

Gleanings

10 years ago

From the Journal Tribune: "(Kennebunk) Town manager Barry Tibbetts presented four options Tuesday for the future of the Park Street School property, based on the expectation it could be used as a municipal building."

50 years ago

From the Biddeford-Saco Journal: "A dance party, completing the Galdys H. Ruben first ballroom series of the season, was held at Fairfield School, Saco, with a number of parents in attendance."

100 years ago

From the Biddeford Daily Journal: "Biddeford was hit last night with the tail-end of the big storm that has been lashing the Atlantic coast the past 36 hours and even though it was the (tail)-end of the storm combination, it had plenty of kick left in it and for some hours it blew a gale and snowed and rained, while at other times the air was filled with a cutting sleet. All in all, it was one of the worst nights of the fall."

— Angelo J. Verzoni and Krysteana Scribner

Today in History

Today is Monday, Dec. 14, the 348th day of 2015. There are 17 days left in the year.

ON THIS DATE:

- In 1819, Alabama joined the Union as the 22nd state.
- In 1911, Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen and his team became the first men to reach the South Pole, beating out a British expedition led by Robert F. Scott.
- In 1918, "Il Trittico," a trio of one-act operas by Giacomo Puccini, premiered at New York's Metropolitan Opera House. (The third opera, "Gianni Schicchi" featured the aria "O Mio Babbino Caro," which was an immediate hit.)
- In 1939, the Soviet Union was expelled from the League of Nations for invading Finland.
- In 1946, the United Nations General Assembly voted to establish the U.N.'s headquarters in New York.
- In 1964, the U.S. Supreme Court, in Heart of Atlanta Motel v. United States, ruled that Congress was within its authority to enforce the Civil Rights Act of 1964 against racial discrimination by private businesses (in this case, a motel that refused to cater to blacks).
- In 1972, Apollo 17 astronauts Harrison Schmitt and Eugene Cernan concluded their third and final moonwalk and blasted off for their rendezvous with the command module.
- In 1975, six South Moluccan extremists surrendered after holding 23 hostages for 12 days on a train near the Dutch town of Beilen.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 14, 1799, the first president of the United States, George Washington, died at his Mount Vernon, Virginia, home at age 67.

TEN YEARS AGO

President George W. Bush defended his decision to wage the Iraq war, even as he acknowledged that "much of the intelligence turned out to be wrong." The House voted 251-174 to renew the USA Patriot Act. Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad escalated his anti-Israeli rhetoric, calling the Holocaust a "myth" used by Europeans to create a Jewish state in the heart of the Islamic world.

FIVE YEARS AGO

The White House insisted the implementation of President Barack Obama's landmark health care law would not be affected by a negative federal court ruling, and the Justice Department said it would appeal. Gunman Clay A. Duke fired at school board members in Panama City, Florida, but hit no one before fatally shooting himself. Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi scraped through two parliamentary votes of no confidence.

ONE YEAR AGO

A last-minute deal salvaged U.N. climate talks in Lima, Peru, from collapse. Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (shin-zoh ah-bay) scored a decisive election victory and promised to push efforts to revitalize the world's third largest economy. Politician, TV personality and one-time Miss America Bess Myerson died in Santa Monica, California, at age 90.

— By The Associated Press

Quote of the day:

"The trouble with our times is that the future is not what it used to be."

— Paul Valery, French philosopher (1871-1945)

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University of New England Environmental Studies students work with UNE Associate Professor Pam Morgan to survey elevations along the Saco River in order to map sea levels.

UNE offers new minor in climate change

BIDDEFORD — With the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference having just ended in France, the world's attention has turned, more than ever, to the devastating effects of climate change on the planet and what can be done to counteract the damage already wreaked by global warming.

As climate change promises to be one of the defining environmental and social problems of our lifetime, the University of New England is poised to educate tomorrow's leaders in the climate change battle by offering an innovative, interdisciplinary minor in Climate Change Studies, the university said recently in a press release.

The Climate Change Studies minor at UNE is designed to equip students with a fundamental understanding of the issue of climate change from

diverse perspectives, providing education on the scientific, social, political, psychological and ethical dimensions of the issue. Open to all students in the College of Arts and Sciences, the minor comprises classes drawn from an array of UNE departments, including Environmental Studies; Business; Biology; Political Science; Chemistry and Physics; Marine Sciences; Society, Culture and Languages; and History and Philosophy.

According to Climate Change Studies Program Coordinator Bethany Woodworth, Ph.D., a comprehensive understanding of climate change is essential to a growing number of careers in many professional realms.

"It is vitally important that business students are able to incorporate climate change into business models," Woodworth said in a recent press

release, "that urban planners understand the challenges of how to plan for changing conditions, that political science students understand the policy implications, that sociologists grasp the impacts of climate change on human societies; and that marine scientists grapple knowledgeably with the implications of climate change for our ocean economies."

UNE's minor in Climate Change Studies will help prepare students for a myriad of professions that directly or indirectly relate to understanding, combating and adapting to climate change.

Housed in UNE's Department of Environmental Studies, the new minor in Climate Change Studies consists of both required courses and electives from the categories of policy, natural science and social science.

Briefly

Children's library series to start in K'bunk

KENNEBUNK — The Kennebunk Free Library is offering a series of programs called "Meet Someone New" for children in grades 2-5. Each program highlights an individual from the library's People & History collection. This month's program introduces Thomas Gallaudet and Annie Sullivan on Tuesday, Dec. 15 at 4 p.m.

In 1814, Thomas Gallaudet went to Great Britain and Europe in hopes of learning the best method to teach deaf children so that he could help his deaf neighbor, young Alice Cogswell. She inspired him to make the long and dangerous journey because of her "bright spirit." When he returned home he brought Laurent Clerc with him and together they developed the language now known as American Sign Language. They also started a school in Connecticut that spawned deaf schools all over America.

Annie Sullivan became Helen Keller's teacher in 1887. Helen had an illness when she was only 19 months old that left her blind and deaf. Her frustration at being unable to communicate made her difficult to handle, and her family let her behave badly most of the time. Annie and Helen fought many battles at the beginning of their relationship but they became the deepest of friends as Annie taught her how to read and write, giving her the gift of communication.

Come learn about these extraordinary individuals and create an art project using the Braille alphabet. Pre-registration is

required. The program is free and wheelchair accessible. The Kennebunk Free Library is located at 112 Main St., Kennebunk. For more information or to pre-register, call 985-2173, ext. 5 or visit www.kennebunklibrary.org.

K'bunk church plans Winter Solstice party

KENNEBUNK — The First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church on Main Street in Kennebunk will be holding its Annual Winter Solstice Celebration on Monday, Dec. 21, the longest night of the year.

Entitled "Spirit of Darkness," the event starts at 7 p.m. and is free and open to the public. Drumming, dancing, snacking and celebrating will continue in the parish hall after the program.

Partygoers are asked to bring drums and finger foods to share along with a non-perishable food item which will be donated to the York County Shelter Programs and the Community Outreach Services.

Families, friends and kids of all ages are encouraged to attend. For more information, contact the First Parish office at 985-3700.

Vacationland collecting boots for children

SACO — Vacationland Bowling Center in Saco is collecting gently used boots in good condition for children through the end of the month. The boots will be distributed by the Salvation Army. When a bowler donates a pair of boots they will receive a coupon for one free game of bowling with a free shoe rental.

Community Calendar

Tuesday, December 15

Sherwin Day will perform a classical piano concert for all to enjoy at Atria Kennebunk at 2 p.m.. He always lets his audience know a bit about the music between song selections. The event is free and open to the public.

Lotteries

MASSACHUSETTS

Numbers – 6-8-9-1 (day)/3-9-3-1 (evening)
Numbers (Sat.) – 0-3-0-2 (day)/6-6-2-4 (evening)
Megabucks (Sat.) – 06-08-11-18-19-43

NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND

Pick 3 – 4-2-4 (day)/9-9-1 (evening)
Pick 4 – 1-5-1-8 (day)/1-2-0-9 (evening)
Pick 3 (Sat.) – 1-8-7 (day)/9-5-4 (evening)
Pick 4 (Sat.) – 4-9-5-0 (day)/0-9-4-7 (evening)
Megabucks Plus (Sat.) – 04-18-19-30-33, Megaball: 2

NATIONAL

Hot Lotto (Sat.) – 06-16-25-35-43, Hot Ball: 1
Powerball (Sat.) – 02-14-19-30-62, Powerball: 22, Power Play: 2

COMMUNITY NEWS

- Send your community announcements to jtcommunity@journaltribune.com.

Have a neighbor or family member in the York County area not receiving their daily news? Tell them to give us a call!

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