

REPORTER

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER



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THURSDAY, JULY 30, 2020

Beware of unsolicited packages of seeds from China

Do not plant them and report it to Division of Animal and Plant Health

In Maine and across the US, people are reporting receiving unsolicited packages containing seeds from China in the mail. The Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (DACF) Bureau of Agriculture is advising anyone who gets these packages to not open or plant the seeds.

Recipients are asked to contact either DACF's Division of Animal and Plant Health, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., at 287-3200 or by emailing horticulture@maine.gov or the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal Plant Health Inspection Service - Plant Protection and Quarantine office in Hermon, at 848-0008. Recipients should hold onto the seeds and packaging, including the mailing label, until someone from DACF or USDA gets in touch with further instructions. Do not plant seeds from unknown origins.

The seeds are usually sent in white packages displaying Chinese lettering and the words "China Post." Most recipients say they did not order anything, and that the packaging was labeled as jewelry. Some recipients have reported ordering seeds on Amazon and receiving these seeds.

The United States Department of Agriculture's Animal Plant Health Inspection Service's Plant Protection and Quarantine Smuggling, Interdiction and Trade Compliance Unit is currently investigating this situation across the nation.



Alpaca babies drew a good crowd at the Newfield Historical Society event last weekend, shown here with their owner Sue Foss of Elf-Paca Meadows in West Newfield. PHOTO BY C.J. PIKE

Alpaca babies steal the show

By C.J. PIKE

Cuteness was on display at Newfield Historical Society's program event at the bandstand on Saturday, July 25, with baby alpacas in the spotlight.

Sue Foss of Elf-Paca Meadows in West Newfield, brought three of her baby alpacas down for the event. Baby animals always draw a lot of attention, and these three babies were no exception. Parents arrived with their children right at the start and kept coming the entire time that she was there. It was a well attended event with about 50 in all coming out to see them, and the historical society had their artifacts building open, too, so that people could wander through it.

For the children, the baby alpacas weren't much bigger than they were and I think that made them even more lovable. They looked like large stuffed animals, that you just felt like wrapping your arms around for a big hug. Two of the alpacas were around 3 months old, and the third was 1 year old, so they were still a little bit shy around people.

Baby alpacas weigh in around 14-20 pounds when they are born, and as they grow into adults, they might weigh up to 130-140 pounds, according to Foss.

At this time, there are about 98 alpacas on the farm, which she runs with her husband Lennie, on the corner of Libby Road and Route 110. They are currently working on expanding the large pasture, on the Route 110 side of the farm. And, they are expecting 13 more babies very soon. She welcomes people to stop in. "We have a farm store and are usually open on weekends, and Maine

(Continued on page 6)

Hansen joins OUT Maine as Youth Health Educator

Grace Hansen, of Springvale, has joined the OUT Maine Team as our Youth Health Educator. Hansen's work will focus on reducing smoking and vaping among LGBTQ+ youth as part of a new partnership with the Center for Tobacco Independence. LGBTQ+ youth vape and use tobacco at higher rates than other youth -- a critical health disparity.

Grace graduated from the University of Maine at Farmington with a BA in Anthropology and International and Global Studies. Her past work and volunteer experience has concentrated in youth development, leadership, and community health. She spends most of her free time with her (very large) family or in the mountains and is thrilled to get to explore the midcoast as she moves to Thomaston to support OUT Maine's mission.

"I am thrilled to be joining such an inspiring team and mission at OUT Maine," says Grace. "My past experience studying food insecurity in Franklin County has developed a passion for working with rural health and the barriers that Maine, specifically, faces both geographically and culturally. There are so many people and issues that go unnoticed, and I feel incredibly grateful that I am able to help these people and issues gain visibility as my job and feel passionate about what I am doing."

OUT Maine works toward a welcoming and af-



Grace Hansen of Springvale is the new Youth Health Educator for OUT Maine, an organization that supports LGBTQ+ youth. COURTESY PHOTO

firming Maine for all rural young people of diverse sexual orientations, gender expressions and gender identities. In partnership with their allies and families, OUT Maine supports, educates and empowers these youth in their journey from adolescence to adulthood. For more information, or to support OUT's critical work on behalf of LGBTQ+ youth, visit outmaine.org.

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MAINE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY

Lightning ruled out as the cause of the Baxter State Park fire, Maine Forest Service seeks information

The source of a May 21, 2020 wildfire that consumed 45 acres in Baxter State Park remains undetermined. The Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry's Maine Forest Service (MFS) is seeking assistance from individuals who were hiking or fishing in the area the day of the fire, or anyone with information regarding the fire. The blaze occurred at an area known as T2 R10 Wells and started near the Appalachian Trail on the Penobscot River's West Branch. Lightning has been ruled out as a possible cause. Anyone with information should contact District Forest Ranger, Jon Blackstone, at jon.blackstone@maine.gov or 695-3721.

Maine Forest Rangers and Baxter State Park personnel worked together to control the fire. Portable fire pumps pulled water from the Penobscot River and multiple MFS aircraft to delivered thousands of gallons of water to help contain the wildfire. A log cabin, two outbuildings, and a newly constructed trail bridge over Katahdin Stream were destroyed in the fire. The total estimated cost to suppress the fire is more than \$33,000.



"This fire was fast-moving and dangerous because of the dry weather and steep terrain," said Jon Blackstone, District Forest Ranger. "Our crew and the crew from Baxter State Park worked well together and stopped this fire from spreading into remote terrain."

MFS is asking everyone to be vigilant and not engage in activities that spark wildfires. Maine Forest Rangers are reporting an unprecedented number of wildfires. Statewide, to date, Forest Rangers responded to nearly 800

fires, representing close to 900 acres, the highest fire count in 10 years. So far, there has been a 170% increase in wildfires caused by campfires compared to 2019.

ABOUT MFS: Since 1891, the mission of MFS is to protect and enhance forest resources through fire prevention, technical assistance, education, outreach to a wide variety of audiences; and enforcement of forest protection laws. MFS offices are found throughout Maine and provide its citizens with a wide range of forest-related services. For more information about the MFS and its programs, visit <http://www.maine-forestservice.gov>.

DACF retail milk testing for PFAS confirms Maine milk supply is safe; high PFOS level detected on one central Maine farm

The Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (DACF) has announced the detection of Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) in milk from a central Maine dairy farm that exceeds the State of Maine's PFOS action threshold of 210 parts per trillion (ppt). Three separate on-farm milk samples taken in late June and early July detected PFOS at 12,700, 14,900, and 32,200 ppt.

This farm's milk was tested as a result of DACF's second round of state-wide retail milk testing for per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). This survey demonstrated that Maine's retail milk supply continues to be safe for consumption, with nineteen of the 20 retail samples returning results that were below the laboratory's reporting limit of 25 ppt. DACF investigated one retail milk sample with a 65.7 ppt result, and, with cooperation from the milk processor, was able to trace the source directly back to the farm in central Maine. The farm is no longer producing milk for consumption and is not contributing to the milk supply.

"Our testing approach allows us to identify and investigate potential issues of concern before they can become a problem, so we can ensure that retail milk in Maine is safe," commented Amanda Beal, DACF Commissioner. "At the same time, the State is committed to helping farmers who may be impacted by PFAS contamination to find a viable path forward to continue farming and producing products that are safe for people to consume."

DACF and the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) are investigating the potential source(s) of PFOS and other PFAS on the farm, including historical activities and site-specific attributes that might affect

test results. Samples of livestock feed and water have already been collected and submitted for analysis. Additionally, because the farm produces beef, as a precautionary step, DACF has asked the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to develop a PFOS action threshold for beef. Once established, this action threshold will allow for on-farm testing to occur and further understanding of PFOS impacts in this arena. The farm may not currently sell its cattle or any beef products.

DACF is working collaboratively to research, develop, and implement PFAS response strategies with other state and federal agencies, local governments, industry organizations, and other stakeholders. DACF is advocating for additional sources of federal funding and support to assist farmers who face financial hardship from lost production caused by PFAS contamination. DACF is conducting its next retail milk test this fall.

ABOUT PFAS: PFAS are a large group of human-made fluorinated chemicals that became widely used in household products and industrial settings as early as the 1950s. There are over 4,000 compounds that have been identified as PFAS to-date, including PFOS. Learn more

MAINE PFAS TASK FORCE: Since the Mills administration took office, Maine has moved to actively expand testing and monitoring for PFAS. In January 2020, the state's PFAS Task Force, convened by Governor Mills during her first year in office, released its report to the Legislature. Decisive Task Force recommendations include protecting foods produced in Maine from PFAS adulteration through restrictions on PFAS uses, restrictions on the agronomic utilization and land application of PFAS-containing residuals, investigation and remediation of PFAS contamination, and expanded testing of agricultural produce and products grown and/or raised in soils where residuals have been agronomically utilized. All PFAS Task Force documents, including the Final Report, are available at <https://www.maine.gov/pfastaskforce>.

Kennebunk Fitness Center Supports York County Shelter Programs through road race

Spurling Fitness of Kennebunk has chosen York County Shelter Programs as the nonprofit it is raising funds for through its annual 5K Race. (A 5K is 3.1 miles.) The race will be held August 8 and 9.

This marks the fifth year the personal training gym has organized the event. Its goal is to

encourage participants to raise money for a community-based organization. Unlike previous years, however, this year's event is a "virtual" race, due to COVID-19.

Entrants can walk or run on a treadmill, a favorite nature trail or other course where they can follow the Maine CDC's recommendations about socially distancing.

Participants can run whenever they choose to, over the course of the two days.

The registration fee is \$30. In order to register, and to learn more about the race, visit www.spurlingcharity5k.com. You can also register at <https://racewire.com/register.php?id=11451>.

The Facebook page is: <https://www.facebook.com/spurlingcharity5k>. Anyone interested in sponsoring the event or volunteering will also find information on Spurling's website.

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SHAPLEIGH

Joanne Bargioni
joannebargioni@gmail.com

Bible camp

Shapleigh First Baptist Church at 600 Shapleigh Corner Road has announced the opening of its Bible Camp for children grades 4 to 6. Camp will be held Sunday through Thursday, Aug. 2-6. Sessions will be held 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. each evening at the Church. No pre-registration is required. COVID-19 precautions will be in place. For more information, call June at 324-8558.

Send your news to:
news@waterboro-reporter.com

What happened to Maine's Bicentennial?

BY JOANNE BARGIONI

Maine became a state on March 15, 1820, following the Missouri Compromise, which allowed Missouri and Maine to enter the Union. According to Wikipedia, the Plymouth Company was established to create the first English settlement at the Popham Colony in 1607. The Plymouth Colony, which was established on Cape Cod Bay, set up a competing trading post with Penobscot Bay. The territory between the Merrimac and Kennebec Rivers was called the Province of Maine in a 1622 land patent by Fernando Gorges and John Mason. These territories resulted in the Province of New Hampshire being formed by Mason and new Somersetshire to the North, which is now southwestern Maine. The present Somerset County in Maine retains this name. The Somersetshire Colony was small, but Gorges received a land patent from King Charles I of England, covering the same territory as Mason. This second effort resulted in more settlements along the coast of Southern Maine and along the Piscataqua River. A dispute about the land grant resulted in the formation of Lygonia, and both were absorbed by the Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1658.

In 1669 King Charles II gave his brother James, Duke of York, a grant of territory from the St. Law-



rence River to the Atlantic Ocean. This grant, when combined with lands claimed by Massachusetts, encompassed all of present-day Maine. In 1686 James became King of England and established the Dominion of New England, and in 1689 this territory became the Province of Massachusetts.

In 1819 the Massachusetts General Court passed legislation separating the District of Maine from the rest of the Commonwealth. The following month voters from the District approved Statehood with 17,091 voting Yes and 7,132 voting No to secede from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. York County voted 3,086 for Statehood and 1,646 against. In Oct. 1819, the Maine Constitutional Convention passed a measure accepting the fact of Maine's immanent statehood. However, Massachusetts still

held on to vast offshore islands by people who wished to remain part of the Commonwealth. This possession of offshore islands only lasted until 1824, when Massachusetts found it was no longer profitable to supply these islands. Massachusetts formally returned the last of the islands to Maine in 1824.

Numerous events were planned this year by the State and Municipalities to commemorate the bicentennial. As the official sponsors of Maine 200, Maine's Bicentennial Committee (MBC) regretted "that most planned events to celebrate Maine's 200th birthday are on hold due to COVID-19." They went on to say that "Most of the events due to happen this year will take place next year to give Maine's 200th anniversary to statehood the celebration it deserves."

The MBC is sponsoring five major events in 2021. March 14 is Statehood Day in our state capitol of Augusta. "The public is invited to attend speeches, music, poems, and birthday cake. On May 15, there will be a Bicentennial Parade in Lewiston celebrating Maine's veterans, youth, culture, with floats and bands from Maine, sponsored by Poland Spring. In the summer of 2021, there will be a Sailing Ships Festival sponsored by Bangor Savings Bank, with visits of sailing vessels from around the world at multiple ports

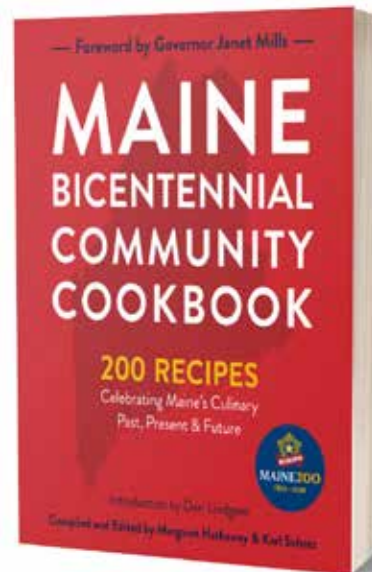
along the Maine coast, with festivals and other activities. On Nov. 20, Central Maine Power will present an Innovation Expo, an awe-inspiring demonstration of new technologies, and in the fall of 2021, date TBA, there will be a Time Capsule Sealing, with a collection of items installed on the State Capitol grounds for future generations to discover."

Here in Maine, we can also support and commemorate the Bicentennial by buying souvenir bicentennial items. For instance, the Maine Bicentennial Community Cookbook can be purchased on Amazon.com as well as other merchants. This cookbook "features blueberry pie to lobster bakes and bean suppers from communities across the length and breadth of Maine, including food from the

Wabanaki tribes and customs of the early settlers during the beginnings of our statehood." The price is \$20.20 with a foreword from Gov. Janet Mills. Also available is the Maine Bicentennial Coin. One side of the coin shows a moose with Mt. Kineo and Moosehead Lake in the background. The other side shows Monhegan Harbor with waterfront and fishing boats. To purchase the Coin and other bicentennial products go to www.maine200.org.



Find Maine Bicentennial products at www.maine200.org including this coin and cookbook. COURTESY IMAGES



IT IS HERE



AUG 15TH

2020



FIREWORKS!

9pm at the Limerick Ball Field

Parking at the park, boat launch, bank, and St Matthews Church

Online Trivia Game & Scavenger Hunt Around Town

Visit Our Facebook page for more details on games, event, and PRIZES!



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Please remember to use social distancing and be respectful of property when parking!

CELEBRATE

MAINE'S 200TH

WATERBORO

Yard sale on the lawn

The Massabesic Lion's Club is hosting a yard sale on Aug. 22 on the front lawn of the Lions Club at 813 Main Street in Waterboro. The sale will run from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. with setup starting at 7 a.m. Space is \$15 and you can reserve an 8-foot table, while they last, by calling 415-1844, or provide your own.

Church service canceled

Friends of Old Corner Church regrets that their August service has been canceled due to the coronavirus.

Summer reading program at the library

What is Beanstack? It's an easy way to keep track of all your summer reading activities! Download the Beanstack Tracker app for iPhone or android to get started. Parents, you can sign up yourself and your children all in one place. If you prefer to use a website, go to waterborome.beanstack.org to sign up. Once you are signed up you can see each of the reading challenges that you are eligible to enter. There are programs for babies and pre-schoolers, all school grades and adults too. Each category has fun raffle prizes.

Beginning Monday, July 27, registration packets for each age group will be available at the curbside pickup table at the library, located at 187 Main Street in East Waterboro. Stop by and pick them up at your convenience. Adults can grab a pencil and a new bookmark to get started!

A new "Take & Make" craft for elementary ages, (or younger with help) is going to be placed out on the table during regular Library hours for pick up each

Monday! We will put them out every day until they are gone for the week.

We are offering the MAINE STATE PARKS PASS this summer. This pass entitles the bearer to free entry for one vehicle of up to 17 passengers. Visit www.waterborolibrary.org or email librarian@waterborolibrary.org for more info.

Waterboro Fire Dept calls for June

The Waterboro Fire Department had 85 incidents for the month of June.

3 Alarm Activations, 3 outside burning fires, 1 smoke investigation, 2 tree/hazard in roadway calls, 1 wires down/trees on wire, 1 brush/wood/grass fire, 3 building fires, 1 medical ALS intercept, 31 medical ALS, 2 Medical assist, 11 medical BLS, 11 medical (no transport), 5 motor vehicle accidents and 10 public assists.

The Waterboro Fire Department covers approximately 57 square miles with a population of about 7,800 residents. Services are delivered from two stations with 3 pumpers, 1 ladder, 1 tanker, 1 forestry truck and 2 ambulances. Additionally during the summer months, they staff the Ossipee Mountain Fire Tower.

Permits are required for all outside fires. Free Burn Permits are available at Central Fire Station at 6 John Smith Road, East Waterboro or online (printable) at: www.wardensreport.com. For a daily wildfire danger report visit <https://mainefireweather.org>.

From the Town Administrator's June 23 report:

Public Works

The South Waterboro sidewalk paving is completed. Final loam and seeding being done by DPW. The Drainage project at Chadbourne Ridge Road and Lords Lane is scheduled to begin next

week, followed by Partridge Lane drainage project afterwards.

Public Works Director Dave Benton reported that paving for this fiscal year has been completed. The section that was rebuilt on Blueberry road has been completed and the shim from that section to West Road has been completed. The bad spots on Straw Mill brook have been repaired and finish pavement has been done along with the small section on Ossipee Hill Road. A shim was put on Silas Brown Road and a large section on the Middle Road was also completed.

After the new budget begins, there will more paving projects to be done. A joint project was done between the transfer station and the DPW. The old used oil tank building and the tank have been removed. The new containment area was installed and they will be pouring a 10X20 slab for the prefab building that has been purchased to be set upon it. Also, the flooring for the old salt shed will be poured the same day so all the equipment can be moved into this shed for storage.

Foglio is crushing gravel now for this fiscal year and then will start crushing before July 4 for the next fiscal year. Monday the catch basin will be put in for Oak Lane off Old Alfred Road that has been a problem for some time.

Transfer Station

Josh Andrews reported that a new cable on the new trash truck snapped. Andrews found a local vendor in Falmouth who custom made a new cable for under \$500 and will be looking to have a second one on hand so having a two-day truck down time will not happen again.

Land Transfer

In 2010 there was a mishap regarding Friendship Park. The land that was transferred to the land trust should have been the parcel behind Friendship Park instead of Friendship Park. Our attorney is working with the Land Trust attorney to do one quick claim deed and one warranty deed to get this corrected.

Live concert on the ocean to support Maine lobstermen

Protect Maine's Fishing Heritage Foundation (PMFHF) is holding a live concert on the ocean to raise money for Maine lobstermen on Aug. 2. The Covid relief fundraiser will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$25,000 by the foundation. Hosted and socially distanced on the waters of Casco Bay, the event will feature "Turd Pollock" a band from Chebeague Island. Turd Pollock is volunteering its time to help an industry that has suffered greatly during Covid-19.

PMFHF President Rock Alley said, "Lobstermen are hurting. We felt with the mission of our organization this was a good place to start. Some lobstermen have received PPP loans but the amounts have been small and run out quickly. It will be a great day to have a little fun and enjoy the music and raise money for a good cause."

The event, which will be live streamed on Facebook, begins at 1 p.m. and will go until 3 p.m. People are invited to drop anchor on the

southeast side of Chebeague Island at the Dropping Springs float where the concert will be performed observing 6 feet of social distancing. Or you can listen live at www.facebook.com/protectmainesfishingheritage.

PMFHF Secretary Adam Ulrickson said, "Protect Maine's Fishing Heritage Foundation has been working to help the lobstering community. We recently held our first board meeting and the officers ratified the mission that includes making sure the ocean is accessible to everyone to live, work, and recreate on the water. Lobstermen in particular are under fire from every direction and Covid 19 has been economically stressful. Every single dollar that is donated will go to lobstermen and their families. Maine lobstermen contribute significantly to the economy and this is an opportunity to help an industry that has contributed greatly."

You can donate on Facebook or through the PMFHF website at <http://protectmaine.com/>.

Free online literacy classes

The National Digital Equity Center is offering digital literacy and computer skills classes online statewide. Classes are free and cover a range of topics including For Work and Business, For Home and Education and Aging Well with Technology. All classes are taught through live webinar sessions by local instructors, helping Maine's underserved populations learn new skills and improve their computer software knowledge, ultimately with the intention of helping to close Maine's digital divide.

"Digital Inclusion is a national priority in the United States, and increasingly, a priority in Maine," says Susan Corbett, Founder & Director of the National Digital Equity Center. "High-speed internet access is widely recognized as a necessity for full participation in today's society. Employers, educators, businesses, healthcare providers, and civic institutions expect

people to have access to computers and broadband connectivity. Digital Inclusion includes Affordable Broadband; Affordable Equipment; Digital Literacy Training; and Public Computer Access. The National Digital Equity Center focuses on Digital Literacy/Computer Skills training."

Traditionally held in classroom settings throughout the state, the National Digital Equity Center has rapidly transitioned classes to online learning in response to COVID-19. Students are able to join classes remotely through video conferencing and benefit from live interaction with the instructor during the one-hour class sessions.

"It has been quite the experience connecting and educating folks all over the state even when traditional on-site, in-person operations have been halted," says Robert Hohman, who taught in-person only classes in Aroostook County before the pandemic. "Being able to use web-based tools to help teach in some ways has enhanced my abilities to help educate, and has helped our participants achieve a degree of confidence never before seen. Furthermore, teaching from the intimate setting of my home is almost like inviting the participants over for a visit, where they all get to leave after a nice chat and some digital skills practice."

Classes are designed for students of varying experience levels, from those who are new to computers and tablets to more advanced users interested in learning about specific applications or subjects. Class topics include learning about devices, internet safety, and using Google-based tools, alongside software-focused classes covering topics like WordPress and Microsoft Word and Excel. All classes are free, but registration is required as there are a limited number of spots available. To view a complete list of classes and to sign up, visit www.digitalequitycenter.org/ classes. You can also request more information by calling 259-5010 or email info@digitalequitycenter.org.



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Town of Acton Take Notice

The Town of Acton is currently accepting sealed bids for the purchase of a Replacement Tanker. Please visit www.actonmaine.org to review the bid in it's entirety. The Board of Selectmen reserve the right to reject any and all bids.

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Church plans for coming back in person

For members and friends of the Alfred Parish Church, not having services has seemed like there is a large “hole” at the end of the week. Somehow, Sundays haven’t seemed like Sunday. So the deacons and pastor have met and developed a “coming back in person” plan. They have researched a plan for re-entry and presently are in stage 1. Visiting hours with the pastor are every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to noon. There will be a drive through on Sunday, Aug. 2 from 10 to 11 a.m. Folks are invited to drive up to the church, follow the signs, remaining masked, the pastor will give a blessing. A prayer will be sent via email. If COVID-19 continues a downward slide an in-person worship will be planned for outside if possible by Aug. 30.

New Books at Library

Many new books have arrived at Parsons Memorial Library and I will include a few titles each week. Titles of the children’s books are especially interesting, like “The Book Hog” by Greg Pizzoli and “Chomp!” by Michael Paul. There is also “I Love All of Me” by Lorie Ann Grover, “Little Lulu goes to Witch School” by Jane O’Connor; “One Fox” by Kate Read, “One Red Sock” by Jennifer Sattler, and “Penny and Her Marble” by Kevin Henkes.

Among the young adult fiction there is “All American Boys” by Jason Reynolds, “All the Stars and Teeth” by Adalyn Grace, “The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes” by Suzanne Collins, “Feed” by M.T.Anderson, “A Heart So Fierce and Broken” by Brigid Kemmerer, and “Lies We Tell Ourselves” by Robin Talley.

Among the 36 new adult fiction volumes there is “Big Summer” by Jennifer Weiner, “The Book of Longings” by Sue Monk Kidd; “The Boy From the Woods” by Harlen Coben, “Camino Winds” by John Grisham, “Daddy’s Girls” by Danielle Steel, “Hideaway” by Nora Roberts, “If

It Bleeds” by Stephen King and “Summer House” and “The 20th Victim” by James Patterson.

Among the adult non-fiction there is “Cult of Glory” by Doug Swenson which is a history of the Texas Rangers, “The House of Kennedy” by James Patterson, “The Maine Bicentennial Cook Book” compiled by Margaret Hathaway and Karl Schatz, “The Splendid and the Vile” by Erik Larsen, a saga of Churchill, family and defiance during the Blitz.

Letter from state rep

In her most recent letter from the Legislative Office Heidi Sampson noted that the 129th session ended abruptly when the COVID-19 pandemic began. Several bills had unanimously passed, aimed at the cost of healthcare. LD 2105 protects consumers from surprise medical billing; LD 1974 promotes telehealth and LD 1660 allows visits to physician assistants. These last two allow increase access for rural Mainers and potentially creates cheaper alternatives for regular check-ups than traveling to a hospital. There was an increase in bills; most were tabled until the legislature can reconvene.

Yard sale results

There was an interested crowd at the Legion Yard Sale on Saturday, the first real yard sale of the season. Bob Liberty had been repairing bicycles for the affair, and says he sold six or seven. He has 4 or 5 left, and has them out by the road at his home for anyone interested. He came home to eat and when he returned they were already closing. It was a really hot day. Buddy Jamieson reports over \$800 was realized on the yard sale which will help with their activities this year in supporting youth.

The American Legion will sponsor the Country Jam on Aug. 8 from 12 to 3 p.m. at which there will be food available. The Legion is also planning a flag burning ceremony this fall for the Boy Scouts. Those interested in participating may contact Buddy Jamieson.

When the pickings are good

Strawberry season is behind us and we are in the midst of raspberries. It is a perfect berry season – enough rain and usually lots of sunshine. Sometimes a little too much – muggy days make picking

difficult. I like picking raspberries – I don’t have to bend over or crawl on my knees to pick. It is amazing to me how quickly they ripen. Those which are mostly pink in the evening will be more than ripe the next morning.

When I was a youngster we picked blueberries through July and part of August so we could take a vacation. Now we pick during our vacation and bring home berries to put in the freezer. If you visit Campobello Island in berry season take the Fox Farm Road, drive until you have a lovely view of the bay, sit down and pick. You will have a view worth the visit and lots of berries. Why Fox Farm Road? Many years ago an enterprising islander decided to raise foxes, for the furs, I suppose, and one dark night someone let them all out of their cages. The foxes raised havoc in the local chicken pens and no one has tried it since.

I enjoy picking blueberries because I like being in the woods. We also had a large blackberry patch when I was growing up and oh my, the thorns! But the blackberries were quite tart. They were

(Continued on page 6)

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ALPACAS

(Continued from page 1)

Farm Day, but people can stop by if they see somebody in the yard.”

Alpacas originally are from Peru and the herds are a common site, just as cows are here. They are raised for their fleece, and are sheared in April and May. They eat grain, hay and grass, and drink a lot of water. Foss said that she names all of her animals, and the ones that were at the event were Stevie Nicks, Eutred and Purell, because she was born at the beginning of the pandemic.

They moved to West Newfield in 2017, prior to that they were in Rochester, New Hampshire, and have had alpacas since 2003. Several times a year they take them to shows, put on by the Alpaca Owners Association, and especially like the National Show, which attracts 400-500 entries. Alpacas

are judged on their fleece qualities and how well they conform to the standards for their breed.

Foss says that the animals are easy to work with, and when they are in the pasture, they come to her when called. They hardly ever get stressed, however, when they do, they make a high pitched squeaking noise, otherwise, they are very quiet. They don't even need anybody to be around to watch over them or check on them during the day. They have halters on them, and are easy to lead around.

Her future plans are getting into doing farm tours and field days for the school children. Find our more about their alpacas at: www.elfpacameadows.com

Thrift shop open

The thrift shop in the Masonic Hall at 181 Wakefield Road is open on Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Donations are welcome.

Celebrate!

Happy Birthday wishes go to the following people: Wayne Vaters, Ernie Packard, John Turgeon, Liz Tuttle, Mike McDavitt and Patricia Campbell.

Happy anniversaries to Dwayne and Hannah Phillips

Meetings

The Planning Board will meet on Wednesday, Aug. 5, at the West Newfield Town Hall at 23 So. Effingham Road at 7:30 p.m. Check with your organization to see when the monthly meetings will start again; or for town meetings, check the website.



If you want to know where to find blueberries, search an old cow pasture before the birds get there. There were still a few of them here when Almon Williams checked the lowbush plants for berries.

PHOTO BY ALLISON WILLIAMS

Obituaries

Rodney K. Hammond

Rodney K. Hammond, 88, a well-known and dedicated community member of Lyman, died peacefully with his family by his side, on July 26, 2020 at Huntington Commons in Kennebunk.

Rodney was born in Sanford on Aug. 4, 1931, the son of Sidney and Myrtle (Sprague) Hammond. He attended Parsonsfield Seminary for three years, and then graduated from Alfred High School in 1950.

Following graduation, Rodney worked in a furniture factory in Limerick and did some logging. In 1952, he was drafted into the U.S. Army and served with distinction until he was honorably discharged in 1954.

Rodney married his sweetheart and soulmate, Ruth Holmes of Alfred on Aug. 28, 1954 and they were married by Ruth's dad, Rev. Lester Holmes. They bought a farm on the Old North Berwick Rd. in Lyman. Together they loved and raised four children, Judy, Brian, Debbie and Tom. He owned and milked as many as 120 cows twice a day for over 25 years then turned to raising beef cattle for Granite State Packing, at times having up to 1,000 head at the farm.

After retiring from farming he went to work for R C Hazelton's where he became widely known southern Maine as the Baler Fix it man. He was also a member of the Massabesic Lions Club for several years as well as Farm Bureau and York County Soil & Water Conservation District.

Aside from the farm, Rodney's interests included attending his kids and later on the grandkids sporting events and dance recitals, also squeezing in some great grandkids sporting events! Many memories were made by having picnics in the hayfield, trips to the beach to cool off, cousins spending summers learning the farming life...Family get togethers picking apples in the fall.

Rodney served his town generously and gave his time and

energy for his friends and neighbors. Rodney's involvement in Lyman includes serving as Assessor (1981-1987), Board of Assessment Review, Budget Committee (2006-2012), Building Committee, Charter Commission, Comprehensive Plan, Forestry Committee, Planning Board (1987-2007) Board of Selectmen (1973-1979) and Zoning Board of Appeals. Rodney was also a long-standing member of the Board of Assessment Review for over 30 years.

In June of 2019, Rodney was so honored to participate in the Honor Flight from Maine to Washington, DC. He visited the Korean War Memorial, as well as the ceremony at the Tomb of The Unknown Soldier.

Rodney will be remembered as a man of principles and a man dedicated to his family and community. He worked hard every day on the farm, yet he found special moments throughout the day. Being able to work the land of his farm, raise his children with values which included a strong work ethic and helping your friends and neighbors in need. But, as we know, beside a good man is a beautiful, strong wife and helpmate. He had that in Ruth as they shared in their journey together as husband and wife.

Rodney will be dearly missed by his wife, family and his community. He has entered into eternal rest.

He is lovingly survived by his wife of 66 years, Ruth J. Hammond of Lyman; his four children, Judith Abbott and husband David of Lyman; Brian Hammond and wife Sue of Lyman; Deborah Mayo and husband Scott of Acton; and Thomas Hammond of Lyman; his sister, Beverly Littlefield of Portland and nine grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Family and friends may call on Tuesday, Aug. 4, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Autumn Green Funeral Home, 47 Oak St., in Alfred. A private graveside committal with military honors will be held later.

To leave a message of condolence for the family, visit www.autumngreenfuneralhome.com.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to the Honor Flight Maine, P.O. Box 1770, Portland, ME 04104-1770. This will give other veterans a chance to travel and show respect to so many who have served our country.

WHEN THE PICKINGS ARE GOOD

(Continued from page 5)

okay for jam I suppose – the wild blackberries were much sweeter. Occasionally we had visitors in the blackberry patch who must have sneaked up through the woods to pick. When they saw one of us they would disappear into the woods, buckets and all. I didn't really care – the berries were too tart for my taste

I asked my spouse about his berry picking when he was growing up in Aroostook County. He said they would pick raspberries between the railroad ties and take them home to his mother. I've never seen a wild raspberry that can compare to ours. The cultivated are much better.

What he remembers best is gathering fiddleheads. I had never heard of fiddleheads in Massachusetts, perhaps they don't grow there. But my father gathered dandelion greens, on one memorable occasion, and cooked them up for a treat. Good grief, they were horribly bitter! We would not eat them. Perhaps he had gathered them at the wrong phase of the moon?

Aroostook residents love their fiddleheads. My husband and his brothers went "fiddleheading" one time when they were young and decided to share with a well-liked neighbor. She was so pleased she said she would pay for them, and she did. When the boys returned home with their money their mother was horrified.

"You didn't have to buy those – they were free for the picking! You take that money right back and give it to her!" she said. They were crestfallen but they returned the money. And learned you weren't supposed to charge for something that was free.

I recall one time when a cranberry "bog" on Shaker Pond made a lot of pickers happy. The owner was selling the house and the acreage down to the pond the next day, and invited in anyone who wanted cranberries. The cranberries would be free. So of course there was quite a crowd which showed up. I arrived with our baby son, set him down on a blanket, and set to work.

Children were having a grand time pelting their friends with berries. It was an unusually beautiful day, just right for harvesting cranberries. I picked while avoiding the cranberries flying through the air, until I had far more cranberries than we would use in a year. There wouldn't be an opportunity again like that and there wasn't. I took my cranberries home and froze them and felt very fortunate. Sometimes something which is free for the picking is actually free for the picking.

I had an uncle on Campobello Island who loved mushrooms – and he could tell the safe ones from the baddies. After checking his weir (fish trap) in the early morning he would go mushroom hunting. Someone looking out her window noticed a light bobbing about in her cow pasture. "What was that?" "Don't worry" her spouse explained. "It's just Edwin Allingham, looking for mushrooms in the cow flaps!"

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EMPLOYMENT

TOWN OF LYMAN Position Opening Select Board Clerk

The Town of Lyman Municipal Office is accepting resumes for the position of a Select Board Clerk. This individual must have excellent typing and computer skills, excellent communication and customer service skills, detailed oriented and the ability to work independently. This position reports to the Select Board. Duties include, but not limited to: prepares all agendas for the Select Board meetings and provide supporting documents and information pertinent to agenda items; attend all Select Board Meetings to take minutes and provide clerical support; records meetings; prepares for printing the Town Report, Town Meeting warrant(s) and other material; maintains the Town of Lyman website and updated in a timely manner. This position is for 37.5 hours per week and the town pays 100% of the employee medical and 70% of the cost for family. Pays 100% of the employee dental. Employee is also eligible to buy vision insurance, income protection, and additional life insurance and participate in the retirement match. Employee will accrue PTO beginning at date of hire, bi-weekly in increments based on their length of service and normal hours. Attending Select Board meetings the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month is required with occasionally additional night meetings as may be required. Wage will be based on experience and qualifications.

The candidate must possess a high school diploma or GED and must have typing skills and computer knowledge and experience including Windows and Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Power Point and Publisher). A full job description is available upon request and can be found on the towns website.

Please complete the application located on our website at: <http://www.lyman-me.gov> under general information, downloadable forms and submit your completed job application, resume and cover letter to: selectboard@lyman-me.gov or mail to: Town of Lyman, Select Board, "Select Board Clerk Search," 11 So. Waterboro Road, Lyman, ME 04002.

Applications will be accepted until Thursday, August 13th, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.
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EMPLOYMENT

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“We will unlock the frozen doors of solitude, of loneliness, of the disease that has stolen the lives of thousands of people of all ages, of all backgrounds, of all regions.”

— GOV. JANET MILLS

On March 15, I issued an Executive Order directing all Maine people to “stay at home.” And Maine people did.

Those who stayed at home were working families, elderly grandparents, single moms and dads, state employees, factory workers, builders and teachers; but there were some who were without homes. And there were some with no families with whom to seek such sanctuary. And there were good people who had come to rely on friends, therapists, programs and groups to support them in kicking long term habits and dependencies who could not rely on those relationships in the same ways any more.

Suddenly support groups could not meet. Suddenly medication assisted therapy sometimes became out of reach. Suddenly some who usually answered a call were no longer there.

People with substance abuse disorders fell through the cracks. People with mental health challenges fell through the cracks. People with both mental health and substance abuse disorders fell hard. Many found themselves alone in their own “fortress of solitude.”

I want to say today, “We have not forgotten you.” Come down from your tower, come out of your fortress. Because you are not alone.

Solitude consumed many of us. Aloneness became loneliness, personal connectivity deserted us.

We have found in this time of national insecurity, a time of unrelenting fear for our personal health and public and communal safety, that our material ambitions in life perhaps are hollow, that our financial and professional goals in truth are secondary to personal health, and that family and community cohesiveness is found not solely in Saturday night suppers or Beano games or church services and meetings, parades, festivals, bars and dances, but in the telephone call from one single person in need of a friendly voice; the email from a long lost classmate or cousin; the letter from someone you’d barely met but liked, a friendly photo on Instagram or Snap Chat.

The term “outreach” has suddenly taken on all new meaning.

People have reached out during this pandemic. And we have re-discovered our own humanity and our shared purpose in life.

Not entirely, of course. We have also lost many souls, as the parallel pandemic of substance use disorder has stolen the lives, livelihoods and sense of purpose of hundreds who swallowed pills, stuck needles in their arms and gave up on the rest of us who just couldn’t be there to help.

Their fortress of solitude crumbled. Some were simply out of reach.

And yet, heroes and helpers did come forth. Many of you listening to me this morning turned to, adapted, and saved lives. You turned your own anxiety into action, outpacing the feeling of helplessness that overcame others.

Outpatient treatment programs (methadone clinics) pivoted to providing take home doses to avoid daily trips to the clinic. The number of take home doses per weekly doubled to over 18,000 for over 3300 patients; and this

change does not appear to have resulted in a single death.

Though the 13 recovery centers in Maine closed to drop-in traffic four months ago, volunteer recovery coaches worked throughout the period, calling persons in recovery and checking in on their wellbeing. Within days of the closure, dozens of support meetings such as AA transitioned to virtual platforms, allowing individuals to participate without having to arrange transportation or child care, etc.

Recovery residences opened their doors in Millinocket (for women) and Caribou (for men). There are now 114 recovery residences in the state, 41 of them being nationally certified. We are supporting 16 of these homes through a pilot program through Maine Housing with funds from the Office of Behavioral Health.

Robust Narcan distribution continued over these past four months, with an additional 20,000 doses purchased with state funds in the spring. Syringe exchange programs expanded during the same period, and we made adjustments to protect exchange members and allow for social distancing during the pandemic (Exec. Order 27).

Fred Rogers — Mr. Rogers — said, “When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, “Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.” Many of you listening to me today are the helpers, and your efforts over the past few months have been nothing short of heroic.

It was only a year and a half ago, though it seems like the distant past now, that I took the oath of office of Governor.

The very next day, I signed Executive Order Number One which expanded MaineCare. Little did we know that just over fourteen months after that, tens of thousands of people in Maine who became unexpectedly unemployed or suddenly underemployed would rely on this program for lifesaving healthcare, including mental health and substance use disorder treatment.

Virtually my second act in office was to announce a comprehensive response to the epidemic of substance use disorder in our state, something I had prioritized and fought for previously as Attorney General.

First, I appointed Gordon Smith as Maine’s very first Director of Opioid Response. Gordon, with nearly forty years’ experience with the Maine Medical Association, and his reputation inside and outside the state house as a dogged researcher, an able advocate and a person of great integrity, became our Administration’s eyes and ears on the ground, looking at what works and what might not work, finding critical funding for new services, talking with people all over the state, and standing up programs in regions where virtually no help existed before.

Shortly after that I issued Executive Order Number Two, which committed state government to a series of actions to address the substance use crisis, including:

- Purchasing and distributing thousands of doses of the life-saving drug

Naloxone

- Supporting low barrier access to Suboxone (Buprenorphine) in all 33 emergency departments in the state.

- Providing medication assisted treatment in all Department of Corrections prison facilities and in all county jails, and

- Recruiting, training and coordinating 250 recovery coaches to provide emergency support to those in crisis.

We stipulated that these actions would all be carried out in a manner designed to decrease the stigma attached to substance use disorder, reminding people that this illness is a chronic disease and should be treated as such.

Since that time, the state has purchased 35,000 doses of Naloxone. Medication assisted treatment is now available in two-thirds of our hospital emergency departments all across the state. And treatment is available in all Department of Corrections facilities and in the majority of our county jails. More than 300 recovery coaches are now trained and ready for the call in the middle of the night.

Despite the physical challenges posed by the pandemic, we have expanded our safe syringe exchanges from seven to fourteen sites, with more to be added by the end of this calendar year.

And with our initiatives that began back in 2015, continued by Attorney General Frey, and supplemented by our recent purchases, Naloxone has resulted in nearly 1,500 successful reversals. We are saving lives.

But a recent increase in fatal overdoses is concrete evidence that we have to do more. Last year, Maine reported 380 fatal overdoses, many of them resulting from fentanyl, these tragic deaths sparing no county, no region of Maine.

“Don’t let your neighbor drift along in lanes of loneliness,” one Rabbi is quoted as saying in David Brooks’ book “The Second Mountain.” Knock on your neighbor’s door. Open their fortress of solitude. Invite them back into society. Let’s not be strangers living in emotionally gated communities.

In this time of national crisis, of economic distress, of social upheaval and political uncertainty, we are all fallible, we all need each other. We are only strong as we stay connected with one another. Our state, our nation, cannot afford to lose a single member in our community of souls. To all of you out there, all in need, we are listening to you. We love you. We need you.

And for all of us, we must become givers, and helpers, never giving up. And we must have hope — that quality which Emily Dickinson described as, “the thing with feathers that perches on the soul, that sings the tune without the words, and never stops at all.”

Let us unlock those doors of isolation. Please know that, in my Administration, you will always find an open door, an open mind, and an open heart.

Thank you all. Don’t be a stranger. And please, stay safe.

—Governor Mills’ remarks during her July 23 virtual Second Annual Opioid Response Summit, “Compassion, Community, Connection.”

OPINION

LETTERS

Dear Mr. President,

I found a stamp and I wanted to write and thank you for your kind note accompanying my 1,200.00-stimulus check on April 1st of this year, helping me with my expenses through July 31st when I knew you would come through with another. I want you to know, I have been frugal. I’ve taken my Nine dollars and 83 cents a day to McDonalds for brunch, enjoying an Egg McMuffin with my cup of coffee which leaves me enough left over for a bag of Roman Noodles, a box of crackers and a 16 oz can of Pepsi at the Walmart across the street from the McDonalds. If my Doctor could see me today, he would thank you too. I’ve dropped the 50 pounds he suggested I lose, but I can’t seem to get an appointment these days and on nine dollars and 83 cents a day, I’m not sure I could afford the visit, anyway. I lost my insurance when I stopped working back in March because my pre-existing condition stemming from a bout of pneumonia back in the early 90’s left me with scar tissue on a lung and the lung doctor he referred me to, ordered me to stay at home, due to my age and such.

I’m sure my lung doctor would also thank you. I can’t function without that morning cup of coffee and on 9.83 a day I could no longer afford a pack of cigarettes so I finally quit costing the State a small fortune in revenues. You have truly changed my life.

I also want to thank you for your handling of the pandemic. I wanted to buy the bleach, just in case I caught this thing, but I didn’t really want to skip brunch and couldn’t fit it into my 9.83 a day budget. Your aiding and abetting this invisible enemy have kept our casualties down to around 1,000 American lives lost each day. I suppose we’re at war and this loss of life is what one would call collateral damage, an unintended consequence of our God given right to leave our masks at home. I don’t have a mask, but I have a sock. I just stretched it out and put two eyeholes in it.

I also want to thank you for allowing the ban on evictions to expire. I realize I’ll join the approximately 20% of renters, thrown out on the street and adding to the homeless problem, which really isn’t a problem at all. I mean Americans are famous for solving problems and since no one has offered a solution, it must not really be problem. Still, I kind of wish I was down South where they criminalize homelessness and arrest the homeless for vagrancy filling all those private prisons built by wealthy people like yourself while billing the American taxpayer for housing costs, food costs and the cost of staffing such a facility. It’s a smart business model. You go public and wealthy folk like yourself buy stocks in the prison company and earn dividends. Increased prison population is increased returns for the investor. I thought of buying a few shares myself, but on 9.83 a day, it’s not an easy thing to do. Why Core-Civic was up 11 cents today. For the price of a share my 9.83 would be 9.94.

You really are a quiet, stable ge-

nius. I can’t tell you how thankful I am you were able to enlist foreign governments to provide us with so much disinformation on social media in the last election it nearly delivered a fatal blow to them deep state people. You’ve totally destroyed the credibility of the media, the Justice Department and Joint Chiefs of staff with your eternal wisdom. You’re repairing the flaws of the Constitution by ignoring America’s right to peacefully protest with them there Secret Police snatching them Antifa off the street with Stalinesque swiftness. I ain’t seen so many Antifa members since the Fascist regimes of Japan and Germany declared war on these United States back in the glory days of the big one. I imagine if the Teflon Don were alive today, he would be green with envy.

And they question your ingenuity.

Person. Man. Woman. Camera. TV.

You’ve repeated this phrase so many times over the last three days I’m having nightmares of a person with a camera and a TV monitor filming you and that porn star you paid to keep her mouth shut after you paid her to keep —

Well, we’ll keep this PG for the kiddies.

You have flushed political correctness down the toilet, making it ok to hate again, defending the Confederacy and tearing up such stupid documents as the Fair Housing Act, protecting the suburbs and teaching our allies over-seas how to pay for our friendship, ‘cos we don’t need ‘em anyway. You got enough friends right here at home. As a matter of fact, I read in the Huffington Post the American people paid you 500 million tax-dollars for Secret Service room rentals at Mars-a-Largo in 2018 alone. I thought about going into Real Estate, but by the time I had enough to attend Trump University it was so caught up in lawsuits for fraud and scams those deep state lawyers forced you to close the doors.

I know. I’m rambling. I just wanted to thank you for showing the world how incredibly inept our Congress and Senate are for their sheer inability to stop the most incompetent President the world has ever seen from destroying a Nation, once considered a brilliant beacon of light for freedom and justice for all.

Look at that. It’s 1:30. I’ll address the envelope; put on the stamp I found and mail it on my way to McDonalds. The funding of Post Office hasn’t run out yet. I think there’s still time.

Sincerely,
your supporter.

—Jon Simonds
North Waterboro

Send your letters, recipes, photos, poems & stories to: news@waterbororeporter.com
Please include name, town and phone number for verification. We do not accept political letters the last issue before an election.