



Select Board Chair Barbara Dailey and John Daley discuss plans to landscape part of Marginal Way with private money.

Ogunquit Select Board Approves Footbridge Revitalization Project, Devil's Kitchen Gift

By NATHAN LYNCH
Special to the Journal Tribune

OGUNQUIT — The Select Board voted Tuesday to approve a \$275,000 "Footbridge Beach Revitalization" project as a municipal bond, which included efforts to fix the pedestrian bridge at Footbridge Beach and renovate the bathrooms. In a separate meeting, the board also approved a \$150,000 gift from resident Wayne Griffin to landscape a portion of Marginal Way near "Devil's Kitchen," contingent on negotiations between the town and Griffin.

voted 4-1 to preliminarily accept the gift.

Central to the concerns over the \$150,000 gift were worries that Griffin's wishes for the property would weigh heavily on the landscaping outcome. Griffin's own property abuts the area he is offering to improve, and several members of the Marginal Way committee voiced their concerns that conifers are being excluding from the town property on Marginal Way because they would grow too high and impede Griffin's view of the ocean. Several Austrian pines currently occupy the space that were planted several years ago, and plans to trim them were never carried out according to Town Manager Thomas Fortier.

"I'm not naive," Select Board Chair Barbara Dailey said. "I'm sure [Griffin] wants a good view, let's be clear, and the challenge for us is to weigh the economics, to weigh the parameters that have been offered; to weigh the valuation equation of \$150,000 worth of landscaping."

Other members of the Select Board supported the gift and were encouraged by

the private effort to improve Marginal Way, which had long been under-maintained by the town due to financial constraints.

"This is the kind of thing we want to do," Select Board Member David Barton said. "The ulterior motives that are being suggested here simply don't apply. ... I'm enthusiastic about this, I think it's a great time to see what works down there; what'll grow."

Select Board Member Robert Winn Jr. cast the dissenting vote. The project, if it receives final approval, will be completed in 8 weeks.

In a budget meeting held earlier that day, the Select Board voted unanimously to approve the "Footbridge Revitalization" Project as part of the proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year. Town Manager Thomas Fortier said the town will be pursuing grants to supplement this project. This combined two separate efforts to fix the bridge and renovate the bathrooms in the area, and will go to voters later this year.

"[The bridge] is a lynchpin for that whole little enclave of activity," Barton said of Footbridge Beach.

UNE students, staff fight hunger in Biddeford area

By ANGELO J. VERZONI
Staff Writer

BIDDEFORD — A group of University of New England students has set out to combat hunger in the Biddeford area.

The UNE Hunger Initiative was born in the fall as a chapter of the Food Recovery Network (FRN), a national nonprofit that encourages colleges to donate unused food from their dining halls to local food banks.

In an email Friday, Nicole Huang, an AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer who works at UNE's Office of Citizenship and Civic Engagement, said she and Samantha Cottone, a junior in UNE's health, wellness and occupational studies program, were inspired to start the initiative after attending the Maine Hunger Dialogue conference at the University of Maine at Orono in October.

"At the conference we learned that Maine ranks third in the nation for hunger and that nearly one in four Maine children experience food insecurity," she said. "While the conference opened our eyes to the crisis of poverty, we also learned that there is huge potential for college students to fight against hunger in their communities."

Through the UNE Hunger Initiative, staff members with Sodexo — the company that provides food services to

UNE's dining halls — collect unused food from three dining halls on the school's Biddeford campus, and student volunteers deliver it to the Bon Appetit community meal program, at 19 Crescent St., three days a week, Carolyn Schofield, a Sodexo supervisor at one of the UNE's dining halls, said in an email Friday.

Schofield, who had been personally making runs to food pantries in Biddeford and Saco before the initiative was even thought up, said it has been very well-received among dining hall employees. "When you work in food and there is an excess, you always want to be able to share it," she said, adding that the initiative is a great means of reducing waste, as well.

At the end of each day, any food that can't be kept for the next day is handed over to the student volunteers, explained Schofield. "Food is made in bulk and set to a menu," she said. "Any mixed food that hasn't been used for a service is put into foil pans, labeled and placed on the rack designated for the FRN pickups."

And UNE has been able to provide Bon Appetit with a wide range of food items, added Huang. "I have loaded my car with everything from fresh fruit from the cafe to high quality seafood from the main dining hall on campus," she said.

In an email Friday,

Cottone said the UNE Hunger Initiative became an official chapter of the FRN on Feb. 26, but informal donations had been taking place some time before that.

She said about seven people have been regularly volunteering to recover and transport the food, and she estimated more than 1,000 pounds of food have been donated to Bon Appetit so far. She also said she hopes the initiative will grow to include other food banks in Biddeford and Saco in the future.

On a personal level, Cottone said the initiative has become a means of exercising her passion for "buildings access to healthy and nutritious food for those who do not have the means to do so on their own." Most people who are poor are working hard to escape poverty, she said, and not knowing where their next meal will come from adds stress to their lives and can be very discouraging, especially for children.

"If I am able to help those living in poverty who deserve healthy and nutritious foods in order to decrease at least a small portion of the stress they encounter every single day, I will take any opportunity I can take," she said.

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Briefly

Hospital "optimistic" about plea for kidney

SOUTH PORTLAND, Maine (AP) — Maine Medical Center officials say they're "optimistic" they can work through the remaining medical and legal hurdles in a kidney transplant case that has attracted national attention.

Joshua Dall-Leighton of Windham responded to a plea for a donor posted on the back of South Portland resident Christine Royles' car. Hospital spokesman Matt Paul says Maine Medical Center remains hopeful it will "be in a position to perform a successful operation."

One issue is a fundraising effort attached to the donation. Paul says the hospital must determine how the rules of the National Organ Transplant Act apply to crowd-sourced donations for Dall-Leighton. He says legal advice is expected next week.

Police find missing 2-year-old

ELLSWORTH (AP) — Maine police say they located a 2-year-old girl less than half an hour after she wandered away from her Ellsworth home.

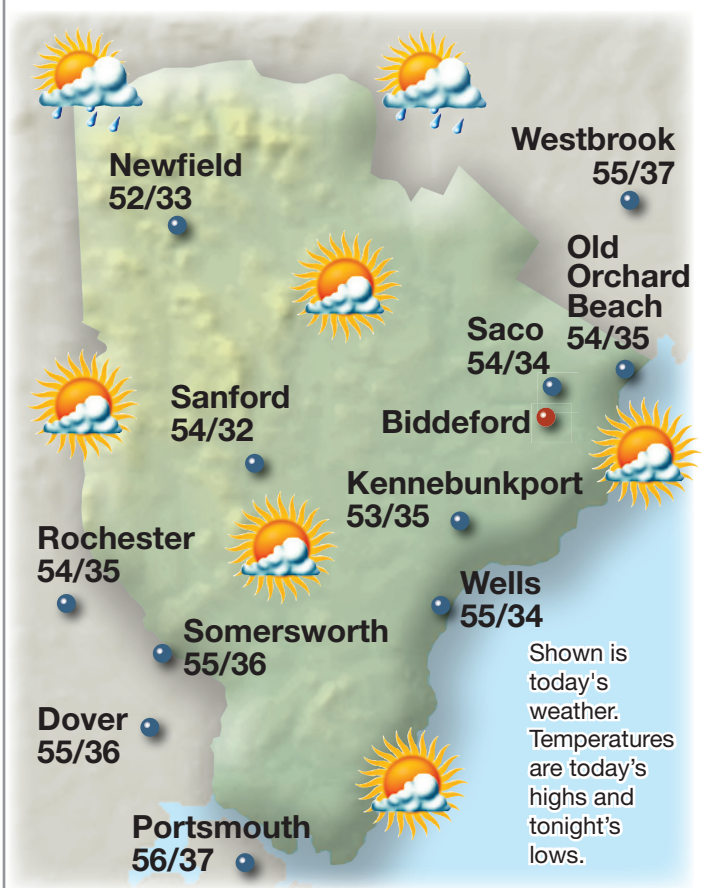
Authorities say the child was wet and cold and was taken to Maine Coast Memorial Hospital to be treated for hypothermia.

Police say the girl — wearing only socks, jeans and a shirt — managed to open the outside door of her home at about noon on Friday. Weather conditions were cold and damp.

BIDDEFORD AREA FORECAST

TODAY	TONIGHT	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Windy with clouds and sun	Mainly clear	Sunny much of the time	Partly sunny, breezy and mild
▲ 54°	▼ 34°	▲ 61° ▼ 36°	▲ 65° ▼ 46°

Today's Forecast



Tide Report

Kennebunkport:

Day	Time	High	Time	Low
Today	4:32 a.m.	9.0	10:58 a.m.	0.3
	5:15 p.m.	8.1	11:15 p.m.	1.0
Sun.	5:29 a.m.	8.9	11:57 a.m.	0.3
	6:16 p.m.	8.2	---	---

Old Orchard Beach:

Day	Time	High	Time	Low
Today	4:16 a.m.	9.3	10:36 a.m.	0.3
	4:59 p.m.	8.3	10:53 p.m.	1.1
Sun.	5:13 a.m.	9.2	11:35 a.m.	0.3
	6:00 p.m.	8.4	---	1.0

Marine Forecast

Eastport to Merrimac River

Wind west 12-25 knots today. Seas 4-8 feet. Visibility clear. Wind west 10-20 knots tonight. Seas 3-5 feet. Patchy clouds. Wind west 8-16 knots tomorrow. Seas 2-4 feet. Visibility clear. Monday: Wind south 10-20 knots. Seas 3-5 feet. Visibility clear. Tuesday: Wind southwest 10-20 knots. Seas 3-6 feet. Visibility under 2 miles in showers.

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Look in the Journal Tribune Sunday Paper for these sales flyers!