

Mission Working Dogs visit the Colisee



Handlers and trainers with Mission Working Dogs of Lewiston greeted visitors to a hockey game at the Androscoggin Bank Colisee last Friday night as part of a fund-raising event for the non-profit group. Dogs are trained as either therapy dogs, to help people with emotional needs, or service dogs, to help people who are disabled. (Tsukroff photo)

By Nathan Tsukroff

LEWISTON – Mission Working Dogs was on a fundraising mission on a recent Friday night at the Androscoggin Bank Colisee, with more than eight dogs and handlers greeting hockey fans at the entrance.

About a year ago, just as the COVID-19 pandemic began, Christy Gardner of Lewiston founded Mission Working Dogs to train service dogs to help people in the community with disabilities.

A therapy dog provides psychological or physiological therapy to individuals other than their handler, while “a service dog is trained to help mitigate the individual disabilities of one person. So, if you were missing a leg, or you were blind, or you were diabetic, that dog is trained specifically for you,” she said. “And they can all be trained differently, because everybody’s disability may be different.”

Gardner was Serving as a Sergeant in the United States Army Military Police in Asia in 2006 when she was severely injured. She survived with a double-leg amputation, a spinal cord injury, and a traumatic brain injury, which eventually led her to accept her golden retriever service dog named Moxie in 2010.

Now retired at age 13, Moxie “gave me my life back, my independence,”

Gardner said. Having a service dog “gave my family peace of mind to know that if I have a seizure anywhere, she’s trained to call 911. She’s also trained to go out and get specific neighbors if I need help.” Moxie was, “basically, another person that can take care of me!”

Gardner is training a new service dog, Independence, whom she calls “Indie”.

Service dog training ranges between one and two years, with dogs learning a variety of commands. Moxie, knew 160 different commands when she completed her training.

Gardner said she started her non-profit group because she has “been a dog trainer for nine years now, and I could not keep up with the demand of people asking for service dogs and therapy dogs.”

“We just had our first graduating class in April,” she said. Two of the four dogs that graduated were at the Colisee on Friday. “The arena here is a great training environment for the dogs” and their handlers, because the crowds, the food, and the different game noises “are just a great way to spice up their training.” Dogs are trained to remain calm under various conditions to properly meet the needs of their handlers.

There were also four therapy dogs at the game, including two – Bentley and

Grace - who spend every day in the office of Lewiston chiropractor Dr. Phil McLean and his wife, Amy.

The McLeans are raising Grace to be a therapy dog. When she is old enough, she will be bred, and her puppies will be put into the Mission Working Dogs program, McLean said. Bentley is seven years old and is also being trained as a service dog to help someone with handicaps. He’ll be able to follow directions, such as “turn left” or “turn right”, or push a button on demand. “He’s got the perfect temperament for it,” McLean said.

Rebecca Mann is the vice-president and veteran’s advocate for Mission Working Dogs. She loves animals and has three dogs, including her service dog, Sully. She served in the army for 11 years, including two deployments to Afghanistan. She was medically retired in 2016 after suffering an injury that led to a double-leg amputation. She and Gardner both have prosthetic legs.

Lauren King is the secretary for the non-profit group, working as a school teacher in central Maine.

Claire Parker is the treasurer and youth advisor for the group. She is the owner and handler for Lucky Tim, the facility dog for Leeds Central School in Leeds.

See Dogs, page 9

Bicycle Coalition marks Global Road Safety Week

From BCM

PORTLAND - The Bicycle Coalition of Maine planned to honor and celebrate Global Road Safety Week with a full slate of events—both virtual and in-person—from May 17-23.

“Road safety for pedestrians and people on bikes is at the heart of our mission,” says BCM Executive Director Jean Sideris. “We invite people all across Maine and of all skill levels to attend a ride, learn more, raise awareness, and join the movement for safer streets.”

Global Road Safety Week (GRSW) kicked off on Monday, with a temporary infrastructure installation—part of the BCM’s “Imagine People Here” program—in front of the non-profit’s offices at 38 Diamond Street in Portland.

Tuesday saw a series of free urban-riding classes in Bangor, Orono, and Portland aimed at getting inexperienced riders more comfortable with biking in traffic. Five of these small group rides are scheduled for Tuesday, with two additional classes in Portland on Thursday, May 20.

Wednesday was an even busier day, beginning with a virtual Wednesday Webinar that discussed bias and victim-blaming in crash reporting and the real-life repercussions of this language.

Wednesday also saw the International Ride of Silence, a slow ride held annually on the third Wednesday of May to honor vulnerable road users who have been injured or killed by traffic violence while bicycling. The BCM is the statewide coordinator for the Ride of Silence and host of the Portland ride, and is supporting additional rides hosted by local groups in Augusta, Lewiston, Rockland, Saco, and Yarmouth.

On both Wednesday and today, the BCM planned virtual training for the newest group of Community Spokes, the name given to the non-profit’s statewide network of bicycle and pedestrian advocates. The Spokes receive training and support from the BCM as they work to improve biking and walking in their local communities.

On Friday - which is also Bike to

See Bicycle, page 11

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Letter to the Editor

DHHS breach of public trust must be addressed

It is hard to imagine a moment in someone's life that is more sensitive and more private than the decision to seek help for addiction or suicidal behavior. That's why it is especially appalling to learn that Maine's Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) carelessly placed confidential, personally identifiable information about patients receiving mental health and addiction treatment services on a publicly-accessible database, viewable by anyone with an internet connection.

When confronted with questions about this incident, the Department's response was particularly tone deaf. They

patted themselves on the back for telling the truth about this incident and notifying the 20 patients impacted, pointing out that the Department is "not required by law to make these notifications." (<https://bangordailynews.com/2021/05/09/news/mental-health-patients-confidential-information-was-on-state-website-more-than-3-months/>) Unbelievable. For an agency that just violated the vital trust that the public places in them, notification should certainly be a minimal expectation. Yet for a violation of this magnitude, more accountability is needed. Governor Mills and Commissioner Lambrew must hold their De-

partment to a higher standard and rebuild trust after this disturbing breach.

First, Maine's Attorney General should review this incident and determine whether the rights of any Maine patients were violated as well as whether any actors in the Department violated state or federal law. DHHS has said that their actions did not violate the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), but there must be a fuller public accounting of how the exposure of this sensitive information to the public complied with all relevant laws and rules. Commissioner Lambrew and her Department must not sweep this under the

rug, instead we must fully account for any mistakes or wrongdoing.

Second, we must conduct an independent review of the practices by which DHHS collects and stores personally identifiable information. Data breaches are all too common these days, and while it is unavoidable that there will be times when our agencies must be the custodian of confidential, personally identifiable information, the Legislature has a duty to ensure that such information is only collected and retained as rarely as possible, only when vitally necessary, and secured to the greatest extent possible. This is why I have submitted leg-

islation that would require an independent review of the Department's practices, and I hope the Administration would welcome such an effort.

Third, Governor Mills and Commissioner Lambrew must take action to address the specific management failing that led to this incident. So far, the department has pledged "an additional layer of confidentiality protection," without providing specific information on what practices they are changing in order to address this failing. Let's be clear – this was not just a failure of process, it was also a human failing. There are employees or managers in the Depart-

ment who made decisions or failed to act, resulting in this massive violation of the public's trust. In the private sector, this would result in discipline or termination. Accountability demands no different from the public sector.

In order to fulfill its mission, DHHS relies upon the trust and confidence of the Maine people. Recent events have revealed an appalling violation of that trust and we must all take swift action to ensure this never happens again.

Sincerely,
Rep. Jon Connor
 House District 58
 (Lewiston)
Jon.Connor@Legislature.Maine.gov

Maple syrup business course in June



A Maine maple syrup shack sits in a wooded area in rural Maine. University of Maine Cooperative Extension and University of Vermont Extension are offering a four-part business course in June for maple syrup producers. (Photo courtesy of UMaine)

From UMaine

FALMOUTH - University of Maine Cooperative Extension and University of Vermont Extension will offer a weekly four-part business management class for maple syrup producers online from 7-8:30 p.m. on Tuesdays from June 8-29.

"Is My Maple Business Profitable? Finances for Maple Producers" is designed to provide financial management education for maple business owners and the skills to understand their operational cost of production and profitability.

The fee is \$20 and class size is limited to 25 participants.

Register and find more information on the event webpage at [http://](http://bitly.ws/dpNT)

bitly.ws/dpNT.

For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Becky Gray, 207.781.6099; rebecca.gray@maine.edu.

UMaine Extension helps support, sustain and grow the food-based economy. It is the only entity in our state that touches every aspect of the Maine Food System, where policy, research, production, processing, commerce, nutrition, and food security and safety are integral and interrelated.

The University of Maine, founded in Orono in 1865, is the state's land grant, sea grant and space grant university. UMaine has a statewide mission of teaching, research and economic development, and community service.

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Vaccination strategy focuses on adolescents, younger adults

From MaineHealth
PORTLAND – MaineHealth announced recently that it is shifting its strategy for vaccinating its communities against COVID-19 in an effort to focus on the younger adults and adolescents who make up the bulk of the unvaccinated population in its service area.

With the expected approval from the federal government last week of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine for use in adolescents ages 12 -15, MaineHealth is opening its registration system for people in that age group. MaineHealth is also working with school districts across its service area to set up in-school vaccination clinics, the first of which will be held in Oxford County next week.

With much of the population aged 60 and over now vaccinated,

the demand for access at mass vaccination clinics has started to wane as younger adults seek options that fit within busy schedules. As a result, by May 20, MaineHealth will phase out operations at its mass vaccination clinic at the former Scarborough Downs harness racing track in Scarborough, shifting that effort to its existing vaccination site in Westbrook. The status of the health system's two other mass vaccination clinics in Sanford and Brunswick continues to be evaluated based on volume and community need, though no decisions have been made as to exactly when those operations might no longer be required.

"We've reached a point in the vaccination effort where we need to adjust to meet people where they are," said Joan Boomsma, chief medical

officer of MaineHealth. "That means redeploying our resources to meet the needs of this younger population in different ways."

To date, MaineHealth has administered approximately 350,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccines at sites in Belfast, Boothbay Harbor, Brunswick, Farmington, Norway, Rockland, Sanford, Scarborough, Westbrook, and North Conway, N.H. MaineHealth Care at Home is also administering vaccinations to its home health care patients across its service area.

"Across MaineHealth we have redeployed our care team members to help staff these clinics and take on this massive public health initiative, and we are grateful for their flexibility and dedication," said Boomsma. "This also would not have been possible without hundreds of

volunteers and our partners in business and government, including support from the Maine National Guard."

All people (including non-Mainers) over the age of 12 can be registered for an appointment at vaccine.mainehealth.org, and those 18 and over can schedule their appointment directly through that site.

Information about walk-in options are also available through the website, and people can also register by calling 1-877-780-7545.

Once registered, children under the age of 18, or their parents as appropriate, will be notified of an appointment at a clinic set up for younger patients.

Only the Pfizer vaccine is available to people under the age of 18, and permission must be given by a parent or legal guardian.

Those seeking a vaccination should bring a photo ID and, though there are no out-of-pocket costs for getting the vaccine, people should bring their insurance information. Health insurance is not required, however, to receive a free vaccination.

In addition to offering on-demand scheduling and walk-in options, MaineHealth is working with local school districts to set up vaccination clinics for children 12 and older.

The first of these will take place in Oxford County, with clinics scheduled for students ages 16 and older on at Poland Regional High School and at Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School. With the anticipated approval by the FDA for use of the Pfizer vaccine in children aged 12 and older, MaineHealth is reaching out to school

districts across its system to set up clinics at middle and high schools.

"Our goal is to get into the schools soon enough so that we can schedule second doses for students ahead of the end of the school year," said Boomsma.

MaineHealth is a not-for-profit integrated health system consisting of nine local hospital systems, a comprehensive behavioral healthcare network, diagnostic services, home health agencies, and more than 1,700 employed and independent physicians working together through an Accountable Care Organization. With close to 23,000 employees, MaineHealth is the largest health system in northern New England and provides preventive care, diagnosis and treatment to 1.1 million residents in Maine and New Hampshire

Firm supports renewable energy in Maine

From K&A

SOUTH PORTLAND – K&A Engineering Consulting, P.C. (K&A) hosted a press conference and ribbon cutting on April 20 at its new office, and outlined plans to support the development of renewable energy projects across the state.

K&A will be supporting renewable energy developers by connecting their projects to the electrical

grid, working with several clients in Maine.

"I am excited about this new venture and for the opportunity to help the state of Maine move toward a cleaner, greener future with less dependency on the fossil fuels that contribute to climate change," said Purna Kharel, K&A's CEO. "We look forward to working with electrical utilities to accomplish these goals while bringing many new

jobs to the state."

This new project came about following the passage of LD 1711, a bill that delivers a comprehensive reboot to Maine's solar policies, which reduces barriers that prevent residents from accessing clean, affordable solar power, and makes it easier to invest in solar, especially for commercial and municipal energy consumers. In addition, the opening of the K&A of-

fice is expected to bring approximately 100 permanent jobs to the state of Maine by the end of the year.

The office opening fell during U.S. Climate Action Week, which runs from April 19 – April 23, and highlights the importance of every person, community, or state doing their part to reduce the effects of climate change.

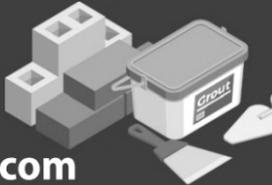
As part of K&A's corporate social responsibility

initiative, K&A Cares, the company, in partnership with the Augusta, ME Walmart, presented more than \$2,000 of materials and monetary donations, including 30 backpacks filled with essentials such as toiletries and clothing to Preble Street Shelter, an organization that provides services to people experiencing homelessness, housing problems, hunger, or poverty. As one of K&A's core values, K&A Cares is

the company's commitment to bettering each of the communities where they are located, and the Preble Street donation will be just the beginning.

K&A is a Minority-Owned Business Enterprise headquartered in Westchester County, NY providing engineering, planning studies and PMO services to the utilities industry. See www.kapower.us.

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Bates Dance Festival will bring young students to campus



The Bates Dance Festival will run from July 11 to July 31, and feature live performances in public venues in Lewiston. (Photo courtesy of Bates College)

From Bates College

LEWISTON - After a year of pandemic-related restrictions, the Bates Dance Festival will bring young dance students to the Bates College campus, and a mix of virtual and live performances back to the city of Lewiston.

Dancers will take to the streets in July to celebrate dance in its many forms.

"Most of our venues will be outdoors in public spaces within Lewiston, and the shows are site-specific," says BDF Director Shoshona Currier. "There will be virtual events, in-

cluding a really exciting international collaboration. But to be able to gather together after more so long apart truly feels like a gift. We've been planning and hoping for this for over a year."

Among the performers BDF plans to welcome in a schedule that runs July 11-July 31 is award-winning New York-based choreographer Emily Johnson, who will present *Processions Toward, Being Future Being*, a work that incorporates Indigenous cultural practices and perspectives.

Johnson grew up in Sterling, Alaska and is of

the Yup'ik Nation. A Besie Award-winning choreographer, Guggenheim and United States Artists Fellow, and recipient of the Doris Duke Artist Award, Johnson has incorporated a ceremonial fire into her piece, to be performed in and around Kennedy Park in Lewiston on July 17. These areas of the Androscoggin riverfront are the original homelands of the Wabanaki peoples, including the Penobscot, Passamaquoddy, Maliseet, and Mi'kmaq peoples, who maintain an ongoing and meaningful relationships with this land.

"Emily's connection

to land, her activist work around conservation of natural resources, and her choreographic practice are beautifully interwoven in dance pieces that take many shapes," Currier says. "Each work draws audiences together in new ways, which feels essential now."

Johnson's distinguished body of dance works and social choreographies unite audiences in a shared experience of movement, place, history and collective action. Her newest work-in-development, *Being Future Being*, which encompasses the piece she'll perform in Lewiston, delves into the power of creation and will feature a newly commissioned soundscore by Raven Chaco. *Being Future Being* is co-commissioned by Bates Dance Festival and Portland Ovations and will be presented in full at Portland Ovations at a later date.

Throughout the festival, L/A Arts Gallery at 221 Lisbon St., Lewiston, will be the site of a collaborative video project from a canary torsi - a site-adaptable, installation-based performance project - called *Performance | Portrait*, a collaboration with Space Gallery.

Conceived in 2016 by Yanira Castro, this responsive video installation invites spectators to share an

intimate dancing encounter with a performer, projected at life-size in a video image. One of four performers (the selection rotates) "meets" and holds the gaze of the spectator, responding to their movement by a Kinect V2 sensor. The effect is of a time-arrested and manipulated performance. Because of COVID-19 restrictions, one participant at a time will enter the gallery for the performance while others watch through the gallery's windows.

"It's like having a person in the room who you are in conversation with," Currier says. "But you can't make them react in a predictable way." Even if two different participants end up with the same dancer, "Your situations will be different."

The piece, recently acquired by the WNDR Museum in Chicago, will be up at limited hours from Wednesday through Saturday at L/A Arts from July 14-31, with guests buying tickets to spend 20 minutes engaged in the project, which is both interactive and plays with a sense of isolation. "It feels particularly relevant now," Currier says.

Bates Dance Festival will also celebrate the climate-change inspired work of dancer Vanessa Anspaugh, who divides her time between Portland, Maine and Northampton,

Mass. Anspaugh will present a 2019 work titled *Funerals for the Ocean*, confronting the global climate crisis, rising sea levels and a rapidly dying oceanic ecosystem. This work is supported by Maine's own Kindling Fund, a project of Space Gallery in Portland, and is a co-presentation with Opera House Arts in Stonington.

Funerals for the Ocean relies on both the audience and "planted" dancers interacting with them, and serves as both an expression of grief and a celebratory homage to a loved one. "Simultaneous to this experience of loss, we also take time to reflect with gratitude on the life that has lived; the beauty, love, inspiration, humor that life has graced us with," Anspaugh says. "I am proposing the same kind of frame around our sick and dying, but still living ocean."

Currier said details are still being worked out for specific performance times and locations.

Tickets will range in price from \$5 to \$20 and go on sale June 1.

There will also be free events throughout the festival - both in-person and digitally.

Learn more about the festival's programming and buy tickets at bates-dancefestival.org.

Military academy nomination applications are being accepted

From Sen. Collins

WASHINGTON, D.C. - U.S. Senators Susan Collins (R-ME) and Angus King, Jr., (I-ME) and U.S. Congresswoman Chellie Pingree (D-1st Dist. ME) and Congressman Jared Golden (D-2nd Dist. ME) announced last week that they will begin accepting nomination applications from Maine high school students for appointments to the United States service academies operated by the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Merchant Marine.

No nomination is required to apply to the United States Coast Guard Academy.

Students should apply for a nomination in the spring and summer of their junior year.

Senators Collins and King and Congresswoman Pingree and Congressman Golden began accepting nomination applications last week from students for admission to the academies in the summer of 2022.

For more information, contact:

Senator Susan Col-

lins, Contact: Sara Holmbom Lund, 207-780-3575
www.collins.senate.gov

Senator Angus King, Jr., Contact: Katie Fellows, 207-352-5216
www.king.senate.gov

Congresswoman Chellie Pingree, Contact: Leslie Merrill, 207-774-5019
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Out and About

Schooner Estate's 'Earth Day Re-Do'

By Rachel Morin

AUBURN - The Schooner Earth Day Team was ready at the door for the Schooner Shuttle to pick them up and bring them to their predestined location on Earth Day, April 22.

Mark Prevost, Director of Residents Services, who organized the Team, had already been outside, checking the weather and walking conditions, and he found the weather unsuitable for his team. It was wet, soggy and windy on the April 22 Earth Day. He made the decision to postpone their Earth Day Clean-up for better weather and drier ground conditions for walking and picking up trash.

And so when April 28, "Earth Day Re-Do"

rolled around, it was perfect and the Team was ready. Several Tenants and Staff participated in the Earth Day Re-Do date.

Tenants Pauline Gotto, Gerry Martel and Georgette Morin; Staff: Molly Elliott, Skip Estes, Joanne Kramlich, Mark Prevost, and Joyce Theriault made a BIG visual difference on the eastbound lane of the Veterans Memorial Bridge, picking up litter along a 400-foot stretch.

"I cannot believe what a difference we made," said Georgette Morin, a Schooner tenant for the past six months. Georgette continued "From how much litter there was, to how clean it is now. This project exceeded my expectations of what eight people could accomplish in a short period of time."

Other group members recalled travelling across the bridge daily and how they would always comment on how littered it was on both sides of the highway. That is why they thought it would be a good project for them to clean up for Earth Day. They hope other organizations are inspired to take a little time and make a difference in the cleanliness of the Lewiston/Auburn Community.

All the participants said there are interested in going out again to do more at a later day. The good weather makes it pleasant to get out and enjoy the fresh air, get a little exercise and do good for the Lewiston/Auburn Community we live in. They felt their next expedition would easily double the number of participants.



The Schooner Earth Day Team, armed with their long-handled grabber tools, were ready and eager to be on their way to clean up all the litter they would find on the roadways. L to R, Skip Estes, Georgette Morin, Molly Elliott, Gerry Martel and Joyce Theriault. Members not shown are Mark Prevost, Director Resident Services, Pauline Gotto and Joanne Kramlich. (Mark Prevost Photo)



Mark Prevost, Director Resident Services, who organized the Earth Day Team, was able to get all members in this photo. In the foreground are Joyce Theriault, Gerry Martel, left, and Skip Estes. Standing near road is Molly Elliott. In the background are Joanne Kramlich, standing; Pauline Gotto, seated; with Georgette Morin standing behind her. (Mark Prevost photo)



Gerry Martel, lower section, and Skip Estes up higher, made short work of the area they had, making it neat. (Mark Prevost Photo)

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Arts & Entertainment

Junction Bowl league scores

From Junction Bowl

GORHAM – The Junction Bowl on Railroad Avenue in Gorham now has league play on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday nights.

Scores include the player handicap.

Tuesday Night Shootout

Week 4 of play

Spare Ball's rolled for 2 games the weekly team series against Dolls with Balls with 1 game, 2309-2202.

Spare Ball's

Todd Walker
183-222-183 – 588
Scott Stevens
168-202-203 – 573
Matt Nelson
199-180-206 – 585
Substitute
151-211-201 – 563

Dolls with Balls

Melissa Dubois
174-203-164 – 541
Michelle Ferris
166-159-189 – 514
Jessica Merrill
195-162-160 – 517
Deb Stanton
197-193-240 – 630

Split Happens grabbed 2 games and the weekly team series in play against Bonnie's team, 2316-2205.

Split Happens

Frankie Darling
179-191-223 – 593
Bill Smith

184-+185-191 – 560

Nicholas Hunt
192-203-200 – 595
Substitute
193-189-186 – 568

Bonnie's Team

Bonnie Datson
185-205-192 – 582
Tiffany Chapman
174-197-159 – 530
Terry Leonhart
167-209-177 – 553
Vacant
540

The High Rollers took 2 games and the weekly team series in competition with Gutter Gang with 1 game, 2237-2122.

The High Rollers

Ben Smith
211-200-190 – 601
Nate Smith
206-171-163 – 540
Anthony Dugan
184-187-165 – 536
Substitute
211-162-187 – 560

Gutter Gang

Celeste Cutter
145-175-162 – 482
Asa Wareham
178-155-189 – 522
Asa Farley
208-159-211 – 578
Mark Cutter
193-172-175 – 540

Bumper Babes took all 3 games and the weekly team series with a strong 676 set of games from Sue Marston against Rigonometry, 2298-2193.

Bumper Babes

Sue Marston
231-241-204 – 676

Terri Whyte
200-173-191 – 564
Amy Sullivan
142-173-221 – 536
Brenda Williams
176-176-170 – 522

Rigonometry

Derek Haney
180-239-207 – 626
Keenan Hendricks
166-152-173 – 491
Cody Hawes
200-182-162 – 544
Sebastian Pettitt
178-164-190 – 532

Monday Night Strikes

Week 16 of play

Split Happens snagged 2 games while The (League) Office grabbed 1 game and the weekly team series, 2277-2270.

Split Happens

Heather Bryant
194-197-175 – 566
Kaitlyn Lemieux
190-202-183 – 575
Erica Jackson
179-222-216 – 617
Elisabeth Maxfield
173-162-177 – 512

The (League) Office

Sebastian Pettitt
185-196-214 – 595
Aidan Underwood
205-216-196 – 616
Nick Calvert
188-194-154 – 526
Vacant
540

Pin Me Please had 2 games and the weekly team series as it pinned Right Lane with 1 game,

2401-2373.

Pin Me Please

Ashley Calvert
213-184-208 – 605
Rick Cormier
223-186-212 – 621
Heather Lavallee
186-188-217 – 591
Brendan Gow
182-221-181 – 584

Right Lane

Brian Gonneville
204-212-210 – 628
Adam Homan
199-180-177 – 556
Colin McLean
176-175-180 – 531
Bill Haskell
223-227-210 – 660

Hammond Eggs had an easy night against an absent The Gutter Rats for all 3 games and the weekly team series, 2288-2066.

Hammond Eggs

Ryan Stuart
165-193-221 – 579
Bobby Brown
214-163-219 – 596
Alex Benner
226-176-136 – 538
Substitute
206-191-178 – 575

The Gutter Rats

Total of 2066
Two Finger Death Punch had 2 games and the weekly team series to strike down Cobra Kai with 1 game, 2318-2175.

Two Finger Death Punch

Charlie Pasquerillo
165-191-174 – 530
Jon Talbot
195-230-256 – 681

Scott Smart
151-244-161 – 556
Substitute
194-174-183 – 551

Cobra Kai

Tim Perry
193-193-157 – 543
Kenneth Reno
229-162-157 – 548
Eric Bretton
142-186-192 – 520
Romeo Jalbert
182-201-181 – 564

Thursday Night Dynamite

Week 16 of play

Smelt Camp Swim Team held on for 1 game and the weekly team series, against Bowler? I Barely Know Her! with 2 games, 2248-2219.

Smelt Camp Swim Team

Kevin Kassa
232-205-194 – 631
Brian Waild
215-188-185 – 588
Jenn Leanhart
191-176-173 – 540
Blind
489

Bowler? I Barely Know Her!

Dylann Swisley
169-169-222 – 560
Deanna Boisvert
184-193-194 – 571
Art Bouchard
126-238-207 – 571
Sarah Manley
150-186-181 – 517

Strike First took the second game as it rolled for 1 game and the weekly

team series in play against XXX Turkeys with 2 games, 2257-2250.

Strike First

Sherry Coyne
176-172-164 – 512
Roni Bretton
177-191-199 – 567
Kenneth Reno
209-206-181 – 595
Romeo Jalbert
198-197-188 – 583

XXX Turkeys

Jake Ouellette
174-157-184 – 515
Terry Moore
195-198-167 – 560
Ken Foss
199-200-194-593
Peter Luciano
207-185-193 – 582

Minds in the Gutter had all 3 games and the weekly team series as House Balls missed action on Thursday, 2318-2106.

Minds In The Gutter

Scott Verrill
186-183-229 – 598
Jay Sutton
225-186-231 – 642
Doug Mercier
157-231-162 – 550
Matt Ferrante
155-193-180 – 528

House Balls

Total of 2106
Sexy Ginger rolled for 2 games and the weekly team series against Split Happens, 2203-2192.

Sexy Ginger

Shawn McCurdy
176-170-190 – 561
See Bowl, page 16

Are we going home?
Or to Grand Central?



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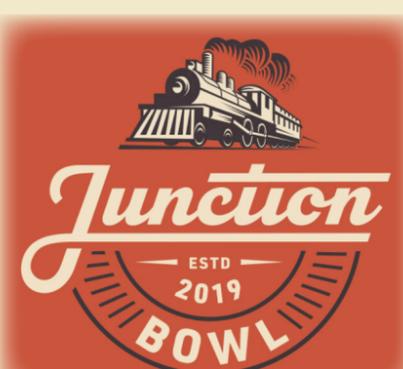
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Maine 4th safest state during pandemic

From Wallet Hub

WASHINGTON, D.C. – As the U.S. continues its struggle against the COVID-19 pandemic, staying safe is one of Americans’ top concerns.

Safety is also essential for getting the economy back on track, as the lower COVID-19 transmission and deaths are in a state, the more that state is able to eliminate restrictions on businesses.

States will only be able to get back to life as

normal once most of the population is fully vaccinated against coronavirus, and it will still be a while before that can be achieved.

Around 35% of the US population had been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 as of May 12.

Some states are already safer than others, though, based on how well they have kept the pandemic under control and how much they are vaccinating. In order to find out the safest states during

the COVID-19 pandemic, WalletHub compared the 50 states and the District of Columbia across five key metrics.

The data set includes the rates of COVID-19 transmission, positive testing, hospitalizations and death, as well as the share of the eligible population getting vaccinated.

Hawaii ranks first with a total “safety” score of 85.7, followed by Vermont at 85.59, Massachusetts at 77.69, and Maine at 75.36. New Hampshire

rounds out the top five states with a safety score of 71.18.

The full list of states and “safety” ratings can be found at <http://bitly.ws/dpNt>.

In order to find out the safest states during the COVID-19 pandemic, WalletHub compared the 50 states and the District of Columbia across five key metrics. The Wallet Hub data set includes the rates of COVID-19 transmission, positive testing, hospitalizations

and death, as well as the share of the eligible population getting vaccinated. Maine’s Safety During Coronavirus (1=Best; 25=Avg.):

- 6th – Vaccination Rate
 - 11th – Positive Testing Rate
 - 21st – Hospitalization Rate
 - 11th – Death Rate
 - 30th – Transmission Rate
- WalletHub (formerly CardHub.com) is a personal finance website that was

launched in early August 2013. It is based in Washington, D.C., and owned by Evolution Finance, Inc.

According to Web reports, WalletHub initially positioned itself as a “personal finance social network” with a focus on reviews for financial advisors. According to Wikipedia, WalletHub offers free consumer tools, such as its WalletLiteracy Quiz and its Financial Fitness Tool, which provides users with credit reports, scores and monitoring.

Skowhegan bank donates \$10k to charities

From SSB

SKOWHEGAN - In celebration of Skowhegan Savings Bank’s 151st Annual Meeting, the bank will donate \$10,000 to local charities on behalf of the 57 corporators.

The five charities, one in each region that the bank serves, were selected by votes from the corporators to each receive \$2,000.

Receiving donations are the Town of Dexter Food Assistance Program, the Skowhegan Community Food Cupboard, the Augusta Food Bank, FAEM Care and Share Food Bank based in Farmington, and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southern Maine.

“Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southern Maine is proud to be the recipient of this special gift from Skowhegan Savings Bank, said Nicole Avery, executive director of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southern Maine. “These one-to-one mentoring relationships are life-changing as Bigs provide their Littles with guidance and empower them with skills to transform their lives and their communities. This donation will help support the comprehensive oversight

protocols we have in place that ensure the safety and wellness of every youth in our program.”

The annual meeting was virtual and included a regular business meeting where Rich St. Pierre, chief financial officer of the bank, presented the bank’s financial condition. He reported that, despite all of the challenges in 2020, the bank far exceeded expectations for financial performance with over 2,000 loans originated exceeding \$147 million, ending the year with a \$4 million net profit which grew the bank’s capital base to over \$100 million.

“These numbers are a true reflection of our employees’ commitment to go above and beyond for our customers,” said David Cyr, president and CEO of Skowhegan Savings Bank. “From commercial lenders working around the clock to secure COVID relief funding for businesses to community bankers assisting home borrowers after hours in a highly competitive real estate market, to frontline staff working diligently to provide a safe and sanitized environment for customers - for these reasons, we are proud to

again be recognized as one of Maine’s Best Places to Work.”

The bank and the Skowhegan Savings Bank Foundation made over \$250,000 in donations to local nonprofits, including more than \$30,000 to local food programs, over \$25,000 to business relief grant programs and other various nonprofits in local communities.

In other business, Sam LeGeyt and Katelynn Shorey were sworn in as new corporators of the bank. LeGeyt is an associate broker at NAI The Dunham Group, based in Portland, and Shorey is the director of engagement at Live + Work in Maine and president of Startup Maine. John Witherspoon, Carolann Ouellette and Rick Anzels were reelected to the board for additional three-year terms.

Skowhegan Savings Bank has been dedicated to strengthening Maine’s families, businesses, and communities by providing personalized and competitive banking services to the regions they serve for 150 years. An independent mutual savings bank based in Skowhegan, the bank’s mission is to provide cus-

tomers with exceptional service in an innovative banking environment that effectively and efficiently

puts the financial needs of the customer first.

For more information about Skowhegan

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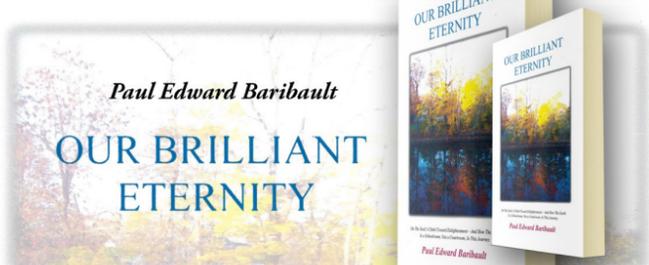
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Pleasant River Lumber expanding in Maine

From Pleasant River

SANFORD - Pleasant River Lumber will be

expanding its operations in Maine with several major investments over the next two to three years.

“Strong markets have put us in a good position to continue to modernize and expand our mills in

Maine,” Co-President Jason Brochu said.

A six-million-dollar investment in the Jackman facility will be completed in two phases and will increase throughput by 20%. The first phase is scheduled for fall of 2021 and will improve wood flow into the mill. The second phase will be the installation of a new sawing line that will dramatically increase hourly production.

The Dover-Foxcroft facility is scheduled for one and a half million-dollar planer mill upgrade that will be completed in late spring of 2021. This project will increase the planning capacity of the site to 180 million board feet annually.

The Enfield facility, which began producing lumber in late 2020, will see ten-million-dollar additional investment to provide the addition of a tree length slashing system in mid-2021, a state-of-the-art lumber drying facility in late 2021, and the installation of a second sawing line early in 2023. These projects will increase the capacity of the Enfield site to 150 million board feet annually making it the highest producing sawmill



in Maine.

Pleasant River Pine, the white pine division of the company, will see a seven and a half million-dollar investment in its facilities. The planned projects will increase sawing capacity by five million board feet and include a state-of-the-art planning mill with optimized grading.

“An important goal of ours is to provide local markets for the forest products of Maine and we are willing to make these investments to help provide sustained markets for our loggers and landowners”, said Chris Brochu, Co-President.

Pleasant River Lumber will have annual production capacity of 400 million board feet throughout its Maine mills when the projects are completed.

Pleasant River Lumber’s mill operations employ over 300 people in Maine. They also own and operate A&A Brochu Trucking, a 30-unit trucking company, A&A Brochu logging, a commercial thinning operation, Quality Saw which consists of two full service saw filing shops, and Ware-Butler, a nine-store building products chain with an additional 160 employees and locations throughout Maine.

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Dogs

Continued from page 1

As the secretary for Leeds Central, Parker brings Lucky to school every day. He plays with

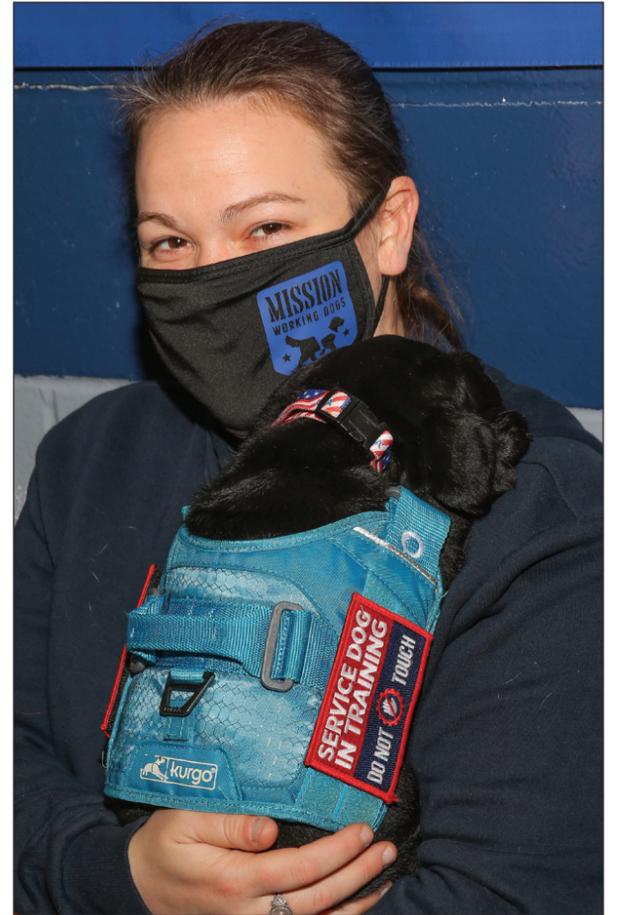
the pre-K through grade 6 children at recess, running around on just three legs after a front-leg amputation several years ago.



Carlie Thwaites snuggles with "Indie", an eight-week-old puppy, at a fund-raising event for Mission Working Dogs before a hockey game last Friday at the Androscoggin Bank Colisee. Indie will be trained as a service dog to assist a disabled person. (Tsukroff photo)



Lewiston chiropractor Dr. Phil McLean and his wife, Amy, prepare their dogs Bentley and Grace to greet visitors at the Androscoggin Bank Colisee last Friday night as part of a fund-raising visit by Mission Working Dogs, a non-profit group in Lewiston that trains therapy and service dogs. Bentley is training as a service dog, and Grace is being trained as a therapy dog. (Tsukroff photo)



Therapy dog Lucky Tim takes a break with owner/handler Claire Parker of Leeds before greeting visitors to a hockey game at the Androscoggin Bank Colisee in Lewiston as part of a fund-raising event for Mission Working Dogs. Parker is a secretary at Leeds Central School, where Lucky is the facility dog. He plays with the pre-K through grade 6 students, running around on just three legs. (Tsukroff photo)

Roslyn Keith of Lewiston takes a few minutes to visit with Grace, a therapy dog being trained by Lewiston chiropractor Dr. Phil McLean and his wife, Amy, before the hockey game at the Androscoggin Bank Colisee on Friday night. Therapy and service dogs being trained with Mission Working Dogs greeted fans at the entrance to the Colisee as part of a fund-raising event for the group. (Tsukroff photo)

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Maine School Nurses are Nurses of the Year

From Maine DOE

AUGUSTA - Since 1972, National School Nurses Day has been set aside to celebrate this unique and specialized division of nursing.

This year Governor Janet Mills and the Maine Department of Education join the Maine Association of School Nurses (MASN) to celebrate and honor school nurses on May 12, recognizing ALL Maine school nurses as the 2020-2021 "School Nurses of the Year."

"This past year, un-

like any other, school nurses in particular across the State of Maine have helped adapt with grace and grit to protect the health of our children," said Governor Mills in her video message to Maine school nurses.

Traditionally, school nurses have been charged with ensuring students are safe, healthy, and ready to learn. They are responsible for bridging the gap between healthcare and education. However, since last March, the COVID-19 pandemic has exhausted school district resources and launched school nurs-

es into new and uncharted territory. It has redefined the role both in school buildings and communities.

School nurses serve as a critical health hub for students, ensuring that students are ready for learning by managing complex chronic conditions; identifying and addressing mental health issues; leveling the field on health disparities and promoting healthy behaviors; enrolling children in health insurance and connecting families to healthcare providers; handling medical emergen-

cies and now, navigating through the COVID-19 pandemic by testing, tracking and educating students and school personnel.

In a pandemic, nursing requires a focus on individual patient care, as well as a larger perspective of public health. Nursing skill, knowledge, intuition, and practice does not stop at the four walls of a school, but must encompass the community at large. There is a constant awareness of how decisions affect others inside and outside of school. Students' lives don't end when

the last bell rings and they board the bus home. These same students go to work, volunteer, visit family, and play sports. School nurses shoulder a responsibility to keep children healthy so that the community remains healthy.

Generally (in a non-pandemic year) school nurses operate behind the scenes in "stealth mode", providing care, comfort and pain relief. This year however, school nurses have navigated insurmountable pressure to explain and defend community health measures

and promote health and safety for all school community members. This year, school nurses have been working especially hard to facilitate students' return to in-person learning. This means putting all the recommended mitigation measures in place while supporting teaching staff as they meet educational needs of all students.

Thank your school nurse with an elbow bump and congratulate them on being named Maine School Nurse of the Year 2021.

Brownfields cleanup grants for Maine

From US EPA

BOSTON - Last week, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced that three grantees in the state of Maine have been selected to receive \$1.3 million to assess and clean up contaminated properties under the agency's Brownfields Program.

These funds will support under-served and economically disadvantaged communities around the state in assessing and cleaning up abandoned industrial

and commercial properties. The Maine grant award announcements are among 151 communities across the nation to receive 154 grant awards totaling \$66.5 million in Brownfields funding through its Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup (MAC) Grants.

"Through our Brownfields Program, EPA is delivering on the Biden Administration's commitment to lifting up and protecting overburdened communities across America, especially communities that have expe-

rienced long periods of disinvestment and decay," said EPA Administrator Michael S. Regan. "These assessment and cleanup grants will not only support economic growth and job creation, but they will also empower communities to address the environmental, public health, and social issues associated with contaminated land."

"These new EPA Brownfields funds are more important than ever, because the ongoing pandemic has impacted the economy and redevelopment throughout

New England," said EPA New England Acting Regional Administrator Deb Szaro. "Today's investment of EPA Brownfields assessment and cleanup funding provides a much-needed boost for economic development and job creation in many of New England's hardest hit and underserved communities."

Receiving a grant will be Our Katahdin of Millinocket, ME. This group will be awarded a \$500,000 Cleanup Grant to clean up the 7,500 square foot Research Building on the Former Great Northern Paper Company (GNP) complex located at 1 Katahdin Avenue in the Town of Millinocket. The building was formerly used as a research and testing center for the paper company and has been unoccupied since 2008. It is contaminated with heavy metals, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and other contaminants. Grant funds also will be used to support community outreach activities.

Another grantee is Penobscot Indian Nation, Penobscot Indian Island Reservation, ME. This tribal nation will be awarded a \$300,000 Assessment Grant. The EPA Brownfields Com-

munity-wide Assessment grant funds will be used to conduct Phase 1 and Phase 2 environmental site assessments, develop cleanup and re-use plans, and support community outreach activities for various tribal properties. Important sites which the Tribe anticipates focusing on include the former Sockalexis Bingo Palace, an underused former bingo facility on Indian Island and on six Penobscot River Islands adjacent to a former pulp and paper mill in the Town of Lincoln. The islands near Lincoln once housed a school, camps, and residences, but these have all been abandoned.

The third grant recipient is Washington County Development Authority, Cutler, ME. This group will be awarded a \$500,000 Cleanup Grant to clean up the Former Navy Recreation Building located at 1549 Cutler Road. The Recreation Building is a 19,285 square foot one-story building that was built in 1964 and shuttered in 2002 when the Navy communications base was decommissioned. The building is contaminated with PCBs, heavy metals, and inorganic contaminants. Grant funds also will be used to

conduct community outreach activities.

EPA's Brownfields grants and assistance to Maine this year are among other significant annual investments by EPA to help New England communities to address brownfield properties. Across the six New England states this year, EPA is awarding a total of \$ 8.1 million for 18 communities to assess or clean contaminated brownfields sites.

"EPA Brownfield assessment and cleanup grants like these fuel regional planning and economic redevelopment projects in some of Maine's most economically impacted communities," said Melanie Loyzim, Maine DEP Commissioner.

In New England, since the beginning of the Brownfields program, EPA has awarded \$123 million in assessment grant funding, \$112 million in revolving loan fund grants and supplemental funding and \$82 million in cleanup grant funding. These grant funds have paved the way for more than \$3.78 billion in public and private cleanup and redevelopment investment and for over 22,846 jobs in assessment, cleanup, construction and redevelopment.

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Bicycle

Continued from page 1

Work Day – Mainers can find the BCM celebrating the City of Portland’s installation of three new bike mechanic workstations, which the public will soon be able to use for various repairs while biking through downtown. To commemorate the Congress Square Park workstation, the BCM will be on-hand to provide demos and answer questions.

And finally, on Saturday the BCM is teaming up with the local events and tourism committee and local police department to hold a free bike

rodeo for kids in Lincoln. In addition to an obstacle course for children ages 4-10, helmets will be handed out and bikes will be raffled off.

For more information about the Bicycle Coalition of Maine’s plans for Global Road Safety Week, visit bikemaine.org/events.

The Sixth-Annual United Nations Global Road Safety Weeks and its campaigns are coordinated by the United Nations Road Safety Collaboration (UNRSC) and chaired by the World Health Organization. All stakeholders—national and local governments, international

agencies, civil society organizations, private companies, and the public generally—are invited to plan and host events.

The Bicycle Coalition of Maine is the state-wide 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. The BCM supports biking and walking for health, transportation, and recreation.

For more information, visit bikemaine.org.

Haddock Supper on May 29

From Living Waters

BUXTON - Living Waters Church on Parker Farm Road in Buxton will host a Haddock Supper Buffet at 5 p.m. on Satur-

day, May 29.

Suggested donation: \$8 Adult, \$4 Child, \$20 Family.

The church will offer the option of takeout containers for those who do

not want to come inside for seating.

Social distancing guidelines are in effect, including wearing of face masks and use of hand sanitizer.

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

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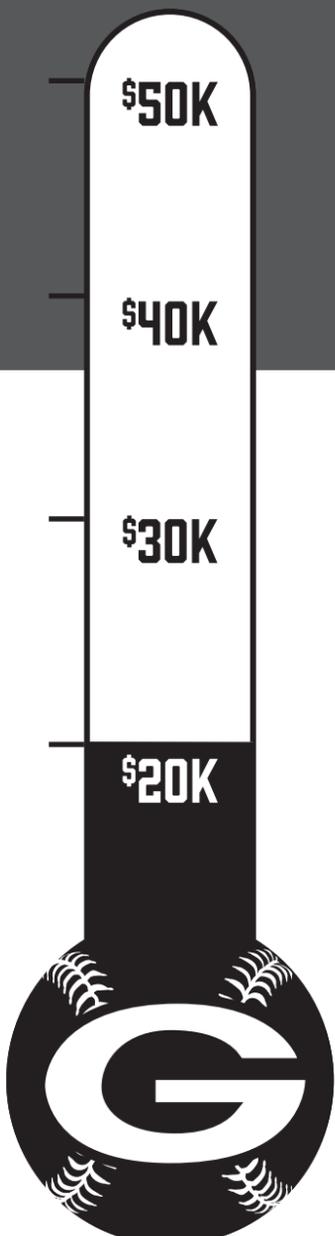
The Gorham Youth Baseball & Softball Association is making a large capital investment to provide updates and add fields to accommodate practice and game schedules:

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Gardiner site of community solar project

From PowerMarket

GARDINER - One of the first Net Energy Billing Community Solar projects in Maine started producing clean energy this month in Gardiner.

PowerMarket, an employee-owned leader in community solar management, has partnered with SunRaise, a New England solar energy developer, owner, and operator, to bring this renewable energy option to Maine utility customers.

This project sits on the roof of a local Maine business, Pine State Trading on Enterprise Avenue in Gardiner. Having just marked 80 years in operation, this privately-held family business has always

been forward-thinking and was excited about the prospect of this project.

“We are very committed to making sure that generationally, we’re always looking forward. We’re always trying to improve our community. And we’re always trying to reduce our carbon footprint because we want to be best in class... We want to make sure that by being the first [community solar project in Gardiner, Maine], that we lead the way and we hope to support this vision for other businesses in our community.” Gena Canning, Board of Directors at Pine State Trading, said.

At 1.35 MW, this project will generate over 1,500,000 kwh/year of clean energy, providing

CMP customers who are a part of the project with savings on their electricity bills. These are Maine residents and organizations who are important members of the community, like John F. Murphy Homes.

“It’s been great to see this project come to life. Being from New England, we wanted to keep this project local. We have gotten to know members of the community, like John F. Murphy Homes, who are doing great work and we are happy that we can support their mission through our project. I’m proud of Governor Mills’ Administration and what it will mean for Maine residents,” said Patrick Jackson, Co-Founder of SunRaise Investments

Project participants will not have to wait long to start receiving savings on their electricity bills, since this project is fully subscribed.

“Our local Maine team has spoken to thousands of residents about community solar and its benefits, so we are thrilled to help one of the first projects in Maine start providing tangible environmental and economic benefits for the state and participants. We are excited to bring this project online and anticipate our Maine office to grow as we continue to bring more projects online for years to come,” Nick Baudouin, Co-Founder of PowerMarket, said.

While this project in Gardiner is now fully sub-

scribed, all CMP customers can take part in a different SunRaise community solar project in Belfast that will start producing clean energy in a month. In doing so, participants will see a savings on the community solar credits they receive from the project every month while supporting the development of clean energy in Maine. CMP customers who are interested in learning more about community solar or who want to sign up for a project can contact PowerMarket at sunraise@powermarket.io or 207-280-8130.

About PowerMarket: PowerMarket works to make clean energy more accessible, affordable, and ubiquitous through community solar. [market.io](http://www.power-</p>
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About SunRaise: SunRaise is a mission-driven commercial solar energy owner, operator, and development group that develops, finances, own, and operates large community solar energy projects.

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Lisbon Schoolhouse restoration completed

From Lisbon Historical

LISBON – This Saturday, the Strout family will welcome the members and friends of the Lisbon Historical Society at an open house from 1-4 p.m. to mark the completion of the restoration of the 1893 school building.

The building was originally the Lisbon High School, and later the elementary school for Lisbon Village.

Bob and Aline Strout have accomplished a complete renovation of the school building, retaining as much of the historical features as possible while converting former classroom areas to apartment suites.

All the apartments and several rooms are now named in honor of well-known educators who taught in the rooms—Apt. 1, Mabel Moore; 2, Verna Dingley; 3, Marjorie Holbrook Standish; 4, Norma Smith; 5, John Weldon; the library, Esther Lund; the “bell” room/office, E. Harry Boothby.

At this open house, the sixth apartment suite will be dedicated to the memory of Eddie Prosser, who taught manual training in this space, and Iva Millet, who later presided

over the area when it was the school lunch room.

In the common areas of the building are displays of two former teachers. Ragnor Lind taught English and coached the high school track team. His career change took him to Hollywood, where he changed his name to Jeffrey Lynn, starring in many films in the 1940s.

Another collection of photos and memorabilia honors Marjorie Standish, the famous Maine cookbook author who was the first home economics instructor at the former Lisbon High School.

In these common areas also hang many large paintings by Lisbon artist Frank Gross, depicting historic settings in the Lisbon Village area. There are also historical collections as well as photos and memorabilia donated by those whose family members attended the school.

The open house is at the Lisbon Village School Apartments, 273 Lisbon St., on the corner of Gartley Street and Rt. 196 in Lisbon.

Those attending are asked to observe social distancing and to respect others by wearing face masks. Refreshments will be served.

What do you think?

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

Agree with us or another columnist? Disagree? Write to us and let us know!

Email all submissions, including name, address and phone number, to the editor.

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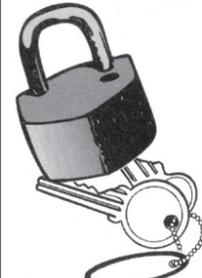
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Calendar

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
May 20
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).

4-5 p.m.
 GORHAM – Eco-maine 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.

TUESDAY
May 25
9:30 a.m.
 GORHAM – Baxter Memorial Library. Preschool Discovery Time – If you love picture books, watch Ms Heidi on Facebook as she reads a new book each week. (ages 3-5).

5:30 p.m.
 AUBURN – Agriculture Committee meeting.
10 a.m.
 GORHAM – Baxter Memorial Library - join Ms. Deb on Facebook at <http://bitly.ws/d2uS> for a virtual STEAM activity - Building a Simple Shelter. Activities are geared toward K-5 learners and require minimal supplies that you'll likely have right on-hand at home.

WEDNESDAY
May 26
7:30 a.m.
 AUBURN – Auburn Housing Authority Board of Commissioners meeting.
10 a.m.
 GORHAM – Baxter Memorial Library - join Ms. Deb on Facebook at <http://bitly.ws/d2uS> for a virtual STEAM activity - Building a Simple Shelter. Activities are geared toward K-5 learners and require minimal supplies that you'll likely have right on-hand at home.

4 p.m.
 AUBURN – Auburn Farmers' Market.
6 p.m.
 AUBURN – Complete Streets Committee

meeting.
THURSDAY
May 27
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 online video conference.
6 p.m.
 AUBURN – Comp. Plan Update Committee, via Zoom.

meeting.

MONDAY
May 31
Municipal centers, administrative offices, and libraries closed in observance of Memorial Day
11 a.m.
 GORHAM – Memorial Day Parade, starting at Village School. To register or learn more, visit https://www.gorham-rec.com/info/activities/program_details.aspx?ProgramID=14916. Line up begins at 10 a.m. and the parade steps off at 11 a.m.

TUESDAY
June 1
6:30 p.m.
 GORHAM - Regular Town Council Meeting TBD

WEDNESDAY
June 2
1-2 p.m.
 GORHAM – 2021 Virtual Build Maine Event – Day 1, via Zoom.

MONDAY
June 7
7 p.m.
 GORHAM - Planning Board Meeting TBD

TUESDAY
June 8
6:30 p.m.
 GORHAM - Tentative Appointments Committee Meeting TBD

WEDNESDAY
June 9
8:30-10:30 a.m.
 GORHAM - 2021 Virtual Build Maine Event – Day 2, via Zoom

THURSDAY
June 10
7 p.m.
 GORHAM - School Committee Meeting TBD

MONDAY
June 7
7 p.m.
 GORHAM - Planning Board Meeting TBD

TUESDAY
June 8
6:30 p.m.
 GORHAM - Tentative Appointments Committee Meeting TBD

WEDNESDAY
June 9
8:30-10:30 a.m.
 GORHAM - 2021 Virtual Build Maine Event – Day 2, via Zoom
7 p.m.
 GORHAM - School Committee Meeting TBD

TUESDAY
June 15
8 a.m.
 GORHAM - Ordinance Committee Meeting TBD.
6:30 p.m.
 GORHAM - Town Council Workshop TBD.

WEDNESDAY
June 16
8 a.m.
 GORHAM - Gorham Economic Development Corporation Meeting TBD.
8:30-10:30 a.m.
 GORHAM - 2021 Virtual Build Maine Event – Day 3, via Zoom.

THURSDAY
June 17
11:30 a.m.
 GORHAM - Eco-maine Annual Board Meeting Online video conference.
6:30 p.m.
 GORHAM - Tentative Recurring Capital Improvement Projects/Economic Development Committee Meeting TBD.

MONDAY
June 21
5:30 p.m.
 GORHAM - Finance Committee Meeting TBD.

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Guest Column

Home Country

By Slim Randles

We watched the thunderstorm growing, building, off to the west. As we sat on our tailgates sipping coffee and wishing we could be inside at the Mule Barn counter, we just sipped and looked in awe.

When the show began, we'd get in the pickups and drive off home, but there's no harm in watching the weather's overture to spring violence.

"You boys been out on the plains in spring, right?" asked Steve, our tall, mustached cowboy member of the vaunted world dilemma think tank.

We nodded and sipped and glanced up at the roiling blackness.

"Always wondered what it would be like to be caught horseback out on the plains in one of these storms. Not something I'd look forward to, I can tell you."

"I know what they do, Steve," said Doc. "Had a patient who punched cows out that way. He said

when it rained, he'd get off his horse and sit on the ground under his belly."

"So the horse would get wet and he'd stay dry?"

"More or less, I suppose."

"But the lightning," Steve said, "what about the dang lightning?"

"Doesn't sound like any fun to me," Herb said. "But I guess it's some consolation that the horse, being the highest point for 15 miles, would get struck by lightning first."

"See, Steve," Doc said, grinning. "If lightning goes through the horse and hits you on the ground, you don't have anything to worry about, but if it just strikes the horse ...?"

"Yeah, Doc," Steve said, "then you'd have the honor of being killed by a falling, fried horse. I think I'll stay off those plains for now."

Brought to you by salmon fisherman, pastor and friend to all, Mark Henry Miller's book "River Runs Through Me" at markhmiller@att.net.

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