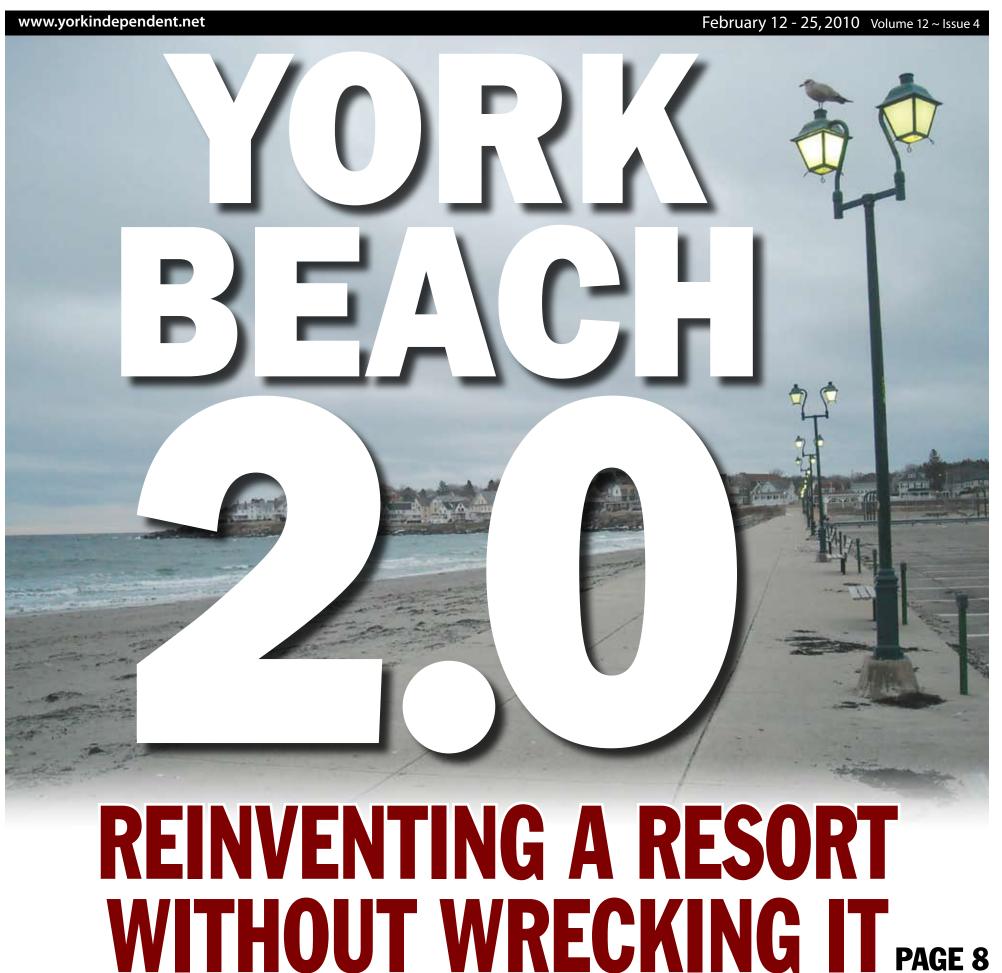
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# York Elndependent The hometown voice of the greater York region



Sports 18-19

## Were getting ready for spring!

#### By DAN SZCZESNY

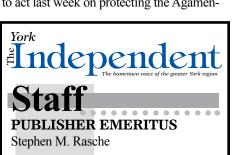
The York Independent

Yes, you head me, spring—that magical time of the year in York when the beach warms up, stores unshutter and those strange creatures called tourists begin creeping back to town. It's already Valentine's Day, after al,l and signs of spring are everywherefrom new restaurants and stores beginning to open to increased traffic on Route 1. And the York Independent is getting ready as well.

This week, we introduce a new film and culture section with movie, book and music reviews. It's all part of making York's largest circulation newspaper an even broader and richer read. And that's not all. You may have noticed our tall, blue boxes popping up around town. With these new high visibility drop locations, it's easier than ever to pick up a copy. And don't feel left out. If you'd like your store or restaurant to carry copies of the York Independent, or have other suggestions on how we can improve our paper, drop me an e-mail at danszczesny@gmail.com.

#### Set a price and move on

The Board of Selectmen once again failed to act last week on protecting the Agamen-



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Dan Szczesny

ticus School House. They postponed a decision to ask voters to purchase the structure. This time, they need the town's insurance company to visit the site, and some selectmen seemed put off by the fact that if voters

did approve of purchasing the building, that the town would actually own it.

Voters approved of renovations to the Grant House and it's now used by the Parks and Recreation Department. The friends of the schoolhouse are suggesting about \$200,000 will be needed to buy and stabilize the property. Selectmen feel it might be more, given the property's condition. Either way, enough with the delays. Figure out a price and let the voters decide.

#### Harvesting more dissent

Selectman Kinley Gregg wants some answers about Harvestfest. She asked fellow board members recently to discuss the event prior to granting its usual special permit, which typically takes place in September..

Could this have been a polite way of asking fellow Selectman Cathy Goodwin what the heck is going on? Goodwin is also the Chamber's president and it's Goodwin who's at the center of the controversy over moving Harvestfest from the Village to the Beach. Goodwin shot back that a special permit is a safety document, not regulatory, and therefore the board should have nothing

She's right of course, but it seems to us that Gregg, perhaps, is trying to address village concerns over the move. Other selectmen agreed with Goodwin and the discussion was abruptly dropped. Pity. Even if it's not their role, it would be nice to see the town's elected body step up and at least look over an issue that clearly affects so many.

#### THE INSIDE GUIDE

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**LOCAL GOVERNMENT** 

# THE WAIT CONTINUES

Deadline passes for purchase of land for new police station

#### By TARYN PLUMB

The York Independent

Officials continue to move forward with a variety of issues pertinent to infrastructure, zoning, and the town's overall quality-oflife, and in some cases such as York Beach they're actively seeking opinions and ideas from residents.

#### New police station, old school: both require a bit more study

The Jan. 29 closing for the purchase of land for a new police station came and went-but the town doesn't own the prop-

Town officials have requested more time before making their decision, and expected to have a signed extension this week. That extension would likely provide the town with an additional 60 days, according to town manager Robert Yandow.

Simply put: Officials felt they could not make a decision on the property because consultation and analysis was not yet complete.

"There were still too many questions

**6 6** There were still too many questions that didn't have answers. 🤊 🤊

that didn't have answers," said Yandow, specifically when it comes to environmental requirements.

Contingencies in the purchase and sale agreement allow the town to back out for reasons pertaining to environmental impact, or if the site can't be accessed for public safety purposes, Yandow explained.

The cost for the land would be \$1.5 million. Voters approved \$2 million for this purpose last May.

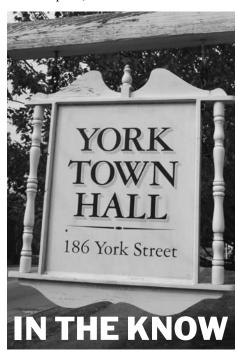
If the closing goes forward, next year's capital plan would include roughly \$200,000 for engineering analysis and architectural designs, Yandow said. The cost for the building itself would then be a separate stand-alone article put forward for approval

by voters.

Similarly, officials are delaying a decision on a historic piece of the town's past.

Selectmen have decided to seek input from the town's insurance carrier when it comes to the beleaguered Agamenticus school house, a historic but near-deteriorating building that was recently slated for demolition. Selectmen want to determine whether the building would be insured if voters approved funds for its purchase.

At this point, whether the structure would



#### A BI-WEEKLY ROUND UP **OF GOVERNMENT IN YORK**

be insured is unclear, because the building is "in very poor condition," Yandow said.

Selectmen also plan to schedule a site visit of their own. The goal is to make a final decision at their meeting on Monday, Feb. 22, Yandow said.

A five-member steering committee previously asked selectmen to approve a warrant article for the May town meeting requesting funds to purchase, stabilize and rehabilitate the circa-1850 school house, which was scheduled to be razed by owner Michael Genewicz. Although the group was seeking \$200,000, selectmen said they would consider supporting \$70,000, (Genewicz's ask-









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ing price), and requested that the committee hold a public hearing on the subject.

According to committee member Pamela Wallis, the building will likely require a new well, a holding tank, some structural work, and cosmetic improvements.

The schoolhouse was in operation until 1957, and was designated a historic property by the historic district commission in 1988. The goal is to have it as a museum to house artifacts, Wallis said, and also use it as town office space.

Despite its history, though, if the insurer says no, Yandow said, "I suspect the selectmen are going to have some concerns about putting it on the ballot."

#### Residents to have their say on York Beach future

The planning board, in its charge to create a vision for a swath of land along Route 1, is now actively soliciting input from residents.

Specifically, the board is asking residents—in an anonymous questionnaire what they like and don't like about the area, and the five words that they would use to describe York Beach.

Questionnaires are available on the town Web site, and are due by Friday, Feb. 19, according to town planner Christine Grimando. This is the first of many polls to take place throughout the process, she said.

From early analysis of the responses, Grimando reported that residents have been "happy" to see that the planning board had not come to "early conclusions" about what should happen on that tract of land. "The planning board seems very open to different directions this could go," she noted.

Last summer, selectmen gave the planning board the task of determining the best future use of the area—which is between 200 and 300 acres, enveloping mostly open land, but also encompassing a few residential properties and York's Wild Kingdom.

Selectmen asked the planning board to deliver a proposal within the next one to three years. According to the charge, the outcome could include amendments to the town's comprehensive plan, zoning or design standards.

"Recommendations will promote the maintenance and development of an attractive, economically-viable, safe, pedestrian and family-oriented environment with a vibrant mix of business uses," the charge reads.

The next step, according to Grimando,

will be site walks by the planning board in late February.

Overall, she said, it's clearly going to be a long-term project. "This will be ongoing," she said.

Similarly, the York Beach subcommittee will also seek comments from residents about the design standards they've been drafting for the past year. A public forum will be held on Wednesday, March 10 at 4:30 p.m. at the York Public Library. (See this edition's cover story by Susan King for more detailed information about what's happening at York Beach.)

#### Creative school budgeting helps gifted students, strings

A little of the above may enable York schools to expand two diminished offerings-the Horizons Program for gifted and talented students, and the violin instruction program.

If the budget is approved, the elementary and middle school Horizons programs will

# **6 6** This is all within the framework of the budget. 7 7

expand to two full-time positions, and the middle school violin program will increase by 20 percent (to a day-and-a-half a week instead of one).

This all came from creative shifting, according to Superintendent of Schools Henry Scipione.

This is all within the framework of the budget," he said. "We didn't add any positions, we just shifted positions."

The school has been trying to restore both programs since 2001. At that point, the Horizons program was "drastically" cut back at the elementary school, and eliminated at the middle school, Scipione said. Over the ensuing years, both programs have slowly been restored.

"There is a population of students that is being well-served by those positions," said Scipione. The goal is to "expand the opportunities of those positions to serve more

Taryn Plumb covers York for the York Independent. Comments? Story ideas? Send them to editor@yorkindependent.net.

#### YORK BUSINESS EXPANDS



Bill & Bob's Jewelry in York Beach recently expanded to the Fox Run Mall in Newington, N.H., adding a full service party attire and bridal salon. The Greater York Region Chamber of Commerce hosted a formal ribbon cutting ceremony to officially open the salon on Feb. 5.

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WINE DINNER 3/13 - AVAILABLE

WINE DINNER 3/20 - SOLD OUT

WINE DINNER 3/27 - SOLD OUT

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Saturday 13th

Wild Horse

Sunday 14th

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B.I.N.G.O.

Thursday 18th

D.M.V.

Saturday 20th

Jen Thayer Band

Monday 22nd

Woman's Auxillary Dinner 5:30-6:30

Wednesday 24th

B.I.N.G.O.

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#### **Monthly Meetings**

Legion - 1st Monday of month 7pm S.A.L - 1st Tuesday of month 7pm AUX - 2nd Monday of month 1pm House Committee - Last Thurs. of month 6pm Executive Board - Last Thurs. of month 7pm

FMI 207-363-0376 9 Hannaford Dr., York, ME

# **ART SWANSON**

# THE SIGN CARVE

#### By TARYN PLUMB

The York Independent

His work guides the way.

Since the 1970s, York resident Art Swanson has hand-carved hundreds of wooden signs for local landmarks—and he's also used his chiseling skills to reproduce the stylistic eagles crafted in the late 1800s by Kittery master carver John Haley Bellamy (antiques that fetch thousands today). Laboring at his Cider Hill Woodworks studio on Cider Hill Road, he turns out eagles, signs, and plaques of all kinds.

And here's a surprise: You might even come across Swanson's characteristic carvings if you ever find yourself wandering around Hong Kong.

Name: Art Swanson

**Age:** 56

Resident of York since: 1980

#### How did you get into woodworking?

I started out as a cabinet maker in the mid '70s, working with some friends in a cooperative wood shop. I did some work for houses, some antique reproductions. This was right at the beginning of the carved sign revolution; I realized there was more creativity in sign work than cabinet making. So I just dove in and taught myself. It was basically just trial and error.

#### Why were you drawn to Bellamy-style eagles?

The simplicity of design. I just think they're beautiful.

#### How are Bellamy's eagles different?

They're very graceful and very stylized; unique. There are a lot of eagles out there, but Bellamy's have a flow and design that really stand out.

# How many Bellamy pieces are out

Nobody knows how many he's done, but he was extremely prolific. It was probably in the thousands. He worked in the Kittery/ Portsmouth area most of his life, and also did work in Boston for a while. There is a new book coming out about him; I worked with the author, James Craig.

#### Do you own any of his pieces?

No. I have a few that I've carved as reproductions that I've kept. I missed the boat on those. By the time I got interested in them, they were out of my reach

financially. I did have a chance many years ago to buy a broken one—with little pieces missing, chips off the wing tips—for \$325. Even then it was out of my reach. Now that same eagle would be worth \$12,000 to \$15,000, even broken.

#### Where can people see your work?

Most of it is local. Although I do have one sign in central Hong Kong. Three guys came by my shop one evening—they were

# 66 I don't use a computer to carve my signs. I'm sort of old-school in that. 9 9

touring New England for ideas for a New England style restaurant in Hong Kong, and they wanted to sell Maine lobster and U.S. beef. They had seen the lobster I carved for the Weathervane in Kittery, and they looked me up. (On the sign), there was a lobster carved in relief and two steer heads on either side and a carved wooden ribbon that said "Maine Lobster and U.S.

Beef and Fine Food and Spirits." And "Trio's" (the name of the restaurant) behind the lobster in raised letters. That was in the mid 1980s. I don't even know if the restaurant is still in business. I've also done most of the entrance and directory signs around York Hospital, and a number of signs downtown, (including) Bragdon Real Estate and Ellis Insurance. I did most of the signs for the York Harbor Inn, Harbor Hill Inn, Harbor Crest Inn. And many more. There have been hundreds over the years.

# What's the biggest (size-wise) job you

The largest eagle has a 10-foot wing span. That was for a private collector in Kittery. I probably have done some 20 feet long. I specialize in small, intricate things, rather than big commercial jobs. I use mahogany for most work, and 23-carat gold leaf.

#### Can you describe the carving process?

I don't use a computer to carve my signs. I'm sort of old-school in that. I do my own designs. Over the years I've collected chisels, and developed my own style of letter-carving. I learned on my own, really

people...who have come here for the first time and have never seen them.

material that I'm going to be carving. I do a lot of raised letters, which are made out of polyurethane sign foam. I paint (the signs) and gild them; it's all pretty much done by hand.

#### How long does this take?

It varies depending on the size, of course. For a simple, one-and-a-half-square-foot

sign, it takes 12 hours, and for larger signs, longer. There's a lot of waiting for paint to dry.

#### What is your favorite item to carve?

I really enjoy doing the (Bellamy-style) eagles. It's sort of a challenge of making it look like an original. I've seen a number of originals, and I sort of know his techniques. I've also collected a whole bunch of photographs of his work, pieces that have been sold at auction. I have also repaired a number of originals, so I've had them in my shop to be able to study.

## How would you describe the market for wooden signs today?

The heyday for carved signs, I believe, has passed. They're not for everybody, but there are certain businesses that really do appreciate them. They're definitely most popular in the northeast. I still get people from other parts of the country who have come here for the first time and have never seen them. It's pretty much a New England



COURTESY PHOTO

A sample of Swanson's work.

phenomenon, although it's more widespread because of computerized machines (that create them). I would say that the mid 1980s to mid 1990s, (the market) was pretty intense.

# What kind of qualities do you need to do this kind of work?

You gotta have a good sense of design, patience; a steady hand for painting, definitely.

#### Who's your favorite historical figure?

I would say Thomas Jefferson, because he was a renaissance man; an inventor, an artist, a farmer.

#### What's your philosophy on life?

Any job worth doing is worth doing right. That's my mantra.

For more on Swanson and his work, visit www.ciderhillwoodworks.com.

If you have a suggestion for someone who could be skewered—er, interviewed—here, please contact Taryn Plumb at taryn-plumb1@gmail.com.

**MY KIND OF TOWN** 

# **SHORT MONTH, BUSY CALENDAR**

There's plenty going on in the York area during February

#### By JENNIFER L. SAUNDERS

The York Independent

I thought it might be nice to devote this edition's column to some of the up-and-coming events in town, but when I started compiling them it became clear that I just don't have enough words in this space to do justice to all the great activities beginning this weekend and continuing through February school vacation week. Wow!

So here it goes. I am going to share some of the events that I won't have the opportunity to check out this weekend as we'll be heading off to Long Island to bring our darling 16-month-old Canine Companions for Independence puppy Maddie to the start of advanced training on her journey to hopefully become a service dog. Enjoy!

First off, you don't need to go all the way to New York to experience the magic of the Metropolitan Opera this weekend. On Saturday, Feb. 13, the York Public Library will present a Met screening of "Carmen," featuring Agnes Baltsa, Jose Carreras, Leona Mitchell and Samuel Ramey at 1:30 p.m. This three-hour screening is being offered free of charge, with drinks and snacks available during intermission.

Also on Saturday, and just in time for Valentine's Day, the Greater York Region Chamber of Commerce will host its eighth Wedding and Party Extravaganza from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. See the facility at Foster's Downeast Clambake and visit the York Harbor Inn and Stage Neck Inn to see what dozens of vendors for have to offer for your next party or to plan a wedding to remember. Free shuttle service between the Stage Neck and York Harbor Inn is being provided by Regal Limousine. Admission to this popular annual event is \$5 per person. To find out more, visit www.gatewaytomaine.com.

School Vacation Week itself promises



something for kids of all ages, from crafts and puzzles to books and special programs.

At the York Public Library, drop-in crafts and collaborative jigsaw puz-

zles will be available for students from Tuesday through Friday, Feb. 16 through 19, with an array of programs for all ages on Feb. 16. For more on these and other library events, call 363-2818 or visit www.york.lib.me.us.

Just around the corner at the Museums of Old York, local children are invited to "Vacation in Outer Space" through a traveling exhibit from Tuesday through Thursday, Feb. 16 to 18, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. This program is for ages six and up, and the cost is \$60 for Old York members and \$65 for nonmembers. For information on registration, call 363-4974.

On Sunday, Feb. 21, head back to the York Public Library for the second installment in the free winter music series. "A Few Seconds with our Fathers: Song and Stories of World War II" is a tribute to the veterans of World War II by local songwriter Curt Bessette with Neal Zweig on lead guitar and Jenn Kurtz providing vocal harmonies. This event will also feature stories from local veterans.

And not to worry, if you are not in the mood for music, arts or extravaganzas, as there will be plenty of town business coming up in the weeks ahead. For starters, don't forget to attend the Budget Committee's meeting on Feb. 26 at 6 p.m. at the York Public Library. Find out more about this and other town meetings at www.yorkmaine.org and www.yorkschools.org.

So there you have 'em—just a few of the many things going on in and around town in the weeks ahead. Enjoy!

Jennifer Saunders is a contributing editor for the York Independent.

#### YORK LIBRARY Afternoon concert Feb. 21

Concerts for a Winter Afternoon: Songs and Stories of World War II will be featured Sunday, Feb. 21 at 3 p.m. Popular seacoast musician Curt Bessette will be joined by Neil Zweig (lead guitar) and Jenn Kurtz (vocal harmonies) in a musical tribute to honor World War II veterans and families, including Curt's own father.

Visit the York Public Library at us at 15 Long Sands Road; contact us at 363-2818 or visit www.york.lib.me.us for the most up-to-date information.

#### **Events**

- New Program: "Carmen" will be shown on Saturday, Feb. 13 at 1:30 p.m. The full-length opera will be followed by a discussion led by local resident and opera aficionado, Gretchen Baldwin.
- Family Film Series: "Mulan" will be screened Saturday, Feb. 13 at 6:30 p.m. "Mulan" is based on the legendary Chinese heroine.
- Winter Film Festival:
  "Breakfast at Tiffany's," will be shown on Sunday, Feb. 14 at 3 p.m. A classic romance for Valentine's Day starring George Peppard and Audrey Hepburn. Filmed on location in New York, this captivating movie is a candy box of color, style, humor, and romance. It was the 1962 Oscar winner for Best Musical Score, Best Original Song. Unrated, PG equivalent. 115 minutes.
- "Tea with Mussolini," will be shown Sunday, Feb. 28 at 3 p.m. A group of women expatriots living in Florence Italy on the brink of World War II extract a promise from dictator, Mussolini that their lifestyle will be preserved. When his word is not kept and these expats are in trouble, it takes a young outcast boy and a brazen American woman to keep them in the high life and out of harm's way. The cast includes: Maggie Smith, Joan Plowright, Cher, Lily Tomlin, and Judi Dench. Director Franco Zeffirelli tells a wonderful, semiautobiographical story filled with humor, hope, and inspiration. Rated PG for thematic elements, language, brief nudity, and some mild violence. 117

minutes.

- Enrichment Fair for elementary-age children: Saturday, Feb. 27 (Snow date: March 6) 10 a.m. to noon. Bring your family to the library and learn about enrichment opportunities for elementary age children in our community, including: nature, tutoring, recreation, childcare, dance, horseback, music, and art lessons. There will also be some entertaining demonstrations!
- · York Reads Film Festival: "On Golden Pond" on Tuesday. March 2 at 1 p.m. While at their summer home on Golden Pond, the Thayer family is forced to renew their bonds of love and overcome generational friction. Henry Fonda plays the 80-yearold curmudgeonly, retired professor, who has a bickering, but loving relationship with his wife played by Katherine Hepburn, and a distant and turbulent relationship with their daughter, played by Jane Fonda. Winner of Academy Awards, including Best Actor (Fonda) and Best Actress (Hepburn), Rated PG, 105 min.

"The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie" Tuesday, March 9 at 1 p.m. Maggie Smith plays a Scottish schoolmistress who is not always a positive influence on her impressionable charges at an all-girls school in Edinburgh during the 1930's. Smith won the 1969 Academy Award for Best Actress. Poignant and funny, based on the novel by Muriel Spark. Rated PG. 116 minutes.

"Empire Falls" Tuesday, March 16 at 1 p.m. Adapted by author Richard Russo from his Pulitzer Prize winning novel, "Empire Falls" is a powerful portrait of blue-collar America, a timeless tribute to the inherent decency and good humor that sustains working-class people



in everyday life. Set in a Maine town, the cast includes, Ed Harris, Helen Hunt, Paul Newman, and Joanne Woodward. MPAA rated: TV-14. 195 min. Cyan

Magenta

"Young at Heart" Tuesday, March 23 at 1 p.m. The Young at Heart Chorus, with an average age of 81, performs music that ranges from James Brown to Coldplay. This film traces their final weeks of rehearsal as some members struggle to overcome ill health and the adversities of age. Hilarious and moving, this film demonstrates the life-affirming power of music. Rated PG for some mild language and thematic elements. 108 minutes.

#### For children

- Infant Lapsits (infants to two years old) on Tuesdays,
   10:30 a.m. Come for a program of stories, songs, fingerplays and rhymes.
- Preschool Story Hours on Thursdays and Fridays at 10:30 a.m. Join us for stories, songs, fingerplays, crafts, and science. Thursday programs with Miss Julie are designed for three and four year olds. Science Story Time will take place on the fourth Thursday of each month. Friday story hours with Miss Kathleen are designed for two and three year olds.

#### Monthly programs

• Music in Motion, first Tuesday of the month (Tuesday, March 2), 10:30 a.m. Music instructor Lori Gundlah, who has taught children's music classes for twenty-five years, leads us in rhythm and songs for young children.





# Students knit quilts for babies

A beautiful hand-sewn quilt will soon be delivered to a nearby child in need and premature babies in local hospitals will be receiving knit hats to keep them warm and cozy. Students at Tidewater School, in Eliot recently completed these service projects under the guidance of their handwork teacher, Jenny Procter. In handwork class, the students learn a variety of skills including knitting, crotchet, and embroidery.

The service project allowed students at Tidewater School to apply their handwork skills to bring comfort to other children. The quilt made by the first through third graders will be delivered to a local chapter of Project Linus. Project Linus is a national program that provides comfort blankets to children in crisis. Each of the squares on the quilt made at Tidewater School was handsewn by the students who contributed their individual efforts to the whole of the project.

The fourth graders at Tidewater school knit hats for premature babies.

Tidewater is a Waldorf-inspired school; Waldorf curriculum includes handwork as an integral part of a learner's development. Waldorf education accentuates the importance of learning with the "head, heart, and hands"—all three of these aspects were engaged in the recent handwork service project.

#### **Ogunquit Playhouse news**

The Ogunquit Playhouse is pleased to announce the appointment of five new members to the Board of Directors. The Playhouse Foundation Board members recently held their Annual Meeting at Clay Hill Farm where Bob Appis, owner of the Egg and I in Ogunquit, Nancy Conklin from North Hampton, N.H., Mark Forsyth from Rye, N.H., Michael Severance from Kennebunkport, Fran Spechts from Ogunquit and Mark Wilcox, publisher of the Weekly Sentinel were appointed to a three-year term.

The Playhouse recently honored retiring board members, Karen Maxwell, Elizabeth Hirshom and Noel Leary, who each served on the board for many years. Ogunquit Playhouse Board of Directors, President, Jeffrey Troiano presented each with a plaque in honor of their many years of service, support and dedication to the theatre.

#### Local group makes blankets for homeless

The homeless and those who are cold in Maine and New Hampshire have been getting a little help from York's Coastal Clovers 4-H club. The club saw a need and tackled it head on when they met on Sunday, Jan. 31 and made 50 fleece blankets. The kids ages five through 18 will met again on Sunday, Feb. 7 to finish the project with another 36 blankets making the total donation 86 warm fleece blankets. The Polartec Company donated 395 yards of fleece for the project (\$3,000 value). Back Channel Canvas of Kittery gave them the much needed space to cut the large rolls of fleece into working lengths

The blankets will be distributed to those in need through the Salvation Army in Portsmouth and Sanford and York Community Services.

#### **Association contributes** money to community

York Community Service Association (YCSA) contributed more than \$100,000 in 2009 to the York community through its Family Services and Food Pantry. This represents over 75 percent of its Thrift Shop income and donations.

YCSA, run by an independent and volunteer board, decided early in the year to reevaluate plans to build a new building for its three entities—Food Pantry, Family Services and Thrift Shop.

York Community Service Association was established in 1959 by a group of York residents concerned that some in their community were in need. That is when Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets were first initiated. In 1969, YCSA opened The York Community Thrift Shop to raise funds to further help folks in York. (The Thrift Shop remains in the same location in Cape Neddick.) In 2007, the organization brought the York Food Pantry under its umbrella. YCSA is a non-profit 501(c) 3 organization and is run by a volunteer board made up of members of the community. The three entities comprising the organization are the York Food Pantry, Family Services and the York Community Thrift Shop.

#### Animal society news

The Animal Welfare Society Mobile Adoption Team will be promoting Pet Smart National Adoption Weekend on Saturday, Feb. 13 at the Pet Smart in Biddeford from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Animal Welfare Society will also be at Wells Plaza on Route 1 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. to teach the community more about having bunnies as pets.

The Humane Action League is an afterschool kids club that meets at the Animal Welfare Society on Holland Road in West Kennebunk every Monday afternoon from 3 to 4:30 p.m. The club consists of students who love animals and want to be involved in animal welfare. Each week the club learns about issues related to animal welfare and humane animal care. They spend a great deal of the time with the shelter animals, learning about gentle handling, proper care and behavior. Two sessions are offered each year to coincide with the school year. For more information call the Humane Educator at the shelter: 985-3244 ext. 109.



#### Republican committee elects new members

Ron Morrell was elected chairman of the York County Republican Committee in their December meeting. Also elected was Ryan McCabe as vice chairman. Treasurer Karen Gerrish was re-elected and Virginia Jennings was chosen from the floor to fill the position as secretary.

In January, Bobby Reynolds, special assistant for Sen. Susan Collins, brought members up-to-date on happenings in Congress.

Speakers included Les Otten, candidate for governor; Brad Watts, candidate for Maine State House; Craig Gagne, candidate for York County Sheriff; Dean Sconras, candidate for governor.

#### Concerts at the library

"A Few Seconds with our Fathers: Song and Stories of World War II" is the second in the York Public Library's popular winter music series on Sunday, Feb. 21, at 3 p.m. This free concert is part of the Live at the Library series, which encompasses drama, poetry readings, and other forms of music and art. Refreshments will be available during the performance.

Local songwriter Curt Bessette will present this special tribute to the veterans and families of World War II. The concert also honors Bessette's father, who was a World War II vet and who, like so many other veterans, never talked about their wartime experiences when they came home. The concert will feature songs about World War II and the stories behind them as well as cover songs from the War years.

Accompanying Bessette will be Neal Zweig (lead guitar) and Jenn Kurtz (vocal harmonies). In addition, local World War II veterans will share short stories and anecdotes about their wartime experiences.

The remaining concert in the series will feature local favorites Mainesqueeze, a fourpiece country/folk/blues band on Sunday,

The York Public Library is located at 15 Long Sands Road in York. For more information, call the library at 363-2818 or visit the ibrary's Web site at www.york.lib.me.us.

#### Ocean Bank donates to Fair Tide thrift store

Ocean Bank recently made a \$1,000 donation to Fair Tide, in support of their Thrift Store and Transitional Housing Program. Funds donated were earmarked for the new sign placed at the Fair Tide Thrift Store, which to date has generated a 20 to 30percent increase in business. Money raised from Thrift Store sales support the Transitional Housing Program.

The mission of Fair Tide is to provide safe, dignified affordable housing and comprehensive support services to formerly homeless individuals and families. They began their Transitional Housing Program in 2000, in an effort to guide their participants toward self-sufficiency through individualized support, community referrals and advocacy. They are a grassroots organization, and rely on community support and

When asked what this donation from Ocean Bank means to Fair Tide, Joe Galli, Executive Director stated, "Fair Tide is on a tight budget, so for Ocean Bank to subsidize some of the sign cost has been extremely helpful to us. We are so grateful to Ocean Bank for this generous donation." Joe also went on to say, "Fair Tide is very passionate about helping struggling people in our communities because we live, work and raise our families here. Our volunteers work hard to make a difference in the lives of people within our community."

#### Job change support group begins in late February

Dealing with job changes and job losses is a major challenge to many in today's economy—not just in loss of income but also the loss of confidence and self-esteem. The groups are for those who would benefit from the support of others and who want to strengthen their coping skills.

Beginning in late February, the six-session groups will meet for one-hour and be limited to six people. There is a \$20 fee for each session. Three different groups will be held in York so attendees can pick the best time for their individual schedule. Groups will be held on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 a.m., Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m. and Thursdays at 5:30 p.m.

Local psychotherapist Lori Pesciotta, LCSW, of Beacon Counseling, will facilitate the groups. For more information or to join a group, call Lori at 363-5560.

#### Local students make list at University of Vermont

Emily Silin, of York Beach, a junior Communication Science major in the College of Arts & Sciences at the University of Vermont was named to the dean's list for the fall 2009 semester.

To be named to the dean's lists, students must have a grade-point average of 3.0 or better and rank in the top 20 percent of their class in their respective college or school.

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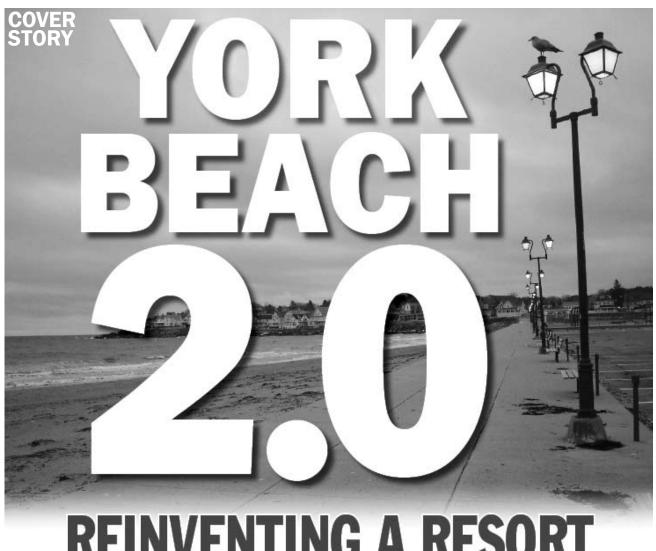
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# REINVENTING A RESORT WITHOUT WRECKING IT

#### By SUSAN KING

The York Independent

It's February, and who's thinking of the beach? In York, town officials hope *you* are.

With crowded streets and outdated amenities, York Beach is due for some upgrades. Members of the planning board and York Beach Subcommittee are gearing up for redeveloping the seaside village and are looking for the public's input.

The redevelopment project is kicking off with a survey to residents, asking them what they like and don't like about York Beach.

The major themes: traffic and congestion.

"Parking complaints, crowd complaints and congestion—those are the pulls you hear," said Town Planner Christine Grimando.

As for the positive, Grimando said that one survey said, "the feeling that the past is close at hand." She added that free concerts, the taffy machines at The Goldenrod and "the feeling of families strolling around" were also mentioned as positives.

The surveys were part of a public forum held Thursday, Jan. 28 to discuss the new York Beach and how to handle the area's growth.

The first meeting primarily discussed the issues facing York Beach and the history of the area, Grimando said. Future meetings will be more interactive and act as public forums.

In addition to meetings, site walks will be held in the center of town as well as the York Beach Growth Zone. The next one will be held at the end of February, although no official date has been set. Meetings and site walks will follow on a regular basis, Grimando said.

Any announcements and further details can be found on the York Beach Subcommittee's page at www.york-maine.org.

#### **Community challenges**

The planning board created the York Beach Subcommittee, headed by Grimando and Chairman David Woods, to look at the challenges in the area and the best ways to improve the small, congested beach village while still keeping the nostalgic, family-friendly environment that has been hailed as the beach's strongest asset.

Although still governed by the town's board of selectmen, the York Beach Subcommittee was developed in the summer of 2009 by the planning board to specifically oversee redevelopment projects in York Beach. Plans range from major sewage projects to help stop the flooding that plagues the area to relatively small efforts at sidewalk repair.

The committee is also working to develop construc-

**6** We have so much to offer that a lot of the other coastal communities don't have.

tion codes that would put rules and regulations on the style, size and placement of both residential and commercial buildings downtown, and look at rezoning the area and what impact that would have on the commu-

nity. The group is not charged solely with commercial development, but also wetlands protection and trail development in the stretch of land between York Wild Kingdom and Route 1, commonly referred to as the York Beach Growth Zone.

To find out exactly what the York Beach difference is, two board members, Torbert Macdonald and Tom Manzi, took a 500-mile roadtrip up the coast from Massachusetts to Maine, looking at other beach communities. That is, they drove the 10 percent of the coast that

has public access, Macdonald said.

From honky tonk to hoity-toity, the New England coast includes a mash-up of communities. But on what end of the spectrum does York Beach lie?

Pointing toward communities such as Old Orchard Beach, Grimando said there's a fear that York Beach might go too far in one direction, but she said that it probably won't happen.

"There's been some neat development with year-round businesses," she said. "Stores hang on for years and it's really an old beach town, which is unique. People tend to say 'Gosh, I've been able to go to the same place to get taffy.' It strikes a pretty unusual, valuable balance."

#### One-word answers

"Family-friendly" tops the list when residents were asked by the Planning Board "What five words best describe York Beach?"

Other words were not so positive, Grimando said. Reading off the list, she said some of the answers

A lot of thoughts are contradictory, but that's going to happen anywhere.

were: Potential, family, dirty, ocean, salt air, sand, beach house, charming, familyfriendly, yesteryear, congested, useless, sidewalks, scenic, quiet,

picturesque, relaxing, clean, Nubble, traffic, pizza, Goldenrod, dangerous beach, safe, affordable, accessible, crowds, traffic, congestion.

"A lot of thoughts are contradictory, but that's going to happen anywhere," she said.

To better understand the challenges and York's his-

To better understand the challenges and York's history, the planning board created a 30-minute video to highlight how York Beach evolved, produced with the help of Community Development director Steve Burns.

The commercialization of York Beach began with the train and trolley, he said.

"Eighty-five years after the steam train and trolley, we're still struggling with the issue: What do we do with all of the cars?" Burns said.

The video features 16-millimeter film, converted

The video features 16-millimeter film, converted to DVD, of a 1946 flood in York Beach. Burns interviewed Hannah McIntire Sweeney, now of Ferncroft Road, who was a young girl living on Main Street at that time. When she was growing up, downtown York Beach was independent of the village, Sweeney told Burns. Parsons grocery, a fish market and hardware store were open year round.

#### Areas for growth

The York Beach subcommittee has their sights set on the York Beach Growth Zone, located between Route 1 and York Beach center, and between the York and Cape Neddick rivers. The 300-acre piece of land includes York's Wild Kingdom. There is currently a variety of zoning in place, from residential to commercial to mixed use. Selectmen are scheduled to close on a section of land there for the purpose of building a new police station and an access road from Route 1 to the beach village.

Grimando said the planning board will not buy the rest of the area, but they do want to control what a developer can build there in the case of independently-owned parcels come up for sale. Most of the land is residential and the zoning is expected to remain the same, Grimando said. In addition, wetlands make up some of the area, which will affect what is built there.

The committee is currently looking at the addition of recreation trails in the area.

#### Preliminary phase

Grimando said the committee is currently in the preliminary phase of redevelopment and is looking at designing standards to direct new development and redevelopment of commercial properties to be consistent with York Beach's historic building patterns,

**6** Their property

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beach.

# **BUSINESS OWNERS SPEAK OUT**

6 A lot of the

from traffic flow and

pedestrian flow.

problems stem

From congestion to shabby sidewalks, York Beach business owners see some big negatives in the community that need to be addressed in the Planning Board's redevelopment project. But what else do they think? And what are some of the positives of York Beach?

#### Jennifer Woods, owner of the Daily Grind

Jennifer Woods, owner of the Daily Grind calls York Beach a "family-friendly" community, with everything nearby and close for walking.

But the positives don't come without negatives, however, congestion and lack of parking can become major headaches during the height of the season

Supportive of the redevelopment project of York Beach, Woods sees a lot of room for improvement in the compact village.

"A lot of the problems stem from traffic flow and pedestrian flow," she said.

She said that many of the "nuts and bolts" issues in York Beach are important

to address, comparing the traffic congestion to downtown Portsmouth.

But the family-friendly vibe of York Beach is something that Woods sees as a definite positive. With an eclectic group of local business-

es in the village and a compact center of town, the beach has many great highlights that make it an excellent vacation spot for families—if only it were more pedestrianfriendly.

"Everything is so close together, it's

great families," she said. "Nothing is too spread out and it doesn't take too long to walk anywhere and see all of the sights."

But with a lot of pedestrian traffic—especially in the summer—sidewalks in disrepair and undefined sidewalks can cause problems. The Planning Board is looking to fix some of these issues in the redevelopment project, making York Beach a safer community for walkers.

# Joe Lipton, co-owner of Inn on the Blues

Joe Lipton has been very vocal about what he thinks needs to be done in York Beach. He was part of the initial York Beach Renaissance group in 2006, but left in 2007 to try to help the beach independently.

"I wanted to get something together

to organize improvement projects down

here," he said. "We quickly realized how big of a scope the projects were. One thing kept leading to another and it became bigger than us and working with a lot of people to get things done was difficult. Everyone

wanted something different—although the end-goals were the same."

Tired of the politics that came with the group, Lipton ventured out on his own in 2007. He's now working with a few independent groups that are talking with

the planning board and expressing their concerns and what they would like to see happen in York Beach.

"We've been focusing on actually speaking with residents of York Beach," he said. "Asking them what they think about differ-

ent policies and what their needs are."

Congestion is not the beach's biggest problem, Lipton said. Funding is one of the biggest problems. He said the property taxes from beach houses bring in a large amount of revenue but the sum-

mer-time people, which make up a large pe

a large percentage, aren't able to vote.

"Their property taxes end up going to other areas that don't involve the beach," he said. Additionally, Lipton

is a proponent of the access road that's currently being proposed to link the village with Route 1. He would also like to see increased parking, pedestrian amenities and a parking meter plan that would increase the revenue toward capital improvement.

"Parking meters would be great for funding to take care of the roads," he said.

Nothing will get done, though, until the studies stop and people start working, he said.

"York Beach has a lot going for it and hopefully it can remain the quintessential New England beach town that it's been for so long," he said.

#### Bob Morgan, owner of York Beach Grocery

**6 6** ...the only way

to keep traffic out

to close down the

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think they can do

that. 🤊 🤊

of York Beach is

Traffic congestion is mentioned again by Bob Morgan, owner of York Beach Grocery, but he doesn't really see much hope in a solution anytime soon.

"It's always been like that," he said. "And the only way to keep traffic out of York Beach is to close down the roads and I don't think they can do that."

York Beach Grocery has been located in the center of town for more than 20 years, and Morgan has been living in York Beach off-andon since the 1960s. He's

seen a lot of changes in the community—not all of them have been successful.

He said it's counterproductive for people outside of York Beach to try to change traffic patterns when they "have no clue what they're talking about." He pointed to a case last year when the town changed a road from a two-way to one-way, leading the post office to discontinue mail delivery to people on the "wrong side" of the road. Fire trucks and ambulances also said that they wouldn't be able to reach certain houses

This experience just a year ago makes Morgan wary of the town changing things in York Beach.

"The town doesn't really know what's going on down here," he said. "It's darn shame that they want to come and shake things down. They're not listening to the people."

including appropriate scale, architectural styles, and the relationship of buildings to the street and surrounding properties.

Parking and traffic flow are currently being studied by Paradigm Engineering. She anticipates the study to be available soon with parking policy recommendations and revised parking standards and policies.

An Infrastructure Masterplan is being developed to coordinate public works projects with the policy goals for the area, including improved sidewalks, crosswalks, and traffic circulation. Handicap code compliance is also being planned along with better facilities for bicycle riders and pedestrians.

Drainage and flooding are also major concerns in the area and will be considered in all development and infrastructure recommendations, she said. The town is currently using a FEMA grant to repair sewage systems and curb problematic flooding in the community.

#### New developments: smoking and surfing

Just as Mother Nature slowly shifts the sands of the beach, York officials are even now slowly reshaping the identity of the town's iconic seashore area. In recent months, town officials have debated a new surfing ordinance and smoking ban in the community.

The new surf ordinance would extend the surfing area to 900 feet, from Beacon Street to the Sun & Surf Restaurant, and would give surfers another 800 feet at the other end of the beach near the Cutty Sark Motel. The areas would be open to both surfers and swimmers.

A 2,000-foot area in the center of the beach would be designated a safe swim zone, banned to surfers between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., from June 14 until Labor Day.

Selectmen are currently debating a smoking ban in all of York, which would include the beach. However, the



SUSAN KING PHOTO

York Beach dates back to the days before people drove everywhere in cars; narrow roads and buildings close together add to the area's charm, but also leave it congested.

ban would be a resolution and not an ordinance, which would not allow enforcement. Selectmen are expected to vote in the next couple of months.

The planning board expects to host many more public forums and site walks as they move through each phase of redevelopment. Surveys are due back by Friday, Feb. 12 at town hall, and is now available to submit online at www.yorkmaine.org by following the link on the home page. Deadline for online surveys is Friday, Feb. 19, so you still have time.

The surveys will be used by the committee to develop plans to address concerns from residents.

# Get yourself a little lovin' from the oven

What better way to celebrate Valentine's Day than with cinnamon rolls baked for your sweetie?

#### By SARAH GRANT

The York Independent

There is a legend that Casanova started every day by eating 50 oysters off a beautiful woman's breast while they enjoyed a bath together. While it is true that oysters are high in zinc, which can increase the libido hormone, testosterone, it is doubtful that Casanova could do much of anything after that many oysters, let alone make love. Although the mere thought of that scene might set the mood for romance.

At one time or another, almost every food has been identified as an aprodisiac. Greeks and Hindus have independently concluded that fennel is a potent sexual stimulant. A Hindu recipe for sexual vigor includes fennel juice, honey, ghee, sugar and liquorices while the Mediterranean folks believe that fennel soup increases erotic desire.

My idea for Valentine's Day is to start the day off right with breakfast in bed. Not the mundane eggs and toast, but a sweet for your sweet that is more a labor of love, for example, something warm from the oven, gooey with cream cheese icing and sweet with a heavenly swirl of brown sugar and fragrant cinnamon. Overnight Cinnamon Rolls fit the bill. Plus, you can do most of the labor to make these nectareous delights

the night before. In the morning, just quietly slip out of bed to let the rolls rise for 30 minutes and bake for another 30 minutes. I'm sure your significant other will let you know just how much s/he appreciates your efforts all day long. Oh by the way, this recipe makes a dozen rolls, so be sure to leave plenty down in the kitchen to distract the kids for a while.

#### **Overnight Cinnamon Rolls** for Lovers

Courtesy of Alton Brown

#### **Ingredients for Dough:**

- 4 large egg yolks, room temperature
- 1 large whole egg, room temperature
- 2 ounces sugar, approximately 1/4 cup
- 3 ounces unsalted butter, melted, approximately 6 tablespoons
  - 6 ounces buttermilk, room temperature
- 20 ounces all-purpose flour, approximately 4 cups, plus additional for dusting
- 1 package instant dry yeast, approximately 2 1/4 teaspoons
- 1 1/4 teaspoons kosher salt
- Vegetable oil or cooking spray

#### **Ingredients for Filling:**

• 8 ounces light brown sugar, approximately 1 cup packed

• Pinch salt

• 3/4-ounce unsalted butter, melted, approximately 1 1/2 tablespoons

#### **Ingredients for Icing:**

- 2 1/2 ounces cream cheese, softened, approximately 1/4 cup
  - 3 tablespoons milk
- 5 1/2 ounces powdered sugar, approximately 1 1/2 cups

#### **Directions**

For the dough: in the bowl of a stand mixer with the whisk attachment, whisk the egg yolks, whole egg, sugar, butter, and buttermilk. Add approximately 2 cups of the flour along with the yeast and salt; whisk until moistened and combined. Remove the whisk attachment and replace with a dough hook. Add all but 3/4 cup of the remaining flour and knead on low speed for 5 minutes. Check the consistency of the dough, add more flour if necessary; the dough should feel soft and moist but not sticky. Knead on low speed 5 minutes more or until the dough clears the sides of the bowl. Turn the dough out onto a lightly floured work surface; knead by hand about 30 seconds. Lightly oil a large bowl. Transfer the dough to the bowl, lightly oil the top of the dough, cover and let double in volume, 2 to 2 1/2 hours.

Combine the brown sugar, cinnamon and salt in a medium bowl. Mix until well incorporated. Set aside until ready to use.



Butter a 9 by 13-inch glass baking dish. Turn the dough out onto a lightly floured work surface. Gently shape the dough into a rectangle with the long side nearest you. Roll into an 18 by 12-inch rectangle. Brush the dough with the 3/4-ounce of melted butter, leaving 1/2-inch border along the top edge. Sprinkle the filling mixture over the dough, leaving a 3/4-inch border along the top edge; gently press the filling into the dough. Beginning with the long edge nearest you, roll the dough into a tight cylinder. Firmly pinch the seam to seal and roll the cylinder seam side down. Very gently squeeze the cylinder to create even thickness. Using a serrated knife, slice the

# **FOODIES-IN-CHIEF?**

Exploring presidential palates: Washington distilled whiskey, Lincoln was wooed with cake

#### By SARAH GRANT

The York Independent

When I was in grade school, and we walked a mile to school rain, snow or shine...uphill both ways...and in our bare feet, we celebrated Abraham Lincoln's birthday and George Washington's birthday on separate days. We celebrated each of these two great men on their actual birthdays. Imagine that!

Recently I saw a commercial for Toyota naming Washington's birthday as the reason for a big sale which ends on Monday, Feb. 15. Umm, Washington's birthday is on the Monday, Feb. 22.

Anyway, my mother commemorated these great presidents with food. I believe we always had Johnnycake on Lincoln's birthday—whose birthday, by the way, is Feb. 12. Mom assumed that as a native Kentuckian, Abe ate a lot of corn bread. Washington's Birthday was observed at our dinner table with a cherry dessert, of course, usually storebought cherry pie or cherry vanilla ice cream. The Washingtons had their own whiskey distillery at the estate, which netted them \$7,500 in 1799, a whopping sum of money 211 years ago. Martha was known for her rum punch with citrus ingredients, often available at parties both at Mount Vernon and at the first White Houses in New York and Philadelphia. Slices of Martha's Great Cake are served to Mount Vernon visitors

during the Christmas season. The modernized recipe calls for nearly a dozen eggs, a pound of butter and sugar, mace, nutmeg, wine, French brandy and more than a pound of mixed fruit and almonds.

Martha was directly involved in meal production even during her eight years as first lady. She supervised the chefs

and cooks for all meals to ensure that all dishes matched the methods and ingredients of her personal cookbook, a story unto itself. She was a stickler for gustatious endeavors.

Mom was right about Abe, who has been quoted as saying, "I can eat corn cakes twice as fast as anyone can make them." Except for the years he was in the White House and had little time for meals, Abe Lincoln

apparently was a bit of a

foodie. As a young boy, he loved gingerbread. His mother and stepmother were both good cooks. His stepmom was known for the sausage she made without a meat grinder, but with a wooden mallet. Fricasseed chicken and its rich cream gravy, any manner of root vegetables and molasses pecan pie were also among his favorite home-cooked foods. When Lincoln was a circuit lawyer and stayed in boarding houses, he would ask for recipes of a meal he had enjoyed to take home to his wife Mary.

Donna McCreary, author of a cookbook, Lincoln's Table: Victorian Recipes from Kentucky and Indiana to Illinois and the White House, says, "As president-elect, to my knowledge, (Lincoln) is the only president who planned his own inaugural luncheon menu," which included mock turtle soup, corned beef and cabbage, parsley potatoes, blackberry pie

Mary Todd wooed Abe Lincoln with her White Cake. while they were courting. It is a vanilla-almond cake with a great deal more body and flavor than any thing you might make from a box. Mary used pearl ash as a rising agent. The modern substitute is baking powder. Although the recipe

has been often published since the release of Janis Cooke Newman's 2006 novel, Mary, I thought I'd give it one more go in this article, in honor of Abe and Mary.

Instead of icing this already sweet cake or dusting it with confectioner's sugar, serve it with some whipped cream and slightly sweetened compote of tart cherries as a nod to George. I'm sure he would have loved this cake.

#### Mary Todd's White Cake

Adapted from "Lincoln's Table," by Donna D. McCreary

Cooking time: 1 hour Yield: 12 servings

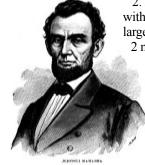
- · 6 egg whites
- 3 cups flour
- 3 teaspoons baking powder
- 2 sticks (1 cup) unsalted butter, room temperature
- 2 cups granulated sugar
- 1 cup milk
- 1 cup blanched almonds, chopped in a food processor to resemble a coarse flour
  - 1 teaspoon vanilla and/or 1 teaspoon of almond extract
- 1. Heat oven to 350 degrees. Beat the egg whites with a mixer on medium-high speed in a medium bowl until stiff. about 4 minutes; set aside. Sift the flour and baking powder together 3 times in a medium bowl; set aside.

2. Beat the butter and sugar together with a mixer on medium speed in a large bowl until light and fluffy, about 2 minutes. Beat in the flour mixture.

> alternating with the milk, beating after each addition. Stir in the almonds

3. Fold the egg whites into the batter; stir in the vanilla. Pour batter into a generously greased and floured 10- to 12-cup Bundt pan. Bake until an inserted tooth-

pick comes out clean, about 1 hour. Let cool 15 minutes. Remove from pan to a wire rack; let cool 1 hour.



cylinder into 1 1/2-inch rolls; yielding 12 rolls. Arrange rolls cut side down in the baking dish; cover tightly with plastic wrap and store in the refrigerator overnight or up to 16 hours.

Remove the rolls from the refrigerator and place in an oven that is turned off. Fill a shallow pan 2/3-full of boiling water and set on the rack below the rolls. Close the oven door and let the rolls rise until they look slightly puffy; approximately 30 minutes. Remove the rolls and the shallow pan of

water from the oven.

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. When the oven is ready, place the rolls on the middle rack and bake until golden brown, approximately 30 minutes.

While the rolls are cooling slightly, make the icing by whisking the cream cheese in the bowl of a stand mixer until creamy. Add the milk and whisk until combined. Sift in the powdered sugar, and whisk until smooth. Spread over the rolls and serve immediately.

**EAT HERE** 

# A weekly column about local food

#### By SARAH GRANT

The York Independent

• Not your usual store: The Brixham General Store is located smack dab between York Corner and South Berwick Village on Route 91. I finally stopped to see what was inside just last Friday and I was very pleasantly surprised. Chef Michael Specker owns the business and the historical building, and does food his way, which is also my way.

The sandwiches are better at Brixham General Store. The difference comes from the fact that Specker makes most of his ingredients from scratch; he does not buy them from Sysco like everyone else.

Consider the turkey sandwich. Specker roasts the all-natural turkey breast downstairs in his prep kitchen, and he simmers his recipe of cranberry-apple chutney on the stove. To a full four ounces of the roasted turkey breast he adds provolone, lettuce, tomato, basil, and mayo (didn't ask, but I'm pretty sure he whips up his own mayo, too) and, of course, the cranapple chutney and puts it all on Borealis sour dough.

Specker says his "Italian" is probably the most popular sandwich. Its secret ingredient is the smoked cherry pepper relish. Specker makes the spicy concoction down in that prep kitchen where he cold-smokes the cherry peppers before transforming them into the best "hots" you've ever put in your mouth. There are more sandwiches, all served with a full-sized kosher dill for \$6.95 to \$7.95.

If you happen to travel Route 91 for your morning commute, or even if you don't, be sure to stop by Brixham before 10 a.m. for a breakfast wrap brimming with three Maine farm eggs and the chef's daily whim. Perhaps he will complete the breakfast sandwich with his own sausage. Yes, you guessed it. Specker makes the sausage from local beef or pork down in the prep kitchen. Then there are the days of black beans and Specker's own salsa. Yummers! Whatever the filling, the breakfast wraps are a bargain at \$3.95. But, get there early before they are all gone.

Heading out? Brixham General Store, 435 Cider Hill Road (Route 91), York; 363-6600.

• Checking out Chef Raj: I have heard so much about Chef Raj of Tulsi from my chef friends and others who have raved about his charming restaurant in Kittery. The interior of the L-shaped space is a study in understated luxury, with curry-colored artwork and more Indian food colors echoed in the satin window treat-



ments and extra pillows on the upholstered bench that runs along the outside wall. It must be something about the acoustic qualities of the shape of the place, but although we

were sitting within inches of our neighboring table, we did not hear their conversation.

My friend and I shared Mussels Pooriyal (\$10.50), a generous serving of fresh mussels poached with spices, served with a creamy curry sauce. I am used to ordering extra spice when I get Thai food. I have hotter palate than the average Mainer, and I may ask for extra heat the next time I go to Tulsi. But the many flavors are so beautifully balanced in that cream that I enjoyed every bite of the plump bi-valves. Our first order of naan, Laccha Paratha (\$3.75), a multi-layered, tandoor-baked whole wheat bread brushed with butter, arrived in time so that no drop of that luscious curry sauce was wasted after the mussels were gone.

We also shared Lamb Nilgree (\$17), lamb cubes cooked and served in a milder North India mint sauce accompanied by irresistible lemon rice.

Almost on the way out the door, the waiter happened to mention the Mango Lassi (think smoothie, but so much better). I expressed my disappointment that I did not order one, so she brought me a sample. It was the perfect after dinner refreshment. Next time the Lassi will be my dessert.

Heading out? Tulsi, 2 Government St., Kittery; 451-9511; www.tulsiindianrestaurant.com

• A life in food: The Portland Museum of Art will present legendary editor Judith Jones, who will speak about her life in food, working with Julia Child, and her latest book, The Pleasures of Cooking for One on Tuesday, March 9 at 6 p.m. at the Holiday Inn By the Bay. Senior Editor and Vice President at Alfred A. Knopf since 1959, Jones is best known for her editorial work as the champion behind the underappreciated book proposal that became the revolutionary cookbook Mastering the Art of French Cooking. Tickets for the lecture are \$15 and \$10 for Museum members and can be purchased at portlandmuseum. org or by calling 775-6148, ext. 3227.

Sarah Grant, a local chef and organic farmer who has taught culinary arts at Le Cordon Bleu, writes about food for the York Independent. Send your local food thoughts to editor@yorkindependent.net.









Special 3 course fixed price menu including Prosecto toast starting at 5pm on Saturday, February 13th. Creekman, Accordion Warriar, Gary Sredzienski serenades Saturday & Sunday from 6:30-8:30pm.

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Local photographer expresses himself through images

#### By SUZIE GOODWIN

The York Independent

William J. Sanger doesn't have a Web site. He doesn't belong to any groups or associations, and he's had only one photography class. Yet if you Google him, you'll find him.

You can also find him locally at Ruby's Restaurant on Route 1 in York. That's where I found him—or rather, his photos. It was his photo, "Kayaker in Sea Smoke," a moody image of a fishing boat in the fog, that caught my attention.

Bill, a.k.a. William, is a quiet guy; well suited for a hobby he considers to be a solo sport. He says he stumbled into photography about eight years ago when he began taking photos of his family. One of his favorite pictures is of his son at the beach with a starfish. His son, now 14, and his wife often travel with him on his photo excursions. She

has been supportive of his hobby—in fact, it was her camera he first began shooting

His images are traditional New England and look like postcards. Encouraged by family and friends, he entered a few contests and was featured on the state government's Web site, www.maine.gov. His work has also been featured in a Kittery Trading Post ad. He began selling his prints at local fairs. His current work can be found at Ruby's Wood Grill Restaurant (at 433 Route 1), and has been on exhibit there since late last summer. Sanger's



**COURTESY PHOTO** 

Photographer William J. Sanger

been surprised at how well he's done

Studying Sanger's images, I'd say he has managed to do what many photography enthusiasts fail to do—take their work to the next level. He believes nothing ventured is



William J. Sanger's landscape photo of a rural scene with a tractor is typical of his work, which can b

nothing gained. His inspiration is simply to have fun with it. "It started as just a hobby and it still is," he says.

He is self-taught and loves to do scenics. He has done a couple of weddings for family, but prefers sunsets to people, and would never consider going professional. He also loves wildlife, but finds it more difficult to capture because he just doesn't always have the time to commit to waiting for that right moment.

He did once belong to the Kittery Art

# 6 It started as just a hobby and it still is. 7

Association, but never really felt he was at the same level as they were. He's humble. I would challenge him on that belief. Even though he shoots all digital, he really is 'old school.' When composing a photo, he uses a tripod and takes his time. He painstakingly pre-composes his shots with little processing afterwards. He prints what

In the days before digital manipulation, it was important to frame an image, making sure everything you want in the shot was in there, and everything you didn't want in there, wasn't. That's how it was back in the days of film...

Besides his camera, his tools consist



An image captured by William J. Sanger of an ocea play at Ruby's Restaurant on Route 1 in York.

of his car and a tripod, using the tripod to ensure he captures exactly the image he wants. He enjoys searching for that perfect photo and that search often takes him places he doesn't ordinarily go. A typical trip is an early morning drive up the coast. When time is limited he finds himself at the Kit-



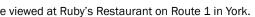
\*Independent
The hometown voice of the greater York region is Hiring Part-Time Sales People This is a great opportunity for

someone who understands locally owned businesses and this market. York's hometown newspaper now offers a wide variety of services aimed at the local market, including printing, direct mail, online and outdoor. If you think you're a problem solver, email your resume to:

> Dan Szczesny, dszczesny@hippopress.com

Magenta Yellow Black







COURTESY PHOTO

n kayaker is among the works currently on dis-

tery wharf, where his first published photo was taken. Sanger says the most difficult part of his craft often is getting access to the right spot to get that perfect photo.

He still shoots film on occasion, but loves the freedom digital gives him. Sanger admits to not being computer

savvy but it doesn't seem to bother him. To him, photography is all about what you see—composition—and finds it relaxing to just be there, behind the lens, focusing on his subject. It's personal with him. It's also interesting that he can remember every detail of every photo. Every photo has a story.

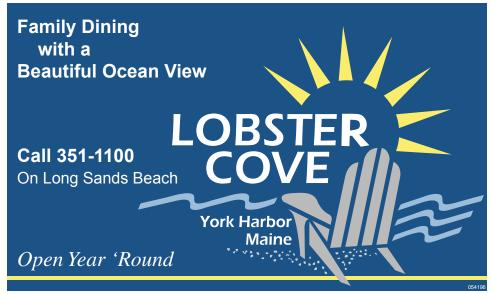
"The nice thing about being in Ruby's is that often I get calls out of the blue about my work." His traditional New England scenes have been popular at Ruby's. "Everything I make I put back into it...never really put money in my pocket," he says, and does all his printing and framing locally.

Bill is from the seacoast area; born and raised here, and he works at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard—a lot, so lately it's been difficult for him to find the time to shoot, but he's hoping that will change this summer. What I think is great about Bill is that, even though he has lived here all of his life, he still sees the beauty of Maine. It's what you might expect from someone visiting here for the first time—maybe that's why he sells?

Suzie Goodwin, a local artist who works in photography and mixed media, writes about the visual arts for the York Independent. Send comments and story suggestions to editor@yorkindependent.net.











# A complete round-up of York area happenings

#### Send us your listings!

List your event in the York Independent for free! Listings are run on a space available basis. Send complete information about your event, including exactly when and where it takes place, any admission charges, and anything else necessary for readers to take action. Also, include contact information so we can reach you in case of questions. Listings should be sent at least two weeks prior to publication Send your listings to us via e-mail at editor@yorkindependent.net or via mail at The York Independent, 4 Marketplace Drive, Suite 215, York Village Business Center, York, ME 03909. Questions? Call us at (207) 363-8484.

#### **Events**

Annual Comedy Xxtravaganza will be held Friday. Feb. 12 at the Music Hall in Portsmouth, N.H. Tickets are \$34 and \$37, available at the Music Hall Box Office at 28 Chestnut Street in Portsmouth, by calling (603) 436-2400, or online at www.themusichall. org. The World's Funniest Noreaster blasts into Portsmouth when Mike McDonald's Comedy Xxtravaganza pummels the Music Hall for it's ninth year. The annual laughapalooza returns with comedians from the Letterman show, Conan, Comedy Central and the Biggest Loser. This year's roster includes the vivacious charm of Kelly MacFarland (Biggest Loser), the hilarious riffs of Robbie Printz (Letterman). the quick wit and uncanny impressions of Jim Lauletta (Comedy Central) and a promised comedy guest or two. Before the show and between comics, the rousing music of The Boston Naturals will rock the stage.

Carmen will be screened at the York Public Library on Saturday, Feb. 13 at 1:30 p.m. With wonderful music and a great text. Carmen is the most popular of the French operas, because of the legendary attraction of its title role. This version stars some of the Met's best-known singers and follows the traditional settings of the show as composer George Bizet imagined them to be, with scenes that look like paintings by Goya. The role of Carmen is sung by Agnes Baltsa, the role of her suitor, Don Jose, by the great tenor Jose Carreras, the country girl, Micaela, is sung by Leona Mitchell and the Toreador, Escamillo, is played by world renown baritone, Samuel Ramey. With five of the most famous arias in all of opera repertoire, Carmen will leave you humming the famous "Toreador Song" and dancing the habanera along with the opera's gypsy dancers. This story of a small town soldier who falls in love with a fiery, beautiful and deceptive gypsy girl has eternal quality. The main characters represent two opposing views of love. For Carmen love is changeable, to be enjoyed but not detained. For Don Jose love is an eternal truth, once he gives his love.

The York Public Library is located at 15 Long Sands Road in York. For more information, call 363-2818 or visit the library's Web site at www.york.lib. me.us.

Seacoast's best Wedding Expo and Party Extravaganza is happening Saturday, Feb. 13 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Stage Neck Inn and the York Harbor Inn. A free shuttle will ride betweeen each location. At each location, take the opportunity to view a great variety of vendors who can help you create the most exquisite wedding, the best birthday party, the ultimate anniversary party or a retirement party that no one will ever forget. Take advantage of the chance to win multiple door prizes provided by the vendors and see bridal fashions along with a lingerie show. Tickets are \$5.

York Adult Education is offering a

WorkReady Program through Thursday, March 4, Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Improve your employment skills through this federally-funded credential program. For more information, call 363-7922. Free child care is available.

York County Republicans will hold a caucus on Saturday, Feb. 20 at 9 a.m. at Sanford High School to elect delegates to the Maine State Republican Convention, the York County Republican Committee and finalize plans for the November election.

Praise on the Seacoast, a monthly celebration of song, dance and praise, will take place at the York-Ogunquit Church on Sunday, Feb. 21 beginning at 5 p.m. According to Pastor Jim Shook, the program will be led by the new church Praise Team, under the direction of Artie Sandoli, and will offer a variety of musical styles (from pop to jazz). York-Ogunquit United Methodist Church is located at 1026 US Route 1 in York. For more information about this or other programs offered by the church, you can call 363-2749 or visit youmc.org.

The York Public Library will continue its series of critically acclaimed films on Sunday afternoons through April. All screenings start at 3 p.m., the public is invited, and admission is free. In addition, there will be free popcorn,

and beverages will be offered for \$1. Upcoming films in the series are: "Breakfast at Tiffany's" on Sunday, Feb. 14 and "Tea with Mussolini" on Sunday, Feb. 28.

The Winter/Spring Film Series is made possible by the Library Film Group, which is composed entirely of volunteers. Those interested in participating in the Library Film Group are encouraged to contact any group member at the screenings or to leave their name and phone number at the front desk of the library.

The York Public Library is located at 15 Long Sands Road in York. For more information, please call the library at 363-2818 or visit the library's website at www.york.lib.me.us.

The Elementary-Age Enrichment Fair will be held on Saturday, Feb. 27 from 10 a.m. to noon. Participation is open to all local providers of education, enrichment, and recreation programs to children of elementary school age. Participation is free. This is an opportunity for exhibitors to display materials and program information, and to present demonstrations and children's activities to parents and elementary school-age children. It's also a chance for inquiring parents to learn about local options and to sign up for programs. The fair is held at the York Public Library, 15 Long Sands Road. Call 363-2818 for more information.

MOVE! for MS is happening Saturday, March 13 from noon to 5 p.m. in the York Middle School cafeteria. The event features a Zumba party with dancing, raffles, food, hula hoop and silent auctions to help stamp out Multiple Sclerosis. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door with PayPal accepted online. For tickets or

more information, call Nina-Rosa at (603) 247-2115 or e-mail her at neen. nina@gmail.com.

York County Bee School is starting Monday, Feb. 22 and will run through Monday, March 22 in Springvale at the Anderson Learning Center. The fiveweek introductory beekeeping course is sponsored by the Maine Beekeepers Association and the University of Maine Cooperative Extension in York County. Classes run on Monday evenings from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Master Beekeeper Erin Forbes and Larry Peiffer, Maine State Beekeeper Association board member, will instruct students on such topics as the honey bee colony, pest management, honey production and wintering hives. Students will also have the opportunity to visit local hives for observation and handson experience. Enrollment is limited to 40 participants; pre-registration is required by Wednesday, Feb. 17. The course fee is \$85, which includes a beekeeping textbook and related mate rials. If two students elect to share the text and materials, a discount of \$45 applies, for a fee of \$125 for the pair. For more information and to request a flier with a pre-registration form, contact UMaine Extension in York County at (800) 287-1535 or 324-2814 or email: rgowdy@umext.maine.edu.

Laudholm Trust now has application materials available for the 23rd Laudholm Nature Crafts Festival, a highly respected show to be held Saturday, Sept. 11 and Sunday, Sept. 12 at Wells Reserve at Laudholm. Information and applications are available at www. laudholm.org or by calling 646-4521. Applications must be received by Tuesday, March 16.

Kennebunk's 2010 Chocolate Extravaganza will be held Saturday, Feb. 13 from noon to 4 p.m. at Kennebunk Town Hall. This year is the 10th anniversary of the event with free admission and chocolate giveaways.

Every year the event features a chocolate sculpture. In the past the sculptures have been a chocolate covered heart, a sand castle with an edible top, a chocolate dipped man and an eight-foot lobster was built and then covered in chocolate. Last year they made an 10-foot white chocolate covered lighthouse! Caring Unlimited will be the designated charity this year.

Any business wishing to participate at the Chocolate Extravaganza should contact Danie Connolly at 985-8888.

Aryaloka String Quartet Concert will perform Sunday, Feb. 28 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Aryaloka Buddhist Center in Newmarket, N.H. Featured musicians are Mark Latham (Sravaniya), violin; Beth Welty, violin; Noralee Walker, viola; and Sandi-Jo Malmon, cello. They will play works by Haydn, Shostakovich and Mendelssohn and the amazing eighth quartet of Dimitri Shostakovich—an autobiographical work, dedicated to the victims of fascism and war and was written by the composer in three days during a visit to Dresden in 1960, still destroyed by the destruction by firebombing fifteen years earlier.

Michael Lewis, author of "The Blind Side" will present his newest work "The Big Short: Inside the Doomsday Machine" on Wednesday, April 7 at Music Hall in Portsmouth, N.H. as part of the Writers on a New England Stage series. Tickets go on sale Friday, Feb. 12 at noon.

The Ogunquit Museum of American

sessions for prospective docents and volunteers on Wednesday mornings: March 10, and April 14 at 10 a.m. at the OMAA winter office located at 196A York St., York (next to Ellis Insurance). At each session, a short movie about the museum will be shown followed by a question and answer period. Refreshments will be served. Preregistration is appreciated. If a local organization would like to learn more about volunteer opportunities, representatives from OMAA can come to speak and show the movie. For more information or to register, e-mail ssager@ogunquitmuseum.org or leave a message at

The Portland Museum of Art has organized an exhibition of artwork created by Maine art students. This year celebrates the 30th anniversary of Youth Art Month Exhibitions in Maine. and the 16th annual exhibition at the museum. The museum's exhibition. running from Saturday, Feb. 27 through Tuesday, April 4 will showcase more than 100 works of art by students throughout the state, from elementary school through high school. All participating students will receive certificates of recognition. An exhibition celebration will be held at the Museum on Saturday, March 6, from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Admission is free to the public and refreshments will be served.

# Exhibits, music, theatre, books and more

Evolution: Five Decades of Printmaking by David C. Driskell is now at the Portland Museum of Art. This exhibition highlights for the first time the prints of Driskell, artist, art historian, collector, educator, and one of the most respected names in the world of African American art and culture. With 75 prints, Evolution provides insight into Driskell's artistic process and development, as well as the influence of African art on American modernism. He has been a practicing artist since the 1950s and his works are in major museums throughout the world. including the Portland Museum of Art. Since 1977 Driskell has also served as the cultural advisor to Camille and Bill Cosby and is the curator of their collection

Collage is a work of art made by assembling different pieces, thus creating a new whole form. Drawn primarily from the museum's permanent collection and featuring approximately 25 works, this exhibition will explore the history of collage from its introduction in Europe in the early 20th century by artists such as Kurt Schwitters and Jean Arp to present day works by Maine artists such as Tom Hall and Aaron Stephan. The exhibition will cover a wide range of collage techniques, including abstract works pieced together from newsprint and colored papers, collaged elements incorporated into drawings and prints, paintings that include collaged figurative elements, and photomontages. The exhibition will run through Sunday, Feb. 28. Visit www.portlandmuseum. org for more information, or call (207) 775-6148.

Making Her Way: Mill Girls of Saco and Biddeford is now open at the Saco Museum. Designed to evoke the interior of a factory girl boardinghouse bedroom from the 1840s, this exhibit provides a glimpse into the lives of the

#### **THURSDAY, FEB. 25**



The Lincoln Day Dinner, honoring the memory of Abraham Lincoln, is one of the highlights of the York County Republican Committee's events for the year. This year it will be held on Thursday, Feb. 25 at Jonathan's Restaurant, 92 Bourne Lane (just off Route 1 at the blinking traffic light), in Ogunquit. The Lincoln Day Dinner begins with a social hour at 6 p.m. with a cash bar and dinner at 7 p.m.This is the opportunity to meet and get to know Republican candidates running for the office of governor. The main speaker will be Richard Bennett, Republican National Committeeman for the state of Maine. Tickets are \$40 per person. Reservations need to be made by Friday, Feb. 12. Check may be sent to: Betty Turney, P.O. Box 615, Saco, ME 04072. Or call Betty Turney at 282-6231 or Marie Doucette at 284-7032 for reservations. Tickets will be mailed or held at the door.

early 19th century factory girls with artifacts ranging from period furniture, textiles, and loom shuttles to letters. photographs, and sensational fiction. The bedchamber also features a dressup trunk, allowing visitors to experience the factory girl fashion of the 1840s and 1850s. Making Her Way is a preview of the Saco Museum's new, upcoming permanent exhibition, Making History: Art and Industry in the Saco River Valley, which opens May 29, 2010. Making History is funded by a Preserve America grant administered by the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, and by the Maine Humanities Council.

# Health, Support and Wellness

York Hospital's Yoga Center, located at the Heart Health Institute, offer yoga classes for persons of all abilities. Seated yoga for those with limited mobility is offered as well. Introductory yoga is held on Tuesdays from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. and Thursdays from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. and 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Yoga Level 1 is on Tuesdays 6 to 7:15 p.m. Intermediate yoga is Tuesdays 9 to 10:30 a.m. Seated yoga is held Tuesdays from 3 to 3:30 p.m. The Yoga Center at the Heart Health Institute is located at 127 Long Sands Road, York. Call 351-3700 for registration information. For new participants, your first yoga class is free.

The Choose to Be Healthy Partnership, a program of York Hospital, offers the "Freedom Clinic" which combines education and support through one-onone consultation, weekly lecture series by a trained team of professionals such as a registered nurse, registered dietitian, physical therapist, and a certified hypnotherapist for healthy lifestyle resolutions and to help you stop smoking. The program also offers drop-in anytime support for one year. Call 351-3700 for more information. Another way to stop smoking, if you are a Maine resident, is to call the free Maine Tobacco Helpline at 1-800-207-1230. The program offers confidential phone support; you won't need to leave the house! In addition to coaching, the Helpline offers free nicotine replacement therapy (the patch or gum) to make quitting less difficult. Call now to find out if you qualify. Additional resources can be found at www. tobaccofreemaine.org.

York Hospital's Heart Health Institute is offering a long-term weight management program that concentrates on permanent lifestyle changes. "Don't Weight to be Healthy" begins on Thursday, Jan. 14 and meets every Thursday for 10 weeks from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Though the program is based on group meetings, it focuses on individual nutritional needs, stress management, and fitness requirements. The \$199 fee includes 10 weeks of full access to the institute's fitness center. Call 351-3700 to register.

Why Weight? includes two visits with a registered dietitian to establish realistic nutritional and caloric goals. Participants also meet weekly with their personal fitness coach for support, education and evaluation. A 12-week gym membership to the Heart Health Institute's fitness center is included in the \$239 fee. Call 351-3700 for more information or to register.

Weigh to Go! includes a nutritional evaluation and dietary goals established by a registered dietitian, with frequent follow-ups, and weekly visits with a personal fitness coach for youths between the ages of 10 and 18 and a parent or guardian. An eightweek gym membership for one parent

and one youth is also included. For more information or to register, call 351-3700.

Attention new moms and moms-tobe! The third annual Seacoast Mom & Baby Wellness Sampler will be held on Friday, Nov. 20 from 1 to 3 p.m. at Yoga East Yoga Studio in Portsmouth, N.H. Learn about natural approaches to family wellness and chat with local business owners about products, services and issues that are important to you and your growing family. The afternoon will be filled with product demos, free screenings, information gathering, meet-and-greet, free samples and gifts, refreshments, and a drawing for amazing raffle items and gift certificates provided by the featured vendors and others. For event information, visit www.childlightyoga.com or call (603)

Wells-Ogunquit Adult Community Education Yoga Classes begin soon. Call 646-4565 or visit www.wells-ogunquit.maineadulted.org for more information and to register.

Yoga on York winter kids specials will be offered on Mondays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. for grades one through four and Thursdays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. for grades four through seven. Classes start the first week in January and run for six weeks. Visit: www. yogaonyork.com for full details and to print and mail-in your registration or call 363-9642.

Yoga on York prenatal yoga classes offered (drop-in style) every Tuesday 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. and every Wednesday 5:30 to 6:45 p.m. Taught by Amy and Andrea, both are certified childbirth educators, doulas and experienced prenatal yoga instructors. Visit www.yogaonyork.com for full details or call 363-9642.

Yoga on York mom and baby yoga classes are six-week session starting first week in January on Thursdays 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. A fitness yoga class for mom's with baby (newborns to pre-crawling) right along side. Learn and practice infant massage at the end of each class. Visit www.yogaonyork.com for full details and to print the registration form or call 363-9641.

Zumba Gold dance fitness classes offered at Yoga on York on Wednesdays from 7 to 7:45 p.m. The five-week session starts Thursday, Jan. 6. Preregister for the whole five-week session for just \$35 or drop-in rate of \$10. Visit the www.yogaonyork.com for full details and to print and mail-in your registration or call 363-9642.

# Workshops And Enrichment The Maine Association of Nonprof-

its (MANP) will be offering several SkillBuilders in York County this September. Registration is required for all MANP SkillBuilders and full course descriptions, dates, location, and registration information are all available at www.nonprofitmaine.org/skillbuilders. asp. Fees for half-day courses are \$50 for members, \$100 for nonmembers. So You've Been Laid Off, Now What? and Job Club for Job Seekers are job hunting classes being offered in the

So You've Been Laid Off, Now What? and Job Club for Job Seekers are job hunting classes being offered in the weeks ahead by Wells-Ogunquit Adult Community Education. For details, Call the adult education office at 646-4565 or visit www.wells-ogunquit. maineadulted.org.

York Adult Education Classes begin soon. For more information or to register visit www.yorkadulteducation.org or call 363-7922.

#### SATURDAY, FEB. 13



The 8th Annual Greater York Region Wedding and Party Expo will be held on Saturday, Feb. 13 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., presented by the Greater York Region Chamber of Commerce with media partner 98.7 The Bay. Plan to visit all three of the venues: Foster's Downeast Clambake will showcase their facility, while the York Harbor Inn and Stage Neck Inn will simultaneously house approximately 35 vendors for all aspects of party and wedding planning. Admission is \$5 per person or pre-register at www.gatewaytomaine.org and receive a \$2 off coupon. Additional information including directions and exhibitor information is available on the Web site or at 363-4422.

#### Ongoing Donations And Volunteers Needed

York Community Thrift Shop, located at 1320 Route 1 in Cape Neddick requests donations of small furniture, small kitchen appliances, costume jewelry, summer hats and shoes. Proceeds from the shop benefit townspeople through the Food Pantry and Family Services. Call 363-2510.

The York County Shelter Programs is committed to recycling. They are in desperate need of two large Garden Way type of carts with the big wheels that will enable residents at the shelter and residents at the farm to collect and transport items to the recycling barn and to the compost pile. One cart is needed for use at the shelter while the other would be used at the farm. Anyone who could help find one of these carts is encouraged to contact Tom at the farm at 793-4592. The farm is also looking for the donation of tools and other equipment.

York Harbor Inn is collecting donations and supplies for AWS and Safe Haven Cat Rescue. Visit the inn's Ship's Cellar Pub on York Street in York Harbor for good eats, good fun and good company while supporting a great cause.

**SolAmor Hospice** is offering training for volunteers to work directly with patients, families and caregivers. Volunteers play an important role in providing compassionate support at

end of life. You determine your schedule and area to visit. SolAmor Hospice is dedicated to supporting patients with terminal illness, as well as their families and caregivers. Training starts on Tuesday, Jan. 26 and space is limited so apply early. Contact Mike Joyal, LifeCare coordinator at 964-5183 for more information.

# Exhibits, music, theatre, books and more

Children's Museum of Maine has a full calendar of special events available at www.kitetails.com.

Just Us Chickens Artist Co-op is located at 29 Government St. in downtown Kittery and is open 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. Call 439-4209.

Kripalu DansKinetics at Spinnaker Point Recreation Center, Spinnaker Way, Portsmouth, N.H. DansKinetics is a unique blend of yoga and dance. Call (603) 436-2313.

Pontine Theatre in Portsmouth, N.H., offers an array of public events. Call (603) 436-6660 or e-mail info@ pontine.org.

The Portland Museum of Art offers an extensive collection of fine and decorative arts dating from the 18th century to the present housed in three architecturally significant buildings. Call 775-6148 or visit www.portlandmuseum.org.

The Red Door Gallery Shop is open at

44 Government St. in Kittery, featuring pottery, handmade jewelry, weaving, used books, sports memorabilia and more on display Wednesdays through Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. until the end of December. Call 439-5671.

RiverCurrent Studio/Art Gallery on the corner of Lindsay Road and Mill Dam in York Village features assemblage, collage and mixed-media sculpture and is open daily and by appointment. Contact Rosalind Fedeli at 351-3262 or visit www.rosalindfedeli.com.

**Seacoast Undercurrent**, a gallery devoted to contemporary art in downtown Portsmouth, N.H., showcases emerging artists working with all kinds of contemporary media and practices. Visit www.ellogallery.com.

#### **Health and Wellness**

York Hospital's Yoga Center, located at the Heart Health Institute, offer yoga classes for persons of all abilities. Seated yoga for those with limited mobility is offered as well. Introductory Yoga is Tuesdays from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. and Thursdays, 9:30 to10:30 a.m. and 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Yoga Level 1 is Tuesdays from 6 to 7:15 p.m. and intermediate is Tuesdays 9 to 10:30 a.m. Seated Yoga is on Tuesday from 3 to 3:30 p.m. The Yoga Center at the Heart Health Institute is located at 127 Long Sands Road, York. Please call 207-351-3700 for registration information. For new participants, your first yoga

Aerobics, Yogalates and Weight Training classes are available at York Fitness Center, Route 1, in York. Call 363-4090.

Know Your Numbers is a cholesterol screening offered by SMMC Visiting Nurses on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. An appointment is necessary and there is a \$15 fee for this service. Call 985-1000.

The Heart Health Institute offers classes including weight management. Call 351-3700.

SMMC Visiting Nurses Monthly Diabetes Support Groups are offered at the Richard Martin Community Center in Biddeford on the second Monday of each month from 6:30 to 7:30 or 8 p.m. and at SMMC Visiting Nurses in Kennebunk on the fourth Monday of each month from 7 to 8 or 8:30 p.m. Call 985-1000, 283-7680 or (800) 794-3546.

Yoga on York offers a variety of styles and levels of mind-body fitness classes including yoga classes ranging from Gentle Yoga up to Power Yoga, Prenatal Yoga, NIA and Pilates-Yoga Fusion. Visit www.yogaonyork.com or call 363-YOGA.

#### **Local Organizations**

Catapult is the Seacoast's first networking group specifically dedicated to young professionals. Catapult is a nonprofit organization, and membership is free. Visit www.catapultseacoast.org.

The Diverse Business Advantage Chapter of BNI meets Thursdays at Sentry Hill at 2 Victoria Court, York Harbor. Meetings are held from 8 until 9:30 a.m. and all visitors are welcome. Call Catherine Bosbach at 363-2418.

The International Women's Club of

New England (IWCNE) meets for lunch on the fourth Saturday of every month with an international speaker. IWCNE is non-profit, non-political, non-sectarian, and its mission is to foster goodwill, friendship and understanding amongst members from different countries and to support charities which assist women and children. Call 985-7433.





From Paris With Love

#### By AMY DIAZ

The York Independent

#### From Paris With Love (R) Jonathan Rhys Meyers gives us the world's most hilarious American accent while John Travolta dresses up like Bruce Willis for Halloween in From Paris With Love, a shockingly half-baked action movie.

By day, James Reece (Meyers) is just a mild-mannered assistant to the ambassador in Paris, but by night he's a slightly less mildmannered undercover intelligence agent. But the spy highjinks of changing license plates on cars and other weenie assignments just isn't enough for James. He wants his chance at the big time—and he gets it with the arrival of Charlie Wax (Travolta), a bad-ass earringwearing, bad-goatee-having big boy agent. James is to be Charlie's partner—though really that just translates to driver—on some unspecified mission that involves a vase full of cocaine. Pakistani terrorists and some sort of world summit on Africa being attended by some extremely sour-faced American official (I believe she's supposed to be a Hillary Clinton stand-in, but that's just a guess).

Though this kind of kicking in doors and yelling swear words is just the kind of action James was looking for, he's not so sure about Charlie and his—let's sing the words together, gang—Unorthodox Rule-breaking Ways. Particularly since an incident with a prostitute could get James in trouble with Caroline (Kasia Smutniak), his live-in girlfriend who just proposed to him. Wait, no, Caroline, it's not what you—but the elevator door on James, Charlie and the lady of the evening closes before he can explain that his presence in a brothel is Work-Related.

And, of course, no time to track her down—Charlie and James have a world to save and a whole lotta shooting to do.

I like my gratuitous violence as much as the next person—wait, no, I love gratuitous action movie violence. Even of the cartoony goodguy-knocks-out-a-dozen-bad-guyswith-one-kick variety. Especially of the cartoony variety. But here, the action doesn't even rise to the level of "cartoony." Artistically, it's about on the level of a kid smashing a G.I. Joe action figure into a He-Man to simulate fighting but without the ironic "Talk Show Jon" charm.

Said action is telegraphed with preceding scenes of such breathtaking unsubtlety that they might as well have just skipped the dialogue and had Charlie say "OK, time to

**6** Any secrets the movie has are completely telegraphed by the home-videolevel camera work of the first few minutes. 🤊 🤊

shoot people" and James answer "Agreed; my nebbish character shall hide over here and work on pronouncing my 'R's."

And then, just when you feel you can not be further shocked by the amateur nature of the story or the "is this some kind of meta prank" badness of the dialogue, Jon Travolta says the words "royale with cheese" and I am momentarily blinded by-what, disgust for the hackyness of that move? Hatred for how smug the movie is at what it clearly thinks is the cleverness of the reference? Nausea at the new level of stupid just unearthed? I guess some kind of gloppy, stinking combination of all three.

Any secrets the movie has are completely telegraphed by the

home-video-level camera work of the first few minutes. There is no mystery to uncover (other than how big the paychecks must have been) and no joy to seeing the paint-bynumbers story play out. Royale with cheese indeed. **D** 

Rated R for strong bloody violence throughout, drug content, pervasive language and brief sexuality. Directed by Pierre Morel and written by Adi Hasak and Luc Besson, From Paris With Love is an hour and 35 minutes long and distributed in wide release by Lionsgate.

#### Dear John (PG-13)

Attractive young people have a romance set to lite-pop singersongwriter fare in the soggy toast Dear John, another weepy adaptation of a Nicholas Sparks book.

Savannah (Amanda Seyfried) is a caring, big-eyed college girl and John (Channing Tatum) is a quiet, soulful soldier on leave. It's the spring of 2001 and instead of heading to some booze-soaked foreign meat-market, these right-acting youngsters are hanging out with their respective families at a beach in the Carolinas. Working-class surfer John watches as well-to-do Savannah has her purse knocked into the water. He rescues it-beating the cocky but ultimately wellmannered college boy she's with to the heroism punch—and they begin a friendship that quickly turns into a romance. She spends her days working on some Habitat-for-Humanity-like project and teaching the autistic son of her neighbor to ride a horse. John quickly falls in love with this Goodie Two-Shoes and even appreciates her ability to get through to his quiet, quirky dad (Richard Jenkins). At the end of their two weeks together, they make some kind of ill-defined promise to each other and decide to write letters until his time with the Army is up—only a year longer, he says.

But, of course, spring 2001 turns into fall 2001 and John finds he can't walk away at the end of his year. He tells Savannah that he's reupped and their letter-writing must continue. And it does-voice-over seeming to outweigh dialogue in this movie. Things happen, the way of young love does not run smooth. And, once the improbable decision-making and the unconvincing reactions play out, the movie ends with an uplifting swell of music.

Allow me to interrupt this movie review with a commercial-specifically, that Dodge Charger commercial during the Super Bowl, "Man's Last Stand" being its tag line. It lines up the reasons that the poor poor Everyman deserves his Charger (he holds your lip balm, he watches your vampire TV shows, he is civil to your mother). The Dodge Charger is his reward for being so thoroughly domesticated (as though one couldn't make a similar ad about listening to his "funny" stories again, and having to hear, ad nauseum, about how awesome the damn Charger is). I sense that, zeitgeist-wise, movies like this are part of that list: here's another awful thing women like that men have to sit through and aren't they heroes for doing it? Well, Mr. Dodge Charger, this movie was directed by a man, from a screenplay by a man based on a book by a man. How about helping yourself by not visiting such moronic romantic horrors on the world. Don't make the crap movie and you won't have to suffer through it on your date.

Now, of course, it's silly to blame some general Media-Producing Man for the movie. Plenty of women saw and probably liked it—enough people in general, in fact, that it finally bumped Avatar from its weeks-long run as number-one movie (a very thin silver lining indeed). But this movie is so nakedly a Chick Flick—so condescendingly "here's one for the ladies" and so shamefully shoddily constructed, as though girls didn't need fully developed characters or sense-making motivation.

This movie features elements relating to class, to the relationship between U.S. civilian society and its military and to the effects of autism on a family. It puts these things right out there, like Interesting Plot Point cheese meant to attract Multi-Dimensional-Story-loving mice, and then walks away from them, deciding to instead expend all of its effort on keeping up the irritating epistolary structure. It is deeply dedicated to letters and scenes of people writing letters and reading letters and waiting for letters but doesn't seem all that interested in making those letters contain anything of interest. It gives us the structure of a romance story (a particular kind of Nicholas Sparksbased, well-dressed, Carolinianshore romance) but fails to fill it with any life, any heat. Seyfried and Tatum are both appealing, attractive young people and both good actors (not that you'd know it from this movie). But here, all they seem to do is stare at each other. Perhaps the movie meant this to denote chemistry but the effect is of two people wondering what they're supposed to do now. The movie gives them nothing to work with—no normal human dialogue, no organic plot. The movie fails to gin up anything like the kind of interest in characters required for a movie like this to work and then lazes back, using 9/11 or cancer patients to wring a tear from the audience from time to time. It holds itself up as a rich tapestry of two people's emotional life but fails to fill in any of the color and texture that would make that true, make it a description we can see rather than one we are told.

So, I sat through your movie, I didn't make vomiting noises out loud, I was civil to the other members of the audience. Where's my damn car? **D** 

Rated PG-13 for some sensuality and violence (which is way less interesting than that description makes it sound). Directed by Lasse Hallström and written by Jamie Linden (from a book by Nicholas Sparks), Dear John is an hour and 42 minutes long and is distributed in wide release by Sony Pictures.

#### WHERE TO SEE THE FLICKS

For films and showtimes, call the theater.

**Wells Five Star Cinema 7** 

75 Wells Plaza, Wells, Maine • (207) 646-0500

**Regal Cinemas Newington 15** 

45 Gosling Road, Newington, N.H. • (603) 431-4200

The Music Hall

28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, N.H. • (207) 436-9900

Smitty's Sanford Cinema & Pub 1364 Main St., Sanford, Maine • (207) 490-0000

**Smitty's Cinemas Biddeford 8** 

420 Alfred Road, Biddeford, Maine • (207) 283-4500 The Cinemagic & IMAX in Saco

779 Portland Road, Saco, Maine • (207) 282-6234

**Cinemagic Grand Stadium at Clarks Pond** 

#### 333 Clarks Pond Highway, South Portland, Maine • (207) 772-6023 **Leavitt Fine Arts Theatre**

259 Main St., Ogunquit, Maine • (207) 646-3123

Cyan

#### **BOOKS** New books explore historic milestones

Reviews of recent writings on politics, slavery and civil rights

#### By LISA PARSON

The York Independent

This time of year we've got Civil Rights Day, Presidents Day, African-American History month... a collusion of factors drawing the following books to my desk

The Intimate Lives of the Founding Fathers, by Thomas Fleming (Harper, 2009, 456 pages) is a chatty little scattershot jaunt grouped into six sections: Book One for George Washington, Book Two for Benjamin Franklin, four more Books for John Adams, Alexander Hamilton, Thomas Jefferson and James Madison. Each is maybe four chapters, and they do feel like

separate books—you could easily read one by itself. Start reading anywhere, and you feel like you've stumbled into a conversation with a historian who's gossiping about Washington's unrequited loves or Jefferson's bouts with grief. Unfortunately

there are way too many details and the conversation becomes a little wearing. The question of why I am reading this anecdote, or this one, or this one, becomes stronger and stronger. There's no unifying thesis as to what we've learned, yet the tales aren't gossipy or salacious enough to say we're reading for the shock value. By the way, the John Adams "Book" covers much the same ground as Woody Holton's Abigail Adams biography, but I found the Holton more engaging, easier going and more memo-

Making Freedom: The Extraordinary Life of Venture Smith, by Chandler B. Saint & George A. Krimsky (Wesleyan University Press, 2009, 186 pages) is, like the Adams bio, based on writings from the 1700s—in this case, the journal of a slave who lived in Connecti-

cut. The primary source is "barely the length of a class thesis today, so this book is as much about the context as it is the autobiography itself. But context is important, because Venture didn't record his story himself: he told it to school-

teacher Elisha Niles. who recorded it, and newspaperman Charles Holt published it in 1798 when Venture was about 70. Five local residents certified the book by signing a statement attesting to its truth (typical for the times). Where Venture's story leaves questions, the authors speculate. He writes little about his transatlantic voyage, for instance, so they describe generally what those were like. The same goes for aspects of northern farm

life. The book is loaded with pictures (including photos of a current archaeological dig at the Connecticut site) and a timeline. But it's the first-person narrative that's most engrossing. "I was brought on board [a slave ship] by one Robertson Mumford, steward of said vessel.

for four gallons of rum, and a piece of calico...and called VEN-TURE.... Thus I came by my

name," the autobiography says. The ship took Venture Smith to Barbados and then Rhode Island at a time when, our authors write, "it was no longer a novelty to see a black African on a New England street.... He worked on Fishers Island, got married, at one point made a plan to

escape to Mississippi, had a few scrapes with the farm's bosses. and was transferred more than once to different owners. Over years of working extra jobs (part of whose income went to his owner), he saved enough money to buy his freedom.

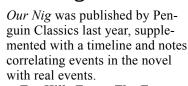
which he lived out in Connecticut, where he is buried. Some of Venture Smith's descendants live in Connecticut today. This ought to be standard reading for New England high school students before long.

In the same vein, you'll want to know about Harriet E. Wilson's Our Nig or, Sketches from the Life of a Free Black. Harriet Wilson was a black woman born in Milford, N.H., in 1825, and

Making Freedom

it's believed that this novel of hers is (a) based on her life and (b) the first novel to be published by an African-American woman. After years in the Milford area, she moved to Massachusetts, where she managed a boarding house and sold "Mrs. Wilson's Hair Regenerator;" she is

buried in Quincy, Mass. Milford erected a statue of her in 2006, New Hampshire's first statue of a "person of color," according to The Harriet Wilson Project (www.harrietwilsonproject.org). A 150th-anniversary edition of



Ten Hills Farm: The Forgotten History of Slavery in the North, by C. S. Manegold (Princeton University Press, 2010, 317 pages) also tackles slavery in New England, taking as a central vantage point Ten Hills Farm on the Mystic River, an estate owned by John Winthrop when he governed Massachu-

setts Bay Colony in 1630.

"To the nearly quarter million drivers who pass this way each day, the densely populated expanse of Ten Hills Farm is nothing but a quick glance out the window to a tangle of tight housing and concrete," Manegold writes, but she has dug into the history of the place and its early colonial owners—and their property: slaves. The book starts out bright and engaging, putting us into the life and times of Winthrop and company; in the middle the narrative begins to fray—too many names I'll never remember, too many degrees of separation—but the urge to skim was abruptly vanguished for me by the sudden entry of John Stark. Ten Hills Farm was

> Stark's destination when he hightailed it out of New Hampshire to fight the battle at Breed's Hill. But he "was altogether silent on the subject [of the many slaves there].

... The Patriot hero John Stark certainly understood the slave system as a natural part of life;

a prerogative of wealth and class. His wife Molly was raised by slaves in New Hampshire.... Caleb, the couple's eldest son ... was likewise tended to by men and women who were never free. Why would someone like John Stark mention a fact so common, so unremarkable?" Mr. Live Free or Die was "more likely to write about his horses" than about the slaves in his midst. And so it has been through the centuries. Now, Yet "Echoes of that past lay everywhere for anyone who knew to look," Manegold writes, and her book will teach you to look. She wraps up by shedding light on Ten Hills Farm's connection to Harvard Law School-it's in the Law School seal, it's in a portrait that hangs in a conference room-equally easy to find or to overlook. Here's to paying attention.

# A HIDDEN GEM

Why you must hear 'Chairman Dances' live

#### **Bv JEFF RAPSIS**

The York Independent

Valentine's Day is here, so you can't blame the Portland Symphony Orchestra for promoting its upcoming concert (on Tuesday, Feb. 16) with a "Rach and Romance" label. And yes, the big star of the program will be guest pianist Yuja Wang, who will tackle the sprawlingly ginormous and bathed-in-passion Rachmaninoff Piano Concerto No. 2. (It's the one from which the 1945 song 'Full Moon and Empty Arms' was taken from.)

But the real attraction for me is another work they're playing, "The Chairman Dances." It's a 15-minute excerpt from a 1985 opera by American composer John Adams about President Nixon's landmark visit to the People's Republic of China back in 1972 Unlikely subject for an opera, perhaps, but I love this music, not only because it's fresh and of our time but also because it's fun and exciting to hear it played live.

After all, there's a big difference between what you hear on the radio or from a speaker at home and what gets produced by a symphony orchestra in a concert hall. And Adams, unusual among contemporary orchestras, has a gift for creating scores that really fill the hall and engage a modern audience even on first hearing.

I know this about "Chairman Dances" because it was on a program I attended a few years ago in Manchester, N.H., and at intermission two high school students wandered by and we got talking on the sidewalk. They'd never been to any kind of symphony concert, so I said they could join me up in the balcony (where there were loads of empty seats) for the second half.

'Chairman Dances" was first up, and it just blew these kids away. The music pulses along in the minimalist style that Adams was writing in at the time, building to several big climaxes, then lapses into ersatz cocktail music before winding down to a stop. Done right, it can mesmerize an audience in live performance, so let's hope that's in the cards for the PSO's upcoming gig.

Besides the works by Rachmaninoff and Adams, the rarely heard Symphony No. 2 from 1930 by U.S. composer Howard Hanson is also on the program. Its nickname is "Romantic," (Notice a theme here?) and it really is a well constructed and solid piece of 20th century music (commissioned by the Boston Symphony for its 50th anniversary) and ought to be played a lot more often.

So the Tuesday, Feb. 16 program



**COURTESY PHOTO** 

Pianist Yuga Wang

promises to fill Merrill Auditorium with a lot of great music, plus pianistic fireworks in the Rachmaninoff Concerto. The concert begins at 7:30 p.m., preceded by a pre-concert talk at 6:15 p.m., and followed by a post concert Q&A with the artists and the afterglow reception at Restaurant Grace. The live recording of this concert will be broadcast on Maine Public Radio on Wednesday, March 10.

And right on the heels of this performance comes a pair of pops concerts. On Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 20 & 21, PSO Pops! present "Isn't It Romantic?" with Jenn Raithel Newman and tenor Joe Cassidy under the baton of guest conductor Matthew Troy.

Performances in Merrill Auditorium are Saturday, Feb. 20 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Feb. 21 at 2:30

Tickets for all Portland Symphony concerts are available through PortTix at (207) 842-0800 or at www.porttix.com. Tickets are also available in person at the Merrill Auditorium box office at 20 Myrtle St. in Portland, Monday through Saturday, from noon to 6 p.m. Special pricing for students, seniors and groups may be available.

For more information about the Portland Symphony, visit www. portlandsymphony.com.

Send your classical news tips to Jeff Rapsis at jeffrapsis@gmail.

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# **LADY 'CATS HOCKEY WRAP-UP**

#### By CHRIS SHIPLEY

The York Independent

The York High Wildcat Girl's Hockey team closed out the 2010 season with a disappointing loss to the Cheverus Stags in the Western Class A Semifinal round of the playoffs. After finishing the regular season 12-4 the girls roared into the quarterfinal round besting Biddeford by a score of 6-1.

Nicole Heroux scored two goals while Alex Haight had a goal and an assist. Teammates Rachel Yorke, Gabby Boualavanh and Olivia Leroux all added goals.

The win marked the second consecutive game the 'Cats beat Biddeford and the third time this season. The teams met earlier this season as well as facing off against each other to close out regular season play, with the 'Cats winning the contests 6-2 and 3-1

respectively.

Last weeks semifinal round also marked the third meeting between the 'Cats and the undefeated Cheverus Stags. The Stags have had a flawless season beating the 'Cats twice in the regular season and dominating Western Class A all year.

Once again Nicole Heroux stepped up earlier scoring the only goal in the opening period but ultimately the 'Cats were over powered by the Stags who took over in the second period and did not look back going on to win by a final score of 7-1. Heroux was a stand-out on the Wildcat roster all season. The sophomore posted three postseason goals and played solid throughout the regular season. Now with another year of experience and her post season success look for Heroux to return next season as a Wildcat strength.



**CHRIS SHIPLEY PHOTO** 

The York Wildcat girl's hockey team closed out the 2010 season with a loss to the Cheverus Stags.

# AND CLASS WITH PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF THE

COURTESY PHOTO

York High School wrestling placed seventh in Class B regionals on Saturday, Feb. 6.

YORK HIGH SCHOOL									
<b>BOYS VARSITY ICE HOCKEY</b>									
Date	Opponent	Final							
Jan. 16	Cape Elizabeth	9 - 2							
Jan. 18	Marshwood	8 - 1							
Jan. 23	Gardiner	7 - 2							
Jan. 25	Westbrook	11 - 1							
Jan. 30	Westbrook	10 - 4							
Feb. 1	Yarmouth	5 - 1							
Feb. 6	Cape Elizabeth	9 - 2							

# York wrestling finishes seventh

York finished in seventh place at the Class B Regionals on Saturday, Feb. 6 at Fryeburg High School Place finishers and state qualifiers for York were: Jared Petruzzella (third at 119), John Freitag (fourth at 125), Brad Stephens (third at 171), John Goyetche (fourth at 145), Reaha Goyetche (second at 112) and Billy Gauthier, champion at 135.

Billy is the first four-time regional champion for York High School and set the single-season individual wins record on Saturday at 41.

He put on a clinic in all three matches,

tech falling Kirk Hubbard (Fryeburg) in the finals, 17-1 in the second period. At this point, he is mentally, physically, and technically where he needs to be to claim his third-straight state championship on Saturday, Feb. 13 at Medomak Valley High School. The team wrestled tough against an vastly improved Class Bfield, where parity was a major factor this year.

The total team point division between second and seventh place was 38.5 points.

#### YORK HIGH SCHOOL **GIRLS VARSITY ICE HOCKEY** Opponent Final **Date** 8 - 1 Jan. 23 Cape Elizabeth 4 - 0 Jan. 27 Deering Jan. 28 Gorham 6 - 0Jan. 29 Gorham 5-0 Jan. 30 Biddeford 3 - 1





Cyan

# LADY WILDCATS JUNIOR REACHES BIG MILESTONE

Taylor scores 1,000th point

**By CHRIS SHIPLEY** The York Independent

With 3:13 left to play in the second quarter of Thursday, Feb. 4's girl's basketball game Niki Taylor, with a host of family and friends on the edge of their seats in the packed York High gymnasium, put up a jump shot that found the bottom of the net. That shot also found Niki joining a select group of Maine State athletes.

That shot marked Niki Taylor's 1,000th point. One thousand points—and Niki Taylor is only a junior (Taylor is the first underclassman to achieve the 1000 point mark at York High).

York Head Coach Rick Clark immediately took a time out after Niki's milestone moment as the raucous crowd came to their feet many of them waving signs reading "1000." Niki's teammates rushed the floor, along with several photographers from local news agencies, as the celebration reached a fever pitch. Niki received congratulations from teammates and coaches before moving to the stands to embrace her family who were front row waiting to share in the moment.

After the game Taylor was crediting her



**CHRIS SHIPLEY PHOTO** 

Niki Taylor is Coach Rick Clark's fourth 1,000-point scorer but the first one to do it as a junior.

team with reaching the 1,000 point mark, "I couldn't have done this without my team, their the ones who get me the baskets. So, it's not just me." Taylor was also quick to dismiss the record in the pursuit of the true team goal of a return to the state championship, "It's going to take a lot of work to get there, I don't know who we play but all I



**CHRIS SHIPLEY PHOTO** 

The Wildcats finished an undefeated season at home on Senior Night with Niki Taylor reaching the 1.000 point mark.

know is that with teams like Cape and Greely, it's going to be a tough Western Maine Class we're going to have to get through to make it there."

After such a milestone evening with the Lady 'Cats finishing an undefeated season at home on Senior Night with Taylor reaching the 1,000 point mark Niki put the night in perspective when asked which part of the night ranked highest, "Probably finishing the perfect regular season, it's great that I scored

the 1,000 points, but a basketball team's about the team. It's a really big accomplishment what we did and hopefully we'll end the season that way."

Coach Clark spoke after the game regarding Niki's feat saying, "She's the fourth 1,000-point scorer that I've had here at York High but the first one to do it as a junior. It's pretty rare; it's rare in the state. Certainly it's an accomplishment that's outstanding.



Junior Niki Taylor scored her 1,000 point with York High School's girls basketball team on Thursday, Feb. 4.

#### YORK HIGH SCHOOL **SPORTS FEB. 12-26**

Call ahead to confirm times and locations

#### Feb. 12-Feb. 26

Call ahead to confirm times and locations

#### Friday, Feb. 12

- 8 a.m. WMC meeting
- 3:30 p.m. Boys Varsity Ice Hokey Practice

#### Saturday, Feb. 13

- 9:30 a.m. Coed Varsity Wrestling—States
- 12:30 p.m. Boys Varsity Basketball—Quarterfinal vs. Falmouth

#### Monday, Feb. 15

- 10 a.m. Boys Varsity Indoor Track—States
- 10 a.m. Girls Varsity Indoor Track—States
- 3:30 p.m. Boys Varsity Ice Hockey Practice

• 8:30 p.m. Girls Varsity Basketball—Quarterfinal

#### Wednesday, Feb. 17

• 3:30 p.m. Boys Varsity Ice Hockey Practice

#### Thursday, Feb. 18

- 4:30 p.m. Girls Varsity Basketball-Semi-
- 7:30 p.m. Boys Varsity Basketball—Semifinal

#### Friday, Feb. 19

• 3:30 p.m. Boys Varsity Ice Hockey Practice

#### Saturday, Feb. 20

- 2 p.m. Girls Varsity Basketball—Regional
- 3:45 p.m. Boys Varsity Basketball—Regional

#### Monday, Feb. 22

• 3:30 p.m. Boys Varsity Ice Hockey Practice

#### Tuesday, Feb. 23

4 p.m. Boys Varsity Ice Hockey Practice

#### Wednesday, Feb. 24

• 3:30 p.m. Boys Varsity Ice Hockey Practice

#### Friday, Feb. 26

- 3:30 p.m. Boys Varsity Ice Hockey Practice 5 p.m. Boys Varsity Indoor Track—New
- Englands • 5 p.m. Girls Varsity Indoor Track—New
- 7 p.m. Girls Varsity Basketball-State Championship
- 8:45 p.m. Boys Varsity Basketball—State Championship

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#### Ruby

Darling little Ruby is an absolute charmer! With a face only a mother could love, she wins your heart over with her quirky, yet comical personality. At more than 10 years old, Ruby is ready to find her



very own splendid retirement home. She enjoys trotting along beside you sniffing all the interesting smells the great outdoors has to offer. Reaching her golden years, Ruby would appreciate a home with older children who will not pester her and will appreciate her low energy level. Maybe just a tad bit spoiled, Ruby has shown very clearly that she would like to be the only canine in the home. She does not see any reason to share her throne with any other dog. Besides she has more than enough love to go around! This little dancing diva gets very excited when it's time for her morning stroll, bouncing around anticipating the fun she's about to have. Ruby will not oppose sharing her new family with cats and certainly welcomes bunnies! She has become the official "bunny bather" here at the shelter, gladly giving them a loving lick! Ruby is one little hot shot, don't let those gray hairs fool you. She will play like the big girls and party even harder!

#### Phill

Phill is a rugged, handsome, chunky hunk of a boy, aging well, as most men do. This chubby nine-yearold shepherd mix is happy to live a quiet life. Gentle and mannerly, he patiently awaits a new



family to come and claim him as their own. Phill's favorite, heart-pounding, exciting past times consist of sleeping, lounging and relaxing. He also likes to challenge himself with a fitness routine involving rawhidechewing and kong-licking. He has a very special talent where he demonstrates his amazing ability to hold down a dog bed for hours. A king looking for his throne, Phill seeks an "empty nester's" abode preferring to see himself as your only canine house mate. Phill will consider a home with children and cats, only requesting that they be as gentle and well-mannered as he. Easy to please and low maintenance, Phill should be an easy fit for most households. He would benefit from some actual real-life exercise to help him stick to his secret New Year's resolution of regaining his long-lost waistline and achieving a healthier figure.

#### Deena

Peek-A-Boo! Deena is a beautiful five-yearold that has a short, snow-white coat. She



is a friendly and calm girl that would love to find a forever home to call her own. Deena should do just fine sharing her new home with other cats and possibly even respectful children and dogs. If you are interested in adopting Deena please fill out an adoption application and stop in to meet her.

#### **Teddy**

Hey, my name is Teddy! I am a spunky little 14-year-young Shih Tzu. I can't wait to find that special someone to go home with. Sharing my new home with other animals like



cats and dogs won't be a problem for me. Kids are not my cup of tea so I won't be able to share my new home with any. If you think that I could be the perfect pet for you please fill out an adoption application and stop by the Animal Welfare Society with your family including dogs to meet me.

#### Ferris

This beautiful sevenand-a-half-year-old is Ferris! She is a free spirited girl that can't wait to find a forever family to call her own. Ferris has resided with other cats



and dogs so she should do just fine sharing her new home with them but, her dream home would be quiet with no other pets. Ferris enjoys being the center of attention. She loves to play with her cat toys and will come up to you and ask for a scratch behind the ears. Right now Ferris is living in one of our loving foster homes so, if you are interested in adopting her or would like more information please call the shelter at 985-3244. Oh and don't forget to fill out an adoption application too.

#### Rhaine

This beautiful cuddle bug is Rhaine! She is a lovable eightyear-old that has a short, grey tiger coat. Rhaine can't wait to



find that special someone to go home and curl up with. She would love to go home with children and adults that are going to give her lots of cuddle time. If you are interested in adopting this gorgeous gal please fill out an adoption application and stop in to meet Rhaine.

#### Gavina

Meet Gavina, an adorable four-yearold mini lop rabbit with gorgeous white fur that has a few grey spots. She's a typical rabbit who



would love to find a home where she can be handled and played with on a regular basis so she can grow up to be as happy and healthy as possible. She's a gentle soul, but should do fine sharing a home with feline friends. If you'd like to adopt Gavina, please fill out an adoption application and then stop in to meet her.

#### **CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

#### **ACROSS**

- l Unstressed vowel
- 6 Sir, in India
- 11 Kilmer classic
- 12 Bowl
- 13 Peruses
- 14 Bring close to boiling
- 15 Canal setting
- 16 Pipe waste
- 18 Curtain holder
- 19 Superlative suffix
- 20 Backer's vote
- 21 Dam org.
- 22 Annoy
- 24 Follow orders
- 25 Gang conflict
- 27 Urban problem
- 29 Flaw
- 32 Bar fixture
- 33 Piping
- 34 Menu phrase
- 35 Tear
- 36 Diplomatic rep.
- 37 Writer Follett

Conceptis SudoKu

6

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38 Homer work

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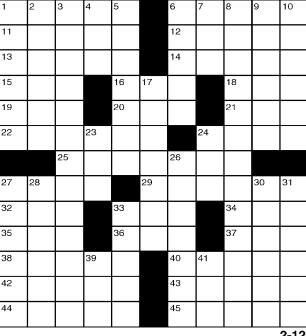
8

1

Difficulty Level ★★★

5

# 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9



40 Little green man

By Dave Green

5

2

3

7

1

2/12

- 42 Pound parts
- 43 Washer cycle
- 44 Periphery

**SUDOKU** 

7

6

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6

45 Rocker Bob

#### star 2 Fold

**DOWN** 

2 Fold3 Suspense-filled

"Mamma Mia!"

- 4 Tie the knot
- 5 Ore expert
- 6 "Peter and the Wolf" bird
- 7 Compass drawing
- 8 Very sad
- 9 Moonstruck
- 10 Down time
- 17 Feudal system
- 23 Gentle pull
- 24 Bumbler
- 26 Mixing sites27 Rank indicator
- 20 D 1
- 28 Posted
- 30 "Fawlty Towers" star
- 31 Leather worker
- 33 Pluto's place
- 39 Trick taker, often
- 41 Fiction

#### **Crossword Solution**

#### **BARD** T E E N S SNABB I W P A S S E A T R R B E R R Π D $C = |\Gamma| |\Gamma| O = |E| |\Gamma| |W| |S|$ M|E|B | S|O|N ROSS GOFOR Y A S I S 9 0 A 0 I B E N E BOUGE ٦ $\exists$ $|\Lambda|O|N$ 되시 E|W|SS A

#### **Sudoku Solution**

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6	9	7	2	3	8	9	Ļ	<b>ヤ</b>
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ŀ	7	9	9	7	6	7	3	8
9	7	6	7	8	3	Z	9	L

Cyan Magenta

21

# **OBITUARIES**

#### Joseph F. Campbell



Joseph F. Campbell, 70. died unexpectedly, Thursday, Jan. 28, 2010 at home. He was born Feb. 3, 1939 in Somerville, Mass. a son of the late Edward J. Campbell and Mary E. (Drum)

Campbell. He was raised in Cambridge, Mass. and graduated from St. Mary's High School and attended Boston College.

He had worked as an accountant through the years. He had lived in Derry, N.H., Portland and Scarborough before moving to York Beach.

He loved the ocean, walking with his beagle Rose and enjoyed singing. He was a member of several choirs and sang in the Portland Symphony Orchestra, Magic of Christmas Show.

He leaves his wife of 47 years, Barbara L. (Delaney) Campbell; a brother John Campbell and his wife Ann of Massachusetts; two daughters, Christine Greenwood of Buxton and Elinor Warren and her husband, Eric of Collegeville, Pa.; three grandchildren, Mitchell E. Greenwood, Morgan E. Greenwood, and Ava E. Warren; and many beloved nieces, nephews.

He was predeceased by his son Joseph Scott Campbell and two sisters, Mary "Sissy" Ryan and Margaret "Peachie" Clarke and a brother James Campbell.

A memorial Mass was held on Friday, Feb. 5 in St. Christopher's Church, 4 Barrell Lane, York. There are no calling hours. Memorial contributions may be made to an organization to benefit Haiti or to Working Dog Foundation of Portsmouth, P.O. Box 22312, Portsmouth, NH

Lucas & Eaton Funeral Home directed arrangements.

#### Helen A. Rice

Helen A. Rice, 86, died Sunday, Jan. 31, 2010 in Sentry Hill.

She was born Oct. 5, 1923 in New York a daughter of the late, Jozef and Katherine (Niemezyk) Suszek. She leaves many friends.

A service for Helen was held Friday, Feb. 5 in the Lucas & Eaton Funeral Home. Burial will be private in Mary Rest Cemetery, Mahwah, N.J.

Arrangements were directed by Lucas & Eaton Funeral Home.

#### Kenneth A. Donnell



Kenneth A. Donnell, 73. died Thursday, Feb. 4, 2010 at home after a long illness. He was born Dec. 3. 1936 in York a son of the late Harry Donnell Sr. and Gladys (Alvey) Donnell.

He resided in York most of his life and was a longtime employee of Ramsdell Stone & Gravel

Ken was an avid outdoorsman and enjoyed hunting fishing and camping. His favorite hobby was repairing lawn tractors. Ken had a passion for reading, especially historical submarine novels. He enjoyed spending time with family and friends and his much loved grandchildren. Ken will always be remembered for his kindness and willingness to lend a helping

He is survived by his wife of 18 years, Kimberly J. Donnell and daughter Kaitlyn of York; daughters, Belinda Donnell and Lucinda Donnell both of Greenland, N.H. and Amanda Woodbury and her husband, Eric and their children, Aurora, Ella and Damian all of Hollis; five siblings, Lucille Coale of Gambrills, Md., Billy Donnell of York, Diane Kozicki of Kittery, Eugene Donnell of Lebanon and Barbara Donnell

He was predeceased by three brothers, Harry Donnell Jr., Phillip Donnell and Bobby Donnell and two sisters, Dorothy Donnell and Virginia Donnell.

A private graveside service will be held in the First Parish Cemetery in the spring.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Lung Association, 1301 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20004

Lucas & Eaton Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

#### Estelle E. Kinnecome

Estelle E. Kinnecome, 69, died Sunday, Jan. 17, 2010 in York Hospital.

She was born Nov. 27, 1940 in Medfield, Mass. a daughter of the late Francis and Karolyn (Bajak) Shea.

She was a longtime resident of Fram-

#### **Local Births**

Recorded York Hospital during January

#### Born Jan. 1. 2010.

Gabrielle Amaris Noble, baby daughter of Exandra & Phillip Noble of South Berwick. Proud grandparents are Rebecca & Charles Noble of Palmyra and Melonie & David Bickford of North Berwick.

#### • Born Jan. 16, 2010,

Westley Alexander Houston, baby son of Alexandra Wilson & William Houston of North Berwick. Proud grandparents are Elizabeth & Craig Wilson of Kittery Point and

Beth & William Houston of East Wakefield, N.H. Happy siblings are Olivia, Savanna, and Billy.

#### • Born Jan. 20, 2010, Carmela Ladyslipper Del

Deo, baby daughter of Jennifer & Ross Del Deo of York. Proud grandparents are Stephen & Joanne Del Deo of Loudon, N.H. and Edward & Linda Denoncourt of Salisbury, N.H. Happy sibling is Maisy.

· Born Jan. 22, 2010, Damian-James Alexander Clingan, baby son of Alexandra Bedard Clingan & Nathan Clingan of Cape Neddick. Proud grandparents are Marc Bedard & Louise Ducharme of Cape Neddick, Maine; Peggy Graham of Angola, Ind.; and Jeffrey Clingan of Fort Wayne, Ind. Happy sibling is Laiken.

#### Born Jan. 26, 2010,

Lorelei Rowan Parent, baby daughter of Kesh & Jason Parent of York. Proud grandparents are Arthur & Juanita Parent of South Berwick and Glenn & Jackie Lawrence of Owls Head. Happy sibling is

ingham, Mass. before moving to York. She had worked for Verizon for many vears and was a member of the I.B.W. Local 2325.

Arrangements were made by Lucas & Eaton Funeral Home.

#### Willhelmina E.S. Pilger



Wilhelmina E.S. Pilger (Willie), 88, died Tuesday, Feb. 2, 2010 in her home at Huntington Common.

Willie was born in Germany on Feb. 24, 1921 daughter of Christian Pilger

and Bertha Emig.

Her family moved to Yonkers, N.Y. in

After graduating from Columbia University, she worked at Hanover Bank on Wall Street and stayed on for a career in investment portfolio management, which involved the handling of large investment accounts, not only for individuals, but also for foundations

In 1973, she bought a house in Moody near the beach and began volunteering with several York-area organizations including Friends of the Library in Wells, Habitat for Humanity York County, Wells-Ogunquit Book Club and St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Kennebunk. She also volunteered at York Hospital Gift

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Fundraising Office at York Hospital, 15 Hospital Drive, York, ME 03909

A memorial service was held on Saturday, Feb. 6 in the First Parish Congregational Church, 180 York Street, York. Burial will be private in Lake Placid, New

Lucas & Eaton Funeral Home directed arrangements.

#### June E. Luoto

June E. Luoto, 73, died Thursday, Feb.

4, 2010 at home with her loving daughter and grandchildren by her side.

She was born Dec. 22, 1936 in Quincy,



Mass. a daughter of the late Tauno and Evelyn (Kent) Ahola

She had worked as an office manager for Kmart for many years. She was a member of the North Read-

ing Congregational Church, the North Reading Boy Scouts, North Reading Little League, the North Reading Rainbow Advisory Board, the Athletic Boosters Club and the American Legion Women's Auxiliary in York.

Her husband Carl T. Luoto Sr. passed away in 2000.

She leaves a daughter, Cynthia J. Connearney of York with whom she lived; three sons, C. Thomas Luoto Jr. of Fairhaven, Mass., Richard Luoto and his wife Gay of Hampsted, N.H. and Eric Luoto and his wife Holly of North Andover, Mass.; a brother Charles Ahola and his wife Brenda of Carver, Mass.; a brother in law, Hugo Luoto and his wife Marilyn of Newport News, Va.; a sister in law Marilyn Ahola of Orlando, Fla.; seven grandchildren, Monica, Christen, Michelle, Justin, Renee, Brendan and Ian; a great-grandson, Jackson; a nephew Nicholas White and his daughters, Angelina and Vanessa of Boston. A brother Dana Ahola predeceased her.

The family would like to give a special thank you to Dr. Khoory and the staff at York Oncology.

A memorial service was held Tuesday, Feb. 9 in the First Parish Congregational Church, 180 York St., York.

Memorial contributions may be made to York Oncology Services, 127 Long Sands Road, York, ME 03909.

Lucas & Eaton Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

## Horoscopes

By Rusty, the Southern Maine coast's leading astrologer and cut-rate ontologist

Aries (March 21-April 19): I can't even find my car keys. You expect me to predict your

Taurus (April 20-May 20): You will find a way to resolve conflicts that doesn't involve random acts of violence directed at strangers.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): Hey you got your crossword clues in my horoscope! You got your horoscope in my crossword. Oh my God, we've created the first-ever crossoscope! (Or horoword!)

Cancer (June 21-July 22): You must learn to delegate

authority, though you should resist the urge to call your subordinate "filthy no-good slave scum."

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Your future would look sunny if it weren't for that personal total eclipse you're about to

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You will soon save on phone bills when that unrealistic long distance relationship finally hits the skids.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Have a breath mint. Really, I don't mean anything by it. I'm just offering you a breath mint.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): I forsee great things for you, like a tendency to greatly exaggerate.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Oh. come on. Wouldn't you really rather be reading Jacoby on Bridge?

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You have a chance at getting that brand new car, but only if you get a brand new life.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): No, you will not live long enough to see the invention of the holodeck. Get over it.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): You have a remarkably long lifeline, but it's very thin and stringy.

## **HOSPICE OFFERS TRAINING SESSIONS**

The 2010 Hospice of York Spring volunteer training is fast approaching. Open to all interested parties, completion of the course does not commit anyone to becoming a volunteer. Many who this course do so for their own personal or professional

To register, please call Dee Bickmore at the Hospice office (207) 363-7000. There

will be a fee of \$30. If that presents a problem, please call Dee and discuss it.

Call as soon as you can. Hospice officials look forward to hearing from you, then meeting you in person. The classes will be held on Monday afternoons from 1:30 to 4 p.m. (and one Saturday) starting Monday, March 8 for 12 weeks at the J. S. Pelkey Funeral Home in Kittery, Maine.

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**GREEN QUALITY Hardwood. Any** length avail, \$220/cord, Cut, Split and Delivered. Eric Hobson 207-467-0621.

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**POTTERY BARN-STYLE LEATHER SOFA SET** new worth \$1,600 asking \$695. Call 899-8853. JUNK CARS WANTED Call 207-423-0068 OR 207-363-7492

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#### LESS THAN \$750,000



**LESS THAN \$800,000** 

Price: \$725,000 Address: 46 Birch Hill Road, York Size: 4 beds, 2.75 baths, 3,683 s.f. Year Built: 1993

Price: \$799,000

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Year Built: 2000

Address: 3

Harbor

#### LESS THAN \$750,000

**LESS THAN \$700,000** 



Price: \$749,900 Address: 15 Raynes Neck, York Size: 3 beds, 2.5 baths, 2,948 s.f. Year Built: 2004

Price: \$695.000

Size: 4 beds, 1.75

baths, 2,414 s.f.

Year Built: 1999

Address: 204 Nubble Road, York

#### .....



Price: \$854,900 Address: 11 Talpey, York Size: 3 beds, 1.5 baths, 2,433 s.f. Year Built: 1985

#### LESS THAN \$900,000



Price: \$899,900 Address: 80 Southside Road, York Size: 3 beds, 2.5 baths, 2,478 s.f. Year Built: 2004

#### **LESS THAN \$950,000**



Price: \$949,000 Address: 46 Bayberry Lane, York Size: 3 beds, 2 baths, 1,316 s.f. Year Built: 1995

SOURCE: Multiple Listing Service NOTE: Contact a real estate agent for more information about these properties.



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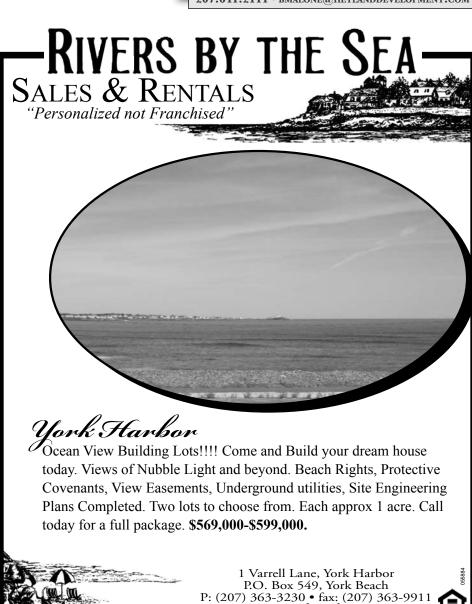
vacation or permanent residence, short distance to Cape Neddick Beach. Open concept living with HWD floors, with

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