

Happy Patriots' Day!

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Above: Marston Poore, a fifth-grader from Kennebunkport, peers over a bridge and into a river Saturday afternoon during a hike on a trail at the Kennebunkport Conservation Trust. Right: Mara Muse sticks her hand in a sock full of soil Saturday afternoon. The Kennebunkport third-grader was making a "dirt baby" as part of the Kennebunkport Conservation Trust's Earth Day celebration.

ANGELO J. VERZONI/Journal Tribune



Kennebunkport Conservation Trust hosts Earth Day celebration

By ANGELO J. VERZONI
Staff Writer

KENNEBUNKPORT

— Hope Poore stomped her boot into the mud Saturday afternoon. "I found an animal track!" she exclaimed. The Kennebunkport

fourth-grader couldn't keep from laughing, though, and her trick didn't fool anyone. So the group continued down the trail, in search of a genuine paw print and the other items on the scavenger hunt list — like a bird's

nest, a bug and a feather. The guided nature walk and scavenger hunt was part of the Kennebunkport Conservation Trust's celebration of Earth Day, which is Wednesday, April 22. The event, a first for

the KCT, was organized by three Middle School of the Kennebunks students — eighth-graders Eli Richardson, Charlie Metcalfe and Ian Zogg — as

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New nonprofit aims to 'nurture through the arts'

By ANGELO J. VERZONI
Staff Writer

BIDDEFORD — A nonprofit arts organization is slated to open downtown this week.

Nurturing Through the Arts, at 103 Franklin St., will offer art classes and mentoring to those facing challenges, such as senior citizens, the homeless, veterans and people adjusting to life after prison, according to its website, NurturingThroughTheArts.org.

"We're offering a very warm, friendly and inviting space that we feel caters to specific needs ... and that sets us apart," Greg Sturniolo, NTTA's executive director and founder, said Friday. Sturniolo, a Brunswick native, has "been in the art world" for more than 30 years, he said. "This is something I've wanted to do for a while — giving back to the community and nurturing people."

The puck will drop, so to speak, at 10 a.m. Wednesday, when NTTA holds its inaugural event: a fundraiser featuring hockey-themed art, snacks and former NHL and Portland Pirates center Kevin "Killer" Kaminski, who will be there signing autographs. Sturniolo said NTTA will be open until 8:30 p.m. for the event and

all are welcome.

Sturniolo said he originally tried to open NTTA, which was founded in November of last year, in Portland, but he couldn't find a space. Then, his eyes fell on Biddeford.

"Biddeford is up-and-coming," Sturniolo said, pointing to the rapid development of the city's mill district. "I found it a good fit here for us, and we found a space we can grow from." The space, he explained, was formerly used by George's Sandwich Shop for storage.

In an email Friday, Heart of Biddeford Executive Director Delilah Poupore said she thinks NTTA will be a great addition to the city's burgeoning arts scene.

"Greg is excited to make arts available to lots of people who may not ordinarily consider themselves 'artists,'" said Poupore. "Biddeford has a growing history as an arts community, and this new addition should encourage even more creativity."

Similarly, Engine Executive Director Tammy Ackerman said in an email Friday that Engine, the arts-focused nonprofit at 265 Main St., is excited about more "arts-related activity in Biddeford's downtown."

"NTTA is focusing on a
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Ways to acknowledge Earth Day abound

By LIZ GOTTHELF
Staff Writer

Whether you want to take part of a national initiative, community project, or home improvement project, there are many ways to acknowledge Earth Day.

Earth Day, celebrated on April 22, was founded in 1970 by U.S. Senator Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin, according to a written statement from the Environmental Protection Agency.

At the time, there were no legal or regulatory mechanisms to protect the environment, and Nelson created the day to force the issue on the national agenda, according

to the EPA. In December of 1970, Congress authorized the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency.

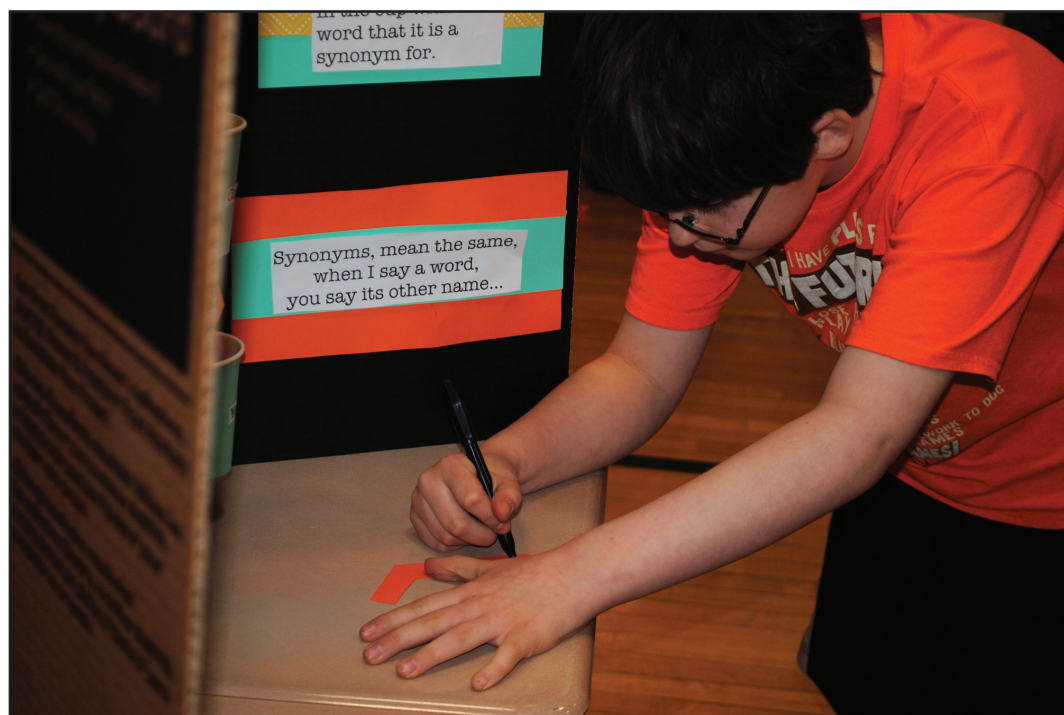
EPA Spokeswoman Christie St. Clair suggests celebrating by having a picnic, doing a home audit, creating a "green team" at work to determine water usage at your place of business, or you can learn more about saving fuel and learn your car's miles per gallon rate at FuelEconomy.gov.

For those who like to post pictures online, the EPA and the Nature Conservancy have partnered on the Earth Day Nature Selfies Photo Project.

The project encourages people to spend time outside by taking their picture next to their favorite tree, flower or other blooming plant and uploading it on the Earth Day Nature Selfie web page. For more information, go to <http://epa.gov/region02/earth-day>.

Locally, Earth Day activities include:

BIDDEFORD: The Earth Day event on April 25 at will take place at the city's recycling center, 371 Hill St. There will be free soil test kits and free paper shredding. Donations for the Friends of Community



ANGELO J. VERZONI/Journal Tribune

Biddeford Intermediate School fifth-grade student Jonathan Quimby takes part in a lesson on synonyms at the school's Grammar Fair Thursday.

BIS Grammar Fair fares well

By ANGELO J. VERZONI
Staff Writer

BIDDEFORD — On Thursday afternoon, hundreds of Biddeford Intermediate School fourth- and fifth-grade students tackled grammar rules even some adults struggle with — like the proper use of who versus whom, as well as rhetorical devices such as hyperbole.

The event — called the Grammar Fair — was hosted by 26 University of New England students who are studying education. The teachers-to-be set up shop in BIS's gymnasium from about 8-11 a.m., each using a colorful poster to deliver six-minute, interactive grammar lessons to rotating

groups of BIS students.

At one stop, for example, the 9- to 11-year-olds were handed paddle-shaped signs that read "who" on one side and "whom" on the other, as well as signs that read "who's" on one side and "whose" on the other. They were then tasked with showing the word that correctly filled in the blank for several sentences.

At another stop, the BIS students had to fill in the blanks by choosing between "then" or "than."

"This is a way for them to do some teaching," Lane Clarke, a UNE literacy professor, said at the event. "It's a really great way for my students to practice teach-

ing and for these kids to practice grammar."

Lindsey Judge, one of the UNE students, gave a welcoming smile as groups of children piled up in front of her poster about conjunctions Thursday.

"It was a great opportunity for students who are learning how to be teachers," Judge said on her way out of the school. "I had a blast, and I think the kids loved it, too. It was a good excuse for them to get out of class and do something educational."

BIS Principal Deb Kenney said the event was a first for the school, and

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Ogunquit votes to approve Marginal Way agreement

By NATHAN LYNCH

Special to the Journal Tribune

OGUNQUIT — The Board of Selectmen of the Town of Ogunquit voted to approve a letter of agreement for a \$150,000 gift to landscape part of Marginal Way on Tuesday.

The letter would make clear that the town would retain ownership of the land — a point of confusion among concerned residents who attended the meeting on April 7 — and set an agreement for maintenance of the area near Devil's Kitchen once the landscaping plan was completed. The landscaping plan, approved by the Board of Selectmen last week, would eliminate the existing invasive species infestation of the land by replanting the area with native plants, as well as prioritizing erosion control.

The sole resident who spoke against the proposed agreement was Marilyn Eimon, who expressed concern over the plan, which she felt prioritized the interest of the donor over the mission of the Marginal Way Committee.

"If this gift had been a

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Coast Guard, fire departments chase false alarm

From Staff Reports

OLD ORCHARD BEACH — The U.S. Coast Guard, along with area fire departments, sprung into action Saturday afternoon, after a man reported seeing an overturned kayak off of Old Orchard Beach.

What they found, however, was “a large mat of yellow seaweed.” Operations Specialist First Class Christopher Kiener of the

U.S. Coast Guard Sector Northern New England in South Portland said Sunday.

The search began at about 2:40 p.m. Saturday and was called off at about 4:15 p.m., said Kiener. A man standing on the shore, who thought he saw a kayak overturned “right along the beach line,” made the call, he said.

Assisting the Coast Guard’s one boat in the operation were two rescue boats

from the Scarborough Fire Department and one from the Saco Fire Department.

“It was the first run for our new boat,” Saco Fire Capt. Vincent Pelletier said Sunday.

Pelletier said firefighters were training on the boat off of Front Street, near the mouth of the Saco River, when the call came in. A crew of three then headed north to the area of the report, he said.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/Courtesy Raoul Goulet

Displaced by fire

An Old Orchard Beach family of five is expected to be displaced for a time after a fire at their home at 54 15th St. Sunday afternoon. Old Orchard Beach Fire Department Capt. John Fitzsimmons said the fire started in a clothes dryer. The fire was reported about 5:30 p.m., and firefighters were able to effect a quick knockdown, wrapping up the operation by about 7:30 p.m. Fitzsimmons said the American Red Cross was assisting the family Sunday night. The family, whose name was not available this morning, lost two cats and a gerbil in the fire. Firefighters from Biddeford, Saco and Scarborough assisted, while Arundel provided station coverage.

Grammar Fair

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she’s hoping it – as well as the school’s relationship with UNE – will continue long into the future. “The kids love it. The teachers love it,” she said.

Jeremy Ray, the superintendent of Biddeford schools, touched on a similar point, as he enjoyed the tail end of last week’s event.

“UNE is a great supporter of our school department,” he said. “It’s awesome.”

— Staff Writer Angelo J. Verzoni can be contacted at 282-1535, ext. 329 or averzoni@journaltribune.com.



ANGELO J. VERZONI/Journal Tribune

Biddeford Intermediate School fifth-grade student Jenna Lomax, right, takes part in a lesson on the use of who, whom, who’s and whose at the school’s Grammar Fair Thursday.

New Nonprofit

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population that will benefit from the therapeutic and social aspects that the arts can provide,” said Ackerman.

Sturniolo said NTTA will provide its students with one-on-one mentoring and even therapists, if needed.

“Art therapy is part of what we do here, even with licensed psychotherapists,” he said. “We’ll be able to have students come in and feel good about what they create and not be nervous about sharing what they’re creating.”

After Wednesday’s event, Sturniolo said NTTA –

which will regularly be open from 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday – will start gearing up for the first Biddeford-Saco ArtWalk of the year, scheduled from 5-8 p.m. Friday.

— Staff Writer Angelo J. Verzoni can be contacted at 282-1535, ext. 329 or averzoni@journaltribune.com.

Earth Day

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as well as University of New England student Willow Gertz.

Gertz, a senior studying marine science at UNE, is interning at the KCT this spring, while the middle school students are volunteering there as part of their school’s International Baccalaureate, or IB, program.

“I think that our school has done a really good job in getting us to become that global citizen that everybody should be,” Richardson said of the program.

There was Earth-themed fun to be had indoors Saturday, too, as children fashioned nylon-wrapped “dirt babies” and crafted col-

orful paper pinwheels. On a poster-size sheet of paper, people scribbled answers to the question, “How will you help the Earth?” and questionnaires revealed their carbon footprint. Gertz said hers was higher than she’d hoped.

Nathan Poore, of Kennebunkport, was there with his wife, their daughter Hope and their son Marston, a fifth-grader. “We live right down the road, and the kids really enjoy the place and the trails and the programs,” he said of the KCT. “It’s a great community asset.”

“I’ve always thought the trust is a really nice place,” said Hope. “It’s really neat.”

Leia Lowery, the KCT’s director of education, said this is the first year the trust is working with area middle

school students, and that it’s been a wonderful experience so far.

“I’m hoping we’ll be able to continue working with the middle school,” she said.

At about 1:30 in the afternoon, Lowery scanned the room and noted all of the children there had been part of the KCT’s Trust in Our Children program, which aims to “give kids a sense of place and connect them to the land.” Two of the middle school volunteers had been part of the program too, said Lowery.

“They’re very connected to the trust, and I love that it’s lasting,” she said.

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Marginal Way

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check of \$150,000 to the town of Ogunquit for the benefit of the Marginal Way, it would have been great,” Eimon said. “But I see it as a giveaway of control of town property, as well as changing the Marginal Way. ... It is essentially a planned garden foreign to the path – if you love the Marginal Way, why change it? A new garden and meadow may be beautiful, but it’s not what the Marginal Way is about. Though our mandate has been to preserve and protect

the Marginal way, it’s not our shining moment.”

Two changes were made to the final draft of the letter during the session. The first, recommended by chairperson Barbara Dailey, extended the maintenance contract from three to five years, in order to make sure the plants introduced in the landscaping survived.

The second change, recommended by board member John Daley, was over donor approval for changes to the improvement plan. The letter originally stated: “Any changes to said

landscaping improvement plan designed by Thomas Lynch Design dated January 20, 2015 must be approved by the donor and the Town Manager/Select Board.”

“Once he gives us the gift and we have control of it and we manage it, I’d like to take out ‘approved by the donor,’” Daley said. “It’s a gift for an overall project, but we control the details, we manage the details.”

The Select Board voted 4-1 to approve the letter with the changes. Robert Winn Jr. cast the lone dissenting vote.

Ways Abound

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Action Food Pantry will be taken.

KENNEBUNK: Children in grades four through seven can make seed paper on April 23 from 1-3 p.m. Preregistration is required; call the children’s room at

985-2173, ext. 5.

SACO: The Nature Conservancy is looking for volunteers on April 22 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. to help fix trails at the Saco Heath, located on Route 112. All volunteers must register. For more information, call Jon Bailey at 251-2256.

SANFORD: Trash clean-

up, tree planting and games at the TREE Center, 5 Dunaway Drive, Sanford on April 22 from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. To register, call 324-7955, ext. 644 or email tree@waban.org.

— Staff Writer Liz Gotthelf can be contacted at 282-1535, ext. 325 or egotthelf@journaltribune.com.

Correction:

A story in the weekend edition about a transportation exhibit at Springvale Historical Museum misidentified a photographer. Michael Shalhoup was the photographer who shot the famous photo of the Feb. 6, 1947 trolley crash on the Washington Street bridge in Sanford. His son Dean said his father worked as a photographer and reporter for the Sanford Tribune, the forerunner of the Journal Tribune, before moving to Nashua, New Hampshire in 1952, where he worked for the Nashua Telegraph. Dean Shalhoup has followed in his father’s footsteps and is a Telegraph reporter.

• The Journal Tribune will promptly correct errors of fact or clarify misleading information appearing in its articles. Corrections and clarifications will generally appear on this page. Errors should be brought to the attention of the Newsroom as soon as possible. Call 282-1535, Ext. 322 or e-mail jtcommunity@journaltribune.com.

State police looking into slow response time

From Staff Reports

DAYTON — Maine State Police are looking into allegations that it took more than two hours for a state trooper to respond to a 911 call at a Dayton childcare center last week.

“We’re aware of it, and it’s being looked into,” Lt. Erik Baker, a state police spokesman, said this morning.

Baker said he and Lt. Louis Nyitray, who is in charge of the Alfred barracks, are investigating the complaints from employees at Little Hands, Big Hearts childcare center, on Clark’s Mill Road, as well as parents of children who attend the center.

In an interview with the Journal Friday, Jessica Antoine, a teacher at Little Hands, Big Hearts, said at about 12:30 p.m. Friday, she heard a noise coming from the second floor, which was supposed to be empty at the time. Antoine said she went upstairs to find open cupboards and then saw a

person “run out the door.” Antoine said she called 911, and it took approximately 2 1/2 hours for state police to respond.

OOB Democrats to meet on Wednesday

OLD ORCHARD BEACH — The Old Orchard Beach Democrats monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 22, at 7 p.m. in the Old Orchard Beach police department community room. All local area Democrats are invited to attend. For more information contact Robin at 807-1017.

Augusta man wins chess championship

WATERVILLE (AP) — Jarod Bryan has put together a dynasty even more impressive than the New England Patriots.

The 47-year-old Augusta man on Sunday won his seventh Maine Closed Chess Championship to

conclude a two-day tournament at a Waterville hotel. He’s now won two years in a row and three out of the last four. His first came in 1988.

Twenty-four people entered. They were all members of the Maine Chess Association, which has hosted championship games since 1942. The tournament was closed, meaning it was open only to association members.

Bryan, a data analyst, started playing in high school.

Water main break near mall diverts traffic

SOUTH PORTLAND (AP) — Crews are dealing with a water main break near a mall in South Portland, Maine.

The South Portland Police Department says the break is on Maine Mall Road near the entrance to Best Buy. The road was closed to traffic around 7 a.m. Monday from Gorham to Philbrook roads near the Maine Mall.

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