picked up field hockey, which wasn’t something I was really comfortable or knowledgeable in, but at the time we really just needed someone to do it, so it wasn’t just silent while the game was airing.”

Pettitt said he had to “pick up quite a bit of knowledge” to learn how to explain a game he had never really watched before.

He said the athletic department was very supportive of his efforts. “It did give me some sort of comfort knowing they trusted me, even if I’m still learning, and they wanted me to get better and wanted me to improve.”

More than four years later, Pettitt now live streams almost all the games for the Huskies, while taking a break from his studies. “I have every sport that isn’t hockey that we are able to do a broadcast for.”

For spring sports, he is covering baseball, softball and men’s and women’s lacrosse. In the fall, he covers just men’s and women’s soccer (USM doesn’t have a football team), and in the winter he broadcasts men’s and women’s basketball, an occasional home wrestling match, and in-

door track. “When it comes to (ice) hockey, there’s another gentleman who handles the majority of the games, but I do fill in for him when he’s not available.”

Pettitt works from the press box at a game, using a digital camera connected to a laptop which is linked to the athletic department website. The website has links and statistics for the games as they are being played.

His work with the broadcasts and video are separate from the game announcer, Pettitt said. “They have somebody who announces the goals over the public address system.”

The broadcasts and commentary from Pettitt were helpful even for fans at a game. “If you don’t necessarily know a lot” about the game, fans can listen in to his broadcasts, he said. He’s seen fans watching his live streams on their smartphones at games. And for now, his broadcasts are the only way for fans to see a game.

Pettitt came to USM for Sports Management, eventually shifting gears to a Communications major. He played a lot of sports growing up, as well as acting in the school theatre. He was on the speech and

See **Broadcaster**, page 16

## New Amtrak Downeaster schedule starts May 3

From NNEPRA

PORTLAND – The Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority (NNEPRA) announced last week that the Amtrak Downeaster will increase service and implement a new schedule on May 3.

This will restore the Downeaster to its pre-COVID service level of five daily round trips between Brunswick and Boston. The Downeaster has been offering four daily round-trips since July 2020.

The expanded schedule includes a new southbound train which will depart Brunswick mid-morning each day, as well as a new northbound train which will depart Boston mid-afternoon each day. In addition, seasonal service will resume to Old Orchard Beach, and the last northbound train out of Boston each night will operate on a flexible schedule to better serve evening sports and events. The new travel times combined with added frequency will provide more options for the traveling public and is expected to be popular with both business and leisure travelers.

“Passengers have requested more mid-day trains for years. Given the recent changes in travel patterns, the timing is now right for us to introduce a new 10:20am southbound train from Brunswick and a 3:00pm northbound from Boston,” said Natalie Bogart, Marketing Director at NNEPRA.

The Downeaster fare structure has been recently modified to expand discounts on tickets purchased more than three days in advance of travel. Standard everyday discounts for seniors, children, military personnel, and disabled riders remain in effect. Multi-ride passes, including the Discover Maine Pass and College Six-Tix are available for sale and can be used on all trains.

In recent months, the Amtrak Downeaster has also expanded bike service to all stations and has introduced at seat Café service on some trains. Amtrak has also recently added technology features which include a capacity indicator so passengers can see in advance how

See **Downeaster**, page 6

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# Newsmakers, Names & Faces

## RTT Celebrates Volunteers Contributions



Trish and David Vaughn, Barn Volunteers of the Year at Riding To The Top in Windham, have gotten their "exercise" several days a week throughout the year, helping to keep the barn and paddocks clean. (Photo courtesy of RTT)

### From RTT

WINDHAM - The pandemic and associated restrictions did not stop volunteers from contributing time and talent to Riding To The Top of Windham in 2020.

Despite being closed for nearly four months and needing to modify lessons once the farm was able to re-open, volunteers still collectively donated over 5,500 hours of service last year to the therapeutic riding center.

Volunteers at RTT worked in the barn, in lessons with clients, exercised horses, repaired and maintained the facilities and trails. Volunteers also served on the Board of Directors.

RTT is celebrating the significant impact their volunteers make on the organization during National Volunteer Appreciation week- April 18-24.

Executive Director Sarah Bronson said, "RTT is fortunate to have many committed and passionate volunteers. We truly would not be where we are today without the hearts and hands of so many individuals who are at the farm each and every day. In our eyes, all of our volunteers are our heroes, but each year we recognize volunteers in certain categories."

This year, RTT recognized Pat Niboli as Volunteer of the Year; Maddie Hurley as Youth Volunteer of the Year; Janis Childs as Administrative Volunteer of the Year; Sue Smith as Rookie of the Year; Trish and David Vaughn as Barn Volunteers of the Year; and Lisa Fink for the Volunteer Schooler Award.

RTT also recognized

Elizabeth Holmstrom of Mindful Employer, and The Platz Family for outstanding volunteer contributions.

Volunteer Coordinator, Nick Doria said, "We missed our volunteer picnic last year but hope to have an outdoor gathering later this summer." Meanwhile RTT plans to post thank you signs and distribute goodies to show their appreciation of its volunteers.

This year a number of RTT volunteers will receive Presidential Service Awards and will be recognized on the Maine "Roll of Honor."

President's Volunteer Service Award

Since 2003, the President's Volunteer Service Award has recognized the important role of volunteers in America's strength and national identity. This award honors individuals whose service positively impacts communities and inspires those around them to take action, too. The PVSA has continued under each administration, honoring the volunteers who are using their time and talents to solve some of the toughest challenges facing our nation.

Bronze Level Awardees, for Adult 100-249 hours/Young Adult 100-174 hours, are Clayton Peters, Diane Powers, Elizabeth Wood, Fran Maxwell, Maureen Mathieu, and Stacie Hamilton Waldron.

Silver Level Awardees, Adult 250 to 499 hours/Young Adult 175-249 hours, are David Vaughn, Trish Vaughn, Janis Childs, and Patty Shaw.

Gold Level Awardees, Adult 500 or more hours/Young Adult

250 or more hours, are Dan Morabito, Lina Jordan, and Pat Niboli.

Niboli was also given the Lifetime Award for 4,000 or more volunteer hours.

The Maine Governor's Awards for Service and Volunteerism Celebrates and recognizes the role of citizen volunteers in the success and vitality of Maine communities. At the same time, the awards seek to inspire others to be active in civic life and follow in the footsteps of those recognized.

Volunteers on the Maine Adult Roll of Honor include Dan Morabito, Pat Niboli, David Vaughn and Trish Vaughn. The Youth Roll of Honor includes Maddie Hurley and Lina Jordan.

Founded in 1993, Riding To The Top Therapeutic Riding Center's (RTT) mission is enhancing health and wellness through equine-assisted services. RTT is a PATH Intl. Premier Accredited Center (Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International).

RTT is the state's only year round PATH Intl. Premier Accredited Center solely dedicated to serving people with disabilities through equine-assisted services.

A community-based nonprofit, RTT receives no federal or state funding and provides scholarships to over 60% of its clients.

Currently, visitors at the farm are limited due to COVID-19 restrictions.

For more information about client services, volunteering, or making a gift, visit [www.riding-tothetop.org](http://www.riding-tothetop.org) or call 892-2813.

## Scholarships for Students Pursuing Business Degrees

### From Maine CF

ELLSWORTH & PORTLAND - Applications are currently being accepted for the Maine Community Foundation's Patriot Education Scholarship Fund.

This renewable scholarship supports graduates of a Maine high school who are enrolled part time (minimum of nine credit hours) or full time in pursuit of a business degree and who will be entering their freshman, sopho-

more, junior, or senior year at a Maine college or university. Preference is given to applicants who have a demonstrated interest in personal and commercial insurance professions.

The deadline is June 1. To apply online, go to [www.mainecef.org](http://www.mainecef.org).

The Maine Community Foundation has worked with donors and educators since 1983 to provide Maine students access to educational opportunities. The community foundation manages

more than 650 scholarship funds.

Headquartered in Ellsworth, with additional personnel in Portland, Dover-Foxcroft, Rockport, and Mars Hill, the Maine Community Foundation works with donors and other partners to provide strong investments, personalized service, local expertise, and strategic giving to improve the quality of life for all Maine people.

To learn more about the foundation, visit [www.mainecef.org](http://www.mainecef.org).

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# Newsmakers, Names & Faces

## Maine Forest Ranger receives Award for Wildfire Prevention

From Maine DACF

AUGUSTA – At a Blaine House Ceremony last week, Maine Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Commissioner Amanda Beal presented Maine Forest Service Ranger Specialist Kent Nelson with the Silver Smokey Bear Award, the highest national honor one can receive for outstanding work and significant program impact in wildfire prevention.

Ranger Nelson is one of two people to earn this national recognition in 2021.

“Maine is the most heavily forested state in the country, which means that wildfire prevention is something that we must take very seriously,” said Governor Mills. “It is why Maine Forest Service Rangers, like Ranger Specialist Kent Nelson, are so important. Their efforts, along with those of fire departments across Maine, are critical to keeping our state safe. I am honored to congratulate Specialist Nelson on this well-deserved recognition and thank him for his efforts to safeguard our forests and protect Maine people.”

“Creating awareness of ways to reduce human-caused wildfires ignition is a critical role for Maine Forest Service, and Ranger Specialist Kent Nelson is a gifted and talented ambassador to this cause who has repeatedly demonstrated creativity and innovation in crafting and disseminating engaging and effective messaging to educate the public,” added DACF Commissioner Amanda Beal.

Smokey Bear awards have been bestowed on well-deserving groups and individuals annually since 1957. The Silver Smokey Bear Award specifically recognizes organizations or individuals for outstanding wildfire prevention service that is regional (multistate) in scope over at least a two-year period. The National Association of State Foresters, the USDA Forest Service, and The Ad Council sponsor the Awards, and nominations are considered and voted upon by members of the Cooperative Forest Fire Prevention Committee.

Maine Forest Service Director and State Forester Patty Cormier and Chief Forest Ranger Bill



Maine Forest Ranger Specialist Kent Nelson accepts the Silver Smokey Bear Award from DACF Commissioner Amanda Beal, watched by Chief Forest Ranger Bill Hamilton and Maine Forest Service Director Patty Cormier. (Photo courtesy of Maine Forest Service)

Hamilton joined Governor Mills and DACF Commissioner Beal to present Ranger Nelson with the award today.

Ranger Nelson has worked in the Maine Forest Service for two decades, serving as Maine’s wildfire prevention specialist – a role in which he administers Maine’s wildfire prevention and FireWise programs and raises pub-

lic awareness on how to prevent wildfires. In 2019, with Northeastern Forest Fire Protection Compact colleagues, Ranger Nelson implemented a year-long campaign dedicated to preventing wildfires by celebrating Smokey Bear’s 75th birthday.

Maine has already seen over 100 wildfires in 2021, and 2020 was a record-breaking year. During

Wildfire Awareness Week, the MFS Forest Protection Division and municipal fire departments need everyone’s support to prevent wildfires. Maine averages over 550 wildfires annually, over ninety percent of which are caused by people, destroy valuable natural resources, property, and threaten human life.

Wildfire safety starts with knowing and obey-

ing local laws and regulations. Everyone is asked to check with their town hall, local fire service, or the Maine Forest Service before burning. Other critical steps to preventing wildfires include mindfulness of weather conditions, particularly wind, and using only easily controlled locations for burning. Most importantly, never use flammable gas-propellants.

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## Out and About

# The Schooner Morning Show



Mark Prevost and Judy Kuhn are relaxed and enjoying their conversation at one of the early broadcasting sessions of The Schooner Morning Show at Schooner Estates Senior Living Community in Auburn. (Rachel Morin photo)



The Schooner Morning Show Poster, designed and created by Lindsay Remington, Marketing Associate, is seen in posting areas across the campus of the Schooner Estates Senior Living Community in Auburn. (Rachel Morin photo)

By Rachel Morin

How was it at Schooner Estates Senior Living Community before we even knew what a Pandemic was, and how it would

change our living experiences?

Way back in 2020, there were multiple daily activities for residents to gather together, to get to know each other, and do

things together. Residents made friends quickly and easily as they had ample opportunities.

Holiday parties with special delicacies were served in The Village Green. Professional outside entertainment was brought in many times for residents to gather and enjoy, especially during holidays.

Mark Prevost, Director of Resident Services, was especially mindful of how friends and activities were important to the social life at a senior living facility. He knew the importance of keeping residents upbeat and socially active and not be lonely or isolated in their apartments.

He made a point of keeping them active and with making new friends.

Oh yes, Mark kept them busy, and they loved him for it.

There were weekly trips with the Schooner Shuttle bus with Mark at the wheel taking 15 residents to the coast to dine at popular restaurants there.

He would take them to musical concerts at the Franco American Center in Lewiston. It was always fun to visit the Festival Park in Auburn to hear Milt Simon and his Auburn Community Concert Band.

Mark hosted "In the News", a program he created, every Monday where folks would gather and exchange viewpoints on what was going on in the world. There was never a dull moment at these sessions.

But by the end of March, 2020, words of the Pandemic were all that were heard. COVID-19 hit hard and residents were subjected to a different lifestyle.

Mark had been thinking and planning for something different to entertain the residents and keep them safe with social distancing and wearing masks during this pandemic. And at the same time, helping them to get to know each other and do things together.

But how? Mass gatherings were not good, not safe. And keep folks six feet apart. He continued the popular News program, but a much bigger room was needed. Chairs placed far apart in a round circle

so people could see each other. It works, but now residents had to talk louder and pay closer attention.

After much thought and planning, Mark thought of hosting a Schooner Morning Show where he would meet with a resident and have a friendly interview, learning about his guest on the show. It would be televised and sent out via the Schooner Channel 1390 weekly to the residents who would come to know this person. They could start a conversation with residents they had "met" on the show. It provided a good ice breaker.

The Opening Show was in the Fall of 2020. It was an instant hit! Everyone was talking about it! Residents loved it and made a point to watch it every week. They enjoyed seeing their friends and learned so much more about them.

Judy Kuhn was one of the first residents to be on the Morning Show. She grew up in Lansing, Michigan and graduated from The Central Michigan University. Coming to Maine, she settled in Rumford and lived there for 40 years.

Judy was Chorus Director in Rumford and directed a musical every year of those 40 years for The RAAPA (The Rumford Association for the Advancement of Performing Arts.) She is now the Organist at the United Methodist Church in Auburn.

"Music is my passion and my life" Judy always says. She is seen now and then at the piano in the Camden Living Room.

Mark ran the Schooner Morning Show like a pro. He was a natural as the host of the show. He was always good at having people relax and open up to him. I think of him as the Voice of Schooner Estates. He cares deeply for the residents. He loves his job and it shows.

The Schooner Morning Show reinforced his idea of bringing the people closer together. The most happiness he gets from the show is the positive feedback when residents come to tell him how they love the show. The new residents coming in are especially appreciative as Mark interviews staff members as well.

Mark is known to slip in a few commercials during the Morning Show. He talks up the coming Schooner events and certain projects that are in the works. Residents are always kept up to date on things happening at Schooner.

Mark is helped with the show by the able assistance of Lindsay Remington, Marketing Associate, and Sue O'Brien, Administrative Assistant, who do the editing.

Past interviews can be found on the Schooner Estate YouTube channel at <http://bitly.ws/cNUP>.

## Totally Trades encourages girls

From Maine DOE

AUGUSTA – Totally Trades workshops, coordinated by New Ventures Maine, are designed to encourage girls to consider careers in

fields traditionally underrepresented by women.

Eight virtual workshop sessions will be offered to girls virtually this spring, with online sessions being provided on the mornings of April

27, April 29, May 4 and May 6.

The workshops will present nontraditional careers in trade and technical fields, highlighting eight high wage high demand career sec-

tors, including Automotive, Criminal Justice, Building & Design, Earn and Learn, Renewable Energy, Communications & Connectivity, Fire & Rescue, and Computer Technology.

"We want to provide girls in grades 8-12 with information and support in career sectors of interest to them. Maine's career and technical education schools and Community College system are doing amazing work introducing students to programs such as public safety, building trades, electrical construction, and heavy equipment operations as well as other trade and technical careers.

In addition, the University of Maine system is providing two and four year degree programs in environmental protection, renewable energy, engineering and other growing fields. These careers, for the most part, are considered high wage and high demand in Maine," said Suzanne Senechal-Jandreau, conference planner for New Ventures Maine – a statewide community outreach program of the University of Maine at Augusta.

Senechal-Jandreau adds, "Maine employers are

looking for skilled tradeswomen and we want young women to have access to information that can lead them to good paying and secure jobs in the future. It's a win-win for students and the Maine economy."

The workshops are free, and open to girls in grades 8 through 12 who are exploring or considering employment in the featured career sectors. Funding for the virtual Totally Trades Career Week is provided by the Maine Department of Education/CTE and the Maine Department of Transportation. Additional support and in-kind contributions are provided by businesses and community partners.

Individuals seeking more information on the virtual Totally Trades Career Week sessions, or interested in registering should contact Suzanne Senechal-Jandreau at 207-768-9635 or [senechal@maine.edu](mailto:senechal@maine.edu) or check out our website at [www.totallytrades-maine.org](http://www.totallytrades-maine.org).

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Guest Column

# Putting the ‘fun’ in ‘phonetics’

By Grammar Guy

I took my son Miles to get his hair cut this past weekend. Miles’ barber has recently moved into a new salon down the road. The new spot is inside a larger salon called Phenix Salon Suites, a national chain of salons. Although California-based Phenix Salon Suites has a growing nationwide presence, I can’t help but cringe at the business’ spelling: Phenix. It should be “Phoenix,” shouldn’t it?

Even though the “o” in the properly-spelled “Phoenix” is silent, it’s still a wonky word to spell.

Perhaps the owner of the salon chain attempted to spell “Phoenix” phonetically? If so, it should be “Feniks.” When someone spells a word phonetically, they spell the word exactly as it sounds. If we’re spelling things phonetically, we should spell the word “phonetic” like this: “fuhnetik.” I’ll admit, that spelling looks downright funky.

Of course, this led me to do a deep dive on phonetic spelling. Let me just tell you: I wasn’t disappointed. A who’s who of American history has petitioned for phonetic spelling, including

the father of the modern dictionary, Mr. Noah Webster. While Webster deserves credit for busting Americans out of many British word spellings (e.g., “mould” became “mold”), several of his spelling changes didn’t catch on. For instance, Webster changed the spelling of “soup” to “soop,” “tongue” to “tung,” and “is” to “iz.”

Word wiz Webster wasn’t the only proponent of phonetic spelling. In 1768, Founding Father Benjamin Franklin wrote a book called “A Scheme for a New Alphabet and a Reformed Mode of

Spelling.” In the book, Franklin not only argued for phonetic spellings of words, but he also unveiled a phonetic alphabet in which he axed the letters “j,” “q,” “w,” “x” and “y” while adding six new letters. Not surprisingly, instead of writing “alphabet,” Franklin wrote “al-fabet.” It didn’t catch on.

In the early 1900s, steel magnate Andrew Carnegie funded a group called the Simplified Spelling Board. Among its members were Mark Twain, Melvil Dewey (of the Dewey Decimal System), publisher Henry Holt and several promi-

nent leaders. This group, which called for a radical simplification of spelling, caught the ear of president Teddy Roosevelt. Teddy became a fan of the plan.

The Simplified Spelling Board suggested a list of 300 words whose spellings could be streamlined in order for English to catch on as the world’s dominant language. While many of the simplified words had already been adopted as orthodox spelling, Roosevelt pushed for the official changing of all 300 words. Not only did Congress find this a ridiculous overreach of power, but

all of England had a good collective laugh over Teddy’s strong suggestion. Shortly after, Roosevelt waved the white flag on his attempt at spelling reform. Yet, from the ashes of Teddy’s phonetic spelling debacle, a Phenix of cosmetology rose triumphantly.

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

## Middle schoolers win essay contest

From MMA

AUGUSTA – Middle school students from Kittery, Poland and Trenton were named winners in Maine Municipal Association’s 10th annual statewide essay contest, which carried the theme: “If I Led My Community...”

Part of MMA’s Citizen Education program, the contest asked students to demonstrate how they would improve their hometowns and cities if they held positions of local leadership. The essay contest marked its 10th year in 2021, with more than 1,500 entries submitted over that 10-year time period. Essays were judged based on knowledge of municipal government; writing quality and clarity; and originality.

The 2021 winners are Lucia Bolanos, of the Shapleigh School (a resident of Kittery); Ada

Stenhouse, of Bruce M. Whittier Middle School in Poland; and, Aerie Yin, of Trenton Elementary School. Each student will receive a certificate and a \$250 prize to be used for educational purposes.

The awards will be presented by municipal officials in their hometowns.

Winning entries also will be published in the May 2021 issue of Maine Town & City, MMA’s monthly magazine, which is mailed to 4,300 municipal officials statewide and posted at the MMA website (www.memun.org).

MMA’s Citizen Education program aims to educate citizens of all ages about the importance, accessibility and effectiveness of municipal government. The essay contest, and high school curriculum developed in cooperation with Jobs for Maine’s Graduates, have the dual purpose of educating

young people about local government and encouraging them to get involved as future elected or appointed officials, or as municipal employees.

Founded in 1936, MMA is a voluntary, non-partisan, member-service organization to which 484 municipalities in Maine belong. It has a core belief that local government is a fundamental component of a democratic system of government. MMA’s services include advocacy, education and information, professional legal and personnel advisory services and self-funded group insurance programs.

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

## Bates Dance Festival receives NEA grant

From Bates College

LEWISTON, ME -- The Bates Dance Festival has been awarded a \$40,000 National Endowment for the Arts grant to support artists who will be teaching and presenting at the annual dance festival on the Bates College campus in Lewiston.

The festival is one of 11 organizations in Maine to receive grants of varying amounts, announced jointly by Senators Susan Collins and Angus King.

“BDF is thrilled to receive NEA funding for our 2021 Festival,” said Bates Dance Festival Director Shoni Currier. “As the largest presenter of dance in Maine, BDF is reliant on support from government agencies and other foundations to present innovative local, national and international artists and faculty at our summer festival.”

In 2020, the

COVID-19 pandemic forced the festival to cancel its season for the first time since its inception in 1982. The program typically includes a three-week summer program of dance training for adults and since 1996, BDF has also hosted its Young Dancers Workshop for teens aged 14 to 18.

Plans for a 2021 Bates Dance Festival are well underway, and Currier said the NEA funding will be invaluable. “NEA support will enable us to pay fees to individual artists and companies,” she said.

The festival will have a smaller in-person footprint than usual, in order to comply with health and safety protocols, Currier said. The Professional Training Program, for ages 18 and up, is scheduled from July 10 to August 1, and during it, 40 dance students will live on the Bates campus. The three-week program will include daily technique work

and creative intensives. In addition, the Professional Training Program will hold a five-day online intensive for dancers July 19-23.

The Young Dancers Workshop will be a virtual one-week program, from July 12-17.

Currier said she expects to present some live performances between July 10-31. “They’ll all be outdoors,” she said. “And observing social distancing. But there will be an opportunity to share dance with our community this summer.”

“Of course we wish we could bring everyone on campus for our usual programming,” Currier said. “But given the constraints of the pandemic, we are so happy that we can take this step toward bringing the festival back.”

Visit [batesdancefestival.org](http://batesdancefestival.org) for more information.

Performances will be announced in May.

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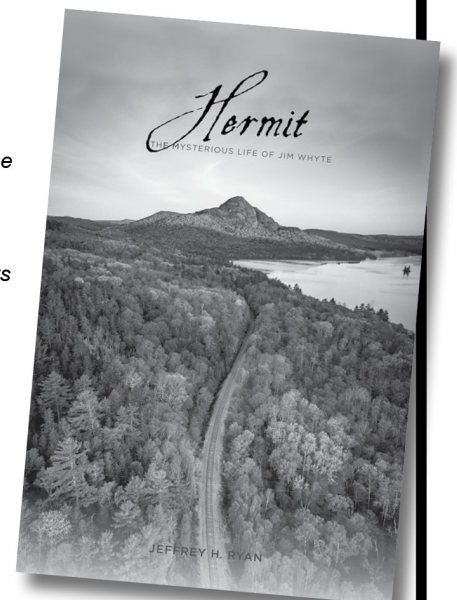
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*“Ryan is an excellent storyteller, and this tale is as good as any novel, especially since it’s based on real people and real events.”*  
— Bill Bushnell, *Bushnell on Books*

*“I can tell you it will not take you many days to read, because you won’t be able to put it down. I wasn’t surprised when Hermit was named a top pick for 2019 on a December Maine Calling show on Maine Public Radio.”*  
— George Smith, *Bangor Daily News*

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# Arts & Entertainment

## Nine More Teachers Join Maine Kids Rock



**From Maine DOE**

AUGUSTA - The Maine Kids Rock Initiative, a statewide program that offers professional training to teachers as well as grants for instruments and equipment to schools with identified needs, enters its fifth year with the addition of nine more teachers.

Joining the initiative are Lanissa Nadeau (Brewer Community School), Neil James (Geiger Elementary/Lewiston Middle School), Bridget Kazukiewicz (King Middle

School, Portland), Joshua Lund (Benton Elementary School)

Michelle Biddlecom (Winthrop Grade School), Brittany Elwell (Carmel Elementary/Suzanne Smith Elementary/Caravel Middle Schools), Thomas Stott (Beech Hill School, Otis), Oren Robinson (Palermo Consolidated, Windsor Elementary Schools), and Nadine Baker (Rose M. Gaffney/Machias Memorial High School).

These teachers join the ranks of nearly 70 teachers across Maine who utilize the Modern Band approach to music education with nearly 1,500 students at all grade levels.

“My administrators and I are very excited to bring music into the 21st century for our students,” said Joshua Lund, general music educator. “At Benton Elementary, we are planning to integrate MKR into the general music class experience as well as starting new co-curricular ensembles. The training, resources, and equipment provided through Maine Kids Rock are sure to help transform what music can be for the students in my school!”

The Maine Kids Rock initiative continues as a partnership between the Maine Department of

Education and the national non-profit organization Little Kids Rock.

“We’re thrilled to continue to grow Maine Kids Rock, bring more music education to Maine, and reach even more kids by using the music they know and love,” said Miranda Altman, Senior Director of Program Operations for Little Kids Rock. “We are incredibly grateful to the teachers of this initiative as we enter our fifth year. Welcome to the nine teachers that are newly joining this program!”

Throughout the year these teachers will receive free professional development opportunities, and their schools will receive a set of classroom “rock band”-style instruments for students to use as they explore music education through a modern music lens. Learning opportunities for students go beyond just learning to play a guitar or drums; they also explore songwriting, the development of interpersonal skills, and boost self-confidence as performers.

For more information about the Maine Kids Rock Initiative through the Maine Department of Education, please contact Visual and Performing Arts Content Specialist Jason Anderson.

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**Downeaster**

*Continued from page 1*

many people are booked on their train and BidUP which offers upgrades to business class at a reduced rate. Small pets in carriers are accepted on board Downeaster trains with ad-

vance reservations.

Visit Amtrak-Downeaster.com for schedule, fares and complete information about the steps being taken to protect the health and safety of their passengers and crews.

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

Seniors Not Acting Their Age

# Rolling for Whitewater Safety



A canoeist finishes a roll at the end of a rapid. (Ron Chase photo)

By Ron Chase

A reliable roll is essential for difficult whitewater kayaking. Many solo canoeists survive the sport without a roll; however, acquiring one is a game changer. I started out canoeing so I learned the canoe roll first. Most people consider the canoe roll to be more difficult. That was my conclusion when I began kayaking since the kayak roll came easier. No longer a canoeist due to a knee replacement; the quality of my kayak roll has diminished in recent years as a result of old age and less practice.

The reliability of a paddler's roll tends to follow a fairly common pattern. Normally, inexperienced whitewater boaters learn to roll. Since their river skills are lacking, they frequently capsize which facilitates development of a dependable roll. As their paddling journey

progresses and capabilities improve, they rarely need to roll and its effectiveness gradually declines. An old man, I've devolved into the latter category.

In April two years ago, I missed a roll while descending a difficult pitch called Staircase on the Swift River in New Hampshire. I'd successfully run the same rapid for many years and was bewildered to find myself upside down in turbulent frigid water intermittently bumping my helmet on submerged rocks. That's when I had a startling revelation; I wasn't confident I could execute a roll. Confidence and muscle memory are two essential elements of a successful roll. A couple of pathetic failed attempts later, I bailed. In the ensuing effort to save my boat, I lost my paddle. About two months later, a U.S. Park Ranger found it on the shore five miles downriver. My experience typifies the

consequences of failing to roll in challenging whitewater.

The need for a high level of competence and faith in the roll increases with river difficulty. A few years ago, some friends and I were paddling the demanding Tourilli River in Quebec at high water. We stopped in a tiny eddy at the top of a long canyon with sheer cliffs on both sides. As far as we could see downriver, there was nothing but large exploding waves undoubtedly concealing unpleasant holes and unforgiving rocks. It was apparent to all of us that if anyone failed to roll, they would swim the entire canyon since no one could help them; possibly losing their boat and paddle, maybe worse. Probably the result of enhanced anxiety, a couple of us had to roll shortly after. Fortunately, everyone stayed in their boat during that thrilling endeavor.

While dejectedly dragging my kayak up a steep bank on the Swift River two Aprils ago, I resolved to start practicing my roll once waters warmed. What I found in the summer was my roll was only moderately dependable in balmy flat water. When my outdoor club, the Penobscot Paddle and Chowder Society, scheduled pool rolling sessions last March, I immediately signed up. Another

cost of the pandemic, they were cancelled.

Fast forward to this spring, my friend Ken Gordon was able to arrange two hours of rolling practice in the pool at the Lewiston YWCA in late March. This year, I was getting a head start with my roll. At age 73, I need all of the help I can get.

Twelve enthusiastic paddlers met at the pool. We consisted of a combination of kayakers and canoeists. Since everyone had previously learned to roll, the primary goal was to refine skills in anticipation of the upcoming spring paddling season.

Most of us partnered up in two-person teams. While one attempted to

roll, the other observed technique and provided the option for an assisted rescue if the roll failed.

Rolling sounds easy. After flipping shift your body tight to the boat, get the paddle above water, sweep the paddle perpendicular while simultaneously snapping your hips, and keep your head down. Actually, it's not easy.

Initially, varying levels of success were achieved. Two hours is a longtime to practice rolling. By the time we finished, everyone was consistently hitting their roll. I was happy with the quality of my rolls but disappointed with the pain experienced in my left hip. The insidious consequences of

old age seem inescapable.

The practice is over. Now it's time to test the results in real river situations where the ramifications of failure are more significant than a short swim in calm warm water. We'll see how this senior citizen does. Stay tuned.

Author of "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 kayaker completes a roll below The Slide on Canada Falls in northern Maine. (Ron Chase photo)



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Letter to the Editor

# Clamp down on corporate tax haven abuse

AUGUSTA, — Huge corporations such as Apple, Pfizer, Google, and Exxon Mobil use an accounting loophole to stash profits in offshore tax havens, a tax-dodging scheme that costs Maine tens of millions of dollars every year.

The Legislature's Joint Standing Committee on Taxation on Thursday held a public hearing on LD 428, a bill aimed at preventing tax haven abuse and restoring much-needed state revenue.

Sarah Austin, tax and budget policy analyst at MECEP and author of a 2020 report on tax haven abuse, released the following statement:

"When Maine communities thrive, so do the corporations that do business here. But when profitable corporations build their wealth by exploiting the tax code to hide profits and avoid paying taxes, it is workers, small businesses, and our communities who pay the price.

"Maine's schools and communities have struggled for years without the resources they need, and our state faces big challenges to ensure an equitable, robust recovery from COVID and the economic downturn. Lawmakers should enact this bill to prevent tax haven abuse and restore some of the revenue needed to invest in Maine's communities."

National and international businesses with sales in Maine owe state taxes

proportionate to the share of their total US-based sales that occurred here. For example, a company that made 50 percent of its US sales in Maine would owe Maine income taxes on 50 percent of their US-based profits.

In 2016, Fortune 500 companies held a total of \$2.6 trillion in offshore profits. When businesses exploit the tax haven loophole to lower their US profits, Maine loses out on revenue that should go to

our state. Maine loses up to \$52 million per year as a result of tax haven abuse, according to MECEP's 2020 report.

LD 428 would require multinational corporations with sales in Maine to claim US-based profits booked to known offshore tax havens when they file their Maine taxes. The bill would also allow the state to regularly update the list of known tax havens, to ensure the state can keep up with corporate tax

avoidance efforts.

MECEP is a non-partisan policy research organization that provides citizens, policymakers, advocates, and media with credible and rigorous economic analysis that advances economic justice and prosperity for all Maine people. For more information about MECEP: [www.mecep.org](http://www.mecep.org)

**Maine Center for Economic Policy  
Augusta, ME**

Guest Column

# Do You Really Appreciate What You Have?

By Bryan Golden

Life is filled with challenges. There are many external circumstances outside of your control. The weather, actions of others, the economy, and politics are just a few examples. However, your response to these circumstances is completely within your control. You chose your thoughts, emotions, and actions.

Two people can exhibit completely different reactions to the same situation. One person will successfully deal with the circumstances, while the other becomes enmeshed in negative emotions. Unfortunately, it is more common for people to focus on the negative instead of the positive.

How you view your life influences your mindset. A positive view creates a positive attitude, while a negative view leads to a negative attitude. People with a positive attitude are much better at coping with stress and challenges.

Although there are many factors contributing

to how you react to situations beyond your control, one of the most significant components is whether or not you appreciate what you currently have in your life.

Those who truly appreciate all of their blessings feel as if they have more than enough. Conversely, people who constantly focus on what they believe is lacking continually feel they never have enough.

Taking all you have for granted is too easy because you get lost in negativity. Not appreciating what you have until it's gone is too common. Air, water, and food are ignored when plentiful. Yet, you surely appreciate any of them which are in short supply.

Think about how the quality of your life would suffer with the loss of any component you may be taking for granted. This approach also helps you keep things in perspective. Throughout the world, there are too many people struggling to acquire all of the things you

may be taking for granted.

No positive aspect of your life is too small to appreciate. Each and every day must be cherished. Begin each day by reviewing a list of everything you are thankful for. Start by appreciating that you woke up. Appreciate what you see and hear. Appreciate the food you eat. Appreciate where you live. Appreciate family and friends. Look in awe at the seemingly endless miracles in nature.

Life is not a contest. Don't compare yourself to others. Someone who seems to have more does not diminish what you have. Also, there are numerous examples of people living very spartan lifestyles who are happy and content.

Appreciate your ability to control your thoughts, emotions, and actions. You are not a victim. You decide how to respond to circumstances. You can find solutions for problems, or you can find problems in every situation.

Decide beforehand to

have a positive response to whatever circumstances you encounter. A response is preplanned and thought out. A reaction, on the other hand, is spontaneous and emotional.

A positive response should always be appreciated because it enables you to find the best course of action, while keeping you calm. A positive mindset leads to greater happiness and reduced stress. Your positive attitude generates positive emotions.

Appreciate humor

and its wonderfully beneficial effects. Humor boosts your immune system, relieves pain, produces endorphins, reduces stress, and stimulates many internal organs. Humor clears your mind and helps you feel better.

Look for the humor which exists in most situations. There is usually some funny perspective in the circumstances you encounter. Humor is a great coping mechanism, not insensitivity. The more you laugh, the more you'll

appreciate the good in your life.

Develop and cultivate an attitude of gratitude for appreciating all of the good in your life. There is no positive aspect of your life too small to appreciate. You'll be happier and healthier while increasing your enjoyment of life.

*Bryan is the author of "Dare to Live Without Limits." Contact Bryan at [Bryan@columnist.com](mailto:Bryan@columnist.com) or visit [www.DareToLive-WithoutLimits.com](http://www.DareToLive-WithoutLimits.com) Copyright 2021 Bryan Golden*

## Last bean supper of the season

GORHAM – The last bean supper of the season at White Rock Community Clubhouse, 34 Wilson Road, Gorham, will take place on Saturday, May 1.

Contact Fran at 892-9521 to pre-order dinner to-go at \$20 for double or \$10 for single orders.

The meal will include kidney & pea beans, cole-

slaw, potato salad, macaroni & cheese, biscuits, hot dogs and a dessert bar.

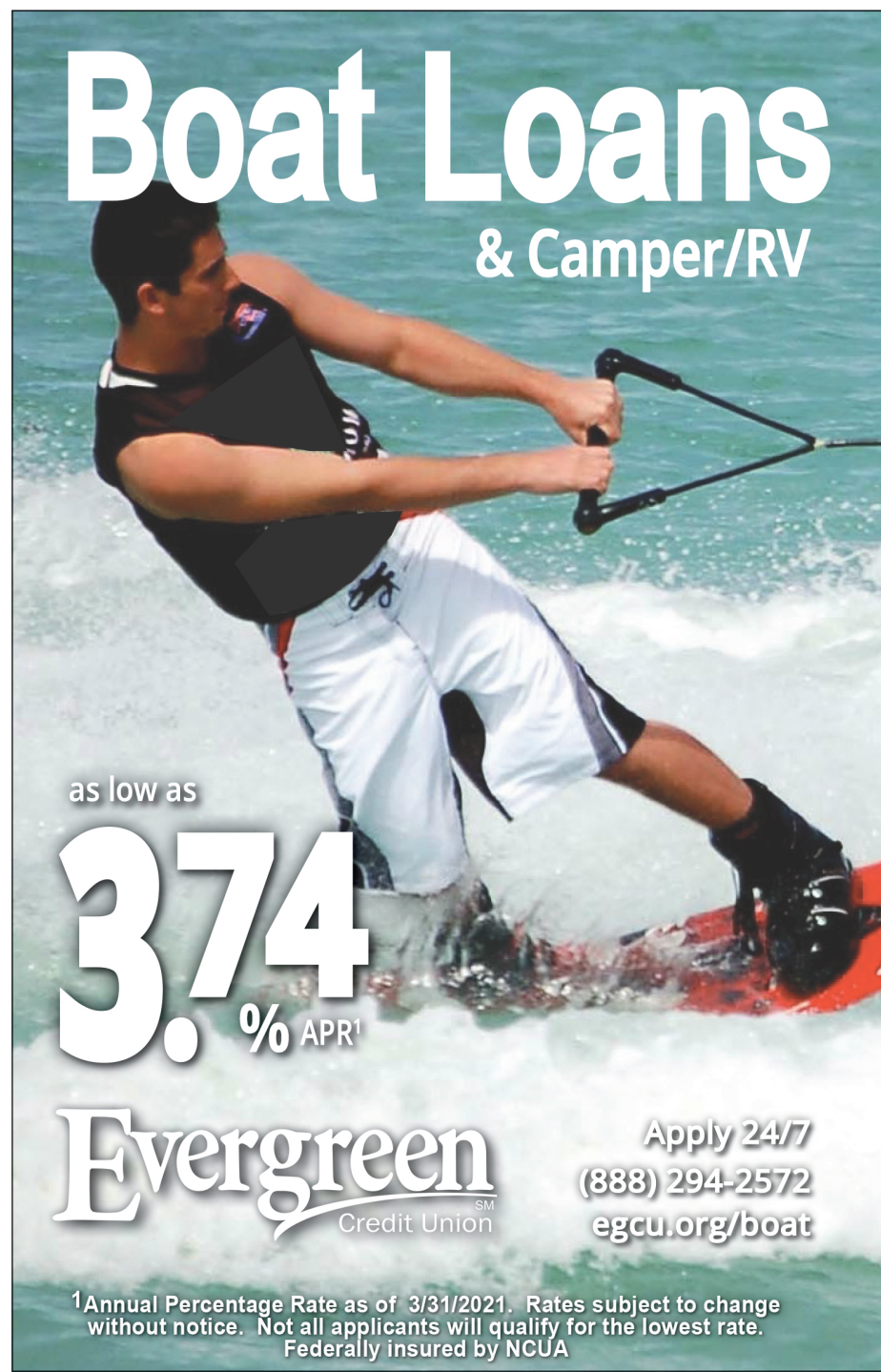
The dinners will be available for pick up from 4:30-5:30 p.m.

**What do you think?**

We strongly encourage Letters to the Editor, Op/Eds, columns or any other submissions from our readers.

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# WAA partners with Gold Star Wives

**From WWA**

COLUMBIA FALLS, ME - National nonprofit Wreaths Across America announced last week it will be partnering with the Gold Star Wives of America, Inc.

The organizations signed a memorandum of understanding in an effort to build a stronger awareness for each group's common missions, while supporting educational events throughout the nation that will help teach lessons of character and patriotism to the next generation, according to WWA.

Founded in 2007, and headquartered in Columbia Falls, Maine, WAA is best known for its annual wreath-laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery, and now more than 2,500 additional locations nationwide, and the year-long efforts to support its mission to Remember the fallen, Honor those who serve and their families, and Teach the next generation the value of freedom.

GSW is a Congressionally Chartered nonprofit service organization established 1945. Its mission is to preserve and enhance

benefits to surviving United States Military spouses and children; to help its members and their children face the future with courage and determination; and to honor the memory of their military spouses who made the ultimate sacrifice.

The memorandum between the two groups outlines nine key agreements, such as establishment of a steering committee with a representative from each organization, and collaborative volunteer efforts to provide opportunities for joint event and community service activities that bring

awareness to both groups' missions.

"Since WAA was founded, Gold Star Wives have been involved in the mission and its members play an important part in the sharing the stories of character and service we hope to teach to the country," said Karen Worcester, executive director of WAA. "This official partnership is long overdue, and I'm eager to start our work together. Our combined efforts will no doubt help to shape and inform the next generation of patriots."

The current National

President of GSW, Nancy Menagh, has devoted her life to service, not only as a military spouse supporting her husband, Captain Philip S. Menagh, United States Marine Corps, but continuing on long after his passing and teaching her children the importance of sacrifice and character – both served in the United States Air Force. She said, "Our membership is made up of the men and women left behind. While our loved one made the supreme sacrifice, we are the ones left to live that sacrifice every day. We are an

organization that serves... our spouses served and we serve!"

This year, National Wreaths Across America Day will take place on Saturday, Dec. 18, at over 2,500 participating locations nationwide. "The experience of placing a wreath at the final resting place of one of our nation's veterans and understanding the healing that this simple gesture has for so many families and the opportunity it provides to share the stories of these heroes, makes this an important partnership," Menagh said.

# Competitive sports return to Community Colleges

**From MCCS**

AUGUSTA - A full range of competitive sports are back this fall for students at Central Maine Community College and Southern Maine Community College, both members of the Yankee Small College Conference.

"Competitive sports are an important part of the college experience for

many students, whether they're competing or watching the games," said David Daigler, president of the Maine Community College System. "As we expand our in-person instruction and campus access, I'm very happy to announce that many more sports opportunities will be available as well."

The pandemic limited sports opportunities last year, including all

competitions. CMCC and SMCC were able to continue some athletic training and programming within COVID-19 safety guidelines.

For the 2021-22 academic year, the two colleges will follow state and local health safety protocols, as well as Yankee Small College Conference guidelines. Each will also have college-specific guidelines to address the

use of their unique spaces and in support of safe and meaningful student athlete opportunities.

In 2021-22, CMCC plans to offer men's and women's soccer, basketball, cross country and track, men's baseball and ice hockey and women's softball and volleyball. SMCC plans to offer men's and women's soccer and basketball, men's baseball, women's soft-

ball and volleyball, and co-ed golf.

The Yankee Small College Conference sponsors 11 championship sports and has a membership of 10 institutions across Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Vermont, and New York.

CMCC, in Auburn, and SMCC, in South Portland and Brunswick, are also members of the

United States Collegiate Athletic Association, a national governing body of small college athletic programs across the country.

Maine's seven community colleges have the lowest tuition and fees in New England and serve more than 29,000 individuals a year through degree programs, customized training, and opportunities for lifelong learning.

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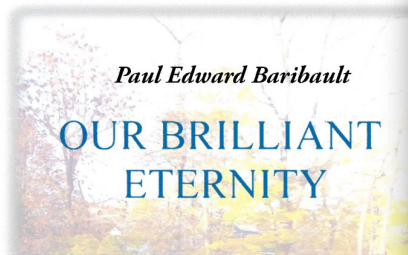
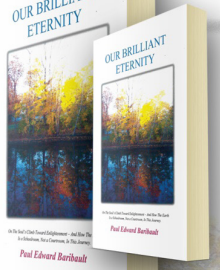
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**IN RE: ROSEMARY BELLE ZEKOVITCH V. MICHAEL TIMOTHY ZEKOVITCH, JR. NO. 202021-3 IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE**

In this Cause appearing from the Complaint filed, which is sworn to, that the defendant MICHAEL TIMOTHY ZEKOVITCH, JR., is a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon MICHAEL TIMOTHY ZEKOVITCH, JR., it is ordered that said defendant MICHAEL TIMOTHY ZEKOVITCH, JR., file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court in Knoxville, Tennessee, and with CAROLE COLE, an Attorney whose address is 135 Fox Road, Suite A, Knoxville, TN 37922, within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication. If the Defendant fails to file an answer within the time limit the Plaintiff shall be permitted to file a notice of Default Judgment and serve the Defendant by leaving a copy of said notice with the clerk of this court. This cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte as to you before Chancellor Christopher D. Heagerty in the Knox County Chancery Court, Part III, 400 W. Main Street, Suite 125 Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This notice will be published in The Twin City Times Newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks. This the 8th day of April 2021.

*Paul Edward Baribault*

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# Recipe for Tropical Turmeric Chicken

From Hannaford

GORHAM – Hannaford Supermarkets chef Dorene Mills presents her recipe for Tropical Turmeric Chicken.

## Tropical Turmeric Chicken

Yields: 2 - 3 servings  
Prep time: 15 minutes  
Cook time: 20 minutes

Pantry Items: Vegetable Oil, salt and pepper

### Ingredients:

4 each Boneless Skinless Chicken Thighs

1 package Nature's Promise 90 Second Basmati Rice

1 medium Red Onion, Diced into large pieces

1 package Sweet Mini Peppers, Sliced into 1/2" rings

6 oz Green Beans, ends trimmed and cut into

2" Pieces

1 Package (1oz) Fresh Turmeric root, skinned and shredded

3 Garlic cloves, minced

2 Tbs. Tomato paste

1 – 13.5oz can Coconut Milk, unsweetened

### Optional:

1/4 Habanero or jalapeno Pepper, diced

Cilantro to garnish

### Directions:

Prep meat - Cut chicken thighs into 1" cubes and toss with 2 Tbs oil. Season with 1 tsp. salt and 1 tsp. ground pepper and set aside.

To peel fresh Turmeric - Using the back of a paring knife or spoon, scrape against the root with a little pressure to remove the skin without scraping away the flesh. Using a small hole grater, grate the root into

a small dish and set aside. Mince the Garlic clove and set aside with the Turmeric.

Preheat a deep saute pan over medium heat. Add in 2 Tbs oil and once shimmering toss in the chicken chunks in an even layer. Once the chunks are cooked about 1/2 way through (3 – 5 minutes) toss and cook the other side for an additional 3 minutes. Remove from pan and set aside.

Using the same pan, add in the onion, sweet peppers and green beans, sautéing over medium heat for 2 minutes till the green beans char a little. Add in fresh grated turmeric, garlic and tomato paste and blend in with the veggies. Sauté an additional 2 minutes till fragrant.

Add in can of coconut milk, scraping out the



solidified cream on the top and stir till well blended, scraping up the browned bits in the bottom of the pan. Let simmer for 2 minutes. If using hot peppers, add them in now.

Place the Nature's

Promise Basmati into the microwave and follow instructions.

Add the chicken back into the simmering sauce and allow to cook an additional 3 minutes, until cooked through.

Spoon rice into 2 or 3 bowls depending on how hungry you are. Ladle chicken, veggies and sauce on top of rice in bowls, and garnish with optional Cilantro.

Enjoy!

## Maine DIFW reminds you to always wear a lifejacket

From Maine DIFW

AUGUSTA - The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife warns you to think again if you believe you'll have time to find and put on your lifejacket after you are in the water. A lifejacket can only help save your life when you wear it!

Fifty-five degree wa-

ter may not sound very cold, but the sudden shock of your body plunging into cold water can cause dramatic changes in breathing, heart rate, and blood pressure. If you survive the initial threats of cold shock, you may start to lose control of your muscles, making swimming and staying afloat nearly impossible without the help of a lifejack-

et or other personal flotation device.

Please wear your lifejacket at all times and pay close attention to changing weather patterns. The weather can change in a matter of minutes and you don't want to be caught in poor conditions.

### Register your boat

Boat registrations are

valid from January 1 through December 31.

The easiest way to renew your boat registration is online at [mefishwildlife.com](http://mefishwildlife.com), but not all towns have signed up with the state's internet vendor, InforME, to do registrations. To see if your town allows online boat registration renewals, click here. To renew your boat registration

online, click here.

First time boat registrations cannot be completed online or at MDIFW offices, they must be done at the town office so the town can collect sales and excise tax.

Nonresidents: Boat registrations may be renewed online, but first time registrations cannot be done online or on the phone. If the boat

will be kept in Maine waters for more than 60 days the boat must be registered in Maine in the town where the boat will be kept.

Watercraft with a valid registration in another state that are in Maine waters for less than 60 days do not require a Maine registration, but do require a Lake and River Protection Sticker.

# GORHAM LITTLE LEAGUE

## *Field Funding Campaign*

The Gorham Youth Baseball & Softball Association is making a large capital investment to provide updates and add fields to accommodate practice and game schedules:

- Develop 2 fields at White Rock
- Purchase seasonal fence for Shaw Park
- Repair dugouts and fencing, build storage centers
- Add infield mix and relevel current fields
- Acquire tarps and field maintenance equipment
- Add scoreboards

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# Committee approves bill to help schools purchase local food

## From Maine Senate

AUGUSTA - Last Friday, the Maine Legislature's Education and Cultural Affairs Committee voted in favor of a bill from Sen. Eloise Vitelli, D-Arrowsic, to help public schools purchase more fresh, healthy food from local farms and producers.

LD 636, "An Act To Encourage the Purchase of Local Foods for Public Schools," received a vote of 9-1.

"Many schools in Maine are already taking advantage of the Local Produce Fund to help them purchase fresh, locally produced food. By expanding the venues that schools can use to buy this food, and expanding the kind of locally produced food

they can buy, we'll help get healthy, fresh food to more students in our state and help more farmers connect with buyers for their produce," said Sen. Vitelli. "I'm grateful to the committee for its strong supporting of this bill."

LD 636 would address barriers that exist within the existing Local Produce Fund by expanding the program to allow schools to purchase more local foods via other sources, instead of only directly from farms. It would increase the cap on reimbursement from DOE to encourage more local purchasing using existing funds. It would also expand the program beyond produce to support the purchase of other local foods including meat, fish, tofu, eggs, and value-added

dairy products like yogurt.

"School districts face many challenges in sourcing local food directly from farmers, and reported that they would be more likely to purchase locally if they could also do so from their contracted food service distributor," said Anna Korsen with Full Plates Full Potential in testimony supporting the bill. "School nutrition programs also reported that expanding the products that can be purchased and reimbursed through the fund beyond only produce to include value-added dairy and protein would make it more likely that they would use the fund, since many schools already purchase these products at great cost to their program and would benefit from the

reimbursement. Additionally, having access to local produce that has been peeled, chopped, and frozen would help expand school nutrition staff's capacity to serve local foods."

"The challenges of increasing local food in schools include cost and logistical challenges such as coordination with farms, staffing lunchrooms, and processing raw ingredients into school meals," said Amy Gallant of the Good Shepherd Food Bank. "Despite these challenges, providing schools with locally procured food remains a high priority for many districts, and this bill is a step in the right direction."

LD 636 now faces votes in the Maine Senate and House.

## Guest Column

# Home Country

By Slim Randles

"Isn't it great?" Doc asked the assembled tailgators in the Mule Barn truck stop's parking lot. "It's April. It's spring. The crocuses are croaking, the flamdoodles are flamdoodling."

"There's no such thing as a flamdoodle, Doc," said Bert.

"They musta crocused too," Steve threw in.

"Facts ... just facts. You can't ruin spring with just facts. April brings the sun down on our shoulders and warms things up and makes people feel kindly toward one another."

The steering committee of the vaunted world dilemma think tank was drinking coffee in the parking lot on socially distanced tailgates because of the pandemic, of course.

"Actually, Doc, said Bert, "history doesn't back you up on your opinion of April. You know ... mathematicians and statisticians are still trying to see if April 15 isn't the most tragic date in all (he spread his arms wide) history!"

"That there's the Ideas of April, ain't it?" added Windy.

"I don't know if April has Ides, Windy, but that's the right day."

"I know why," Dud

said, "Tax deadline."

"That doesn't even start to cut it, Dud," said Bert in his most professorial tones. You can always tell when Bert's been reading. "That's a mere blotch on an evil day in history."

He waited and sipped. He knew it was coming. It fell to Steve.

"Okay, Bert. What bad stuff happened on April 15?"

"Well, Lincoln was assassinated ... 1865."

"That there's one," Windy nodded.

"The Titanic sank ... 1912."

"That there's ..."

Bert whipped out his hand and counted on his fingers. "Notre Dame Cathedral caught fire and burned up a bunch of stuff ... That Hillsborough Stadium thing in England collapsed during a soccer game and crushed 90 people ... and those two brothers blew up the finish line of the Boston Marathon and killed three people."

Heads nodded sagely.

"You know what else?" Bert said. "Gunny died on April 15. R. Lee Emy himself."

"Dang!"

*Brought to you by the 74,454 men and women of the Internal Revenue Service. Always there to help.*

## Scholarships for women for science and engineering

From Maine CF

ELLSWORTH & PORTLAND - Applications are currently being accepted at the Maine Community Foundation for the Lydia R. Laurendeau Scholarship Fund.

Established in 2013, the Laurendeau Fund provides renewable scholarship support to young women who are graduating seniors from high schools in Maine pursuing post-secondary education in science or engineering at a four-year university.

There is a preference for applicants demonstrating an interest and/or actively participating in their Franco-American heritage.

The deadline for applications is June 1. Applications are available at [www.mainecef.org](http://www.mainecef.org).

The Maine Community Foundation has worked with donors and educators since 1983 to provide Maine students access to educational opportunities. The community foundation manages more than 650 scholarship funds.

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# Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

**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. 22**  
**10 a.m.**  
 GORHAM – Baxter Memorial Library. 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!

**6 p.m.**  
 AUBURN – Comp. Plan Update Committee meeting.

**FRIDAY**  
**Apr. 23**  
**10 a.m.**  
 GORHAM – Baxter Memorial Library. Garden Creature with Ms. Dani. Visit Baxter Memorial Li-

brary 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!

**MONDAY**  
**Apr. 26**  
**5:30 p.m.**  
 AUBURN – City Council Workshop and Meeting.

**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.

**5:30-6:30 p.m.**  
 LEWISTON – Finance Committee meeting in City Hall Administrator's Conference Room.

**TUESDAY**  
**Apr. 27**  
**5:30 p.m.**  
 AUBURN – Agriculture Committee meeting.

**6:30 p.m.**  
 GORHAM – Tentative Town Council budget workshop – to be determined if this is a Zoom session.

**WEDNESDAY**  
**Apr. 28**  
**5:30 p.m.**  
 AUBURN – Auburn Housing Authority Board of Commissioners – annual meeting.

**6 p.m.**  
 AUBURN – Complete Streets Committee meeting.

**FRIDAY**  
**Apr. 30**

GORHAM – FY 21-22 Proposed Budget due to Town Council.

**MONDAY**  
**May 3**  
**5:30 p.m.**  
 AUBURN – City Council workshop and meeting.

**7 p.m.**  
 GORHAM – Planning Board meeting, via Zoom.

**TUESDAY**  
**May 4**  
**5:30 p.m.**  
 AUBURN – Age-Friendly Committee meeting.

**6 p.m.**  
 LEWISTON – City Council meeting. CAN BE VIEWED REMOTELY VIA ZOOM: Due to necessary COVID19 precautions, the May 4 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.

**WEDNESDAY**  
**May 5**  
**4 p.m.**  
 AUBURN – Auburn Farmers' Market.

**6 p.m.**  
 AUBURN – School Committee meeting.

**THURSDAY**  
**May 6**  
**4 p.m.**  
 AUBURN – Cable

TV Advisory Board meeting.

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

**MONDAY**  
**May 10**  
**5:30-6:30 p.m.**  
 LEWISTON – Finance Committee meeting at City Hall Administrator's Conference Room.

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

**TUESDAY**  
**May 11**  
**6 p.m.**  
 AUBURN – Planning Board Meeting.  
**6:30 p.m.**  
 GORHAM – Town Council Budget workshop with School Committee, via Zoom.

**WEDNESDAY**  
**May 12**  
**4 p.m.**  
 AUBURN – Auburn Farmers' Market.

**6 p.m.**  
 AUBURN – School Committee meeting.

**6:30 p.m.**  
 AUBURN – Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting.

**7 p.m.**  
 GORHAM – School Committee meeting, via Zoom.

**MONDAY**  
**May 17**  
**5:30 p.m.**  
 AUBURN – City Council workshop and meeting.

**TUESDAY**  
**May 18**  
**7:30 a.m.**  
 AUBURN – Auburn Public Library Board of Trustees meeting.

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**8 a.m.**  
 GORHAM – Ordinance Committee meeting, via Zoom.

**4 p.m.**  
 AUBURN – Auburn Sewer District Trustees meeting.

**6 p.m.**  
 LEWISTON – City Council meeting. CAN BE VIEWED REMOTELY VIA ZOOM: Due to necessary COVID19 precautions, the May 18 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 p.m.**  
 AUBURN – Conservation Commission meeting.

**6:30 p.m.**  
 GORHAM – Tentative recurring Town Council Workshop, via Zoom.

**WEDNESDAY**  
**May 19**  
**8 a.m.**  
 GORHAM – Gorham Economic Development Corporation meeting, via Zoom.

**4 p.m.**  
 AUBURN – Auburn Farmers' Market

**4 p.m.**  
 AUBURN – Auburn Water District Trustees meeting.

**THURSDAY**  
**May 20**  
**8 a.m.**  
 AUBURN – 9-1-1 Committee meeting.

**4-5 p.m.**  
 GORHAM – Eco-main Executive Committee meeting, via online video conference.

**6:30 p.m.**  
 GORHAM – Tentative Capital Improvement Projects/Economic Development Committee meeting, via Zoom.

**6:30 p.m.**  
 GORHAM – Board of Appeals meeting, via Zoom.

**7 p.m.**  
 AUBURN – Community Forest Subcommittee meeting.

**MONDAY**  
**May 24**  
**5:30-6:30 p.m.**  
 LEWISTON – Finance Committee meeting at City Hall Administrator's Conference Room.

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

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## BOOKS

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

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

## BUSINESSES FOR SALE

### Working small engine/ outdoor Power equipment business.

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## WANTED

### Odd jobs and Gig work

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# Bin There Dump That achieves 200-franchise milestone

**From BTDT**

PORTLAND - Local entrepreneur Bill George of Bin There Dump That of Portland is proud to be part of a franchise success story.

Bin There Dump That, a residential dumpster rental franchise company with locations in the U.S. and Canada, is a network of small businesses on the rise, according to CEO Mike Kernaghan.

“Already in 2021, we reached and passed the 200-franchisee milestone. Overall, the number of active Bin There Dump That franchises is up by 53.7% over the past three years,” Kernaghan said.

Local franchisee George said, “We offer home and business owners in the Portland area a unique dumpster rental experience with an attention to detail which is not common in the dumpster rental industry. We know that our customer-focused approach works, because our business and our franchise network continue to grow.”

Bin There Dump That’s residential-friendly dumpsters range in capacity up to twenty yards

to accommodate a wide variety of residential projects, from simple clean-ups to major renovations. “The difference with our dumpster experience goes beyond ease of delivery in space-restricted neighborhoods and our clean, attractive containers,” says Bill. “Our focus is on providing the best solution and the best service to each customer, based on their project, their property configuration, and their budget.”

For example, each Bin There Dump That dumpster delivery includes a driveway protection system, where the dumpster delivery experts place boards underneath the dumpster to protect the driveway from scratches and gouges. Then there is clean up at the time of pick up, where the driveway is thoroughly swept to keep families – and car tires – safe from nails, broken glass, or other debris.

The user-friendly dumpster design with French-style, walk-in double doors, makes for easier, safer access and space- and money-saving loading. Larger items can be stacked for efficient

loading.

“We are a local business, serving our local community,” said George. “We can deliver your dumpster in 24 hours – or even less – in most cases, and we’re always ready to answer your questions. We want that final step in your cleanup or renovation project to be easy, convenient, and professional.”

To learn more about renting a dumpster, or to discuss a project with a Bin There Dump That dumpster consultant, please contact Bin There Dump That of Portland at (207) 224-0337 or portlandme@bintheredumpthat.com.

For more dumpster planning tips, or to learn more about Bin There Dump That, please visit [www.bintheredumpthat-usa.com](http://www.bintheredumpthat-usa.com).

Bin There Dump That is North America’s leading residential friendly dumpster company, founded in 2002 by Mark Crossett. Mark teamed up with That Franchise Group in 2004 to begin franchising in North America. The franchise has since grown to over 200 territories across the United States and Canada.

**Broadcaster**  
*Continued from page 1*

debate team in high school, “and that really helped me being comfortable in front of the microphone,” he said.

He plans on doing these broadcasts for the foreseeable future, celebrating his 500<sup>th</sup> broadcast just a couple of weeks ago. “I see myself living in this community in the future and being in this area,” he said. “As long as I’m somebody they like having around and doing games, then I see myself doing it.”

Besides working fulltime behind the microphone, Pettitt helps with the bowling alleys at Junction Bowl on Railroad Avenue, Gorham. He is in charge of the weekly leagues that play on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday nights.



Sebastian “Bass” Pettitt live streams the play-by-play for games for the University of Southern Maine Huskies throughout the year. Fans are not allowed at games during the pandemic, so this gives students and families the chance to watch live games on their computers or smartphones. (Photo by Olivia Holbrook, USM Athletics)

He also posts Twitch broadcasts about video games, including his current favorite game, Call of Duty. His all time favorite is Tetris, he said.

Pettitt needs three semesters to complete his

degree. His parents moved from Maine to southern Connecticut several years ago, so he lost the lower tuition of a Maine resident. He will be able to finish his studies when he qualifies again as a Mainer, he said.

## Scholarships for Families of Injured Workers



**From MEMIC**

PORTLAND - The MEMIC Group is now accepting applications for its Harvey Picker Horizon Scholarship Program for children and spouses of workers who have been seriously injured on the job.

MEMIC has awarded \$210,000 in scholarships since 2001.

As one of the fastest growing workers’ compensation insurers with eight offices along the Eastern Seaboard, MEMIC recognizes that although workers’ compensation insurance covers medical treatment and replaces a percentage of lost wages, it cannot eliminate entirely the stress and strain that an injury can cause a family. It is our hope that these schol-

arships for higher education may help fulfill the aspirations of those whose lives have been disrupted as a result of a workplace injury or death.

The scholarship is named after former Camden resident Harvey Picker, a renowned physicist, educator, philanthropist and advocate for education. In 1992, Picker was appointed by then Governor John R. McKernan as a member of the Blue Ribbon Commission on Workers’ Compensation, which led to the formation of MEMIC 28 years ago. Picker also served as a member of the Board of Directors at MEMIC.

Potential winning students must complete the application by May 14 to be considered for a scholarship of up to \$10,000. To be eligible for the scholarship, the related injured worker must have been working for a MEMIC policyholder at the time of injury. Applications will be reviewed

by a selection committee for financial need, academic performance, community involvement, other life experiences, as well as future promise. Students must be attending or planning to attend an accredited college or university.

For more information and to request a copy of the application, please call 1-800-660-1306 and say “Horizon Scholarship” at the prompt or visit [memic.com/horizon](http://memic.com/horizon).

As a super-regional workers’ compensation specialty insurer, The MEMIC Group holds licenses to write workers’ compensation across the entire country. The group insures more than 22,000 employers and their estimated 300,000 employees from Maine to Florida. In addition to its headquarters in Portland, Maine, the group maintains offices in New Hampshire, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Florida. [www.memic.com](http://www.memic.com)

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