

**University of Maine**

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**From the Selected Works of Kimberly J. Sawtelle**

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October 19, 1988

## Looking for a deal in October?

Kimberly J. Sawtelle, *University of Maine*



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# The Piscataquis Observer

Serving the interests of Piscataquis County

(USPS 433980) Second Class Postage paid at Dover-Foxcroft, Maine 04426

OUR 150th YEAR NO. 42

OCTOBER 19, 1988

DOVER-FOXCROFT, MAINE

EIGHTEEN PAGES

PRICE 50 CENTS

## Penquis people

### Is the "Great Pumpkin" real?

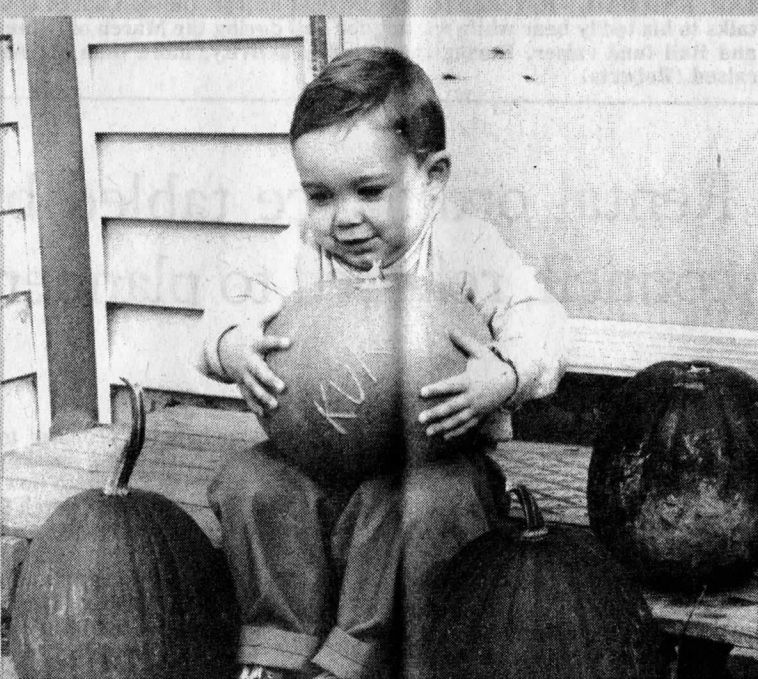
GUILFORD - Each year, one of the major television stations carries a story by Charles M. Schultz, called, "It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown." The story concerns a young boy, named Linus, who scorns those who attempt to convince him that there is no such entity as "The Great Pumpkin."

Linus believes whole-heartedly that the "Great Pumpkin" will rise up and leave presents for him in the pumpkin patch. Undaunted by the jeers of his playmates, Linus sits in the patch with his friend, Sally, fruitlessly waiting for the arrival of the mythological gift bearer.

A recent occurrence in Guilford gives one pause to consider the existence, or non-existence, of the Great Pumpkin. Approximately four weeks ago, Gloria Rumery opened the door to her Hudson Avenue home and found four pumpkins sitting on her doorstep. During an interview on Wednesday, Oct. 12, Rumery said she has no idea who might have placed the pumpkins there and noted that no one has come forward to take credit for the act of kindness.

Rumery said the pumpkins were obviously left for her two-year-old son, Kirk. How did she know this? Someone carved her son's name, (or a reasonable facsimile), into one of the pumpkins. The act was obviously pre-planned, since the scars were old. The name "KIRT" now appears on the only pumpkin to have turned orange, in letters of about two inches in height.

Regardless of the donor, Kirk is quite pleased with the gifts. His eyes brighten and his smile widens whenever the word pumpkin is spoken. Who knows? Maybe there is such a thing as the Great Pumpkin!



**DOES THE GREAT PUMPKIN REALLY EXIST?** - At age two, young Kirk Rumery probably doesn't really care. He simply appreciates the fact that someone cared enough to leave four of his favorite spheres on the Rumery doorstep. Someone knows who did it, but according to Kirk's mother Gloria, no one has accepted credit for the generous deed. (Knowles)

## Season ends Oct. 22

### Willimantic teenager tags largest moose opening day

GREENVILLE - For the second consecutive year, the largest moose in the annual hunt was tagged at the Greenville headquarters of the Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife on opening day Monday, Oct. 17. Dan Tourtelotte, 13, of Willimantic, tagged the 965 pound animal.

"He was about 10 feet off the ground and still is!" Dan's mother, Marilyn, described how her son felt after shooting the moose. Both of Dan's parents, Dan and Marilyn Tourtelotte are game wardens. She retired from active service prior to the birth of a son six months ago. The baby was also along for the hunt, she said.

Mrs. Tourtelotte said Dan shot the moose at 6:58 a.m. at Dowdy Pond in Monson. She said he and his sub-permittee and grandfather, Earland Tourtelotte of Bowdoinham, tagged the moose at Greenville headquarters at

10:30 a.m. Monday. Dan shot the animal with a 243 rifle.

Tourtelotte, an eighth grader at Sedomocha Jr. High School, Dover-Foxcroft, can boast that his moose has an antler spread of 66 inches and 21 points. He has hunted partridge, duck and deer in the past but the moose was the first game he has ever shot, according to his mother.

The total moose tagged at the Greenville station Monday was 107, seven more than last year on opening day. The overall kill figures in Maine were not available at presstime but is known to be above last year's figures.

Last year, Brian Burdin of Cambridge shot a 700 pound, eight point bull in Moscow on opening day.

The moose hunt, which was reinstituted in Maine in 1980, is in its third day and will end at sunset on Saturday, Oct. 22.

## Sangerville to lose maintenance funds through block grant revisions

by Gary Knowles

SANGERVILLE - According to Town Manager James Catlin, the town's allocation for maintenance through the state's highway block grant program will be one of the few in the area that is reduced. Catlin said the town currently receives about \$49,000 in assistance through the program, but noted that the figure will drop to about \$44,000 by the year 1990, according to state computations. Catlin said the figure will again be reduced in 1991 to about \$43,000.

Catlin said "Basically, what they're saying is they're taking the summer road miles that the communities have, the winter road miles that you have and adding those together, dividing by two and getting an average." He said the actual mileage that the state will use in their computations is based on the amount of revenues returned to the town, not based on the actual cost of maintaining roads.

"Sangerville's one of the few towns that actually gets hurt. Places like Dover, Milo, Garland and Guilford are making out real good," Catlin said.

He said he took time to go over the tax maps and came up with additional mileage that the state had not considered. He was directed by selectmen to request that the state reconsider

their calculations, which could lead to a \$3,000 difference in grant fund losses.

Selectmen also continue to discuss their options with regard to solid waste disposal. Catlin said the group that will be operating the landfill in the Dexter area had agreed last July to allow Sangerville to join the organization for about \$35 per ton. He said additional costs would include a mini-transfer station and a contract with the Penobscot Energy Recovery Company, (PERC), which would likely bring the total cost of disposal to about \$102 per ton.

Since other in the Dexter organization are currently paying about \$40 per ton, the group decided only a one-year contract would be offered and the rate would be increased proportionately during the ensuing years. Catlin said the increase in the future could be as much as \$15 per ton.

Catlin said selectmen directed him to check with Shawn Small, of Civil Engineering Associates in Brewer, and with PERC to update costs of disposal. He said there will likely be a special meeting scheduled for December, to discuss the findings and possible options.

The town has also entered discussions with Dover-Foxcroft and Guilford

with regard to a regional white goods site. Catlin said Dover-Foxcroft wants to know by the end of the year whether or not Sangerville is interested in participating in such an operation, in order to adequately prepare their warrant for next year's town meeting. Catlin said this prospect will likely be part of the meeting in December.

Selectmen also directed Catlin to investigate the possibility of saving money on the town's annual assessment costs. Catlin said it generally costs the town about \$1,200 for their assessment. He said he had contacted Bryant Brown Associates and learned that their firm may be able to save the town from \$400 to \$600. Catlin will further investigate the matter.

Catlin said Dennis Pearl attended the meeting to complain about the increase in his property tax valuation. The town's assessors, Hamlin Associates, were on hand to explain the process, but after hearing it, Pearl reportedly stated that he still was not satisfied and simply left. Catlin said he did not anticipate further action.

Further discussion by selectmen included: the purchase of a communications radio for the town's loader; tabling a dog ordinance proposal and a cemetery policy; hiring Steve Jackson

to provide an estimate for installation of a handicapped access to the town office; and possible sale of one-half acre of town owned land to Kelsey Kimball. Catlin said the latter discussion will likely require town approval.

In other business, selectmen learned that the paving has been completed

for the year on the Grant, West and French's Mills Roads; appointed Morris Badger as Animal Control Officer; learned that the Parks and Recreation

Department reviewed the public boat landing at Center Pond and only required that a sign be erected, designating it as such; had no bids on

the town's snowblower or sander; will contract with Barrett Nuite for snow plowing; expect to contract for acquisition of gravel rights at Brown's Pit, in

east Sangerville; and resolved a property lean problem regarding the Timothy Burt property.

## Eight homes hit

### Burglars' trail leads to Rhode Island

by Kimberly Sawtelle

DEXTER - Three burglars, suspected of being at the root of a rash of break-ins over Columbus Day weekend, Oct. 8, 9 and 10, were trailed by state police investigators to Rhode Island, last week, according to Dexter Police Sgt. James Emerson. Emerson is among several state, county and local law enforcement officials investigating the crime wave that is

suspected to have affected as many as eight households in Exeter, Dexter, Stetson, Garland, Corinna and Pittsfield.

The latest report from state police officials said Leo Belanger, 26, had been taken into custody by Rhode Island authorities late last week on an arrest warrant issued by the state of Maine. Rhode Island police have been working in cooperation with two Maine investigators who trailed the three men, alleged to have connections with the break-ins, to Rhode Island.

Also suspected of having connections with Belanger and the break ins are Danny Morris, 25, and Danny Smith, 24. All three men live in Rhode Island, according to Emerson.

Emerson said all but one break, being connected with the three out of state men, happened between Friday, Oct. 8 and Monday, Oct. 10. Two breaks took

★ See TRAIL page 14

## Looking for a deal in October?

by Kimberly Sawtelle

Hey, you. Yeah, you over there.

You looking for a deal? Something special? Something to call national attention to your own pet cause or project? Have we got a month for you and you're sitting in the middle of it.

Yes, it's October...National-Whatever-You-Want-Name-It-Month.

Pardon me for saying, but I think this National Yah-hoo Month business has gotten a little out of hand. Granted some of the titles falling in October are good projects, deserving special attention, such as National Fire Prevention Week and National AIDS Awareness Month. Unfortunately titles for the month have run somewhat amok. So much amok, in fact, that if the "National Months" weren't doubled and tripled-up during October, they, along with assorted "National Weeks" and various "Days" placed end-on-end, would stretch for over a year, eight months and two weeks before starting to repeat.

During October there are at least 16 National Months; 16 weeks; 12 days; six noted birthdays of famous people (this doesn't count the stars you see on *Entertainment Tonight*); four traditional holidays and observances; a Harvest Moon and, just to confuse the matter, the change over to Standard Time.

Of course there's a chance that this count doesn't cover all the bases, including the most recent additions. At least one month, two weeks and one day were added since Oct. 1. At that rate there'll probably be more before Oct. 31.

Why so many in October? Probably because July and August are National Family-Car-Vacation Month, sponsored by the makers of Dramamine and Howard Johnson's, and September is National-Send-Your-Kids-Back-To-School-In-Style-So-You'll-Be-Broke-Until-Spring Month, sponsored by everyone from Bic to Nike.

Popular attractions in October, dubbed by Congress (and Hallmark) as deserving of national recognition, range from the serious National Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Awareness Month, to the superficial National Pretzel Month.

If you're looking to "Do-It-Yourself," this is the month in which to do it! While you're at it you can "Care for your Car" and "Improve Your Home" for "Energy Awareness" by putting your kids to work to improve their "Fitness."

What would a year be without a National Cosmetology Month? After your teenager takes that observance literally and you finish scraping the goo off her face with a credit card, you're ready to come head-on with National Family Sexuality Education Month. For most of us, however, National Liver Awareness Month might offer a little more stable footing.

Of course National Liver Awareness is alphabetically listed just prior to National Pasta Month, so who's really sure if it's your own liver you should be aware of or your goose's? If that's the case, it can only mean the future gestation of National Pate Month.

If you're still hungry it's also National Apple and Popcorn Poppin' Month. Those are thrown in for the masses that aren't original enough to come up with creative treats to give to the packs of costumed door-banging, ankle-biters that roam neighborhoods the end of every October.

In case the thought of observing just one special interest for an entire month is just too over-powering for some folks, you could attempt

celebrating a week. Just pick one, there are over a dozen; Minority Enterprise Development Week or National Employ the Handicapped Week, just to name a couple.

Curiously, National Respiratory Week and Running and Fitness Week both fall between Oct. 2 and 9. Personally, the two present a conflict in interest. Fortunately we've all just missed those, thus that moral dilemma has been averted for another 12 months.

It was also recently National Newspaper Week. That's the time of the year when we in the business tell you, the readers, how fortunate you are to live in a country where freedom of the press guarantee's your "right to know." At the same time all of you, the readers, are writing to us, in the business, complaining about how the ink comes off on your fingers.

Being as the press is so powerful in this country and across the world, we also pulled a few strings to come up with International Newspaper Carrier Day, Oct. 10. That's just to honor the little buggers that keep our readers in top shape (See Oct. 2-9) by forcing them to climb onto the roof or into the bushes every day to retrieve their daily allotment of freedom.

Despite the rumors, the press is not the only force able to throw weight around and shake an extra day out of the Congress. Bookkeeper's united to obtain National Bookkeeper's Week and National Bookkeeper's Day. Now, if you're sitting in Congress, are you going to deny YOUR bookkeeper? *Let's see, was it the black ledger we show to the IRS, or the red one???*

National Credit Union Week and International Credit Union Day also fall in October. So does National School Lunch Week. Now there's one for which to be thankful. Anyone know when National Hospital Food Appreciation Week is?

Of course National Cleaner Air Week and National Magic Week are pretty much one in the same. You've got as good a chance of having one as you do the other.

Under the "What's Wrong With This Picture" category, offerings include: National Peace With Justice Week; United Nations Day; Peace, Friendship and Good Will Week; Peace Corps Birthday; National Disarmament Week; and National Kitchen and Bath Week.

On top of all this, October is a month for kids: National YWCA Teen Week; Child Health Day; Universal Children's Day; National UNICEF Day; and World Food Day.

If you're looking for redundancy, Mother-In-Laws Day is only a week before Halloween. National Boss Day was a week before that.

Truly October seems to be a month of specialties as folks in Canada celebrate their Thanksgiving, Oct. 10; Jews fast and say prayers for Yom Kippur, Oct. 9; all American's bless Columbus for discovering America, by closing post offices and digging out the early, early Christmas decorations.

Just this month, National Coming Out Day was declared Oct. 11 for gays to come out of the closet, while National Sweetest Day found its way to the calendar long ago. No one really knows why though. Also new to October is observance of National Literacy Month and Week.

Now, if you're through writing these little ditties on the calendar, let's start on November. It's not just for pilgrims anymore...

## Seniority's open house

scheduled Oct. 27,

at Mayo Regional Hospital

DOVER-FOXCROFT - Mayo Regional Hospital will continue to promote it's newest program, Seniority, at a special community kick-off celebration to be held on Thursday, Oct. 27 at Mayo Regional Hospital.

The Seniority program offers a host of health and leisure-related benefits to it's members including a free health screening, which includes an extensive blood test, blood pressure, height and weight checks; preferred hospital admission, which streamlines the admission process at Seniority hospitals if hospitalization is necessary; assistance in tracking insurance claims forms; a free physician referral service; travel packages featuring discounted tours; and free local and national Seniority publications. Additionally, Mayo Regional Hospital is working on developing other local benefits for members.

To date, there are over 54 Seniority hospitals located in 19 states across the United States. Six of those Seniority hospitals are located in Maine and include Mayo Regional Hospital, Cary Medical Center, Calais Regional Hospital, Houlton Regional Hospital, Millinocket Regional Hospital, and Penobscot Valley Hospital.

Robert McReavy, Executive Director of Mayo Regional Hospital, states, "I believe Seniority is an excellent program for the seniors in our service area. There is a great need for medical claims assistance in our area. I think this will be one of Seniority's most popular benefits. As the first Seniority member from Mayo Regional Hospital, I would encourage everyone over 55 to

come to our community kick-off and learn about the benefits of this very unique service."

The Seniority program was officially launched to Mayo Regional Hospital

employees at an open house on Friday, Sept. 30. Laurel Robinson, Mayo Regional Hospital's Seniority coordinator, reports, "During the employee kick-off event, we enrolled over 30 Seniority members and we also handed out many brochures on the program. Our employees were very enthusiastic about all the benefits, especially the free health screening."

Seniority enrollees need only be 55-years-old or above to join the program. Then, for a one-time lifetime membership fee of \$20, the subscriber receives all of the Seniority benefits.

During the community Kick-off celebration on Thursday, Oct. 27, individuals can join the Seniority program at a special one-time charter membership fee of \$15 and receive a beautifully designed Seniority coffee mug. Also, there will be refreshments, free gifts, door prizes, and Seniority representatives available to answer questions regarding the program. The Community Kick-off will be held from 9 a.m. to noon and again from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the Library Conference room. The event is free and open to the public.

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