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Thursday, August 26, 2021 • FREE

Maine celebrates with bicentennial parade



Photographs by Twin City Times staff member Suzanne Murray, and Roxann McDonough of RAM McDonough Photography.

By Nathan Tsukroff

AUBURN/LEWISTON – It's official! Maine is now 200 years old, and citizens have finally celebrated this milestone, although a year late.

After being rescheduled twice due to the pandemic, the Maine Bicentennial Parade, presented by Poland Spring, wound its way through Auburn and Lewiston on Saturday as Mainers celebrated the state's transition from a territory of Massachusetts to the 23rd state.

The state was created under the Missouri Compromise of 1820, which allowed Maine to join the Union as a free state, with Missouri entering a year later as a slave state to preserve the numerical balance between free and slave states.

Governor Janet Mills (D) led the pa-

rade as the Grand Marshall, followed by a string of floats and marching bands.

Mills rode in a 3-D printed boat created at the University of Maine. The float was followed by Mainers protesting her recent mandate that all healthcare workers must be vaccinated against COVID-19 by

Also in the parade were several local bands, clowns, unicyclists, and veterans



Sister Francesca Cloutier and Joyce Hart watch the Bicentennial Parade that made its way through Auburn and Lewiston on Saturday. (McDonough photo)



Photographs by Twin City Times staff member Suzanne Murray, and Roxann Mc-Donough of RAM McDonough Photography.

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Some 30,000 visitors had been expected to line the parade route, which started at 10 a.m. at Mills and Broad Streets in Auburn, moved up Main Street to cross the Androscoggin River into Lewison, and ended up about a block from Central Maine Medical Center.

See Parade, page 8 & 9 for more photos

Lewiston seeks Ward 2 Councilor replacement

From City of Lewiston

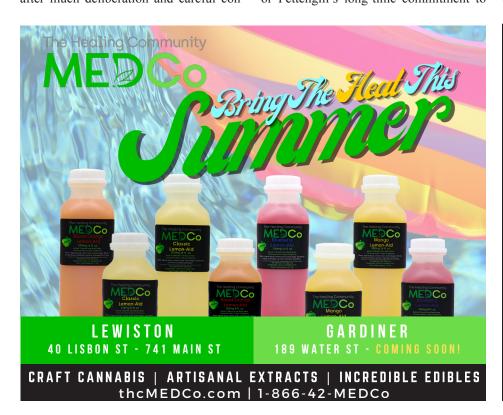
LEWISTON - Calling his service as a public servant his "highest honor," Zachary T. Pettengill resigned his seat as Lewiston's Ward 2 City Councilor on Aug. 13.

Pettengill said he will cherish his time serving in municipal government. "The decision does not come lightly, but after much deliberation and careful consideration, I must face the facts and realize that I can no longer continue to 'burn the candle at both ends.' After spending six years at City Hall first as a Planning Board member and then a City Councilor, I believe the time has come for me to step aside."

Mayor Mark Cayer sajd be was sad to hear the news, and praised Councilor Pettengill's long-time commitment to representing the residents of Lewiston. "Councilor Pettengill will be missed. His love of community and willingness to share years from his busy schedule to strengthen our community for the better is to be commended."

With a municipal election, including Council seats, scheduled for November, Section 2.06 (d) of the City Charter defines the process for appointment in the vacancy

of a City Councilor: "If a vacancy in the office occurs less than one (1) year prior to the next regular municipal election, the remaining members of the Council may appoint an eligible person to fill the unexpired term within thirty (30) calendar days after the vacancy exists. If the Council fails to make such appointment within said thirty (30) calendar days, the Mayor shall See Councilor, page 14



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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Levy promoted at Geiger

From Geiger

LEWISTON - Jessica Levy was recently promoted to Web Designer in Corporate Programs at Geiger.

Levy has been a

Production Artist in Corporate Programs since July of 2018. In her new role as Web Designer, she will provide innovative and professional website e-commerce designs, incorporating the client's brand while adhering to their branding guidelines. She will also create new user experience designs for Geiger's larger clients and design website layouts for new potential

Levy graduated from the New Brunswick College of Craft & Design in 2004, with a degree in Visual Art & Photography. She lives in Poland, ME with her husband Dave and daughter Juno.

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Guest Column

An apprisal on appraisals

By Grammar Guy

The real estate market is white-hot right now.

As soon as a property hits Zillow, the listing agent enjoys a bidding war above the asking price. In fact, someone stopped by to inquire about the Little Tikes house in our backyard. I had to break the news to the curious couple that our plastic, 20 square foot tiny house property is already under contract and pending inspection. After all, the house's plastic countertops are so easy to clean.

Is it buy low and sell high, or vice versa? All I know is that it's not a good idea to buy while high. Either way, all this house market hullabaloo got me to thinking: what's the difference between the words "appraise" and "apprise"? I have a feeling it's time for a refresher

These two words share so much in common. Both words are verbs. The

two words have incredibly similar spellings. Not only that, but both words have their roots in French. "Appraise" comes from the Old French word "appriser," which means "to set a value on." We get "apprise" from the French word "appris," which means "to inform, give notice or advise." Appraise, appriser. Apprise, appris. Are you surprised we confuse these words?

I'll cut to the chase: "appraise" and "apprise" do have distinctly different meanings. "Appraise" means "to estimate or assign value" while "apprise" means "to tell or inform." A Realtor can apprise her clients of the home's appraisal. In this hot market, appraisals are coming in unusually high. Our Realtor apprised us of the fact that we were outbid on the modern bungalow.

Case closed? Not so fast, house hunters! Another word has crept into existence: "apprize." Although it's an uncommon word that appears in English in the 14th century, its definitions include both "to inform" and "to increase in value." Go home, English; you're drunk. In theory, your Realtor could apprize that the home you want to buy has granite countertops. As a result, this apprizes the home in your eyes. People love a good granite countertop.

First, I'd advise you to forget you ever learned the word "apprize." It only confuses things. When you hear "appraise," think of "raise," as in value. When you hear "apprise," think "advise." I don't know much about real estate, but I do know about words. And you can't put a value on using the right word at the right time.

Curtis Honeycutt is a syndicated humor columnist. He is the author of "Good Grammar is the Life of the Party: Tips for a Wildly Successful Life". Find more at curtishoney-

Guest Essay

Overcoming Adversity

By Bryan Golden

Adversity is an unavoidable part of life. Death of a loved one, breakup of a relationship, malicious action by another, job loss, natural disaster, or any other undesirable event are all circumstances people encounter. Events happen that are beyond our control.

Successfully overcoming adversity is essential for a healthy life. Overcoming adversity builds mental strength, character and endurance. You develop in ways that would not otherwise be possible.

When undesirable incidents occur, you want to avoid the pitfall of the past and becoming mired in the would of, could of, or should of trap. It's done and over. Adversity is overcome by moving forward.

Nothing you can do, say, think or feel will ever change the past. Wallowing in feelings of guilt, regret or despair will diminish the present and compromise the future. Although it's difficult to accept unpleasant events, you have no choice, they have already occurred. The goal is to adjust your outlook to enable you to function and move ahead.

Adverse reactions are not unusual when faced with adversity. Feelings of denial, sickness, giving up, retribution, being overwhelmed, inactivity, anger, guilt, and "why me" are not uncommon. These reactions are counter-productive causing you to feel worse. Anger or bitterness poisons you and impedes your recovery.

You have control over your reaction to adversity. You have been conditioned by how others respond to unpleasant circumstances. However, most people aren't a good role model for effectively dealing with adversity. Adverse situations

can be divided into three categories; events have no control or influence over, situations resulting from decisions you made, and circumstances caused by someone else's actions. Effort spent on lamenting the past drains you of energy needed to handle the present and plan for the future. Your energy is best spent ensuring that you will be OK.

After experiencing a loss, a period of grieving is normal but should not become a way of life. Everything in life is temporary. What varies is the timing. As much as you may miss someone, there are people who depend on and need you. Focusing on the needs of others is an effective and positive way to move forward.

Perhaps you are unhappy with the results from your decisions. Everyone makes bad calls. There are no "do-overs" -- life goes on. How do you get back on track? Learn from your experiences and keep going. Inaction will cause you to feel worse.

Channeling your energy into positive action is one of the best cures for being disheartened. For example, if you've lost a job, immediately begin the process of getting another one. No matter how bad unemployment is, the odds are always weighted heavily in your favor. Even if the unemployment rate was an astronomical 15% you have an 85% chance of finding a job.

If a relationship has ended without any chance of reconciliation, take comfort in the fact that there are numerous people in the same boat. Get out, circulate, and meet people.

If you've made a bad decision and are unhappy with your circumstances, resolve to change direction. Effecting a correction can be difficult, but persisting in an unhappy state is torture.

Everyone encounters adversity. No one is ever singled out. No one knows why some things happen, they just do. Some decide to regain their footing, catch their breath and keep walking forward. Others choose to give up.

Each time you overcome adversity you get stronger and wiser and can teach others by example how to do it also.

Bryan is the author of "Dare to Live Without Limits." Contact Bryan at Bryan@columnist.com or visit www.DareToLiveWithoutLimits.com Copyright 2021 Bryan Golden

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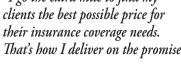
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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Guest Column

Celebrating Maine's Bicentennial and Lewiston's History



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

By Sen. Libby

This past weekend, we were finally able to celebrate Maine's Bicentennial – our 200th birthday – with the parade right here in Lewiston and our sister city Auburn.

After all the hardships we have endured over the past year, it felt special to see our communities come out and celebrate our state and its unique history with such joy. The state of Maine and Lewiston have rich histories, and I can think of no place more fitting to have hosted this event than right here in town.

The Bicentennial celebration gave me some time to reflect on our city's history and fortunately there's a detailed outline on Lewiston's website provided by local historian, Douglas I. Hodgkin. I strongly encourage you to check it out, and thank Prof. Hodgkin for his dedicated work

to the city of Lewiston and for providing a source of information for us to learn about our city's story.

Before diving into the details, it is important to recognize and acknowledge that Native Americans lived and belonged on this land far before any European settlers arrived. In fact, "Androscoggin," the name of Lewiston's river and county, is the contemporary word describing a Native American tribe that lived in New Hampshire, Maine and southern Quebec. The tribe was likely absorbed by neighboring tribes by the 18th century.

The process for Maine to become a state had been underway for some time, but it wasn't until July 26, 1819, that voters were first able to decide if they wanted to separate from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. After a

trict of Maine still had a few barriers between it and official statehood. Maine was tasked with drafting a state Constitution as well as awaiting additional approval from Congress. Finally, on March 15, 1820, as a result of the Maine-Missouri Compromise, Maine officially became the 23rd state of the United States.

Maine celebrated its centennial celebration in Portland in 1920, which interestingly enough coincided with the pandemic of that time, the Spanish Flu. That celebration, similar to the one we had over the weekend, was full of parades and bands and also was joined by the state's Governor, Carl Milliken.

The history of Lewiston is often lesser-known. In the late 18th century, a Boston-based company known as the Pejepscot Proprietors were granted rights to land just east of the Androscoggin River. They eventually named this town, "Lewistown," in an effort to honor a Boston merchant by the name of Job Lewis.

At the turn of the century, the town began to use water power in a variety of ways, most notably by building a dam made of timber. Most of the town originally settled on what is now the Auburn side of the river. Although much of the town was undeveloped, that all changed when several textile mills were built during the first half of the 19th century. As many know, these mills were a massive part of the local and state economy for

Many of the buildings are still up today and are being repurposed for new and creative uses.

Halfway through the 19th century, the population began to grow rapidly, doubling between 1850 and 1860. Because of the burst of population growth, Lewiston High School was founded in 1850 and moved to Main Street a few years later. Similarly, the Maine State Seminary was founded in 1855 and became Bates College in 1864.

The city's population leveled off in 1940 to the present and has remained around 40,000 residents. The surrounding areas have experienced more growth during those years, making Lewiston the hub that it is today. Understanding our city's history helps paint a more complete picture of how it became a place that is in constant growth economically, culturally, and in social diversity.

Reviewing our history in light of the bicentennial gives us a moment to consider not just how we got here, but where we are headed. I, for one, couldn't be more optimistic for the future of Lewiston, and couldn't imagine a better place to call home.

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

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Page 4 Thursday, August 26, 2021

Touching Base

The vaccine mandate is . . . complicated

Op-ed by Nathan Tsukroff

In the Maine Republican's weekly radio address last Friday, this is what we heard:

"This is State Representative Kathleen Dillingham, of Oxford, with the Weekly Republican Radio Address. Recently, the Governor, and her administration, used the Department of Health and Human Services public health emergency issued July 1, 2021, to mandate that all healthcare employers require their employees receive the COVID-19 vaccine, and those employees who do not, will lose their jobs. That is an estimated 10,000 healthcare employ-

Mandates of any kind can be . . . complicated.

And the recent man-

healthcare workers must be vaccinated against COVID-19 by Oct. 1 adds to the complication.

Let's look at the facts

As we found in the State of Maine's statement on the vaccine mandate, "The State of Maine has long required the immunization of employees of designated health care facilities to reduce the risk of exposure to, and possible transmission of, vaccine-preventable diseases. These immunizations include measles, mumps, rubella, chickenpox, hepatitis B, and influenza. This existing rule has been amended to include the COVID-19 vaccine. The organizations to which this requirement applies must ensure that each employee is vaccinated, with this re-

date by Gov. Mills that all quirement being enforced as a condition of the facilities' licensure."

> Dillingham's statement is at odds with the governor's mandate, since the mandate DOES NOT refer to firings, but rather to licensure of a healthcare facility.

> In other words, the governor did not tell healthcare workers to be vaccinated or they would be fired.

> However, that doesn't mean healthcare workers can be secure in their jobs.

> Here's where it starts to get complicated.

> You see, Maine is a so-called at-will state. That means anyone without a union agreement or a work contract can be fired for any reason whatsoever. You sneezed funny? You're fired!

> > In May, Democrat-

ic party members of the Maine legislature looked at rescinding or modifying that law. That attempt was blocked by chambers of commerce across the state, and by other legislators.

Okay, I get it. An employer wants the right to hire and fire at will. Most states in the US give employers that power.

However, that takes away our "rights" as employees, doesn't it? So now we know that we don't have any "rights" without a union or a personal contract here in Maine.

Healthcare workers say they are concerned about the safety of the vac-

Granted, the vaccines were approved by the FDA on an emergency basis. BUT, that approval was only after initial tests showed the efficacy and

safety of the vaccines. In other words, the vaccines were not approved arbitrarily, but were actually approved based on scientific studies. And this week, the Pfizer vaccine was fully approved.

Now let's look at the situation today. More than 50 million Americans have been vaccinated against COVID-19 with one of the three vaccines. No major issues have been reported that have stopped the vaccinations. I'm quite impressed that we have been able to do a "test" that involves some 50 million people, aren't you?

And one of my friends told me they were concerned about tracking chips from Microsoft that have supposedly been placed in the vaccines. They spoke to their doctor, who assured them they

weren't important enough to justify having chips in their vaccines. Ouch!

All joking aside, I believe the vaccines are safe and effective.

Putting it all together, healthcare workers can be hired and fired at-will in Maine, and are already required to be vaccinated against multiple other diseases. The COVID-19 vaccine is just one more disease to be prevented with a vaccine.

My friend doesn't like being told what to do, but they like their job . . . so they will be getting vaccinated.

Perhaps it's not so complicated after all.

This is an opinion from Nathan Tsukroff, Managing Editor, and may not reflect the opinions of other staff members or the publisher.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE **Rural Development**

NextGrid Peppertree, LLC: Notice of Availability of an Environmental Assessment AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS), USDA

ACTION: Notice of Availability of an Environmental Assessment

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the RBS, as required by the National Environmental Policy Act, is issuing an environmental assessment (EA) in connection with possible impacts related to a project proposed by NextGrid Peppertree, LLC. The proposal is for construction of a 5.665-megawatt (MW), groundmounted solar photovoltaic facility (solar farm). NextGrid Peppertree, LLC has submitted an application to the RBS for funding of the proposal.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brian Wilson, P.E., Business & Cooperative Programs Director, USDA Rural Development, 967 Illinois Avenue, Suite 4, Bangor, Maine 04401-2767, 207-990-9125, brian.wilson@usda.gov

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NextGrid Peppertree, LLC proposes to construct a 5.665-MW solar farm on an approximately 20-acre site which contains agricultural land and forestland. Approximately 20 acres of the project site would be disturbed as a result of the construction activities associated with this project. The Proposed Project Area would be located north of Lewiston Junction Road, near the intersection of Torrey Road and Lewiston Junction Road in the town of Poland, Androscoggin County, Maine. The Proposed Project would interconnect to the Central Maine Power (CMP) pre-existing electrical distribution system. The power generated from the facility would be sold to CMP through a long-term Power Purchase Agreement (PPA). The Proposed Project would be accessed from Lewiston Junction Road. An interior road would be constructed inside the perimeter and is anticipated to be flat and would match existing grades to minimize earth work. The Proposed Project Area would be secured by a security fence with standard gates for emergency and maintenance vehicle access

True North Consultants, Inc., an environmental consultant, prepared an environmental assessment for RBS that describes the project, assesses the proposed project's environmental impacts, and summarizes as applicable any mitigation measures used to

NextGrid Peppertree, LLC intends to seek financial assistance from USDA, RBS for the construction and operation of a solar farm. The Proposed Project consists of a fixed-tilt solar array installed on ground screws as supports connected to racks of solar panels. The Proposed Project Area is currently undeveloped forestland and cleared forestland.

If implemented, the Proposed Project will result in approximately 1,930 ft2 of wetland fill from the construction of an access road, resulting in permanent loss. Additionally, there will be approximately 5,590 ft2 of wetland vegetation (i.e., conversion of scrub-shrub wetland vegetation to emergent wetland vegetation with no grubbing required). The functions and values of the wetland areas not being grubbed or filled will be maintained as those associated with wet meadow and emergent wetlands These wetlands will continue to provide groundwater recharge/discharge, sediment and nutrient removal, wildlife habitat and other valuable functions for the duration of the Proposed Project. Fill associated with the access road, however, will result in permanent loss of wetland function and value. In accordance with Executive Order 11990, Protection of Wetlands, and USDA Departmental Regulation 9500-3, Land Use Policy, the purpose of this notice is to inform the public of this proposed conversion or effect and request comments concerning the proposal, alternative sites or actions that would avoid these impacts, and methods that could be used to minimize these impacts.

The environmental documentation regarding this proposal is available for review at 967 Illinois Avenue, Suite 4, Bangor, Maine 04401-2767. For questions regarding this proposal, contact Brian Wilson, P.E., Business & Cooperative Programs Director, USDA Rural Development, 967 Illinois Avenue, Suite 4, Bangor, Maine 04401-2767, 207-990-9125, brian.wilson@usda.gov

Any person interested in commenting on this proposal should submit comments to the address above by August 19, 2021.

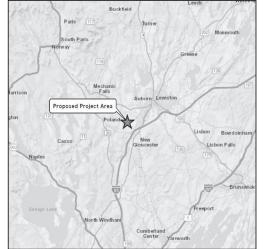
RBS has conducted an independent evaluation of the environmental assessment and believes that it accurately assesses the impacts of the proposed

project. No significant impacts are expected as a result of the construction of the project.

Questions and comments should be sent to RBS at the address provided. RBS will accept questions and comments on the environmental assessment for 14 days from the date of publication of this notice.

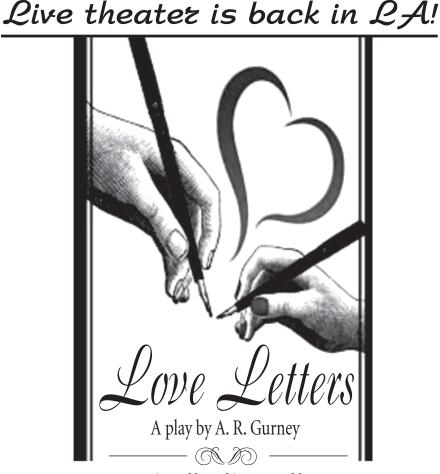
Any final action by RBS related to the proposed project will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with all relevant Federal environmental laws and regulations and completion of environmental review procedures as prescribed by 7 CFR Part 1970, Environmental Policies and Procedures.

A general location map of the proposal is shown, Dated: August 5, 2021



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Maine CDC investigates recent cases of Legionella

From Maine CDC

AUGUSTA — The Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Maine CDC) has confirmed four recent cases of Legionella in the Bangor area. Maine CDC is actively investigating whether the cases are coincidental or if there is a common exposure among them.

All four individuals were hospitalized.

Legionella, also known as Legionnaires' disease, is not spread from person to person. Maine CDC has alerted health care providers so they can consider testing for the illness, which could lead to the identification of additional cases. All cases must be reported to Maine CDC.

Legionella bacteria are found naturally in freshwater environments, such as lakes and streams. Legionella can become a health concern when it grows and spreads in human-made building water systems such as cooling towers used in air conditioning systems, hot tubs, fountains, and large plumbing systems. Legionnaires' disease, which is a

type of pneumonia, may result when individuals breathe in droplets of water that contain the bacteria. Symptoms include cough, shortness of breath, fever, muscle aches, and headaches

Most healthy people exposed to Legionella do not get sick. Those at increased risk of getting sick are people age 50 years and older; current or former smokers; people with a chronic lung disease, weak immune systems, or cancer; and people with underlying illnesses such as diabetes, kidney failure,

or liver failure.

Doctors use chest x-rays or physical exams to check for pneumonia and may also order tests on a sample of urine and sputum (phlegm) to determine if a lung infection is caused by Legionella. Legionnaires' disease is treated with antibiotics. Most people who get sick need care in a hospital but make a full recovery. However, about 1 out of 10 people who get Legionnaires' disease will die from the infection.

Legionella cases have been on the rise in the United States since 2000. About 9,000 cases were reported in 2019. Maine has averaged 21.4 cases per year since 2016.

Steps to prevent growth of the bacteria include.

Flushing water heaters every year. This helps reduce the risk of bacteria growth. Electric water heaters are more likely than gas water heaters to have bacteria. Flushing should be done with caution by a qualified plumber.

Removing and cleaning shower heads. This can be done by soaking shower heads in a mixture of 1 ta-

blespoon household bleach to 1 gallon of water for about two hours.

Regularly cleaning and disinfecting humidifiers: Always unplug the humidifier first. Clean the inside using a mixture such as 1 tablespoon household bleach to 1 gallon of water, and dry. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for cleaning.

Regularly cleaning CPAP machines and nebulizers: Use distilled water only and clean regularly. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for cleaning.

Second Case of Powassan Virus

From ME CDC

AUGUSTA — The Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Maine CDC) has confirmed the state's second case of Powassan virus infection in 2021.

Laboratory tests confirmed the case in a Knox County resident who likely became infected in Maine during June.

Maine CDC confirmed the first case of Powassan virus in 2021 in late June, in a Waldo County resident who is recovering after spending time in the hospital.

Cases of Powassan are rare in the United States, with about 25 cases reported each year since 2015. Maine has identified 10 cases since 2010. Humans become infected with Powassan through the bite of an infected deer tick or woodchuck tick.

Symptoms may include fever, headache, vomiting, weakness, confusion, seizures, and mem-

ory loss. Serious neurologic problems may occur, including infection of the brain or the membranes around the brain and spinal cord. Severe infection may result in death.

Maine CDC urges residents and visitors to take precautions against bites from ticks. Deer ticks can also carry bacteria that cause Lyme disease, anaplasmosis, babesiosis, and other illnesses.

Many people infected with the viruses carried by ticks do not have symptoms. No specific treatment is available for these viral diseases. If you experience symptoms, call a health care provider as soon as you can.

The best protection against all tickborne diseases is to prevent bites.

Prevent tick bites by wearing protective clothing, including long sleeves and pants; using an EPA-approved repellent on skin, and Permethrin on clothing for added protection; and using caution in tick-infested areas. Avoid wooded and bushy areas with high grass and stay in the middle of trails whenever possible.

Perform daily tick checks, especially after leaving tick habitat and after returning home.

Bath or shower after coming inside. Also examine clothing, gear, and pets.

Ask a veterinarian about tick bite prevention for pets.

Visit Maine CDC's vectorborne disease website at www.maine.gov/dhhs/vectorborne for more information on ticks.

Check out www. maine.gov/dhhs/powassan for more information about Powassan virus.

Find information on tick identification and testing at ticks.umaine.edu.

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

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Rural Development

NextGrid Mangrove, LLC: Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact

AGENCY: Rural-Business Service (RBS), USDA

ACTION: Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact.

SUMMARY: The RBS has made a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) with respect to a request for possible financing assistance to NextGrid Mangrove, LLC for the construction of the Merrill Road Solar Project in Androscoggin County, Maine.

FURTHER INFORMATION: To obtain copies of the EA and FONSI, or for further information, contact: Brian Wilson, P.E., Business & Cooperative Programs Director, USDA Rural Development, 967 Illinois Avenue, Suite 4, Bangor, Maine 04401-2767, 207-990-9125, brian.wilson@usda.gov. The EA and FONSI are also available for public review at 967 Illinois Avenue, Suite 4, Bangor, Maine 04401-2767, 207-990-9125

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NextGrid Mangrove, LLC proposes to construct a 5.55-MW solar farm on an approximately 213-acre site which contains agricultural land and forestland. Approximately 20 acres of the project site would be disturbed as a result of the construction activities associated with this project. The Proposed Project Area would be located west of Main Street near the intersection of Main Street and Merrill Road in the city of Lewiston, Androscoggin County, Maine. The Proposed Project would interconnect to the Central Maine Power (CMP) pre-existing electrical distribution system. The power generated from the facility would be sold to CMP through a long-term Power Purchase Agreement (PPA). The Proposed Project would be accessed from Merrill Road. An interior road would be constructed inside the perimeter and is anticipated to be flat and would match existing grades to minimize earth work. The Proposed Project Area would be secured by a security fence with standard gates for emergency and maintenance vehicle access. Alternatives considered by RBS and NextGrid Mangrove, LLC include: No action; under the Action Alternative, RBS would consider financing the proposed Project. The alternatives are discussed in the Merrill Road Solar EA. The RBS has reviewed and approved the EA for the proposed project.

Androscoggin County, Maine on July 29, 2021, and August 5, 2021. A 14-day comment period was announced in the newspaper notice(s). The EA was also available for public review at the USDA Rural Development office as well as NextGrid Mangrove, LLC offices. No comments were received.

Based on its EA, commitments made by NextGrid Mangrove, LLC, and public comments received, RBS has concluded that the project would have no significant impact (or no impacts) to water quality, floodplains, land use, aesthetics, transportation, or human health and safety.

RBS has assessed the environmental impacts of this proposal and determined that the Merrill Road Solar Project will convert approximately 2,717 ft2 of wetland fill from the construction of an access road (permanent loss) and from clearing and grubbing of forested wetland (these wetlands will not be permanently lost and will be maintained as emergent wetland vegetation). Additionally, approximately 754 ft2 of wetland vegetation removal (i.e., conversion of scrub-shrub wetland vegetation to emergent wetland vegetation with no grubbing required.

It has been determined that there is no practicable alternative to avoiding this conversion of effect and that there is a significant need for the project. The basis of this determination is the lack of suitable alternative project areas, the mitigation efforted determined by the landowner as well as NextGrid Mangrove, LLC, and the regional need for an affordable, reliable, and consistent supply of renewable electric power at competitive rates. No public comments were received regarding the conversion of wetlands.

The proposed project will have no adverse effect on resources listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The Agency has also concluded that the proposed project is not likely to affect federally listed threatened and endangered species or designated critical habitat thereof. The proposed project would not disproportionately affect minority and/or low-income populations.

No other potential significant impacts resulting from the proposed project have been identified. Therefore, RBS has determined that this FONSI fulfills its obligations under the National Environmental Policy Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR §§ 1500-1508), and USDA Rural Development's Environmental Policies and Procedures (7 CFR Part 1970) for its action related to the project.

RBS is satisfied that the environmental impacts of the proposed project have been adequately addressed. RBS's federal action would not result in significant impacts to the quality of the human environment, and as such it will not prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for its action related to the proposed project.

Dated: August 26, 2021

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HIGHLIGHTS: 13-Rubber Tired Loaders: Cat 938G, 2013-2012 Cat 930K, Cat 924G, Cat 910F, 2012 Cat 908H2. (4)Cat 908H, Case 621D, Case 521D, Volvo L45B, **Int. Tool** Carrier: 2011 Cat IT14G, Crawler Tractor: Cat D5CLGP, 2-Excavators: 2017 Hyunda HX300LR, Case CX160, Long Reach Excavator: 2018 Hyundai HX300LR, Air Comp.: IR P185W, 2-Welders: Miller Bobcat 225, Hobart Ironman 210, Mulch Blower: Finn AEM-302, Hydroseeder: Finn T-90, 15-Comm. Mowers: JD Z925, (3)JD G545, Toro Z Master, (10) Walker, **4-Landscape Equip.**: Permagreen Magnum Ride-On Granular & Liquid Sprayer, (3) LT Rich Z Ride-On Granular & Liquid Sprayer, **7-Sweepers**: 2013 Isuzu NQR, 1998 Isuzu NPR, 1996 Ford CF7000, (4) Elgin Pelican, 4-Cab & Chassis: 2014 Ford F350SD(4x4), 2004 IH 4200, 1999 IH 4700, 2005 Isuzu NPR, **Utility Trk**: 2011 Ford F250XL, **3-Stake Trks**: 2013 Ford F350XL, (2)2008 Ford F250XL, **Fatbed Dump Trk**: 2003 Ford F650XL, **23-Dump Trks**: (4)Ford F550XL, 2003 Ford F450XL, (2)Ford F350XL, 2008 Ford F250XL, 1994 Ford L9000 2009 IH 7600(t/a), 2002 IH 7500(tri), 1999 IH 2574(t/a), (4)IH 2554, (3)IH 4900, 2002 IH 4700, (2)1995 GMC Topkick, 1992 GMC Kodiak, **Trk Tractor:** 1990 IH F9370(t/a), **6-Pickups:** 2018 Ford F150STX, (2)Ford F150XL, (2)Ford Ranger, 2002 Chevy 2500HD, Detachable Trailer: 1998 Fontaine Specialized(tri), **Equip. Trailer:** 2002 Interstate 40DLA(t/a), **2-Tagalongs:** 2008 Quality(t/a), 2005 Homemade(t/a), **Water Trailer:** 2014 Homemade(550gal., t/a), **Dump** Body: Everest 10ft Steel, 39-Snow Equip.: (2)Arctic 16HD 16ft. Sect. Snow Pusher, Arctic 14HD 14ft. Sect. Snow Pusher, Arctic 13LD 13ft. Sect. Snow Pusher, (2)Arctic 12LD 12ft. Sect. Snow Pusher, Arctic 10LD 10ft. Sect. Snow Pusher, Protech SP16L Snow Pusher, Protech 12ft. Snow Pusher, Protech PB12 12ft. Snow Pusher, Protech IS10S 10ft. Snow Pusher, Kage KBSS 14.5ft. Snow Plow Box Syst., Kage SB120 10ft. Snow Plow Box Syst. Cat 10.5ft. Sect. Pusher, 14ft. Snow Pusher, (2)10ft. Snow Pusher, 10ft. Power Angle Pusher (4) Fisher Xtreme V 9.5ft. Power Angle Plow, (2) Fisher Minute Mount 2 10ft. MC Power Angle Plow, Kage SB120 10ft. Power Angle Plow, 6ft. Power Angle Plow, Boss 6ft. UTV Power Angle Plow, Qty. of Asst. Power & Fixed Angle Plows, Henderson 13ft. SS Sander, Down Easter 9ft. SS Sander, (2)Down Easter 8ft. SS Sander, Down Easter 7ft. SS Sander, Down Easter SS Tailgate, Bobcat SB200 Snow Blower, (2)240XL Snow Blower, JRB Snow Plow 4-Pressure Washers, 4-Scrap Recycling Equip, 4-Fuel Tanks, 37-Attachments: (28)Skid Steer, Qty New & Used Tires, 141-New & Used Support Equip.

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207.784.6295 buck@pro-pc.us Page 6 Thursday, August 26, 2021



St. Dom's to celebrate 80th anniversary



From Portland Diocese

AUBURN---In celebration of 80 years of faith, service, and academic excellence, Saint Dominic Academy will host a weekend of events from Sept. 24-26.

The celebration is in-

Open for curbside pick-up, take out,

indoor dining, bowling and arcade!

American pub-style food and drinks.

A 7 Railroad Ave, Ste 102

tended to inspire returns, reunions, and reminiscence.

Friday, Sept. 24

The 80th Anniversary Dinner will take place at the academy's Auburn campus, located on 121 Gracelawn Avenue.

Food will be pro-

vided by Cook's Lobster & Ale House in Bailey Island, an establishment owned by SDA alum Jen Dube Charboneau '91, with a cash bar and non-alcoholic drinks available.

Attendees can also hit the dance floor to the music of the popular Moon Dawgs, featuring 1966 St. Dom's classmates Roger Michaud and Bob Roy.

A raffle at the dinner will offer five prizes ranging from \$500 to \$2,000.

Tickets for the dinner are \$50 and can be purchased at http://bitly.ws/g9ab

Raffle tickets can also be purchased by contacting Nicole Nadeau Adams '00 in the St. Dom's Alumni Office at (207) 782-6911, extension 2108, or nicole.adams@portlanddiocese.org.

People do not need to be present at the dinner to purchase raffle tickets or win one of the prizes.

Saturday, Sept. 25

All are welcome to gather at St. Dom's Auburn campus to celebrate the academy of today with guided tours of the facility from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. The tours will include the opportunity to view artifacts and historical items from throughout the academy's 80-year history.

In addition, three St. Dom's athletic teams will be hosting games - girls' soccer at 10 a.m., field hockey at 10:45 a.m., and

boys' soccer at noon.

In the afternoon, the current boys' and girls' soccer teams will square off against a team comprised of St. Dom's alums. To participate in the game, contact Nicole at the phone number or email address above. All of the events on Saturday are free to attend.

Sunday, Sept. 26

The 80th Anniversary Mass will be celebrated at the Basilica of Saints Peter & Paul in Lewiston at 10:30 a.m.

All are welcome to gather for the Mass.

An Anniversary Brunch will follow in the basilica hall with both hot and cold food items and beverages provided by Dad's Place Catering in Mechanic Falls. The company is owned by St. Dom's alum Larry Roy '89. The cost of the brunch is \$25.

Event Passes
An All-Weekend

Pass is available for \$60 (savings of \$15) and can also be purchased at http://bitly.ws/g9ab or by contacting Nicole at (207) 782-6911, extension 2108, or nicole.adams@portlanddiocese.org.

Founded in 1941, St. Dom's was born to steer students on the course set by the Catholic schools in the area that preceded it, giving them the tools they needed to succeed.

Originally a school for grades 9-12, the academy began welcoming students from pre-kindergarten through grade 8 in 2010, enabling the school to offer its values-based education to hundreds of additional pupils.

The academy's commitment to integrity, community, and excellence is on display each day, as is St. Dom's eight decades of dedication to instilling a love for learning and an appreciation for service to all who attend.

Mission Working Dogs seeks puppy raisers

From MWD

LEWISTON – Mission Working Dogs needs puppy raisers to help bring more service dogs to community members who are living with a disability.

According to the Mission Working Dogs website, Service dogs can assist those with physical disabilities such as mobility impairments by fetching dropped items,

opening doors, and turning on and off lights. They can also help individuals with PTSD by learning to recognize an increase in anxiety, carrying medications, and providing deep pressure therapy to calm or redirect the handler.

Christy Gardner is the founder of Mission Working Dogs. She had been Serving as a Sergeant in the United States Army Military Police in Asia when she was severely injured in 2006. After extensive rehabilitation, she returned to the Lewiston/ Auburn area and accepted her first service dog, Moxie, in 2010.

She created Mission Working Dogs to help others in the community.

Mission Working Dogs sees puppy raisers as critical to each dog's success, and is looking for full- and part-time puppy

The link to an application for puppy raisers can be found at http://bitly.ws/g9a6



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and the UK, garnering two #1 songs on international

folk radio and two with a

vocal blend that has been

dubbed "outstanding" and

"meticulous," Low Lily's

cohesive sound comes

naturally for musicians

whose lives have been

entwined on the road and

onstage for almost two de-

cades. Setting down roots

in Brattleboro, Vermont,

the band has crafted a sig-

nature sound which they

have shared with enthusi-

astic audiences through-

out North America and

the UK, garnering two #1

songs on international folk

radio and two Independent

Ridge Folk Festival's

"Most Wanted Band" of 2016, Low Lily plays

acoustic music that is

deeply rooted in tradition

vet sounds refreshingly

contemporary. With their

first full-album release,

"10,000 Days Like These"

(March 2018, following

their 2015 self-titled EP

release), Low Lily shares

an intimate, no-tricks-in-

volved, collection of songs

that showcases their tal-

ents and proves them to

See Winter Solstice, page 10

Chosen as Falcon

Music Award wins.

Winter Solstice show Dec. 18 in Bath | Woodward at Craft Brew on Saturday



Multi-award-winning bluegrass mandolinist Matt Flinner will team up with American Roots band Low Lily to celebrate the Winter Solstice on Dec. 18 at Chocolate Church Arts Center in Bath. (Photo courtesy of CCAC)

From CCAC

BATH - Multiaward-winning bluegrass mandolinist Matt Flinner teams up with American Roots band Low Lily to celebrate the Winter Solstice on Dec. 18 at the Chocolate Church Arts Center at 804 Washington St. in Bath.

This high energy show will feature instrumentals alongside impeccably arranged songs to celebrate the season. Between them, the musicians play mandolins, guitars, fiddle, banjo, double bass, and sing in three- and fourpart vocal harmonies.

Grammy-nominated mandolinist Matt Flinner has made a career out of playing acoustic music in new ways. Whether it's with his own Matt Flinner Trio or with Phillips, Grier and Flinner, the Frank Vignola Quartet, Darrell Scott, Steve Martin, Robbie Fulks, the Ying Quartet, Leftover Salmon or the Modern Mandolin Quartet, Flinner's style and compositional ability have established him as one of the most accomplished and musically diverse mandolinists in the world.

Starting out as a banjo prodigy who was playing bluegrass festivals before he entered his teens, Flinner later took up the mandolin, won the National Banjo Competition in Winfield, KS in 1990, and won the mandolin

award there the following vear. Matt now tours regularly with the Matt Flinner Trio, which is known for its off-the-cuff compositional daring, writing music the same day it's performed on most of their shows. He also tours occasionally with the Modern Mandolin Quartet, which was nominated for three Grammy awards for their CD "Americana" in 2013, as well as the Darrell Scott Bluegrass Band, which released their acclaimed "Live at the Station Inn" CD in 2018. Some of Flinner's compositions have been performed by the Ying Quartet, the Nashville Chamber Orchestra, the Chatterbird Ensemble

"Flinner continues his reign as perhaps the most exciting and creative mandolin player on the scene today."—Jazz Times

and the Modern Mandolin

Quartet. Flinner currently

lives in Ripton, Vermont.

"(Flinner) blurs the lines between jazz and bluegrass, traditional and avant-garde."—Associated Press

With a vocal blend that has been dubbed "outstanding" and "meticulous," Low Lily's cohesive sound comes naturally for musicians whose lives have been entwined on the road and onstage for almost two decades. Setting down roots in Brattleboro, Vermont, the band has crafted a signature sound which they have shared with enthusiastic audiences

From Maine Event

AUBURN - Maine Event Comedy presents Brieana Woodward at Craft Brew Underground at 7 p.m. on Saturday

The show will also feature Mark Turcotte and Kathleen DeMarle.

Whether she's roasting her dad for childhood wrongdoings, raving about the flea market, or giving her hot takes on DIY Pinterest projects, Woodward's high energy and unique perspective have entertained audiences throughout the east coast. She also produces a plethora of online content and has performed at Laugh Boston, The Comedy Studio, and the WooHaHa Comedy

The show is for ages 21-and-older. Tickets are \$8 and may be purchased at MaineEventComedy.

Craft Brew Underground is located at 34



Brieana Woodward is the headlined comic at Craft Brew Underground in a show Saturday evening. (Photo courtesy of Maine Event Comedy)

Court Street in Auburn. CBU offers more than 200 choices of craft beer, cider, and wine and was named "Maine's Best Beer Bar" by CraftBeer.com.

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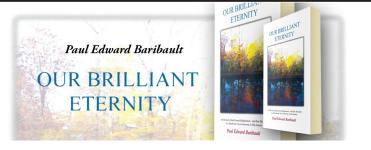
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Page 8 Thursday, August 26, 2021

Parade Continued from page 1





Mainers at the sidelines of the Bicentennial Parade protest the recent mandate by Gov. Janet Mills (D) that all healthcare workers must receive a COVID-19 vaccine by Oct. 1 (McDonough photos)





Photographs by Twin City Times staff member Suzanne Murray, and Roxann McDonough of RAM McDonough Photography.



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Six-year-old Ember Turon enjoys the parade from the comfort of her chair. (Mc-Donough photo)





Maine Gov. Janet Mills (D) headed up the Bicentennial Parade as the Grand Marshall, riding in a 3-D printed boat created at the University of Maine.



Former Maine Governor Paul LePage (R) waves to watchers on the sidelines of the Bicentennial Parade on Saturday. LePage had moved to Florida immediately after finishing his second term in office in 2019. Maine law limits a governor to two consecutive terms. He recently returned to Maine, and announced his intent to run for governor again in the 2022 election. (McDonough photo)





The RKG Gang of New Auburn were among the thousands of Mainers who watched the Bicentennial Parade on Saturday. (McDonough photo)







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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE **Rural Development**

NextGrid Mangrove, LLC: Notice of Availability of an Environmental Assessment

AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS), USDA

ACTION: Notice of Availability of an Environmental Assessment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the RBS, as required by the National Environmental Policy Act, is issuing an environmental assessment (EA) in connection with possible impacts related to a project proposed by NextGrid Mangrove, LLC. The proposal is for construction of a 5.55-megawatt (MW), groundmounted solar photovoltaic facility (solar farm). NextGrid Mangrove, LLC has submitted an application to the RBS for funding of the proposal.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brian Wilson, P.E., Business & Cooperative Programs Director, USDA Rural Development, 967 Illinois Avenue, Suite 4, Bangor, Maine 04401-2767, 207-990-9125, brian.wilson@usda.gov

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NextGrid Mangrove, LLC proposes to construct a 5.55-MW solar farm on an approximately 213-acre site which contains agricultural land and forestland. Approximately 20 acres of the project site would be disturbed as a result of the construction activities associated with this project. The Proposed Project Area would be located west of Main Street near the intersection of Main Street and Merrill Road in the city of Lewiston, Androscoggin County, Maine. The Proposed Project would interconnect to the Central Maine Power (CMP) pre-existing electrical distribution system. The power generated from the facility would be sold to CMP through a long-term Power Purchase Agreement (PPA). The Proposed Project would be accessed from Merrill Road. An interior road would be constructed inside the perimeter and is anticipated to be flat and would match existing grades to minimize earth work. The Proposed Project Area would be secured by a security fence with standard gates for emergency and maintenance vehicle access

True North Consultants, Inc., an environmental consultant, prepared an environmental assessment for RBS that describes the project, assesses the proposed project's environmental impacts, and summarizes as applicable any mitigation measures used to

NextGrid Mangrove, LLC intends to seek financial assistance from USDA, RBS for the construction and operation of a solar farm. The Proposed Project consists of a fixed-tilt solar array installed on ground screws as supports connected to racks of solar panels. The Proposed Project Area is currently undeveloped forestland previously used as pastureland

If implemented, the Proposed Project will convert approximately 2,717 ft2 of wetland fill from the construction of an access road (permanent loss) and from clearing and grubbing of forested wetland (these wetlands will not be permanently lost and will be maintained as emergent wetland vegetation). Additionally, there will be approximately 754 ft2 of wetland vegetation removal (i.e., conversion of scrub-shrub wetland vegetation to emergent wetland vegetation with no grubbing required). All wetland impact areas, whether conversion or grubbed/fill areas, will be maintained as low growing wet meadow and/or emergent cover types by means of hand trimming or periodic mowing (no more than two times per year) during operations and maintena in order to keep vegetation from shading the solar array. These wetlands will continue to provide groundwater recharge/ discharge, sediment and nutrient removal, wildlife habitat and other valuable functions for the duration of the Proposed Project. er will result in permanent loss of wetland function and value. In acated with the Executive Order 11990, Protection of Wetlands, and USDA Departmental Regulation 9500-3, Land Use Policy, the purpose of this notice is to inform the public of this proposed conversion or effect and request comments concerning the proposal, alternative sites or actions that would avoid these impacts, and methods that could be used to minimize these impacts.

The environmental documentation regarding this proposal is available for review at 967 Illinois Avenue, Suite 4, Bangor, Maine 04401-2767. For questions regarding this proposal, contact Brian Wilson, P.E., Business & Cooperative Programs Director, USDA Rural Development, 967 Illinois Avenue, Suite 4, Bangor, Maine 04401-2767, 207-990-9125, brian.wilson@usda.gov.

Any person interested in commenting on this proposal should submit comments to the address above by August 12, 2021.

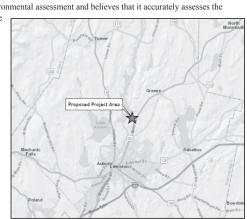
RBS has conducted an independent evaluation of the environmental assessment and believes that it accurately assesses the impacts of the proposed project. No significant impacts are

Questions and comments should be sent to RBS at the address provided. RBS will accept questions and comments on the environmental assessment for 14 days from the date of publication of this notice.

expected as a result of the construction of the project.

Any final action by RBS related to the proposed project will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance all relevant Federal environmental laws and regulations and completion of environmental review procedures as prescribed by 7 CFR Part 1970, Environmental Policies and Procedures

A general location map of the proposal is shown. Dated: July 29, 2021



album this strong doesn't

come from newbies-all

the members have per-

formed with numerous

well-known names in folk

and traditional music. Fly-

nn has toured with Ruth

Moody, John Whelan,

Cathie Ryan and Aoife Clancy. Liz has toured

with Tom Chapin, Living-

ston Taylor, Melanie, and

Long Time Courting. Lis-

sa has toured as a solo act

as well as with Solas and

Winter Solstice

Continued from page 7 be a formidable, readyfor-prime-time act. A first

New Medical Marijuana Applications

From OMP

AUGUSTA - The Office of Marijuana Policy announced last week the introduction of new applications intended to assist business owners operating within the State of Maine's Medical Use of Marijuana Program.

The two-part effort sees the addition of existing medical marijuana caregiver applications to the state's online licensing system while simultaneously introducing a brand-new application for individuals and businesses seeking to operate medical marijuana dispensaries in Maine.

The introduction of dispensary applications in Maine represents the first time in more than 11 years that this category of business registrations has been publicly available. As a result of a law change ini-

tiated in 2018, the number of dispensaries is no longer limited to the eight registrations issued through a competitive bidding process in 2010.

"Patients choosing to treat their medical conditions and symptoms with cannabis stand to benefit from the increased access to affordable medical marijuana offered by this registration type," said Erik Gundersen, director of Maine's Office of Marijuana Policy. "Registered caregivers, several of whom have grown their businesses to the limits allowed by current law, and newcomers alike will be well-positioned to utilize the dispensary registration to grow their businesses within Maine's medical marijuana program."

Physical dispensary applications are available on the Office of Marijuana Policy's website in three parts: business application, local authorization, and an inherently hazardous substances authorization. At a minimum, interested dispensary applicants must provide OMP with a completed business application, approved local authorization form, and an application fee of \$5,000 for each dispensary they are seeking to operate. In addition, a completed registry identification card application and Maine Revenue Services tax clearance form must be completed and submitted for every owner and manager of the dispensary before the application will be considered complete and vetted by OMP licensing

If appropriate for their business models, registered medical cannabis caregivers may choose to convert their registration type to dispensaries. For those choosing to continue operating as caregivers, OMP has added initial and renewal caregiver applications to the state's online licensing system. This milestone marks the first time in the medical program's history that applications have been available electronically.

"With the addition of caregiver applications to the state's electronic licensing system, our program registrants will now receive e-mail reminders to renew their registrations and the opportunity to complete their submissions online," added Gundersen. "We hope that these improvements allow them to spend more time focusing on serving Maine patients and successfully operating their businesses."

Due to the ongoing federal prohibition of cannabis and limited access to traditional banking, ap-

Both dispensaries and caregivers may conduct sales to medical marijuana patients in Maine. While the term dispensary is used colloquially to describe a retail setting where individuals may purchase cannabis, in Maine it is a unique registration type among the medical marijuana program. Registered caregivers may operate caregiver retail stores. Adult use retailers operate marijuana stores.

The OMP, a division of the Department of Administrative & Financial Services, is responsible for the oversight of all aspects of legalized marijuana in Maine, including Maine's medical and adult-use programs.

plication payments must still be made in-person or by mail in the form of a cashier's check or money order.

> Childsplay. "Low Lily brandishes their formidable individual folk foundations within a collective sound that's as smart with sense of pop phrasing and flair as it is roots-savvy." Roots Music Report

"[Low Lily has] an incredible knack for putting a little pop twist on a traditional folk/Americana sound... it's a blend that works beautifully." -Pop-Matters

The group will perform on the main stage, with tickets priced at \$20 in advance \$25 on the day of the show.

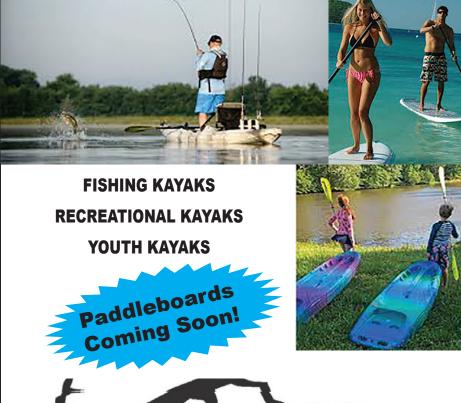
See http://bitly.ws/ g4m6 to purchase tickets

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What's Going On

to the Editor.

Deadline is Friday by five.

From City of Lewiston

LEWISTON - Sewer pipes in Lewiston are being replaced with Cured-In-Place Pipe (CIPP).

What is CIPP?

CIPP is a method used to replace damaged or deteriorated sewer pipe without digging up the existing pipe or disrupting roads, driveways, sidewalks, or landscaping. Since 1971, CIPP has been used to safely reduce construction time, cost and dlsruptions in sewer service, while minimizing the impact on homes, businesses, traffic, and the environment.

The process involves installing a resin-saturated felt tube into an existing sewer pipe. Once in place, the tube Is inflated to fit tightly inside the original pipe and cured or hardened to create a new plastic pipe within the old pipe. During the process, a steam cloud coming from a 6-foot (minimum) vent stack at a manhole may be visible in the air and will dissipate quickly when the process is complete.

Odor

On occasion, there may be a "glue like" odor during the curing process that arises from the styrene component in the resin used in GIPP.

Once the GIPP is fully cured or hardened, the odor will be eliminated.

If a homeowner detects an odor in the home, it is likely entering through the pipe that connects your home to the public sewer main. A "U" shaped pipe called a P-trap is located at all drains/plumbing fixtures and is designed to keep sewer gas and other vapors out of a home or building. Floor drains/ plumbing fixtures may dry out at the P-trap and allow sewer vapors to enter a home or building.

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Emerald River work continues

By Nathan Tsukroff

LEWISTON - Work continues on the planned recreational marijuana dispensary being built by Emerald River Maine at 1240 Lisbon Street.

Neokraft Signs on Pleasant Street in Lewiston will be creating the Emerald River Maine monument sign and building signage.

Matt Taggart, President of Emerald River, recently toured the Neokraft facility as a guest of Carl Ouellette, who is part of the sales team at Neokraft. Twin City Times Publisher Laurie Steele and Office Manager Lillian Baker were also part of the tour.

Gendron and Gendron, a commercial building contractor based in Lewiston, continues to prep the property before starting construction of the

ald River)

building, which is planned for a December opening.

"Lewiston reminds me of home and the people that I've met in Lewiston have been incredible. Picking Lewiston to build our cannabis retail store, on 1240 Lisbon Street, was a natural fit," Taggart said. "Lewiston has a feeling of vibrance to it. Something very positive is happening here."

Emerald River Maine obtained a license for recreational marijuana sales last year, after Maine law was changed to add this type of sale to the existing medical marijuana sales in the state. Under the rules, recreational and medical dispensaries must be in separate buildings.

Medical marijuana sales require a prescription from a doctor, while the new recreational sales

Works continues on the grounds at 1240 Lisbon Street for

the recreational marijuana sales facility for Emerald River

Maine. Under the supervision of Gendron and Gendron, a

general construction contractor in Lewiston, the building is

planned for a December opening. (Photo courtesy of Emer-



er Lillian Baker are hosted by Carl Oullette of Neokraft and Emerald River Maine President Matt Taggart at a recent tour of the Neokraft facility on Pleasant Street in Lewiston. Neokraft will be creating the signs for the new recreational marijuana facility being built for Emerald River on Lisbon

Street. (Photo courtesy of Emerald River)





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law allows anyone of legal age to purchase marijuana extracts with proof of their age and identity.

Ouellette said that Neokraft has been extremely busy creating signs for businesses throughout the area this part year. "We're cranking! Business is up!" he said. Neokraft is seeking people to help with sign creation and installations.

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

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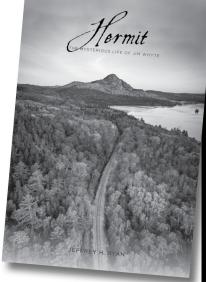
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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE **Rural Development**

NextGrid Cliffrose, LLC: Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact

AGENCY: Rural-Business Service (RBS), USDA

ACTION: Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact.

SUMMARY: The RBS has made a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) with respect to a request for possible financing assistance to NextGrid Cliffrose,LLC for the construction of the Lisbon Road Solar Project in Androscoggin County, Maine

FURTHER INFORMATION: To obtain copies of the EA and FONSI, or for further information, contact: Brian Wilson, P.E., Business & Cooperative Programs Director, USDA Rural Development, 967 Illinois Avenue, Suite 4, Bangor, Maine

04401-2767, 207-990-9125, brian.wilson@usda.gov. The EA and FONSI are also available for public review at 967 Illinois Avenue, Suite 4, Bangor, Maine 04401-2767, 207-990-9125.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The proposed project consists of construction of a 2.49-mw solar farm on an approximately 13-acre site which contains cleared and forested areas. Approximately 10 acres of the project site would be disturbed as a result of the construction activities associated with this project. The Proposed Project Area would be located on the north side of Lisbon Road, near the intersection of Lisbon Road and South Lisbon Road in the city of Lewiston, Androscoggin County, Maine. The Proposed Project would interconnect to the Central Maine Power (CMP) pre-existing electrical distribution system. The power

generated from the facility would be sold to CMP through a long-term Power Purchase Agreement (PPA). The Proposed Project would be accessed from Lisbon Road. An interior road would be constructed inside the perimeter and is anticipated to be flat and would match existing grades to minimize earth work. The Proposed Project Area would be secured by a security fence with standard gates for emergency and maintenance vehicle access. Alternatives considered by RBS and NextGrid Cliffrose, LLC include: No action; under the Action Alternative, RBS would consider financing the proposed Project. The alternatives

are discussed in the Lisbon Road Solar EA. The RBS has reviewed and approved the EA for the proposed project.

availability of the EA for public revie in the following Androscoggin County, Maine on July 1, 2021, and July 8, 2021. A 14-day comment period was announced in the newspaper notice(s). The EA was also available for public review at the USDA Rural Development office as well as NextGrid Cliffrose, LLC offices. No comments were received.

Based on its EA, commitments made by NextGrid Cliffrose, LLC, and public comments received, RBS has concluded that the project would have no significant impact (or no impacts) to water quality, floodplains, land use, aesthetics, transportation, or

RBS has assessed the environmental impacts of this proposal and determined that the location of the Lisbon Road Solar Project will convert approximately 1,682 ft2 of permanent wetland fill through grubbing for the construction of security fencing and the access road. Additionally, there will be approximately 2,261 ft2 of scrub shrub wetland conversion to wet meadow wetlands through vegetation clearing for panel shade reduction. Erosion and sedimentation controls will be installed prior to construction and maintained through project completion. It has been determined that there is no practicable alternative to avoiding this conversion of effect and that there is a significant need for the project. The basis of this determination is the lack of suitable alternative project areas, the mitigation efforted determined by the landowner as well as NextGrid Cliffrose, LLC, and the regional need for an affordable, reliable, and consistent supply of renewable electric power at competitive rates. No public comments were received regarding the conversion of wetlands.

The proposed project will have no adverse effect on resources listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The Agency has also concluded that the proposed project is not likely to affect federally listed threatened and endangered species or designated critical habitat thereof. The proposed project would not disproportionately affect minority and/ or low-income populations

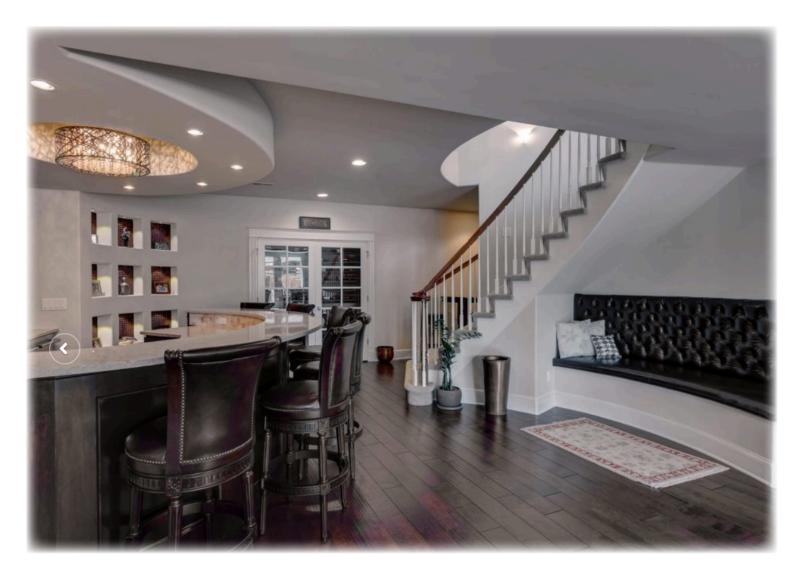
No other potential significant impacts resulting from the proposed project have been identified. Therefore, RBS has determined that this FONSI fulfills its obligations under the National Environmental Policy Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR §§ 1500- 1508), and USDA Rural Development's Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR §§ 1500- 1508), and USDA Rural Development's Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR §§ 1500- 1508), and USDA Rural Development's Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR §§ 1500- 1508), and USDA Rural Development's Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR §§ 1500- 1508), and USDA Rural Development's Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR §§ 1500- 1508), and USDA Rural Development's Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR §§ 1500- 1508), and USDA Rural Development's Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR §§ 1500- 1508), and USDA Rural Development's Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR §§ 1500- 1508). Policies and Procedures (7 CFR Part 1970) for its action related to the project.

RBS is satisfied that the environmental impacts of the proposed project have been adequately addressed. RBS's federal action would not result in significant impacts to the quality of the human environment, and as such it will not prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for its action related to the proposed project.

Dated: July 29, 2021

Page 12 Thursday, August 26, 2021

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1ST AND 3RD TUES-**DAYS**

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!

FRIDAY Aug. 27

5 p.m.

LEWISTON - The next Art Walk L/A begins at 5 pm on Friday, Aug. 27, with in-person arts experiences downtown and live music at the Simard-Payne amphitheater.

Also part of the evening is an artist reception at LA Arts, a new fiction reading at Lewiston Public Library, and a community drawing event in Dufresne Plaza.

AUG. 27, 28, 29 **THOMASTON**

Thomaston Place Auction Galleries on Rt. 1 will present "Splendor, Part II", continuing their summer presentation of outstanding discoveries from New England estates, with an emphasis on fine art -- includ-133 works of Maine ing

The gallery will be open for previews Saturday, August 21 (10:00 a.m.-

Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

3:00 p.m.); and Monday thru Thursday, August 22-26 (9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.). Previewing will also be available on auction days, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, August 27, 28 & 29, from 9:00-11:00 a.m.

SATURDAY Aug. 28

7 p.m.

SOUTH PARIS Celebration Barn presents Vaudeville". "Evicted Some of today's leading variety artists will join together for Evicted Vaudeville, a family-friendly evening of comedy, music, puppetry, stunts and more on Celebration Barn's outdoor, open-air stage.

Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$16 for seniors (60+), and \$8 for kids (17 and under). To purchase tickets, visit www.CelebrationBarn.com. Celebration Barn Theater is located just off Route 117 at 190 Stock Farm Road in South Paris.

MONDAY Aug. 30

6:30 p.m.

POLAND - At Poland Spring Resort. The Poland Spring Preservation Society presents the Sunset Series of concerts. This week: Grassholes.

THURSDAY Sept. 2

4 p.m.

AUBURN – Cable TV Advisory Board meet-

5:30 p.m.

AUBURN Auburn-Lewiston Airport Board meeting.

MONDAY Sept. 6

All town offices and libraries closed for Labor A Virtual Evening with

Day.

TUESDAY Sept. 7

5:30 p.m.

AUBURN Age-Friendly Committee meeting.

6 p.m.

LEWISTON - City Council meeting, at City Hall, 27 Pine Street, Lewiston 1st Floor in the City Council Chambers. This Meeting and Workshop will be broadcast LIVE over Spectrum Cable TV Government Access Channel 7, streamed LIVE through the Great Falls Television web site, and streamed LIVE through the city's YouTube channel http://www.lewistonmaine. gov/YouTube. Archived copies of this meeting will be available immediately after broadcast on the City YouTube Channel and within a day or two after broadcast, for viewing for up to 60 days, at the Great Falls Television web site.

6:30 p.m.

GORHAM - Regular Town Council meeting in council chambers.

WEDNESDAY Sept. 8 4:30 p.m.

AUBURN - Lewiston-Auburn Transit Committee (LATC) meeting.

6:30 p.m.

AUBURN – Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting.

7 p.m.

GORHAM - School Committee meeting.

THURSDAY Sept. 9 5:30-6:30 p.m.

LEWISTON - (Virtual) Take Me to the Moon: NASA, on Zoom and livestreamed to Facebook

Join Lewiston Public Library for a virtual evening with NASA communication strategist and museum liaison, Patricia first project of its kind to establish sustainable exprogram is suitable for all ages!

For more information or to register for the Zoom link, please contact the Reference Desk at 207-513-3135 or at LPLReference@LewistonMaine.gov

Sept. 13

ing date.

AUBURN - City

nance Committee meeting, in City Hall Administrator's Conference Room.

7 p.m.

GORHAM - Planning Board Meeting in council chambers.

TUESDAY Sept. 14

6 p.m.

LEWISTON - City Council Workshop, at City Hall, 27 Pine Street, Lewiston 1st Floor in the City Council chambers. This Workshop will be broadcast LIVE over Spectrum Cable TV Government Access Channel 7, streamed LIVE through the Great Falls Television site, and streamed LIVE through the city's YouTube channel http://www.lew-

Moore, as she shares about the Artemis Project, the ploration and prepare for missions to Mars. This

MONDAY

5:30 p.m.

LEWISTON - Planning Board meeting, at City Hall Council chambers. The Planning Board Agenda and information for this meeting will be available on the website on the Friday before the meet-

Council workshop and meeting.

5:30-6:30 p.m.

LEWISTON - Fi-GORHAM - Ecoference room A.

AUBURN - 9-1-1 Committee meeting.

7 p.m.

nity Forest Subcommittee meeting.

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sion web site. AUBURN - Planning Board meeting.

at the Great Falls Televi-

7 p.m.

GORHAM - Conservation Commission meet-

WEDNESDAY **Sept. 15**

8 a.m.

nomic Development Corporation meeting in con-

THURSDAY Sept. 16

8 a.m.

6:30 p.m.

GORHAM - tentative Board of Appeals meeting om council cham-

GORHAM tative Recurring Capital Projects/ Improvement Economic Development Committee meeting council chambers.

AUBURN - Commu-

Councilor

Continued from page 1

appoint an eligible person to fill the unexpired term within ten (10) calendar days thereafter."

Under those rules, Council President Michel Lajoie is currently accepting applications from registered voters in Ward 2 who are interested in being considered for appointment to the Lewiston City Council.

Applications available immediately from the City Clerk's Office, 27 Pine Street, and on the City's website at www.lewistonmaine.gov/ publicboard.

This opening is for the remainder of Pettingill's current two-year term that expires January 2022. All eligible applicants must be at least 20 years old and must be registered voters of Ward 2 in Lewiston. Applications must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office no later than 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 1. The appointment is scheduled to be on the City Council meeting agenda of Sept. 7.

Questions regarding the appointment procedure as well as the tasks and duties of a City Councilor may be directed to the City Clerk's Office at (207) 513-3124.



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For questions and detailed information on any of these trips, please call Claire - 207-784-0302 H - 207-576-8604 C or Cindy - 207-345-9569

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