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THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2020

Buxton moves annual town meeting to July

Due to health concerns related to the coronavirus (COVID-19), the Town of Buxton Annual Town Meeting secret ballot election originally scheduled for June 9, has been postponed to Tuesday, July 14, according to a recent notice signed by the Buxton Board of Selectmen on April 22.

The State of Maine Primary and Referendum, along with the Maine School Administrative District No. 6 election of Directors will also be held on July 14, 2020 for the Town of Buxton.

The annual town meeting and secret ballot election will be held at the Buxton Town Hall at 185 Portland Road.



Frank Fritz, left, and Mike Wolfe, and the American Pickers crew are looking for large, rare collections and things they have never seen before, and they are coming to New England.

American **Pickers** looking for collectors

Mike Wolfe, Frank Fritz, and their team are excited to return to Maine, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New Hampshire and Vermont to film episodes of the hit series American Pickers throughout your area potentially this summer.

We understand that with the proliferation of COVID-19, we are all facing very uncertain times, and everything is changing daily. We at American Pickers are taking this pandemic very seriously and will be adjusting our schedule accordingly for the safety of those who appear on our show and our crew. We won't be picking

(Continued on page 5)



A previous year's crop at Black Kettle Farm at 1391 South Waterboro Road in Lyman. COURTESY PHOTO

Fresh produce close to home

By JOANNE BARGIONI

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA), farmers markets and co-ops have long been a favored way of collecting fresh, local produce in Maine. It is especially important this year in the midst of the Coronavirus to assess different ways for us to get our farm-fresh produce without having to go to the grocery stores.

There are many options now for shoppers who want quality, organic products that they can receive all summer long and into the fall. Many farms offer CSA. When you become a member of a CSA you are supporting your local farming community here in Maine. These farms have suffered over the duration of the Coronavirus and are in need of our assistance and support. This is a win-win solution. We receive fresh veggies and the farms get their support. Owner/farmer Laura Neale of

Black Kettle Farm in Lyman, says "these are challenging times, so let's all stay healthy and keep our community connections strong. So much has changed so quickly but one thing is for sure...we all gotta eat!" At Black Kettle Farm, other local products will also be offered, from Alfred's Three Cheese Farm, Mousam Valley Mushrooms from Springvale, Short Creek Farm from New Hampshire offering pork and beef products, Maple Moon Farms from Lebanon offering Maple Syrup and Berwick's Hackmatack Farm, offering Bison. This year the farm has changed its model. It has been a CSA for ten years but this year, according to Neale, it will be more of a co-op or farmers market than a CSA. There is no commitment, you will get an email once a week beginning in June, offering choices of veggies for the week or a grab bag with veggies chosen by

(Continued on page 4)

Spectrum is still hiring! START DATE: Friday, May 29 Visit jobs.spectrum.com today!

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PAID TRAINING: 6 weeks, Tue.-Sat. 11 a.m.-7:30 p.m. • STARTING PAY: \$16.50/hour, plus .75 shift differential for shifts that start at or after 11 a.m. BENEFITS: Medical, Dental, Vision, 401 K w/6% company match, Retirement plan, Free and discounted employee cable, internet & phone package (must live in service footprint), Accrued paid vacation, personal days, annual paid holidays, accrued paid sick time, and annual tuition reimbursement of \$5,250. MAINE DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES & WILDLIFE

Recreational trail program grants available to qualifying projects

The Bureau of Parks and Lands (BPL) Grants and Community Recreation Program today announced the availability of Recreational Trails Program (RTP) funding. RTP funds are available to qualifying projects to develop and maintain recreational trails and trail-related facilities for motorized and non motorized recreational trail uses. The RTP is an assistance program of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration.

"The BPL is proud to support community RTP projects," said Maine State Trail Administrator Douglas Beck. "The more quality local trails that are convenient for people to find and use, the more likely they will be to venture out and enjoy the benefits of physical activity and a connection to nature."

Eligible projects include:

• Maintenance and restorati

- Maintenance and restoration of existing recreational trails.
- Development and rehabilitation of trail side and trailhead facilities and trail linkages for recreational trails.

- Construction of new recreational trails.
- Acquisition of easements or fee simple title to property for recreational trails or recreational trail corridors.

Available Funds:

- The Annual Apportionment to the Maine RTP is \$1,442,741.
- Of this amount Maine DOT allocates \$938,000 to the program. This amount funds administration of the program and grants to local and state partners for eligible trail projects.
- Again this year we will entertain applications in the Motorized, Non-Motorized and Diverse Trail use categories up to \$50,000 and in the large scale project category up to \$120,000.
- RTP can fund upwards of 80 percent of eligible project costs.

Grant Documents and Resources

• The current application, application guidance and program guidance documents are found on the Maine Grants and Community Recreation, RTP website.

POLICE NOTES

Hiram standoff/shooting

State Police shot and killed a man Saturday following an 12 hour armed standoff at the man's home on the Tripptown Road in Hiram where the gunman fired multiple shots at police. The man killed was 59 year old Reed Rickabaugh. No police officers were injured. According to a state police report, the police involvement with Rickabaugh began Thursday when an Oxford County deputy sheriff started investigating a report of gunshots from Rickabaugh's home and a bullet striking a neighbor's house. Rickabaugh would only speak to the deputy through a closed door.

On Friday night, two deputy sheriffs returned to the home to continue the investigation and Rickabaugh answered the door armed with a handgun. The deputies moved to a position of cover while ordering Rickabaugh to drop the gun. Rickabaugh shot at the deputies, striking their vehicle, and went back inside

his home

The State Police Crisis Negotiation and Tactical Teams were requested by the sheriff's office and they attempted throughout the night to contact Rickabaugh, who shot at officers on multiple occasions from inside his residence, twice striking an occupied police vehicle.

Multiple attempts to persuade Rickabaugh to leave his residence were unsuccessful. On Saturday at 10:45 A.M., Rickabaugh came out of his home and an armed confrontation occurred that resulted in two members of the State Police Tactical Team, Corporals G.J. Neagle and Paul Casey, shooting and killing Rickabaugh.

As in all cases of the use of deadly force by law enforcement, the Maine Attorney General's Office is the lead investigating agency. As is also normal protocol, the two officers involved were placed on paid administrative leave.

BUSINESS NEWS

Action needed for SS beneficiaries with dependents

Social Security beneficiaries and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients who don't file tax returns will start receiving their automatic Economic Impact Payments directly from the Treasury Department soon. People receiving benefits who did not file 2018 or 2019 taxes, and have qualifying children under age 17, however, should not wait for their automatic \$1,200 individual payment. They should immediately go to the IRS's webpage at www.irs.gov/coronavirus/non-filers-enter-payment-info-here and visit the Non-Filers: Enter Payment Info Here section to provide their information. Social Security retirement, survivors, and disability insurance beneficiaries with dependent children and who did not file 2018 or 2019 taxes need to act by Wednesday, April 22, in order to receive additional payments for their eligible children quickly. SSI recipients need to take this action by later this month; a specific date will be available soon.

By taking this proactive step to enter information on the IRS website about them and their qualifying children, they will also receive the \$500 per dependent child payment in addition to their \$1,200 individual payment. If beneficiaries in this group do not provide their information to the IRS soon, their payment at this time will be \$1,200. People would then be required to file a tax year 2020 tax return to obtain the additional \$500 per eligible child.

I urge Social Security and SSI recipients with qualifying children who do not normally file taxes to take action now. Immediately go to IRS.gov so that you will receive the full amount of the Economic Impact Payments you and your family are eligible for.

People with Direct Express debit cards who enter information at the IRS's website should complete all of the mandatory questions, but they may leave the bank account information section blank as Treasury already has their Direct Express information on file.

Additionally, any new beneficiaries since January 1, 2020, of either Social Security or SSI bene-

fits, who did not file a tax return for 2018 or 2019, will also need to go to the IRS's Non-Filers website to enter their information as they will not receive automatic payments from Treasury."

MaineHealth team without layoffs or loss of pay

Fighting the pandemic means some assignments have changed, and some are logging fewer hours, but all employees are receiving the full pay and benefits they had prior to the outbreak.

Portland, Maine – Noting that none of its employees have been laid off or seen their pay and benefits diminished, MaineHealth today released details on how it is redeploying staff amid the COVID-19 outbreak.

"In an effort to provide financial security and assurance to our employees at a time when so much is being demanded of them, we have decided that all MaineHealth employees who are sent home for any COVID-19- related reason will receive their regular pay and benefits and will not be required to use paid time off," said Judith West, chief human resources officer of Maine-Health

As part of planning for the pandemic response, MaineHealth has postponed elective procedures and non-urgent medical appointments. As a result, some care team members have naturally seen their work hours reduced, or in rare cases, have seen their work hours totally eliminated. These employees continue to receive the same level of pay and benefits they had prior to the pandemic, meaning if a 40-hourper-week employee is not working for 10 hours a week, they are still being paid for 40 hours. Across the healthcare system, which employs 22,000, about 12 percent of employees have seen a reduction in the number of hours on the job and less than 2 percent have seen all their shifts eliminated.

West said, however, that the staffing situation is very fluid as planning for the pandemic responses develops. As part of this process MaineHealth is evaluating on an ongoing basis the licenses, certifications and skills of its employees, and where appropriate, reassigning them to roles in support of the COVID-19 response.

"Our care team members are

eager to help in any way they can," said West. "Our goal is to keep our staff resources intact so that we can meet the challenges that might arise as the outbreak progresses."

Across the system, team members have stepped up where needed. The goal is to leverage existing skills into new functions rather than completely change someone's job. So, for instance, physicians and advanced practice providers previously assigned to neurosurgery, urology, cardiac surgery and primary care are instead serving as physicians and advanced practice providers at COVID-19 testing sites and respiratory assessment centers. Doctors and nurses have been redeployed to employee health so that they can answer team members' health-related questions. MaineHealth support staff has also been assigned to assist with community blood drives to help address the shortage of donated blood at

West said MaineHealth's scale as the largest health system in northern New England has provided flexibility and resources as planning for the pandemic response has progressed. "Our local health systems know they have the strength of our entire system behind them as they deliver care in the communities we serve," she said.

West said the current staffing policies will be reviewed on roughly a monthly basis with the next such review scheduled in the next two weeks. "This is a very dynamic situation," she said. "As such, we are constantly evaluating our approach with the goal of supporting our team so they can provide excellent care throughout this crisis."

Dental practices donate

A number of dental practices throughout Maine have donated personal protective equipment to their local hospitals, clinics, nursing homes, and first responders, in an effort to help fight the spread of COVID-19, and aid in the response

According to information collected by the Maine Dental Association from its members, more than 25 practices have donated more than 10,000 masks and more than 20,000 gloves, along with items such as sanitizing wipes, face shields, and surgical gowns.

The Maine Dental Association is urging member dentists to donate personal protective equipment in their local communities.

"It has been heartening to see dental practices in Maine step up like they have, by donating their personal protective equipment," said Dr. Brad Rand, president of the Maine Dental Association Board of Directors. "There is a critical shortage of these items, and the health and safety of the public is at risk. I'm proud of Maine dentists for their generosity to those on the front line."

On March 16, the American Dental Association recommended dentists nationwide postpone elective procedures for three weeks, but still be open for emergencies. Maine Gov. Janet Mills has also asked that dental practices postpone elective procedures and be open for emergencies. The MDA has echoed both of those recommendations.





NEWFIELD

C.J. Pike fudgecupboard@yahoo.com 793-8760

Status update on Newfield's municipal buildings

Newfield selectmen held a meeting via Zoom this past week, on Tuesday, April 21, to update the town on what is going on regarding the Covid-19 virus, and how it relates to the town government, and the safety of the citizens.

Three selectmen were there: Kenny Gates, Shelley Gobielle, and James McLaughlin; the Fire Chief Jason Neville; Rescue Chief Nick Santangelo; Town Clerk Justine Perkins; Town Accountant, Nichole Hubbard; and 8 other citizens listened in.

According to Kenny Gates, this was a general informational meeting to let everyone know that our local government is available, and conducting town business; and they can still be reached, if needed.

Newfield Town Office is closed to the public until further notice, however, the clerks will be available by phone to answer questions with online registrations and other pertinent inquiries. Call 793-4348, their new hours by phone during this time are:Tues-

day, Wednesday and Thursday 9:00 - 11:45 a.m. and 1-4:45 p.m.

For the most up-to-date information regarding vehicle registrations, go to the main menu / town clerk / link to resources and click BMV or visit maine.gov/sos/bmv. Please go to newfieldme.org for more details.

The Public Safety Building at 85 Water Street is also closed to the public until further notice. If there is anything that you need, call 793-2330. Due to the closure, Burn Permits can now only be obtained online at: www13.informe. org/burnpermit/public/index. html. Per the Fire Chief and the State of Maine guidance, burning is only permitted from 5 p.m. to 9 a.m.

The Town Transfer Station is closed on Wednesdays until further notice, but it is open weekends: Saturdays and Sundays from 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. The Transfer Station will only be accepting household trash and recycling. All of the areas requiring exchange of receipts and monetary payments are closed to avoid close person-to-person contact. Please stay at least 6-8 feet away from any attendant you may encounter, and no one is authorized to go into the office/hut.

The West Newfield Town Hall is also closed during this time, as well as the Newfield Library, and other town buildings.

To get building permits or if you have questions regarding projects, call the Code Enforcement Officer Norman Hutchins at 608-2544. He will be processing as much as possible by phone, email, and mail.

The town fire department and town officials would like to send a huge thanks to Humphrey's Smokers on Water Street for the safety glasses that they provided to Newfield's first responders.

Gates said that he would like to personally thank our Fire Chief, Rescue Chief, Town Clerk, and our Town Accountant for providing us with a short briefing on the work they are doing to keep the town functioning.

In the event, that the virus continues, they may need to have another Selectman's Meeting via Zoom. If so, it will be posted on the Newfield Happenings page on Facebook, so that more local residents can view it.

Town selectmen and other town personnel wish to thank everyone for their understanding and patience during this very difficult situation.

Happy birthday!

Birthday wishes go to: Bruce Colwell, Bob Dailey, Mary Cuevas, Arnold Winn, and Meryl Richardson.

Happy anniversary!

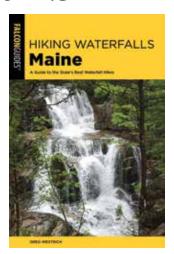
Ann and Bob Dailey; and Lisa and Craig Richardson will be celebrating their anniversaries.

Hiking Maine waterfalls

A talk and slideshow by Greg Westrich

Everyone loves waterfalls. There's something hypnotic about watching water move across rock. It's so simple and yet infinitely complex. The wash of white noise is soothing, creating a layering of tones like an orchestra. Greg Westrich's new guide, Hiking Maine Waterfalls, contains more than 100 waterfalls across our state. Many of Maine's best waterfalls are remote and little visited. Many become mere trickles by summer. Where to go? What to see? Whether you are a hiker or an armchair traveler, Greg's presentation and slideshow will inspire you to discover all the great waterfalls he visited this year.

Greg Westrich is the author of six Maine hiking guides published by Falcon and more than fifty articles and stories in newspapers, anthologies, and magazines, including Canoe & Kayak and Down East. He's written about everything from backyard mushrooms to wedding traditions in Aroostrook county. He earned a MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Southern Maine's



Stonecoast Program, and currently teaches writing and literature at Husson University and Eastern Maine Community College.

Greg lives in Glenburn, Maine with his wife Ann, their two children Emma and Henry, and too many pets. He was born in Cincinnati and has visited 49 states and most of the Canadian provinces. Maine is his favorite place, which is why he's lived here for twenty three years.

Join the Goodall Memorial Library for Greg's presentation via ZOOM on May 13 at 6:30 p.m. To sign up, email: jeanc@lbgoodall. org. We'll respond to you with the meeting ID.



Thanks to Partners Bank for its conscientious and caring attention to our business over the years.

The Partners organization including Senior Managers, Board Members, Loan Officers, Branch Managers, Tellers...ALL have contributed and allowed us to continue and grow our business.

The Partners team, dating back to Sanford Institution for Savings, have worked with us for 15 years, through several economic downturns, a tragic fire, and now this Covid 19 Pandemic...

The team has always listened to and timely considered our requests.

In short, the Owners, Managers, Employees and Patrons of Province Lake Golf want to thank Partners for all it has done over the years for our organization and for so many others in our area.

YOU DONE GOOD...



PAGE 4 Thursday, April 30, 2020 — REPORTER



Jess Anderson, Director of The Leadership School at Kieve Wavus Education, participates in a workshop at OUT Maine's 2019 Rainbow Ball Weekend at Camp Wavus. Jess will be presenting an online workshop on effective communication on May 12 in collaboration with OUT Maine.

PHOTO BY STEVE SCOVILLE

OUT Maine expands online workshops for LGBTQ+ youth

OUT Maine, a non-profit that serves LGBTQ+ youth throughout Maine, has been collaborating with other organizations to create even more free weekly workshops for youth and young adults. Workshop content ranges from life-skills building topics to creative expression.

Maine Family Planning, New Hope for Women, Camp Kieve-Wavus, Maine Youth Action Network (MYAN), Healthy Communities of the Capital Area (HCCA) and Maine Educational Opportunity Center (MEOC), as well as individual community members, are among those collaborating with OUT Maine to help keep Maine's LGBTQ+ Maine youth and their allies connected and supported. Upcoming workshops include Poetry as a Prism for Self-Expression with Danielle Layton (MYAN) on May 5th and What is Effective Communication with Jess Anderson from Kieve- Wavus Education on May 12th.

Photographer and retired Mount Desert Island high school teacher Lin Gould is offering creative online workshops Photovoice and Writing Six Word Stories every Monday and Thursday respectively.

In addition to these workshops, OUT Maine is offering weekly programming: Wednesday Youth Group for youth ages 11-18, a Friday Young Adult Group for ages 18-22, and a Thursday Dungeons n Dragons game for ages 11-22. These programs utilize online platforms, including Zoom, Google and Discord.

Interested youth can register for programs at www.outmaine. org. Registrations are confidential - they simply provide access to group programming "rooms." These workshops are not exclusive to youth who identify as LGBTQ+; youth allies* are welcome and encouraged to attend.

OUT Maine is seeking more workshop presenters for online programs as it expands these offerings. If you are interested in providing a free workshop for youth, please contact rachel@outmaine.org

*What does it mean to be an LGBTQ+ ally? In OUT Maine programs, it means someone who does not identify as LGBTQ+ but is supportive of the LGBTQ+ community.

ALFRED

Allison Williams
awilliams@waterbororeporter.com
324-5823

Parish Church scholarships

Anyone interested in attending Pilgrim Lodge this summer needs to obtain an application form from Julie Nugent at 108 Pheasant Run Road, East Waterboro Maine 04030 or danajulie@sacoriver. net. Once the application is filled out you can scan it and email it back. Please do not email them to the church but email her that it is coming.

The Pilgrim Lodge Scholarships are due before May 17 so the money can be sent to Pilgrim Lodge in time for campers. The college scholarship applications are due before June 30 and are awarded in December. If for some reason Pilgrim Lodge is unable to open this summer, applications will just be set aside.

For any questions contact danajulie@sacoriver.net.

News from Heidi Sampson

There are auto insurance discounts due to the coronavirus. Allstate has announced they have payback plans for those sheltering in place. It is 15 percent based on premiums for April and May. American Family offers a one time payment of \$50 insured with them. Chubb provides it personal auto insurance reductions of 35 percent for April and May. Farmers will reduce insurance premiums by 25 percent for one month. Geico offers credits of 15 percent of the next six month policy term as policies come up for renewal. Hartford will issue refunds of about 15 percent of April and May premiums.

Liberty Mutual is giving personal auto insurance customers a 15 percent refund on two months of their auto insurance premium based on the premium amount as of April 7, 2020. Nationwide will issue a \$50 refund per policy for all personal policies active as of March 31, 2020. Progressive gives policy holders a 20 percent of their April or May premiums. State Farm gives a credit of about 25 percent for March 20 to the end of May - exact percentages vary by state. Travelers gives personal insurance customers a 15 percent credit on April and May premiums and USAA gives every member with an auto insurance policy in effect as of March 31,2020 a 20 percent credit on two months of premiums. It will automatically be applied to customers' bills. If you have auto insurance this will help you save.

Pea Soup for Supper

I do not know who mentioned it first, but my extended family decided on pea soup. We sometimes share foods, so that sounded OK. Only I tried to remember when I had last made pea soup and headed for a cookbook. The first one only told how to can pea soup. The next," A Weight Watcher's Down to Earth Volume" included numerous additions, including 1/4 tsp. barbecue smoked seasoning, bay leaves, vegetable broth, dried thyme, chopped parsley, white wine, chopped onion, 1 ½ cups peeled diced baking potato, garlic cloves, etc etc. This was more than intimidating.

"Betty Crocker's Picture Cookbook," on the other hand was more matter of fact, using 2 cups dried split peas, ham bone or small shank, 2 stalks celery, a sprig of parsley, large onion minced, and 3 quarts of cold water. This I could

handle but where were the peas? A search of the cupboard revealed an opened bag of split peas. They would have to do. I called my daughter, her mother in law answered, yes, she had a bag of split peas. So we headed for Lyman.

Gigi, as we call her, met us at the door and handed me her bag of split peas. I was surprised why did she have a bag of peas? "So I could make soup!" It would be a lot of soup for one senior citizen, but I took the bag. "I also need to find a ham bone," I added. She also had that - it would need to be cut in two - a job for my husband. The ham bone actually belonged to my daughter. She is the one with the chickens and sheep, who boards horses and whatever animal crosses her path. At one time there was a miniature horse with its best friend, a large pig boarding there. Also several goats. A visit there is always interesting. If the lambs haven't been fed they will be baa-ing at the kitchen door. They really are adorable. But this time it was a quick visit.

We headed home with our bounty of peas and ham bone. I put the soup together minus the extras, put it in my daughter's bowl and left it on our porch table. The next day the soup was a solid concoction - you could have stood a shovel upright in it. We divided it up into those we guessed would be the soup eaters and had our portion for supper. It was delicious. When we stopped in at our daughter's the next day I noticed a bowl of partially eaten soup on the table. I tactfully didn't inquire. But we thought ours was very good.

LOCAL FARMS

 $(Continued\ from\ page\ 1)$

the farm. Social distancing policies will be observed, and patrons will receive their order already packed up and ready for pick-up from your vehicle. Their website will include weekly order forms for online ordering and payment info for online payment. Days for pickups have not been established yet and Neale asks people to visit www.blackkettlefarm.com to check for updates if they are interested in receiving vegetables this season.

This year there will be a difference in the handling of food. According to Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (MOFGA), "transmission of the Coronavirus is less likely when only one or a few known people handle food, and currently there are no reports of viral transmission through food." Measures that are being taken by local producers are 'grab and go' prepackaged produce with flat rate pricing to minimize produce and payment handling. Farms are offering online ordering and online payment options. Some farmstands may open earlier this season and some may even offer delivery and dropoffs. If you plan to sign up for farm fresh produce, do so soon as the farmers need to know how many members they will have in order to plan for the season.

For more info visit www.mof-ga.org or https://extension.uma-ine.edu/agriculture/farm-prod-uct-and-pickup-directory/.



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CIA Salvage Inc. and CIA Waste Industries send our best wishes to the community during the COVID-19 Pandemic. We are running normal

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Chad E. Poitras

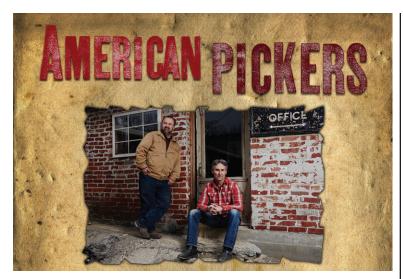
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AMERICAN PICKERS

(Continued from page 1)

until everybody is safe, so if we cannot make it this summer, no-body's time is wasted as we will re-schedule to a date when conditions allow filming. However, we are excited to continue to reach the many collectors in the area to discuss their years of picking!

American Pickers is a documentary series that explores the fascinating world of antique "picking" on the History Channel.

The hit show follows Mike and Frank, two of the most skilled pickers in the business, as they hunt for America's most valuable antiques. They are always excited to find sizeable, unique collections and learn the interesting stories behind them.

As they hit the back roads from coast to coast, Mike and Frank are on a mission to recycle and rescue forgotten relics. Along the way, the Pickers want to meet characters with remarkable and

exceptional items. The pair hopes to give historically significant objects a new lease on life, while learning a thing or two about America's past along the way.

Mike and Frank have seen a lot of rusty gold over the years and are always looking to discover something they've never seen before. They are ready to find extraordinary items and hear fascinating tales about them.

American Pickers is looking for leads and would love to explore your hidden treasure. If you or someone you know has a large, private collection or accumulation of antiques that the Pickers can spend the better part of the day looking through, send us your name, phone number, location and description of the collection with photos to: americanpickers@cineflix.com or call 855-OLD-RUST.

AMERICAN PICKERS is produced by Cineflix Productions for History. New episodes air Mondays at 9pm EST on History.

Be Kind to Animals Week May 4-9

Established by American Humane in 1915, Be Kind to Animals Week is a celebration of humane education and its role in teaching kindness, empathy and compassion towards animals of all kinds. The Animal Welfare Society (AWS) has partnered with some of the state's premiere animal-related nonprofits to celebrate May 4-9.

AWS and other nonprofits will present educational programming geared toward students in grades K-8. In addition to presentations from AWS' Humane Educator and a Technician from the AWS Community Veterinary Clinic, participating non-profits include Center for Wildlife, Herp Haven Reptile and Sanctuary, the Maine State So-

ciety for the Protection of Animals (MSSPA) and Marine Mammals of Maine

"We are pleased to partner with our friends at fellow nonprofits to reach children in this time of distance learning," explains Brie Roche, AWS' Humane Educator and organizer of this collaborative event. "With so many amazing organizations right here in Southern Maine, we look forward to teaching empathy for all animals. Whether it's cats, dogs, porcupines, snakes, owls, horses or seals – all animals can teach us how to be thoughtful, gentle and compassionate human beings."

"Humane education is more important now than ever before," says Robert Sheckler, Community Programs Manager at MSSPA. "During times of economic uncertainty, horses are at increased risk for neglect, and they do not have voices to speak for themselves. Collaborating with AWS and other animal organiza-

tions this week is an exciting way to teach passionate young animal welfare advocates all about equines!"

The presentations will take place daily at Noon (10 a.m. on Saturday, May 9) via the meeting app Zoom. For information and to RSVP to participate in any/all of the free presentations, visit animalwelfaresociety. org/youth/be-kind-week/

To learn about the participating nonprofits, find them on Facebook or visit them online at:

Animal Welfare Society: https://animalwelfaresociety.org/

Center for Wildlife: https://www.thecenterforwildlife.org/

Herp Haven Reptile and Sanctuary: https://herphaven.org/

MSSPA: https://www.msspa.org/ Marine Mammals of Maine: https://www.mmome.org/

For more information, contact Brie Roche, AWS Humane Educator, (207) 985-3244 ext. 109



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OPINION

LETTERS

Dear Governor Mills,

Many Mainers are facing desperate times. I would like to offer my thoughts for consideration so together we can move this state into a healthy, positive direction. It's vital we exercise wisdom and insight as we go forward. I believe you desire the best for the people in this state. In that light, I will communicate the struggles facing many of my constituents. If they were to speak to you, they would share their struggles in a much more blunt manner.

When people are denied the right to earn a living to support themselves and their families, they are stripped of the will to thrive. I urge you to consider other issues that extend beyond those afflicted or potentially afflicted by COVID-19. The collateral damage is escalating exponentially each day the shutdown economy continues.

In the daily briefings it is repeatedly suggested for people to sit at home and continue watching Netflix. All the while people are disintegrating into desperation and despondency. This dismissive suggestion is very troubling. It illustrates a lack of comprehension for the wide-reaching implications of these mandates. We are significantly compounding the mental health crisis we have been trying to address here in Maine.

I would like to address two specific issues of great concern that need immediate attention: the lack of accessibility to unemployment and the need to reopen Maine.

Businesses and employees are now in great peril. It has been five weeks for many Mainers who have been laid off. People have yet to receive a check from the unemployment office despite calling hundreds of times in one day, just to be put on hold and then disconnected. Five weeks of this is unacceptable and needs to be addressed now.

The self-employed and sole proprietors are being immediately dismissed out of hand with no explanation, yet they have had no income for well over a month as well. The federal government has released the funds and the states are the ones who have to process them to the self-employed individuals who file a claim, yet there is no means by which one can file a claim as of yet. This program is supposed to be up and running by April 30th. It's working in other states currently. What's going on here in Maine?

Policies going forward must address both those who have been laid-off as well as the self-employed. Businesses need to reopen in a mindful manner, which I will address as well.

The following are my sugges-

UNEMPLOYMENT

• Immediately utilize the career centers around the state, also bring furloughed state workers and state employees from all other departments to work around the clock, three shifts to promptly get the job

- Keep phone lines open for 14 hrs, 8 a.m. –10 p.m.
- Half of the workers take calls, the other half process checks
 - Mail checks immediately.
- Do not hang up on anyone without being able to directly call them back.
- Do not discontinue a conversation because the shift has ended and a state worker wants to go home - that's not acceptable.
- Provide instructions to the self-employed individuals that their needs will be met. Communicate it's a federal program that is still being constructed. Assure them it is retroactive and will provide them \$600/week. Let them know how to file a claim when the
- Eliminate the bottleneck regarding the intakes – this must be top priority.
- Continue until everyone has received their needed unemploy-
- No excuses are acceptable. People are in a panic and are desperate.

If we care for every life, and that's the reason for the restrictions we are currently under, then it's time to pay attention to the hundreds of thousands who have no money. Only you can fix this!

REOPEN MAINE

• Low Risk Districts: There are 12-13 districts which have less than 20 cases and declining. These districts should reopen immediately. It will begin slowly and it will be important to monitor progress.

- Let businesses establish their own safety measures. Businesses have a strong drive for self-preservation and will take safety precautions in the interest of their customers, or risk losing their patronage. They will be motivated to minimize health risks that jeopardize their customers' safety.
- Allow businesses to communicate their safety measures to the public that ensure public health and regain their confidence.
- High Risk Districts need to consider a modified schedule to fully re-open.
- Reconsider the businesses that can fully operate that are not on the "essential" businesses list.
- · Reopen outdoor businesses immediately and use common sense criteria - golfing, outdoor recreation, parks, etc. should be allowed to reopen while maintaining social distancing.
- Allow any business to open when they can demonstrate adequate safety measures for the pub-
- Triage: the contaminated should remain quarantined, the elderly and those with fragile health should choose to stay in place, and the healthy should go back to work while taking responsibility for their own health.

- · Individual behavior and personal responsibility is premium and needs to be honored. We all are now fully aware of the consequences and are capable of self-regulating our own behavior. It's time we allow people to demonstrate this, while at the same time allowing them to earn a living.
- Maine citizens should be more aware of surroundings so contact tracing can occur with greater ease should a problem arise.
- Out-of-state guests and visitors, welcome to Maine. They should continue to self-quarantine for 14 days, use social distancing practices like the rest of us, and abide by CDC hygiene instructions.

Most importantly, we need to reopen our businesses now. The COVID-19 data and trends in Maine suggest this is most favorable to begin. It needs to be done in an intelligent and safe manner per federal guidelines designed to produce safe workplaces.

People and businesses are well versed on how to accomplish this. A thoughtful restart up will help mitigate the even more devastating consequences of economic ruin.

Respectfully, Representative Heidi H. Sampson

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EMPLOYMENT



Immediate Opening

Course & Facilities Maintenance Supervisor

DESCRIPTION:

Perform golf course maintenance, other skilled landscape and building maintenance tasks, and semi-skilled labor to maintain the golf course's turfs, facilities, cart paths and structures, and including the general care and upkeep; operates motorized equipment and irrigation systems, and does related work, as required. This position will work under the direction of the Golf Course Superintendent, General Manager & Owners.

JOB DUTIES:

- · Maintain golf course by completing daily assigned tasks; assist with maintaining and operating the irrigation system; care for the putting greens and tees by watering, reseeding, manicuring, spiking, topdressing and mowing using specialized equipment; care for sand traps, fairways, and roughs by raking, watering, edging, spiking, aerifying, weeding and manicuring; care for grounds around golf course facilities and structures; perform minor tree-trimming
- · Operate and repair golf course equipment by adjusting the tolerance on mowing equipment for specific greens and areas, sharpening blades, changing belts and filters, replacing batteries and spindles, restoring radiators, water pumps, and alternators, and inspecting the green irrigation system for problems.
- · Working knowledge of golf course equipment and repair, i.e. mowers, carts, maintenance carts, and landscaping equipment.
- · Maintain, clean and perform light maintenance to golf course facilities including clubhouse, maintenance building, storage facilities, and other campus venues.

COMPENSATION:

This position has both seasonal and non-seasonal options. Pay will depend on experience, benefits based on final position option.

HOW TO APPLY:

Please email resumé, cover letter or letter of interest to Sabin at sbeckwith@provincelakegolf.com or call 207-793-9612 to setup a time to drop off your documents.

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EMPLOYMENT



Immediate Opening

Assistant Groundskeeper/ Golf Course Foreman

DESCRIPTION:

Under general directions, to serve as a working supervisor of golf course maintenance personnel; care and monitoring of the greens, tees, fairways, bunkers, tree planting, irrigation, and other facilities of the golf course. This is a first line supervisory position assigned to the golf course and reports to the Golf Course Superintendent, General Manger & Owners.

JOB DUTIES:

- Knowledge and proper care and maintenance of greens, tees, fairways, bunkers and rough. Use and application of herbicides, pesticides and fungicides when properly licensed. Proper care and use of equipment on the golf course. Proper care and use of fertilizers and fertilizer application.
 - Proper troubleshooting and repair of golf course irrigation which includes but is not limited to: heads, valves, pumps, lateral and main water lines. The planting of trees and shrubs.
- Daily maintenance requirements on a golf course. Proper supervision and operation of centralized irrigation computer systems. A working knowledge of computer operation with experience in Word and Excel would be helpful but not required.
- Ability to work independently of the Golf Course Supervisor and supervise the work with others. Effectively sequence work tasks and distribute among co-workers. Keep records and make reports. Order materials and equipment needed.
 - Establish and maintain open and honest communications with co-workers at all levels of organization. Follow oral and written directions and instructions. Exhibit a high customer service priority. Maintain the golf course to satisfy the ever increasing demands of customers.
 - Safely transport, lift and handle objects weighing up to fifty (50) pounds.

COMPENSATION:

This position has both seasonal and non-seasonal options. Pay will depend on experience, benefits based on final position option.

HOW TO APPLY:

Please email resumé, cover letter or letter of interest to Sabin at sbeckwith@provincelakegolf.com or call 207-793-9612 to setup a time to drop off your documents.

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