

Summertime in the Belgrades

... Serving the Central Maine Lakes & Kennebec River Corridor

VOLUME 22, NUMBER 7



Summer in Full Swing

by Esther J. Perne

Activity is in the air. There are more boaters and anglers and hikers and golfers than usual. Families are flocking to ice cream stands as always. Dogs are patiently padding about with their people. Adults are grateful that they listened to that inner voice that urged vacation no matter what is going on in the world. And the children? Their voices are louder and higher and happier just like every summer when they are let loose on lakes, in parks and around picnic tables.

The summer of 2020 is like every summer in terms of beautiful surroundings and unpredictable weather, stunning views and satisfied vacationers, hot dogs the color red and ice cream named after Maine wildlife and a wealth of outdoor recreation.

The summer so far has proven that this is the right place at the right time to enjoy the freedom of a world with fresh air, healthy recreation, calming nature and an economy that will adapt to a pandemic's health concerns and restrictions.

It's the outdoor recreation in full swing that is the mainstay of the summer because even for those who don't join in rigorous or even active exercise, outdoor recreation sustains the infrastructure that everyone loves: lakes that have committed stewards, land that is preserved against development, communities that are following Main Street plans.

As the summer of 2020 launches into August there is still a lot of season left, a lot of outdoors



Andrew Padgett of North Yarmouth, Maine, undeterred by the rain, hooked this large mouth on Great Pond in the Belgrade Lakes.

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Continued from page 1

left, a lot of daylight left, a lot of good old-fashioned, family enjoyment for the taking.

Usually these mid-summer weeks offer a crammed calendar of planned events, gatherings, celebrations, crowds. This year they offer the freedom of just walking out the door, being close to nature, enjoying outdoor dining, outdoor movies, outdoor visits and selective outings where social distancing can be maintained.

The term Vacationland appeared on Maine license plates in 1936. It gave definition to a magic lifestyle everyone already knew: walks, many walks, being close to nature, enjoying outdoor visits, golf, fishing and going to town for perishables, goodies and books.

Huge anxieties had been going on in the greater world - war, economic devastation, job and home loss - but here was Vacationland: lakes, trails, gardens, golf, parks, pets, people, quiet villages, the great outdoors and, in those days, above all, fishing.

There are those who say history repeats itself and those who say it has never left. When summer is in full swing, when there's still one more trail to discover, one more cove to explore, one more small town library with no wait list for best sellers, one more patch of shade to sit under and do nothing, and when there's one more big fish for a kid to catch, life is good. History is repeating itself and it has never left.



Evening beauty. Photo courtesy Frank nd Martha Barkley

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In lieu of an in-person auction this year, NDN is doing an auction on-line! Go to [BiddingOwl.com](https://www.biddingowl.com/neighborsdrivingneighbors). It is fun, easy and a great way to support the work of Neighbors Driving Neighbors!

<https://www.biddingowl.com/neighborsdrivingneighbors>

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Items will be added throughout the course of the auction.

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Auction runs from July 1 to August 1, 2020

NEW ITEMS ADDED FREQUENTLY!



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The Blue Slipper



The Blue Slipper at old dock.



Great Blue Heron visits The Blue Slipper.



The Blue Slipper in winter storage.

Love that camp boat that came with our Knot Much home built Every close to the water long ago, maybe 60-70 years ago? Not sure. One winter we had auto refinishers in Waterville pound out dents in the metal Featherweight boat and paint it Easter egg blue. The quiet small motor gets us to the village or anywhere we want to go on Great Pond. Frank and Martha Barkley

Summertime in the Belgrades

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—The Luckiest Boy—

I think we all know that an auction is an event where items are purchased by bidding against others. The highest bidder becomes the new owner.

As many of you know, the Luckiest Boy collects antique outboard motors. To date the number in the collection is just shy of 50, and we've named it the Antique Outboards of Belgrade. We had plans to quit at 25, but somehow that didn't happen and we are still at it. The old outboards have come from many sources including outright purchases, barn finds and land fill metal scrap heaps. In addition, many have come from good friends and neighbors at no cost, and yes, even auctions. The most recent acquisition is chronicled in the following story.

Our long-time Delray Beach friends Sandra Norton and Jan Hokenson, now living in Shelburne, Vermont, sent us an add/notification that items from a Lake Placid estate were being auctioned. The owner had been an avid hunting and fishing enthusiast and the items being sold reflected that. Things like antique fishing rods, bows and arrows and even an unfired Civil War rifle were included. What had caught their eyes were two small antique outboard motors that might be interesting for the Antique Outboards of Belgrade collection. They offered to send more information and if we wanted them for the collection they would go to the auction and bid on one or both, depending on price and competition. It turns out the motors were in the 2 to 3 horsepower range and were real antiques from the 1930s. The Muncie interested us the most and the collection did not have one. The Evinrudes are more plentiful as many more were produced and we have several of varying sizes. (for the record, we don't collect large outboards as they are too dammed heavy to handle)

Auction day arrived in January and the two spirited, white-haired women arrived early and got a good seat in the front row. This was a first for them both but neither suffers from shyness. They did not go unnoticed by the mostly male arrivals whose quimsical glances showed curiosity and

The Auction

by Rod Johnson



Old outboard motors, some from auctions, being readied for last years 4th of July parade

perhaps a little uneasiness. The auctioneer soon called the room to order and started the auction with several items, including a bamboo fly rod, a small kit of dry flies, and a nice wicker creole. The first outboard, touted as the owner's original fishing motor, was the Muncie 2 horsepower, model A11. Sandra and Jan comfortably and quickly joined the bidding by raising their paddle. After some minor competition the other bidders quickly were quieted when Sandra firmly set the paddle down marking the end of the bidding. The auctioneer hollered SOLD, as he pointed a finger to "our ladies."

Soon after, a lunch break was declared and the second outboard motor came up later in the afternoon session. The men seemed more determined about the Evinrude and the bidding was robust. San and Jan smartly let it go to others and with smiles on their faces, left the room to pick up their booty. After wrapping the new baby in a tarp, they loaded into their SUV and took it back to their home. This coming summer the Muncie will be available to see in the Antique Outboards of Belgrade collection. Thank you, Jan and Sandra, for alerting us and for your sporting sense of going to your first auction.

As I started writing this story earlier today, it occurred to me that I have obtained only one other outboard motor at an auction. Oddly enough, it was my first motor that started the collection back in 1988. Woodland Camps was having an auction to sell off ancillary camp items such as rocking chairs, old refrigerators, bed frames and so on. Nearing the end of the day, an auctioneer's helper lugged a dirty old outboard motor from the rear of the pump house. It was put up for bid and I put \$5.00 on it. There were no other bidders and I brought it home. It turned out to be a complete 1925 Johnson 2 horsepower, which still runs today. My friend Ralph cleaned it up and got it running. Doris and I ran it in the 1998 boat parade and this summer will mark it's 95th birthday.

Sooooo- what's the lesson here? Could it be, don't be afraid to raise your paddle at an auction—you never know what you might get!

Hats off to Sandra and Jan for their efforts to make it happen. The Muncie, as a newcomer, will join the Johnson as the oldster. They will reside together for the rest of their days for many folks to see.



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— Take It Outside —



Long Pond Survey Areas

The third Saturday in July is the annual loon count in Maine, coordinated by Maine Audubon. See: (<https://www.maineaudubon.org/projects/loons/annual-loon-count/>). This year's count took place on the 200th day of Maine's 200th year and was the 37th annual count in this important ongoing citizen-science project dedicated to better understanding one of Maine's most iconic birds. Every year over 1000 volunteers, of which I am one, attempt to count all the loons on a couple hundred Maine lakes at the same time. It's organized like a military operation and I am the coordinator for the dozen or so volunteers on Long Pond, which is divided into 9 Survey Areas, with a 10th in Ingham Pond. Early in the morning all counters head for their assigned section of the lake to be in position to count all the adult loons and loon

chicks in their area between 7:00 AM and 7:30 AM. I left my dock around 6 AM, planning to fish for a bit on the way to my Survey Area. There was light fog over the lake, but it was burning off rapidly as the sun rose and the wind picked up a bit. I thought about Carl von Clausewitz's "Fog of War" and how it could even affect small operations like ours. Luckily, this year's fog turned out to not be a factor.

My assigned area was a cove that has been used for many years by a pair of loons that typically nests on a secluded beach on a small peninsula. Unfortunately, for the last few years this pair has been unsuccessful in raising very many chicks because land-based and avian predators have found the nest and eaten the loon eggs before they hatched. To assist this pair, the Belgrade Lakes Association (BLA), as part of their ongoing study of loons on Great and Long Pond, arranged to have a floating raft nest with an avian guard (to prevent predation by eagles, ravens, and blue herons) built and installed near the usual nesting site (to provide the loons some protection from terrestrial predators such as raccoons, minks, et al.). While BLA members waited to see if the loons would use the new nest, a pair of mallard ducks discovered the nest and decided it was a fine place to raise a brood and climbed aboard and built a nest. When the loons showed up, they discovered the raft already occupied and headed for the beach. Eventually,

Continued on page 10...



Loon on floating raft nest with avian guard.



Nice flush of yellow chanterelle mushrooms at an undisclosed location.



Jeff Davis and Mike O'Connor out canoeing with their daughters, Milo and Ella.

LAKEFRONT LIVING

1458025 – CHINA - Year round living in a cozy cottage nestled on China Lake. This home comes with three bedrooms and a kitchen overlooking the water. A screened in porch with a hot tub go well in this serene setting. Loft has been started above garage to be easily turned into an in-law apartment. Come start your dream of living on the lake today! **\$247,900** Call Nick at 877-4934

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Notebook

Water Ski Found on Great Pond

- A water ski has been found floating in North Bay in Great Pond in the Belgrades. Please call 660-1968.

Let's Be Kind

- The Retail Association of Maine, Maine Grocers & Food Producers Association and Portland Regional Chamber of Commerce have launched the "Let's Be Kind" campaign. The campaign is a response to the sometimes lack of understanding and patience of consumers toward retail store employees, especially in regard to mask-wearing requirements put in place according to CDC guidelines and executive order. Amidst a state labor shortage and following a well-executed show of dedication to work during the Covid-19 shutdown, Maine's workers deserve customer cooperation with the small adjustments that have to be made while shopping and dining and they deserve a huge, kind thank you. www.retail-maine.org

Free Art Kits for All in Waterville

- School-aged children are invited to pick up free Art Kits for All at the following locations/dates:
-George J. Mitchell School, Wednesday, July 22, August 5 and 19.
-Downtown Waterville Farmers' Market, Thursday, July 23, August 6 and 20, and September 3.

The kits are being distributed by Colby College Museum of Art in collaboration with Waterville Creates, Kennebec Montessori School, Waterville Public Schools and the Family

Violence Project. Children should also watch for the announcement of a second round of Lively Spaces - Artists in Residence free online day camp in August.

Belgrade Vote Protects Water Quality

- Water Quality Article 8 on the Town of Belgrade 2020 Town Meeting Warrant allowing funds to be used to protect and improve the water quality of the town's lakes passed with record numbers this year.

In 2019, the money approved went to:

1. Removing 28,835 gallons of invasive milfoil from Great Pond.
2. Removing 4,600 gallons of invasive milfoil from Belgrade Stream, 22,000 pounds from Messalonskee Lake and Belgrade Stream and placing 21,860 square feet of benthic barriers in Messalonskee Lake.
3. Conducting 13,288 Courtesy Boat Inspections to prevent the spread of invasive plants.
4. Completing 119 erosion control projects at lake shore properties with the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC).

This summer, the YCC and milfoil removal teams follow new health and safety protocols while continuing to work hard to protect the lakes from invasive aquatic species and harmful erosion. For more information contact the 7 Lakes Alliance in Belgrade Lakes at 495-6039.

Report Analyzes Economic Contribution of Maine's Colleges and Universities

- Maine's 38 colleges and universities generate a total annual economic contribution - including spending of students and visitors, and multiplier

effects - of an estimated \$4.5 billion in output, 31,267 full- and part-time jobs and \$1.7 billion in labor income, according to a recent report by researchers in the University of Maine School of Economics and the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center. The report, "Economic Contribution of Colleges and Universities in Maine," was produced by research associate Megan Bailey, assistant professor Andrew Crawley and professor Todd Gabe. The researchers analyzed the collective statewide economic contribution of the public and private colleges and universities in Maine that educate 72,605 students, employ a combined 14,621 non-student workers and generate about \$2.2 billion in annual revenue.

Belgrade Public Library Open For Appointments

- In addition to its curbside services, the Belgrade Public Library on Depot Street is now open for appointments. Patrons can browse for books, use the library computers and access the printer. Patrons and staff will need to wear masks at all times. Hand sanitizer will be provided upon entry. To schedule an appointment contact Belgrade@Belgrade.lib.us or 495-3508. A book delivery program is also now available through Neighbors Driving Neighbors. To learn more visit TownofBelgrade.com/Library or NeighborsDrivingNeighbors.org.

Colby College Names Director of Museum of Art

- Colby College has announced the appointment of Jacqueline Terrassa as the Carolyn Muzzy Director of the Colby College museum of Art. Terrassa, who currently serves as the Woman's

Continued on page 10...



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— Conservation Too —

Some Common Questions about Conservation Practices

By Dale Finseth

How can I plant a buffer and not lose my view?

Buffers are not "one size fits all". Whenever designing a buffer for a landowner the first things to consider are the goals and objectives of the landowner. It does no good to install a planting that the homeowner dislikes. And it is depressing to install a buffer only to have the homeowner shear it down because it is in the way. The great thing about plants is that there are so many shapes and sizes to choose from. You can create a very effective buffer with plants that only reach a couple feet in height. If you have large trees, you can prune lower branches to create a window beneath the canopy.

What about pet wastes? Do they have an effect on water quality?

Pet wastes can have a serious impact on the water quality of lakes and streams. Pet waste washed into a lake uses up oxygen, releases ammonia, can cause algae blooms and disease. Children, adults and pets that spend time around or in the water are most at risk for the diseases and infections found in and caused by pet waste. If you have pets, the best strategy is to keep a supply of plastic grocery bags on hand and do a cleanup every few days. The bags can be thrown away with the trash or contents can be buried away from the water, gardens, kids etc.

How can I stop my shore from eroding?

This is a tough one to answer without looking at the site but the first thing to decide is what type of erosion your shore is experiencing. Is it wave action or runoff from land that is causing the problem? If it is runoff from a driveway, buildings or the lawn, buffers of various types may remedy the problem. Planting shore stabilizing vegetation with deep roots or allowing parts of a lawn to remain un-mowed will provide two types of protection. If you are planting or maintaining a vegetative buffer, combine the vegetation with a raised berm to help slow the flow and redirect stormwater into the sideyard, a raingar-

den or other area where it can seep into the ground more slowly. If wave action or ice damage is the culprit, fixes may require some kind of armoring such as rock combined with stabilizing vegetation. Any armoring effort probably requires a permit. Contact your local town, Maine DEP or even the local YCC group for assistance.

My camp road or driveway washes out each spring. What can I do to fix it?

There are two approaches to "fixing" these types of roads. There is the popular band-aid approach where money is spent each season on gravel to fix washouts disregarding why the road washes out. A better "Option B" is to find the reason for the washouts, fix them and then do some annual maintenance. The initial cost of "Option B" which could include a Gravel Road Management Plan, can be larger than the band-aid method but will save lots of money and aggravation in the long run. It also helps protect water quality over the long run.

Do all of those outboard motors pollute the lake?

The short answer is that they pollute much less than they used to. New, tougher restrictions on outboard emissions have caused the industry to create much more environmentally friendly products. Old motors that have not been retired yet still pollute much more than their newer cousins. Lakes have an amazing ability to clean themselves but an out of date, old, polluting outboard can have very detrimental effects on an average sized Maine lake. The good news is that newer outboards meet more and more strict standards and as old motors are replaced, lakes will have less and less pollution from outboard motors.

For information about any of our conservation projects please contact Dale Finseth at 622-7847, x 3 or check our website at www.kcsbcd.org



MIFF23 wraps up. See page 15 for more. Photo by Gregor Smith



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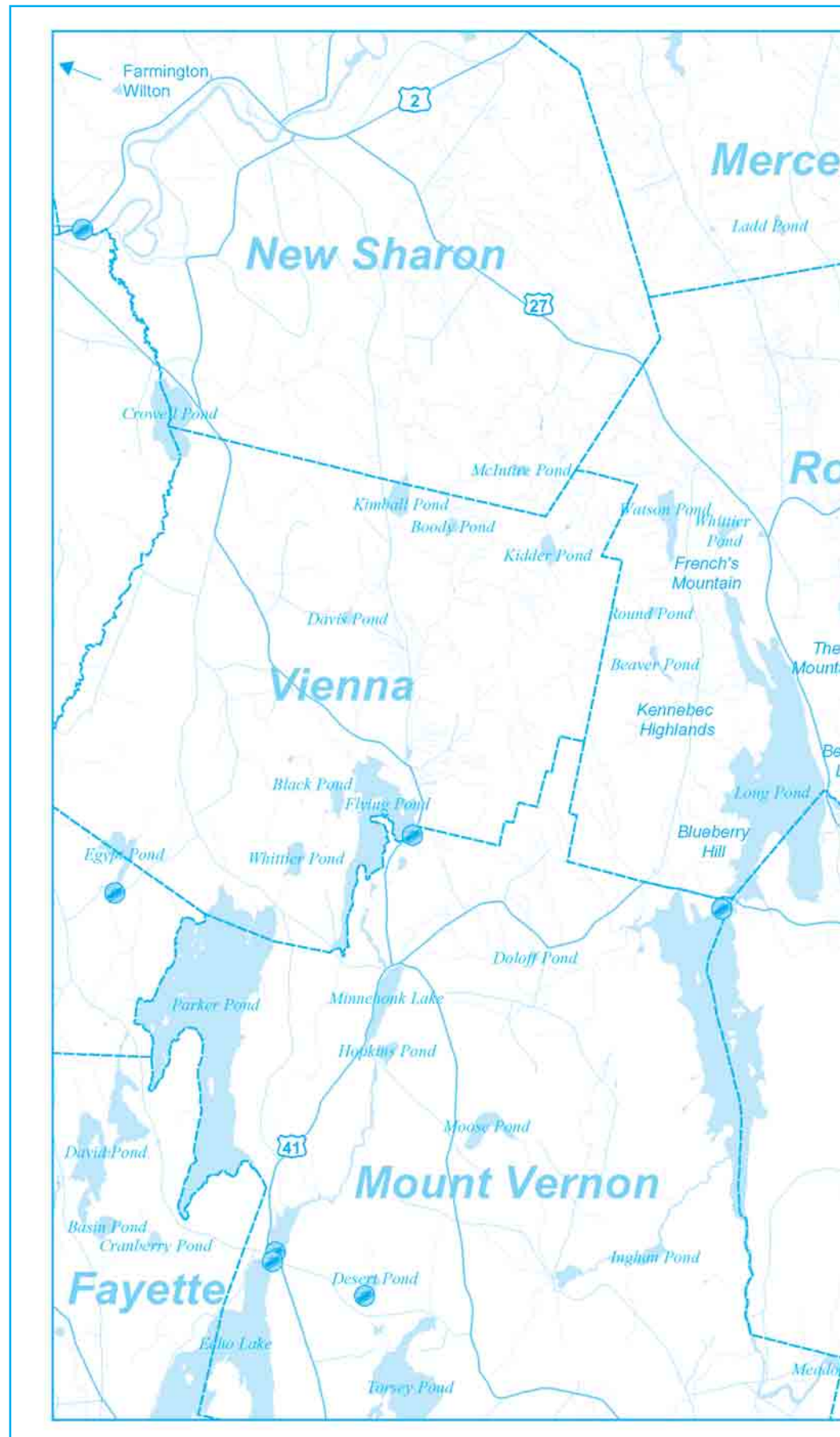
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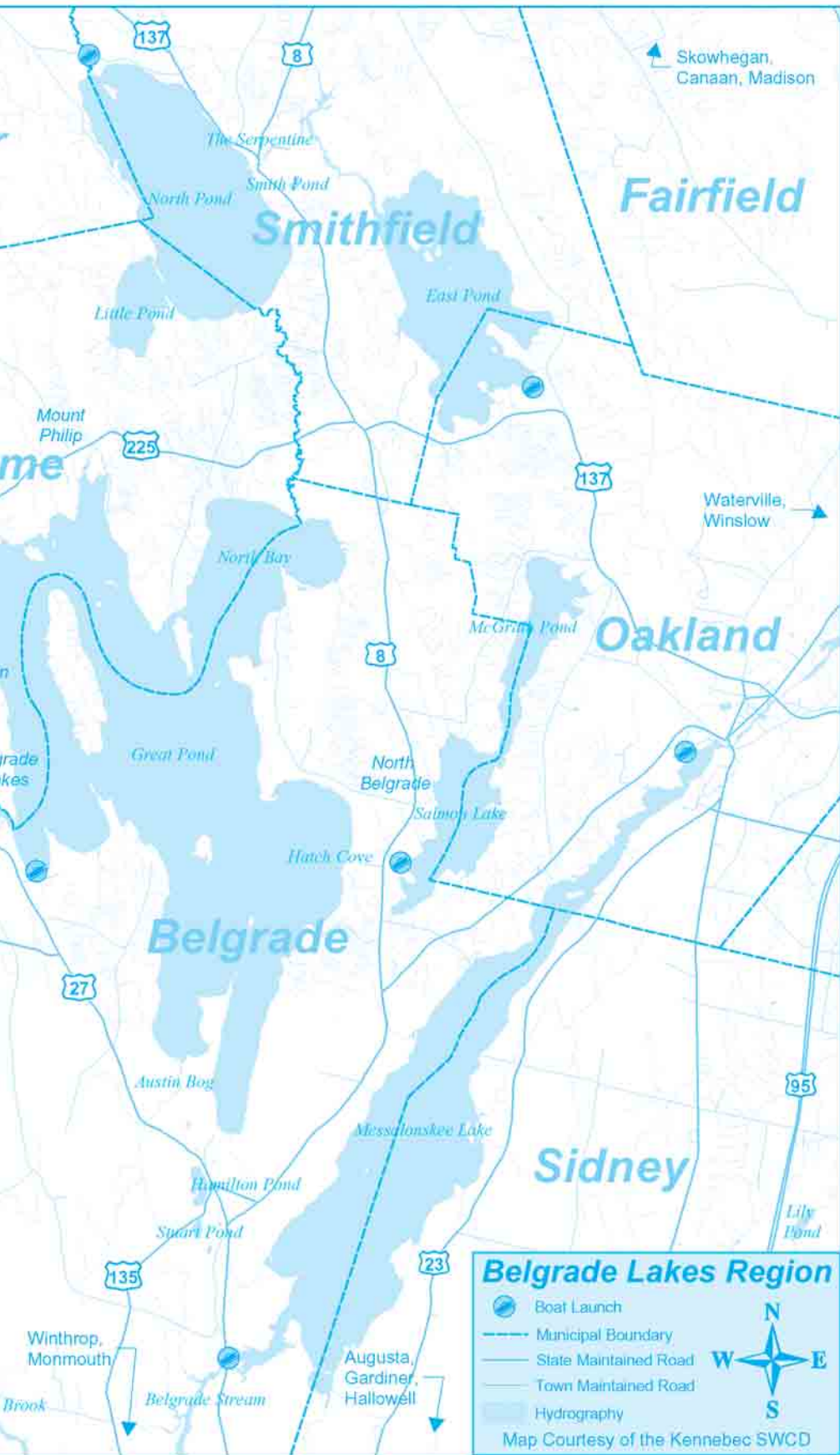
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News From the L.C. Bates Museum

The museum is closed, the trails are open for visitors and there are a lot of activities for families this summer. That is the current news from the L.C. Bates Museum, Route 201, Hinckley

...Notebook continued from page 6

Board vice president for learning and public engagement at the Art Institute of Chicago, will assume her role in October. Terassa will lead the Colby College Museum of Art at a time when it has significantly expanded the depth and diversity of its collection and grown its national reputation as one of the most respected college museums in the country. Colby maintains an ongoing commitment to integrate the Museum into downtown Waterville and is planning studios and research space in Colby's arts collaborative to be completed in spring 2021. The Colby College Museum of Art is currently closed. It plans to open this fall only for student projects. 859-5600

L.C. Bates Museum Offers Trails, Activities

- The L.C. Bates Museum on Route 201 in Hinckley is closed, but the miles of trails are open and certain activities, especially for families, are available, including:

- Science Kits for Kids. These hands-on activity kits include Earth and Space Activities, Exploring Leaves, Observing Seashells and more and offer experiments to do, art activities and activity sheets. Some kits can be used for learning along the trails. Email the museum to arrange to have a kit.

- Museum Activities At Home. The Fun Earth and Space kits have activities designed to teach about the moon, sun and solar system. Participants will get a booklet with activities, UV Beads, a pocket solar system activity, moon phase activity, temporary tattoos, and activity sheets.

- Summer Maine Waters Art Exhibit Online at <http://web.Colby.edu/lcbates/home/summer-exhibition-2020/>.

- Museum Happenings. The museum is working on developing outdoor learning experiences including a Tree Hunt and signs for interesting trees and rocks with information about the glacier errata, bedrock, the Waterville Formation and an outcropping with glacier markings.

For more information about the L.C. Bates Museum email lcbates@gwh.org or call 238-4250.

...Take it Outside continued from page 5



Owen (left) and Jacob Cox with pike from Messalonskee (Photo by Mike Guarino)

the loons laid a couple of eggs and began incubating them. Unfortunately, before the eggs hatched they were eaten by land-based predators. Fortunately, the loon pair decided to try again. In the interim the ducks had successfully hatched their eggs and were off the floating platform raising their brood. This time, the loons laid their new egg (possibly eggs) on the new raft and are still incubating them. The chick (or chicks) had not yet hatched by the loon count so they didn't get counted this year, but hopefully the new nest will make a difference and the loons will be successful. As of press time, I had not received results from all of my counters but it appears likely that both adult and chick numbers are down somewhat from last year (2019 Long Pond, including Ingham: 41 adults, 7 chicks).

I also got a little hiking in and some foraging for raspberries and mushrooms, which are becoming more common after the recent rains. As the summer progresses and COVID pandemic restrictions ease a bit, more and more visitors are

returning to our area. Brothers, Owen and Jacob Cox, from Moraine, Ohio got out fishing with Mike Guarino and his brand-new boat on Messalonskee Lake and both caught nice pike. Recently I met Jeff Davis and Mike O'Connor out paddling with their young daughters Milo Davis and Ella O'Connor. They were renting a nearby camp with their families and when they spotted my "7-Lakes Alliance" hat, they proclaimed. "We love the 7-Lakes Alliance and all the nearby trails we have been hiking with our kids!" They are definitely in the "Take it Outside" mode for their vacation and helping to make memories that will last a lifetime for their young children.

Take advantage of the rest of the summer and get out on the lakes or hike or bike in the hills. And take a kid along. You will be creating memories that will last. Check out the events at the 7-LA web site and the sign in front of the MLRC. Events are being presented as conditions allow and the schedule is fluid.



Dining

Augusta

• **Riverfront Barbeque & Grille and Gin Mill Lounge**, world class barbeque, seafood, pasta and vegetarian entrees, full service dining, catering, bulk take out, 300 Water Street, Augusta, www.riverfrontbbq.com, 622-8899

Belgrade

• **H.J Blake's for Goodness Sake's**, fresh, homemade, tasty take out, signature lobster rolls, hot dogs, burgers, scenic outdoor seating, 945 West Road, Belgrade, 462-2280
• **Winterberry Farm Café**, homemade treats, pie, cookies, granola bars, grilled organic cheese sandwiches, veggies, drinks, 538 Augusta Rd, (Route 27), Belgrade, 649-3331

Waterville

• **Engine 5 Bakehouse**, fresh, from-scratch baked goods including pies, cookies, bars, and gluten free items, *take-out only*, 140 Western Ave, Waterville, engine5bakehouse.com, 616-3772
• **Pete's Pig**, barbecue, catering, carry out, limited dining, 35 Water Street, Waterville, www.petespig.com, 616-0969

Oakland - Wines & Spirits

• **Tree Spirits**, tasting room for award winning wines and spirits made from local apples, pears and maple syrup, tours available, 152 Fairfield Street, Oakland, www.treespiritsofmaine.com, 861-2723 or 465-3007

The Small Garden Guide

Destination Farmers' Market

Shopping outdoors, buying local, supporting farmers. What wonderful reasons to take a scenic drive to a new area of the region, find out what is in season, learn about Maine produce and products and people.

Shopping outdoors is available almost every day of the week, in a different direction. Call ahead or email ahead or check guidelines for ordering, paying or picking up. Walk-ins are usually welcome with proper social distancing.

Face coverings/masks are required at all Farmers' Markets.

In addition to Farmers' Markets, farm stands, roadside kiosks and pick-your-own farms are open throughout the area. Stop where the signs are.

A sample of regularly scheduled Farmers' Markets follows:

- Augusta Farmers' Market at Mill Park, Tuesday 2-6 pm, 626-2305, farmersmarketatmillpark.com, downtown at the former Edwards Mill

site, 1 Water Street and Northern Avenue.

- Belgrade Lakes Market, Sunday 8 am-1 pm, 320-8303, blfarmersmarket@gmail.com, downtown at the Maine Lakes Resource Center, 137 Main Street/Route 27.

- Fairfield Farmers' Market, Wednesday 2-6 pm, Saturday 9:30 am-1:30 pm, 474-0476, Nazarene Church parking lot, 81 Main Street.

- Farmington: Sandy River Farmers' Market, Friday 9 am-12:30 pm, 778-0347, sandyriverfarmersmarket.com, between Better Living Center and Narrow Gauge Cinema, Front Street.

- Hallowell Market, Saturday 9 am-1 pm, 549-5185, Steven's School property, Winthrop Street.

- Skowhegan Farmers' Market, Saturday 9 am-1 pm, 858-5096, skowheganfarmersmarket@gmail.com, Maine Grains, Somerset Gristmill, 42 Court and High Streets.

- Waterville Farmers' Market, Thursday 2-6 pm, 680-2055, www.WatervilleFarmersMarket.org, Head of Falls, downtown Waterville.

Summer Day Camp at Winterberry Farm

Located in the heart of the Belgrade Lakes Region in Belgrade, Maine, Winterberry Farm is a small, diversified certified organic farm set on forty acres of open fields, pastures and woodlands. One of the farm's missions is to restore old-fashioned values by inviting people to come and experience life the way it used to be. Each summer the farm hosts two weeks for children to share the daily activities on the farm at summer day camp.

Summer Day Camp at Winterberry Farm is an opportunity for campers ages 5-12 to discover what it's like to live on an organic farm powered by horses and oxen. Campers will explore the fields and learn about raising animals and vegetables, help harvest farm grown veggies to prepare, cook and sample, play games, take hikes, learn about barn chores and animal care, nature and the wild animals and flowers of the farm. Each afternoon will include a farm craft and closing circle.

Camp runs from 8:30 am to 4 pm each day. Cost is \$225 per one week session. Campers bring their own snacks and lunch, except for the special Friday lunch featuring farm-grown ingredients, which they will prepare and eat together.

For an application, visit www.winterberryfarmstand.com. Children 13 years of age and older may be enrolled as Junior Winterberry Farm Camp Helpers.

The second session of Kids' Day Camp at Winterberry Farm will be held July 27-31; there are still openings. Call 649-3331.



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Belgrade Needs Volunteers For Kids' Meals Program

Needed desperately: volunteers to hand out free kids' breakfasts and lunches for RSU 18 at the North Belgrade Community Center from 9 am-11 am each weekday. 495-2258



-Business Directory-

ANTIQUES

Hathaway Mill Antiques, Multi-Dealer Emporium,
10 Water Street, Waterville, 877-0250,
www.hathawaymillantiques.com

APPLE ORCHARDS

The Apple Farm, 104 Back Road, Fairfield,
453-7656, www.applefarm.us

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN

LakeHouse Design, Build, Renovate, 17 Birchwood
Road, Augusta, 242-3663.
www.lakehousedesignbuildmaine.com houzz

ARTS

Waterville Creates, 10 Water Street, Suite 106,
Waterville, 616-0292, www.watervillecreates.org

AUTOMOBILE STORAGE

Belgrade Lakes Marine and Storage, Inc, 366 Augusta
Road, Belgrade, (Rte. 27), 495-2378,
www.belgradelakesmarine.com

BANKING

Maine State Credit Union 200 Capitol Street, Augusta,
623-1851, www.maine.statecu.org
Skowhegan Savings Bank, 450 Civic Center Drive,
Route 27, Augusta, 1-800-303-9511,
623-2300, www.skowsavings.com

BEVERAGES

Tree Spirits, 152 Fairfield Street (Rte. 23), Oakland,
861-2723 or 465-3007, www.treespiritsofmaine.com

BOAT COVERS

Covers It All Upholstery, 1042 Kennedy Memorial Dr,
Oakland, 465-7847,
www.coversitalupholstery.com

BOAT LIFTS

Hammond Lumber Company, at 21 locations: Auburn,
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Camden, Cherryfield, Damariscotta, Ellsworth, Fairfield,
Farmington, Greenville, Machias, Portland, Rockland,
Skowhegan, 1-866-HAMMOND,
www.hammondlumber.com

BOAT MOORINGS

Great Pond Marina, 25 Marina Drive, (off Rte. 27),
Belgrade Lakes, 495-2213, www.greatpondmarina.com

BOAT RENTALS

Castle Island Camps, Long Pond, 441 Castle Island
Road, Belgrade Lakes, 495-3312,
www.castleislandcamps.com
Great Pond Marina, 25 Marina Drive, (off Rte. 27),
Belgrade Lakes, 495-2213, www.greatpondmarina.com

BOAT SALES AND SERVICES

Mid-Maine Marine, 885 Kennedy Memorial Drive,
Oakland, 465-2146, www.midmainemarine.com

BOAT STORAGE

Belgrade Lakes Marine and Storage, Inc, 366 Augusta
Road, Belgrade, 495-2378,
www.belgradelakesmarine.com
Great Pond Marina, 25 Marina Drive, (off Rte. 27),
Belgrade Lakes, 495-2213,
www.greatpondmarina.com
Mid-Maine Marine, 885 Kennedy Memorial Drive,
Oakland, 465-2146, www.midmainemarine.com

BOOKS

Children's Book Cellar, 52 Main Street, Waterville,
872-4543, www.facebook.com/ChildrensBookCellar/
Oliver and Friends, Bookshop and Reading Room, 87
Main Street, Belgrade Lakes, 707-2123

BUILDERS

G&L Contracting, 116 Lakeshore Drive, Belgrade Lakes,
215-7951, 495-2325, 233-7408,
gandlcontractingmaine.com
Horne Construction, Seavey Corner Road, Mount
Vernon, 293-2382, 242-6111
LakeHouse Design, Build, Renovations, 17 Birchwood
Road, Augusta, 242-3663. 512-8161
<https://www.houzz.com/pro/contact7917/lakehouse-design-build>

BUILDING MATERIALS

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Farmington, Greenville, Machias, Portland, Rockland,
Skowhegan, 1-866-HAMMOND,
www.hammondlumber.com

CAMP JACKING AND LEVELING

John Webster, 32 Webster Way, Belgrade,
495-2965

CIVIL ENGINEERS

Thayer Engineering septic design, storm water mitiga-
tion, permitting, 17 Hasson Street, Farmingdale,
582-7762, www.thayereng.com

COMPUTER CONSULTANTS

Macintosh Solutions, Michael Breault, 24 Welch Road,
Wilton, cell 578-0226, www.michaelbreault.net

DINING

See Directory on page 11

DOCKS

G&L Contracting, installation only, 116 Lakeshore
Drive, Belgrade Lakes, 495-2325, 215-7951, 233-7408,
gandlcontractingmaine.com
Hammond Lumber Company, at 21 locations: Auburn,
Bangor, Bar Harbor, Belfast, Belgrade, Blue Hill,

Boothbay Harbor, Brunswick, Bucksport, Calais,
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Farmington, Greenville, Machias, Portland, Rockland,
Skowhegan, 1-866-HAMMOND,
www.hammondlumber.com

ELDER CARE

Assistance Plus, 1604 Benton Avenue, Benton, 453-4708,
www.assistanceplus.com
Maine-ly Elder Care, 28 Center Street, Oakland,
465-3249, www.maine-lyeldercare.com

EXCAVATING

David Stevens, P0 Box 146, Belgrade, 465-3815,
cell 314-0314

EYE CARE

Eye Care of Maine, 325 E. Kennedy Memorial Drive,
Waterville, 873-2731, 1-800-660-3403, www.Maine2020.com
Maine Eye Doctors, 25 First Park, Suite A, Oakland,
820-2020, www.maineeyedoctors.com

FARMSTANDS

Winterberry Farm, 538 Augusta Road, (Rte. 27),
Belgrade, 649-3331,
www.winterberryfarmstand.com

FINANCIAL PLANNING

Golden Pond Wealth Management, 129 Silver Street,
Waterville, 873-2200, www.goldenpondwealth.com

FILMS

Maine International Film Festival, July 7-16,
Skowhegan Drive-In Theater, 201 Waterville Road (Rte.
201), Skowhegan, ticket reservations - 861-8138, miff.org

FIREWOOD

J & M Logging, Inc. 853 Civic Center Drive, Augusta,
622-6353, www.jmlogginginc.com

FLOORING

Hammond Lumber Company, at 21 locations: Auburn,
Bangor, Bar Harbor, Belfast, Belgrade, Blue Hill,
Boothbay Harbor, Brunswick, Bucksport, Calais,
Camden, Cherryfield, Damariscotta, Ellsworth, Fairfield,
Farmington, Greenville, Machias, Portland, Rockland,
Skowhegan, 1-866-HAMMOND,
www.hammondlumber.com

GENERATORS

Generators of Maine, 262 Augusta Road (Rte. 27),
Belgrade, 495-2285, www.generatorsofmaine.com

HOME CARE

Assistance Plus, 1604 Benton Avenue, Benton, 453-4708,
www.assistanceplus.com
Maine-ly Elder Care, 28 Center Street, Oakland,
465-3249, www.maine-lyeldercare.com

JEWELRY

L.Tardif Jeweler, 62 Main St., Waterville,
872-7542, ltardifjewelers.com



KITCHENS

Hammond Lumber Company, at 21 locations: Auburn, Bangor, Bar Harbor, Belfast, Belgrade, Blue Hill, Boothbay Harbor, Brunswick, Bucksport, Calais, Camden, Cherryfield, Damariscotta, Ellsworth, Fairfield, Farmington, Greenville, Machias, Portland, Rockland, Skowhegan, 1-866-HAMMOND, www.hammondlumber.com

LAKE ASSOCIATIONS

Belgrade Lakes Association (BLA), Long Pond and Great Pond, PO Box 551, 137 Main Street, Belgrade Lakes, 512-5150, belgradelakesassociation.org

LAND AND LAKE CONSERVATION

7 Lakes Alliance, PO Box 250, 137 Main Street, Belgrade Lakes, 931-7710, www.7lakesalliance.org

LANDSCAPING

G&L Contracting, Belgrade Lakes, 215-7951, 495-2325, 233-7408, gandlcontractingmaine.com

Lynch Landscaping, 78 Maple Street, Norridgewock, 474-2420, 405-0880, www.lynchlandscaping.com

Paradis Landscape Construction, Sidney, 547-4867, jrparadis@paradislandscape.com

PHYSICAL THERAPY

Dockside Physical Therapy, 47 Main Street, Belgrade Lakes, 495-3195, 512-2544, Fax 512-2545

PIANO ENJOYMENT

Diane Gorman, 191B Bartlett Road, Belgrade, 495-3222 Gorman3366@roadrunner.com

REAL ESTATE APPRAISALS AND PLANNING

F.A. Rizzo Appraisal Company, Consultant/ Appraiser, Real Estate Appraisal & Planning, 495-3365, 458-4916 (cell), farizzo@roadrunner.com,

REALTORS

Coldwell Banker Plourde Real Estate, 143 Silver Street, Waterville, 660-4001, 872-7650, www.coldwellbanker.com

Amy Bernatchez, Coldwell Banker Plourde Real Estate, 143 Silver Street, Waterville, 314-2353, abernatchez@cbplourde.com

LakeHome Group, 75 Main Street, Belgrade Lakes, 495-2500, www.lakehomegroup.com

Lakepoint Real Estate, 221 Main Street, Belgrade Lakes, 495-3700, www.belgradelakepoint.com

Gail Rizzo, Lakepoint Real Estate, 242-8199, gail@gailrizzo.com

Pat Donahue, Lakepoint Real Estate, 730-2331, pldcamp@msn.com

Stephanie Yeaton, Lakepoint Real Estate, 495-4046, 592-5577, stephanie@belgradelakepoint.com

Trisha Cheney, Lakepoint Real Estate, 716-6494, trisha@belgradelakepoint.com

Sprague & Curtis Real Estate, 75 Western Avenue, Augusta, 623-1123, www.spragueandcurtis.com



The Dams Keeper Report

Enough with the rain already! Turn off the faucets! We have enough water! Our ponds are full as are our wells! Even our gardens and farms are doing great! Heck, even the lawns through the Village are green and exquisite!

As I write this week's column, we have received over 2" of rain in the past ten days but, we may be going back to our original forecast of a drought as we are now forecasted for just .41" of precipitation for the next 10 days.

I am pleased to report that both Great and Long Ponds are now about 3" ABOVE FULL POND. I cannot believe I am actually typing this! I never thought I would see Full Pond until sometime late Fall – never mind three inches above full. This has not happened at this point in the summer for the past five years. Great Pond is as of this fine morning, 2.76" above full pond with Long Pond actually 3.24" also, above full pond. Meaning, that the water going over their respective spillways is 3" deep. Over the past couple of days, the Dams Committee's quandary has been "do we open the gates to stem the tide as the levels will still be going up for a couple of more days due to drainage from the steep watershed or do we hold tight and pray that the water levels stabilize sooner than later and no one loses their dock."

Normally, we would also be concerned with

the higher water levels washing out native loon nests but believe it or not, there are no active loon nests on Great Pond and only two on Long Pond as I write this update. There are also no loon chicks on Great Pond and just four on Long Pond with a potential for just two more. This has been a dismal season for our Loons but this discussion will have to be for another day. You may want to reach out to the Belgrade Lakes Association's website for updates on their all-important Loon Project (<https://belgradelakeassociation.org/>).

As a reminder, Great Pond and Long Pond dams have been completely shut down for well over a month now so your Dams Committee will remain in the "preserve the water levels at all cost" mode while anticipating a return to another drought.

The 'permanent' repair on Wings Mill starts this week with installation of a new floating cofferdam to deter the water flow while they do the reconstruction. This is an incredible new technology that yours truly cannot wait to see. You too may want to visit the Wings Mill Dam on Wings Mill Road in Belgrade over the next few weeks for a look yourself. This is our tax dollars at work!

Enjoy the family, your vacation and this incredibly beautiful weather and please stay safe!

Dick Greenan

Secretary, Belgrade Lakes Watershed Dams Committee



RECREATIONAL VEHICLE AND

TRAILER STORAGE

Belgrade Lakes Marine and Storage, Inc, 366 Augusta Road (Rte. 27), , Belgrade, 495-2378, www.belgradelakesmarine.com

RESERVATIONS

Belgrade Vacation Rentals, lakeside camp and cottage rentals throughout the area long and short stays many size accommodations ad rates, 1-800-760-1503, www.belgradevacationrentals.com

Lakeside Cottage Rentals, featuring over 70 private homes, 24/7 customer-friendly service, 25 Marina Drive, Belgrade Lakes, 592-5577 or 495-4046, www.lcrentals.com

RESTAURANTS

See Dining Directory on page 11

RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES

Granite Hill Estates, 60 Balsam Drive, Hallowell, 626-7786, 1-888-321-1119, www.granitehillestates.com

SCHOOLS

St. Michael School, grades pre-K 3-year-old through 8th, 56 Sewell Street, Augusta, 623-3491, www.smsmaine.org

SECURITY SYSTEMS

Cayer Security Services, Inc, 208 College Avenue, Waterville, 453-9177, www.cayersecurity.com

SURVEYING

Acme Land Surveying, 108 Fairbanks Road, Suite 5, Farmington, 778-408, 1800-778-408, www.acmelandsurveying.com

TREE REMOVAL

Paradis Landscape Construction, Tree Service, 3675 Middle Road, Sidney, 547-4867

WINDOWS

Hammond Lumber Company, at 21 locations: Auburn, Bangor, Bar Harbor, Belfast, Belgrade, Blue Hill, Boothbay Harbor, Brunswick, Bucksport, Calais, Camden, Cherryfield, Damariscotta, Ellsworth, Fairfield, Farmington, Greenville, Machias, Portland, Rockland, Skowhegan, 1-866-HAMMOND, www.hammondlumber.com

WINE AND SPIRITS

Tree Spirits, 152 Fairfield Street, Route 23, Oakland, 861-2723 or 465-3007, www.treespiritsofmaine.com

Changes?

Updates?

New contact information?

Please let us know...

mo.breault@gmail.com

or ebelnews@earthlink.net



Kennebec Cradle of Americans by Robert P. Tristram Coffin

by Martha F. Barkley

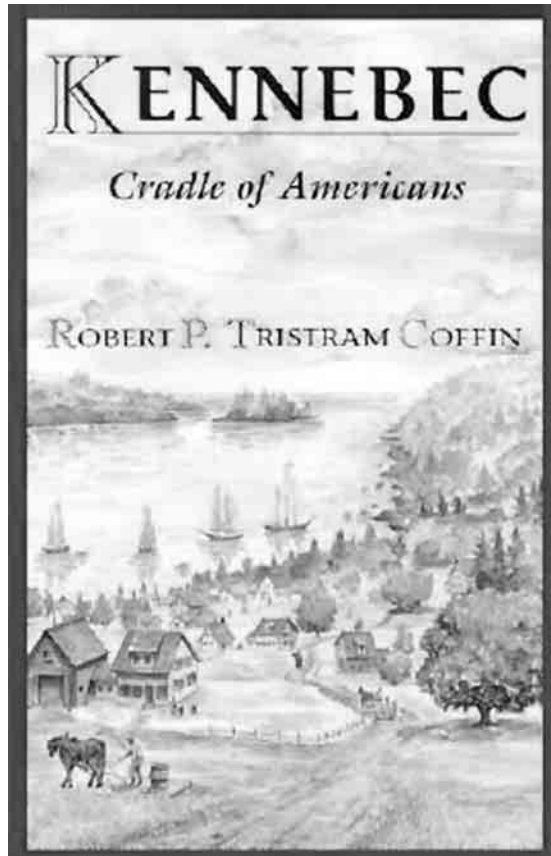
"Robert P. Tristram Coffin was a descendant of the original English settlers of Maine and an acclaimed historian of his time. He was also a poet and essayist and was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for poetry in 1935. He attended Bowdoin College in Maine and later taught there while writing many of his thirty-seven books," from back cover.

I purchased this 1937 history with updated 2002 front and back large cover painting by Trevor Paul Robertson at my favorite Brunswick Bookshop on the corner of Main Street. DownEast Books are usually great republished reads and this one overwhelmed me, every single page.

I dare you reader to open anywhere in this local history, only 218 pages, and read any page and discover Robert Coffin's pure poetry in prose about our beautiful lakes and mountains surrounding the Kennebec.

The fur trade established here along the river is our local success story in American history. The Abanakis, handsome and tall, called themselves The Dawn People and lived forever in the Kennebec River area. "The Abenakis built bark cabins, long houses with ridge poles, and small ones around a central paved fireplace. They had towns...as at Norridgewock and at Koussinok, where Hallowell now stands. And they built boats. Birch-bark canoes, some of them large enough to hold a small army of men."

Curious now? A few more quotes? Dear reader, you do not need my opinion, just read this author. My copy over winter reading has almost



every other page dog eared (I own the book).

"So fortified with bayberry and nicotine, the Abenakis held the Kennebec many thousand strong, a tough and bright people. But another race of men was coming to fit their bodies into the winds and to be made tough and bright and smart by the splendors and the rigors of Maine weather."

"Maybe it was a Viking. Leif Ericsson got down lower than Maine, likely...Maybe it was an even older European than a Nordic. On Ma ana, the island next to Monhegan, near the Kennebec's mouth, there is a rock that bears what seems to be an inscription. Perhaps it is an old Indian pictograph, though some people believe it to be a runic message of the Vikings; other people say it was put there by the Phoenicians, the men who founded Cadiz in Spain and colonies in Britain...Anyway, fishermen were here early and stayed late. They found the water alive with cod and could dip them up by the bucketful. The cod, not Columbus, opened the door to the new world."

"Cartier saw Indians as white as men in France. Probably European fishermen had already been

active in domestic affairs. The French brought settlers over to the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Trappers, traders, fishermen, and missionaries were soon living as neighbors to the red men. Henry Hudson may have thrust his nose into the Kennebec."

"Surely one of the first Englishmen to swim the Kennebec, and half a hundred other rivers from Mexico to Maine, was David Ingram, the most famous walker of American history". Ever hear about him, dear reader? I had not until reading this most revealing history. Go to page 39.

"Navigators could smell Maine far out at sea. No wonder, with so much bayberry and sweet fern around. The poet Drayton knew his Maine:

When as the luscious smell
Of that delicious land,
Above the seas that flows,
The clear wind throws,
Your hearts to swell
Approaching the dear strand...

"But the first sailors to the Kennebec were thinking about breeding a new race of heroes, too. They foresaw that this wealthy world would be a fine cradle for men of a future empire".

"Maine has her mystery of lost colonists as Virginia has hers. The Kennebec keeps her secrets as does the James.". Remember Popham Colony disbanded after an extra cold winter and the Lost Colony in Virginia?

"They were a mixed crowd, these first families: English, French, Dutch, and Spanish".

"And then in the winter of 1617-1618, a mysterious disease, harmless to the whites, swept the whole race of red men from the Penobscot to Cape Cod. It may have been just the measles or some offspring of the family of common colds. But it was fatal to the sons of the forest who ran naked in the summers and had never had colds before. Probably three-quarters of all the Abenakis were dead by spring."

Pandemics of yesteryear worth reading about now in 2020. Or skip that part and find "Edna St. Vincent Millay was Maine's daughter before she was born beside the Penobscot, but Kennebec also can claim her now that her harp weaves its song through the wind-tuned Kennebec spruces... [T]he pith of her music is the clean strength of Maine. The sharp loveliness of the evergreen sky line and the keen light in some of her finest sonnets are the radiant beauty of the Kennebec coast".

Let Robert Coffin into your reading life this summer. "A classic of Maine literature, Kennebec's appeal for the preservation of both the river and a way of life is as relevant today as when it was written more than sixty years ago", from back cover.



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VASSALBORO - Lots of space here! LR, DR & kitchen w/hardwood and tile floors. Wood burning stove in LR. 1st floor office or den and full BA. 2nd floor w/4 BR & 2 BA. Wonderful FF/great room w/cathedral ceilings. Walkout basement w/additional room, plus a one car garage under-ideal for boat or toy storage! Attached 2 car garage. **MLS #1460146 \$225,000**

WISCASSET - Pretty contemporary cape just a few minutes from downtown Wiscasset. Main level offers a kitchen, DR, LR and BA. 2nd level offers 3 BR and BA. Several rooms have beautiful hardwood floors. Large deck for entertaining. Private lot. Two car garage under. New furnace. **MLS #1460288 \$289,900**

CHINA - Family owned business for over 26 years now ready for new ownership. This extremely busy restaurant has a metal roof, vinyl siding, outdoor parking spaces, outdoor dining tables, a dock system for diners that want to enjoy the food and travel in with their boat, amazing sunset views, and a fantastic location on a well-traveled road. Make this exciting fast paced business your own today! **MLS #1454333 \$850,000**

AUGUSTA - Togus Stream-3 BR, 2 BA single wide on Togus Stream. 228 ft of owned water-frontage. 1.06 acres. Level lot w/lots of potential here! **MLS #1460093 \$79,000**

OAKLAND - Two story in town Victorian style home with lots of potential. Up to 4 bedrooms. Several rooms have hardwood floors. Spacious rooms. Nice sunroom. Great curb appeal. Update and repair and build equity here! Convenient location only 5 minutes to I-95. **MLS #1460640 \$85,000**

HALLOWELL - Wonderful 3 BR, 2 BA home with tons to offer, including a granite kitchen, hardwood floors, vaulted ceiling sunroom overlooking beautiful gardens, spacious deck, partially finished basement, and much more. Seller to give buyer check at closing for \$7,500.00 to help with any renovations that the buyer may see fit. **MLS #1455891 \$294,900**

ROME - Colonial home in the country! Spacious 3 BR, 2.5 BA home on 3.5 acres. Spacious LR, applianced kitchen w/DA & pantry. Large BR w/bath, walk in closet on the main floor. Full daylight basement could be finished also. **MLS #1460242 \$239,000**

WINTHROP - Cobbossee Lake/Lakeside Village 3rd floor condominium. Elevator access. Gorgeous Southerly lake views from every room, spacious 1,700SF, 2 BR, 2 BA CONDO with vaulted ceilings, wonderful deck/patio. Great layout, oversized LR w/fireplace, lovely DR, kitchen w/lake views. Lg master suite w/BA, 2nd BA w/jetted tub, washer/dryer. One car attached garage, dock with boat slip, large expansive front lawn with beach area. Views of the lighthouse. **MLS #1433407 \$350,000**

OAKLAND - Center hall Colonial home in quiet Oakland neighborhood. Wonderful floor plan featuring an applianced kitchen with Hickory cabinets and center bar; DR, large front to back LR w/impresive fieldstone fireplace, granite mantel. Also an entry area, 1/2 BA w/laundry & direct access to the two car garage. 2nd floor features 3BR and 2BA. MBR has its own private bath w/whirlpool tub and walk-in closet. **MLS #1451864 \$349,999**



— Real Estate Update —


One, Three or Four Seasons?

One: the season is summer. Simply unlock the door, take off the dust covers, enjoy the summer. Put on the dust covers, lock the door, take away wonderful memories of summer. Traditional one-season property in the lakes and woods and open fields of central Maine is rustic, basic, lockable/leavable, but once the weather turns brisk not totally livable....although there is often potential for adding heat, insulation, cold weather plumbing.

Three: spring, summer, fall. Unlock the door, edge up the heat, wear woolies, enjoy the spring/fall bonus seasons - and summer. Hang up the woolies, edge down the heat, lock the door, take away memories of

three-season adventures. Three-season property - a little bit rustic and a lot of fun - allows owners to visit vacation property most of the year....and may hold possibilities for finishing off for winter visits, too.

Four: year round. Unlock the door, live the good life, let it snow, storm, blow. Walk-in, walk-out. Four-season, all year, always on the ready property is as turn-key or as totally livable as it gets....a vacation home that's all set for a move-in or retirement.

One, three or four seasons: pick property for appeal, for price, for present-day needs....and maybe for future upgrades. 

MIFF 23 Wraps Up

by Gregor Smith



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The Maine Film Center just concluded a successful, although unconventional, 23rd annual Maine International Film Festival. The festival was unconventional in several respects: Instead of the usual 60+ feature films, there were only eleven this year, the best of the best. (There were also two collections of shorts, Maine Shorts and Shorts From Away.) 2020 is the first year that MIFF has not used either of its traditional venues, Railroad Square Cinema or the Waterville Opera House. (In order to maintain social distancing, all the in-person screenings took place at the Skowhegan Drive-In.) This year is also the first time that the festival has presented any of its content online. (Two documentaries and the Shorts from Away were presented only online, and Maine Shorts was the only festival offering presented both online and at the drive-in.)

Despite these changes and challenges, those who attended screenings at the drive-in were happy to be there, enjoying being able to see fine foreign and independent films once again. This is an opportunity that was lost when Railroad Square Cinema in Waterville had to close in late March, during the early days of COVID-19 in Maine.

Over 200 people attended the final screening, the Northeast premiere of *The Last Shift*, a film made more timely by recent Black Lives Matter protests. In this drama, white everyman Stanley (Oscar-nominee Richard Jenkins) is retiring as the night manager at an all-night fast food restaurant in an economically depressed Midwestern town. In training his replacement, African American probationer and aspiring writer Jevon (Shane Paul McGhie), Stanley is forced to confront some uncomfortable realities about himself and the society in which he lives.

Now that the festival is over, what will happen next? When will Railroad Square reopen? The answers remain to be determined. The Maine Film Center, which organizes the Maine International Film Festival and which owns Railroad Square, plans to email a survey to festival goers soon to help it decide its next steps. 

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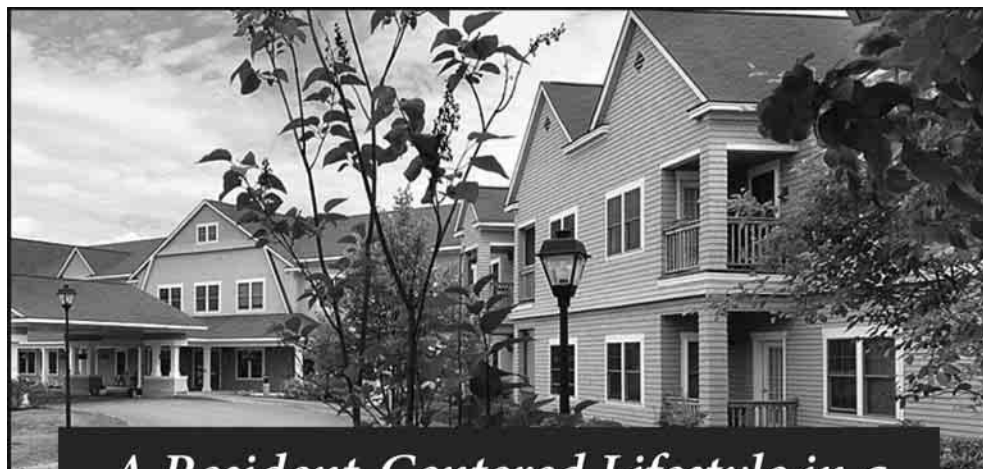
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