

NEW PORTLANDER

INFORMATION IS THE CURRENCY OF DEMOCRACY — THOMAS JEFFERSON

The Town of New Portland is an equal opportunity employer and service provider.

TOWN OFFICE INFORMATION

Phone: 628-4441 • Fax: 628-4440

Town Office Contact Information and Hours of Operation:

Office Hours:

M	onday, Tuesday, Wednesday	10am - 5pm
Th	nursday	12pm - 6pm
Fir	rst Saturday of the month	.8am - noon
	(except Dec., Jan., Feb., Mar. and permitting it's not a holiday weeks	end)

Town Manager/CEO, Deputy Clerk: Stacie Rundlett

Fig. 4.1	
Email	nwprtina@tas.net

Town Clerk: Stacie Rundlett (acting)

Emailnwprtlnd@tds.net

LPI: Leo Mayo - 566-7341

Assessor's Agent: Audra Swanson

We	dnesday	10am -	3pm
Em	ailnewportlandassessor	@gmail	.com

Fire Department: Chief Kip Poulin

Animal Control Officer: Keith Mudgett, Jr. - Cell: (207) 248-2874

Remember...

•	Selectmen's Meeting
	1st Tuesday & 3rd Monday of each month6:30pm

- New Portland Fire Department Meeting 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month6:30pm
- Library Board of Trustees Meeting
 And Trusteey of the month
 6nm
- 2nd Tuesday of the month6pm
 Planning Board Meeting
- 1st Wednesday of the month......6:30pm
- New Portland Water District
 2nd Wednesday of each month.......6:30pm
- School Board Meeting
 1st Wednesday of each month6pm
- Recreation Committee
 1st Thursday of each month6:30pm
- New Portland Community Library
- Kingfield-New Portland Transfer Station
 Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday.......... 7:30am 4:30pm
- New Portland Post Office Customer Service Hours Monday – Friday.......7am - 9am, 2pm - 4pm Saturday.....7am - 10:30am

Notice

PUBLICATION VOLUME 27 • NUMBER 5 • NOVEMBER 1, 2020

The Town Office will be closed on Tuesday, November 3 due to the Presidential Election.

The Town Office will be closed on Wednesday, November 11 in observance of Veteran's Day.

The Town Office will be closing at 2:00 pm on Wednesday, November 25 and closed for the day on Thursday, November 26 in observance of Thanksgiving.

Town Manager

November 3 voting polls will be from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm in the Community Room at the Fire Station, 911 River Road. Due to the size of the Community Room, we will need to limit the amount of voters in the building at one time. We will have signage with instructions for voters. Please be patient and kind as there could be a wait to cast your vote.

The Selectmen's Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, November 3 will be rescheduled for Tuesday, November 10 at 6:30 pm in the Community Room.

As Town Manager, I wanted to thank Kristen Mitchell for being the Deputy Town Manager and assisting me with not only the day to day tasks but many important projects that we have worked together on over the past eight years. She will be greatly missed, and I wish her only the very best of luck with her new endeavors..

I also wanted to let the public know that at this time of year, it is very busy for myself doing not only the day to day tasks, but all of my end of year projects: budget process, town report, closing of the town books and preparing for our annual audit. With this being said, the position of Deputy Town Manager will not be advertised until sometime in January. The Board of Selectmen and I have made this decision together. Many people have inquired about the position, and I wanted to keep the public informed. I look forward to getting any applications when the position is posted. Please keep in mind that the Deputy Town Manager position and Town Clerk position are two separate positions.

Town Clerk

I have been blessed to be a part of this community for eight years as Deputy Town Manager and for the past five years as your Town Clerk. Writing this is very

bittersweet, but as some of you may already know, I have been offered an amazing opportunity with the City of Bangor working at City Hall. I will miss working for the Town of New Portland, but life is leading my family and I in a different direction. I wish you all well!



Regards,

Kristen Mitchell

Starting November 25 nomination papers will be available for the following: Town Clerk – three year term, Board of Selectmen - three year term, School Board Member - three year term. Anyone wishing to run for these positions will need to obtain nomination papers from the town clerk's office and will need to get at least 25 and no more than 100 signatures of New Portland residents who are authorized to vote in town affairs. They will need to return those nomination papers back to the clerk's office by no later than January 24, 2021.

Any budget requests for the 2021 budget need to be submitted by December 1. If there are any questions regarding any of these matters, please contact me at the office.

It is with great regret this year we will not be hosting a Community Dinner due to the covid virus. Please remember to practice safe guidelines recommended by the CDC to stay safe.

I look forward to seeing you all on November 3 for voting, and I want to wish you all a very Happy Thanksgiving. May we all realize there is much to be thankful for, even during this crazy year. Let our lives be full of both THANKS and GIVING!

Submitted: Stacie Rundlett, Town Manager

Selectmen

Notice of Error from the Editior: In the October 1, 2020 issue of the New Portlander, there was an error in the minutes. The minutes date read as follows: Minutes for the Selectmen's Meeting September 17, 2020. This should have read as follows: Minutes for the Selectmen's Meeting August 17, 2020. Also, I inadvertently did a similar error in transcribing the date as to when the minutes were approved. When I transcribed/edited the minutes, I went from 08/17/20 to the copy containing the error. I receive copy in a number of formats, and I attempt to use one format for all copies/submissions for consistency. I am sorry if this may have caused any confusion, embarrassment, or difficulty.

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes - August 17, 2020

Selectmen Present: Raymond Poulin, Wayne Rundlett, Andrea Reichert; Present: Stacie Rundlett, Brian Rundlett, Judi Wills

- 1. Call the meeting to order-Andrea called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
- 2. Review minutes from previous meeting: Wayne motioned to accept the minutes as written, Raymond seconded and all were in favor.
- 3. Old Business:
 - a. public sand building The board discussed again the public sand building; they are still trying to coordinate volunteers to complete this project.
- 4. Items by the Public There was none.
- 5. Department Heads: Judi discussed with the board that the recreation committee purchased and presented a plaque to Dallas Landry for his dedicated services being the editor of the monthly *New Portlander*.
- 6. Items by the Town Manager:
 - a. The board reviewed and signed payroll and accounts payable warrants
 - b. There was no Treasurer's Report as Stacie was waiting for some changes to statements from the bank.
- 7. Items by the Board of Selectmen: There was none. Adjourn the meeting at 6:42 pm.

These minutes were approved by the Board of Selectmen at the September 1 meeting. Smr

NEW PORTLANDER article submission deadline is November 20 by 4:00 pm.

Any articles, submissions, information for publication should be received by:

Dallas Landry • PO Box 34, North New Portland, ME 04961 • phone 628-4201 • email: alderswamp2@gmail.com If there are any questions or needs regarding the receiving of the *New Portlander*, those inquiries should be directed to the Town Manager.

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes - September 1, 2020

Selectmen Present: Raymond Poulin, Wayne Rundlett, Andrea Reichert; Present: Stacie Rundlett, Brian Rundlett, Kip Poulin, Marilyn Gorman, Judi Wills, Joseph James, Garret and Valerie Oswald, Michael Caron

- 1. Call the meeting to order: Andrea called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
- 2. Review minutes from previous meeting: Raymond motioned to accept the minutes as written, Wayne seconded and all were in favor.
- 3. Old Business: There was none.
- 4. Department Heads:

Kip Poulin updated the board on the installation of the new washer and dryer purchased with grant funds. There was a discussion regarding the departments SAM registration and if it should be renewed. Kip voiced to the board that he didn't think they should renew again. Kip discussed with the board the possibility of having a savings account for funds for turnout gear. It was discussed that each set costs quite a bit. and if there was a savings account to keep adding funds to until it is necessary to purchase more, it would be less of a burden at said time.

- 5. Items by the Public: There was a lengthy discussion with all in attendance regarding the increase in taxes this year. It was thoroughly explained that the school budget increased, the county budget increased and why the municipal budget increased. Also, that this year there were no funds from surplus to use to keep the mil rate down. As well as there was no Tree Growth reimbursement amount added to the formula this year because the State of Maine wasn't sure if municipalities would receive any reimbursement this year for their program. The public voiced their concern on the municipal's spending and many of them said they would get more involved in town functions.
- 6. Items by the Town Manager:
 - a. The board reviewed and signed payroll and accounts payable warrants.
 - b. The board reviewed and signed the Treasurer's Reports for July.
 - c. Stacie shared with the board that the town was getting ready to send out 40 foreclosure notices for non-payment of 2018 taxes.
 - d. Stacie presented to the board a request for a community garden from a local resident. It was decided that it would be best to have this person present at a meeting to obtain more information about the proposed project. Stacie would try to get that person to an upcoming meeting.
- 7. Items by the Board of Selectmen:
 - a. The board of selectmen reviewed and signed the commitment paperwork for 2020 taxes.

- b. The board had a discussion regarding the steel door for the Sand Salt Shed. The building needed a man door, and Raymond stated that he would research the cost of this door. Stacie informed the door that she had been waiting on Overhead Door Company to give her a list of other things that needed to be done to the building before they could install the large overhead door. She stated that she would reach out to them again so this part of the project could be completed.
- c. There was a brief discussion regarding the bridge in the East Village, and it was stated that no one has heard from D.O.T. in quite some time.

Adjourn the meeting at 7:31 pm.

These minutes were approved at the September 21 meeting by the Board of Selectmen. smr

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes - September 21, 2020

Selectmen Present: Raymond Poulin, Wayne Rundlett, Andrea Reichert; Present: Stacie Rundlett, Brian Rundlett, Marilyn Gorman, Judi Wills, Joseph James, Garret Oswald, Justin Jordan, Josephine Tulloss

- 1. Call the meeting to order: Andrea called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm.
- 2. Review minutes from previous meeting: Raymond motioned to accept the minutes as written, Wayne seconded and all were in favor.
- 3. Old Business:
 - a. Public Sand Structure Status: There was a brief discussion regarding coordinating volunteers to build the public sand structure. The board set a tentative date of October 4 to begin.
 - b. There was a discussion regarding work to be done on the Sand Salt Shed before Overhead Door could do the installation of the door. Wayne would see if David Cary would do some of the work, and Stacie would reach out to Thomas Builders to see if they would be interested in this project. Andrea would reach out to Richard Emery to have the electrical part done.
- 4. Items by the Public: There was a lengthy discussion with Justin Jordan and Josephine Tulloss from Maine Timber Mats, LLC, about the delinquent taxes at 57 Lemon Stream Road. Maine Timber Mats would like the valuation of the property to be adjusted for the years 2018 and 2019 to reflect the valuation of the property as of 2020 valuation. The board discussed with Justin and Josephine that they would need to do some research on the matter and discuss it more with them at the October 6 selectmen's meeting.
- 5. Items by the Town Manager:
 - a. The Board reviewed and signed the payroll and A/P warrants.
 - b. The Board reviewed and signed the Treasurer's Report for August.

- 6. Items by the Board of Selectmen:
 - a. The Board reviewed and signed the annual General Assistance Ordinance.
 - b. The Board reviewed and signed the Supplemental Tax Warrant in the amount of \$22, 579.10.
 - c. The Board reviewed nine abatement requests. Andrea motioned in favor of each of them as written and Raymond seconded, all were in favor.
 - 1. Michael Twitchell \$94.30
 - 2. Gabe Clark \$1,373.10
 - 3. Jason and Karla Paquette \$2,260.90
 - 4. Daniel and Pamela Grenier \$563.50
 - 5. Steven and Arlene Trudell \$1,131.60
 - 6. Kerry Boyko and Michael King \$563.50
 - 7. Jared Erb \$179.91
 - 8. Thomas and Valerie Bossie \$563.50
 - 9. Kendal Knowles \$4.60
 - d. The Board reviewed and signed a Municipal Quit Claim Deed releasing a lien from the 2007 taxes.
 - e. Andrea motioned to enter into executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A)

to discuss personnel matters at 7:30 pm. The board exited the session at 7:39 pm, no decisions were made. Meeting was adjourned at 7:39 pm.

These minutes were approved by the Board of Selectmen at the October 6 meeting. Smr

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes - October 6, 2020

Selectmen Present: Raymond Poulin, Wayne Rundlett, Andrea Reichert; Present: Stacie Rundlett, Brian Rundlett, Marilyn Gorman, Judi Wills, Justin Jordan, Josephine Tulloss, Kristen Mitchell

- 1. Call the meeting to order: Andrea called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm.
- 2. Review minutes from previous meeting: Raymond motioned to accept the minutes as written, Wayne seconded and all were in favor.
- 3. Old Business:
 - a. The Board of Selectmen discussed with Maine Timber Mats, LLC their request for a reduction on the taxes owed from 2018 and 2019 that was billed to USAccess. After thoroughly discussing their thoughts on the matter, Andrea motioned for the interest and costs of 2019 to be corrected and to reflect the valuation from this year's tax commitment. This would be an abatement for \$14,389.94. Raymond seconded and all were in favor.
- 4. Items by the Department Heads:
 - a. Kip Poulin updated the board members they have had 47 calls so far, and the payroll to date was around \$5,000. He relayed to them that Tanker 2 is having issues. They think the primer motor is going bad. Tanker 1 might have issues with the turbo. They have someone coming to look at it. Flow test have been done on the packs (SCBA). The gear has started to come in as well.

- b. Gary Agren discussed with the board an issue with a culvert that was installed on Bennett Hill Road by a tax payer. The issue being that it is well over 40 feet. He suggested issuing a letter to that land owner notifying the land owner that they must take responsibility of the maintenance of the culvert, and that it cannot be used as an entrance without a proper permit. The Board agreed with him and Andrea asked Stacie to draft a letter. Gary discussed with the board that the grader will be out most of next week doing grading. The board had a brief discussion with Gary about his term and asked for him to let them know soon if he wished to stay on as Road Commissioner.
- c. Kristen Mitchell discussed her resignation as Town Clerk. The board had a discussion about who would take over until the annual Town meeting. Stacie has the knowledge and credentials to do the work. All were in agreement that it would be the best to do at this time. Andrea motioned to appoint Stacie as Town Clerk, Registrar of Voters, and Warden until March of 2021. Raymond seconded and all were in favor. Stacie discussed with the board that the Deputy Town Manager position would remain vacant until the first of the next year. There is too much work to do and train a new person. At such time it will be advertised.
- 5. Items by the Public: There was none.
- 6. Items by the Town Manager:
 - a. The Board reviewed and signed the payroll and A/P warrants.
 - b. Stacie discussed with the Board that Maine Timber Mats, LLC have offered to donate slab wood for those in need. Since New Portland does not have the means to store and cut the slab wood, Stacie reached out to Leanna Target in Kingfield, and if a case should arise, Stacie and Leanna will work together to meet the needs if any.
- 7. Items by the Board of Selectmen:
 - a. The Board reviewed four abatement requests. Raymond motioned in favor of each of them as written and Andrea seconded, all were in favor.
 - 1. Elliot Steward \$82.80
 - 2. Stephanie Dunn \$354.20
 - 3. George and Tracey Estes \$151.80
 - 4. Francis Dunphy \$225.40
 - Andrea briefly discussed if any one has had contact with the Maine DOT regarding the East New Portland bridge.
 No one has heard anything about the bridge work in about two years.
 - c. There was a brief discussion regarding the status of the public sand building. Blocks to use for this project should be delivered soon.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:24 pm.

These minutes were approved by the Board of Selectmen at the October 19 meeting. smr

RSU 74 / School Board

The October School Board Meeting was held at Carrabec Community School.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adjustments to the Agenda: An agenda item was added for the purpose of selling three out of service buses.

Minutes: After some discussion, the minutes of the September 2 regular board meeting and the September 16 special board meeting were approved.

Presentation: Jean Butler updated the board about two grants, the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER) and the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF). RSU 74 is eligible to receive \$276,799.27 from ESSER. This money must be spent by December 31, 2021. RSU 74 is eligible to receive \$565,946.91 from CRF. This money must be spent by the end of 2020. Some of what has been funded by this money includes a tech assistant, nurse assistant, sanitizer, bus monitors, van drivers, laptops, Promethean boards, document cameras, e-books, air purifiers, PPE gear, masks, desks, etc.

Superintendent's Report: Phase Two is about to begin. Mr. Tracy told the board he was grateful for the work of teachers and support staff and for the work that they have already done. He said that he believes they have worked as hard or harder than they have ever worked before. He met with Association reps recently to get a sense of what concerns staff might have as they move into Phase Two. He hopes that with some changes, Phase Two will seem manageable. Virtual Open House is on the way at each of the schools. The October 21 Early Dismissal Day will not occur. Instead, October 21 will be a normal school day. Mr. Tracy thanked Linda Durland for preparing 120 remote learning packets. He will attend a meeting at the State House soon. Going forward, school funding may be a problem... A year ago, RSU 74 had 608 students. We are currently at 549.

A board member asked how turnout had been at recent trainings for the parents of remote learners. Three of the four schools have had trainings. The number who attended was, I believe, 14. (Apparently, I did not write the number down. If the number was not 14, oops.) A board member asked if consolidating classrooms or buildings was being considered. Mr. Tracy said he would prefer not to make those sorts of decisions until the situation has returned to normal.

Appointments: Charles Price - CCS boys' soccer, Mathias Twitchell - Covid Info Technologist Assistant, Tim Richards - CHS AD

Resignations: none Nominations: none

Committees: There were no committee reports.

Admin Reports: Grace Cram had nothing to add to the report which she submitted to the board. Brian Twitchell said the certification committee is working to update the certification handbook. Jean Butler looks forward to Phase Two and having the k-5 kids at school five days a week. She said that the students "have been great" dealing with all

the changes which they have experienced during the new school year. Lorie Agren had nothing to add, but said things are going okay. Scott Hall commended Lorie and her staff for their work in quickly installing the new Promethean boards. Keith Mahoney was not present, but Mr. Tracy spoke on his behalf. Tracey said Mr. Mahoney said that he has a great staff. He credited Candy Lebeau for work and for CCS being declared a Gold Level Let's Go School. He commended Heidi Day, who was recognized by Boston Children's Hospital for her Pacer results.

Public Participation: No one spoke.

Delegate/Alternate to the Maine School Board Association Conference: The board voted to approve Troy Dunphy and Robert Demchak.

Policies: Several policies came before the board for approval. This item created a bit of a kerfuffle. (I originally thought that I had never written that word before in my life, but I was mistaken. I appear to have used that word in my recap of the April 2016 school board meeting. So, I guess, perhaps I will use it again in 2024, if I am still Association President. Or, perhaps I will not be and will never write the word again.) Anyway, after much discussion and debate about numerals, Roman Numerals, headings, and subheadings, the board took a series of votes. First, the board voted against approving the policies. Then, the board voted not to send the policies back to the Policy Committee for further review. Finally, the board voted to table the issue. At a future board meeting, this topic will be resurrected.

Selling Three Buses: The board voted to sell three out of service buses.

Sports Talk: Mr. Tracy said that at CCS some soccer games have been scheduled, and Mr. Mahoney is looking to schedule more. Tim Richards, the CHS AD, updated the board on fall (and possibly winter) sports. Currently, games are being played, though no spectators are allowed. There are 13 on the boys' soccer team, nine playing girls' soccer, three running cross country, and one golfer. Girls' soccer games have been seven on seven or eight vs eight. So far there have been four home soccer events.

In response to a question asking if there was less to do as an AD this year than in normal times, Tim mentioned that he was destined to attend an AD Zoom from 9:00 am - 2:30 pm on Thursday. Mr. Tracy assured the board he was quite certain the AD position is taking more time now than in previous years. Questions were asked about winter sports. Would winter sports happen? Tim said he expected an official decision could be a long way off. His best guess was there would be a winter sports season but without spectators. It is possible that CHS can purchase a camera through the NFHS Network and that home basketball games will be live streamed. This was just a discussion item, so no action was taken. Camera purchases, streaming licenses, and other related topics will likely be discussed at future meetings.

The End: The meeting ended at 7:48 pm. November meeting will be at Carrabec High School.

New Portland Churches

The Western Mountains Baptist Church is now able to meet with 100 people with lots of room left over for social distancing. Hand sanitizing and face-coverings are still encouraged. Join us on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am for worship and a Bible message from Pastor Tom DuBois. If desired, Children's Church and the nursery is available during the church service.

Again this year, WMBC is collecting financial donations to help the United Methodist Economic Ministry in Salem purchase 100 Thanksgiving turkeys for local families. If you are able to help, please make checks payable to WMBC and mail to Western Mountains Baptist Church, PO Box 264, Kingfield 04947. Any money raised above the goal will go directly to UMEM for their food pantry. Thank you for your consideration. Any questions can be emailed to brennacockerham@yahoo.com.

The monthly Men's Breakfast for November 7 will be held at 8:00 am. Men of all ages are encouraged to attend for a hearty breakfast, friendship and discussion. Attending WMBC is not a requirement, you will be welcomed.

Monday nights, men meet for a Bible study at 6:30 pm. Again, this is an open group and all are welcome. For more information on the Men's Ministry call Jean at 340-8186.

The Women's Fellowship Group meets the second and fourth Saturday afternoons at 1:00 pm. For November those dates are, November 14 and 28. All women are welcome to join on a time of friendship, discussion and crafts. For more information, call Pat at 684-2158.

In addition to Sunday morning in-person meetings, Pastor Tom's messages can be viewed on the Western Mountains Baptist Church YouTube channel. A direct link is posted each week on the WMBC website: www. westernmountainschurch.org

Happy Thanksgiving!

Submitted: Crystal Fitch



The American Legion Auxiliary Unit #61 has been working for months putting together a cookbook that would honor the community by sharing its members' favorite recipes.

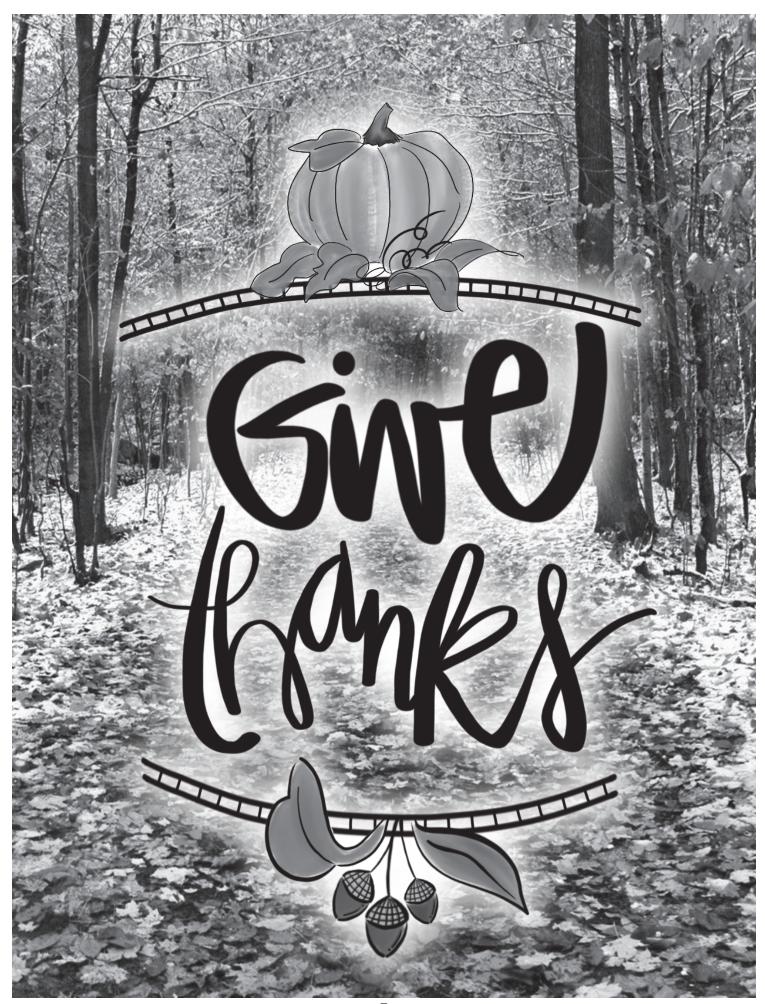
Well, we are SO happy to let you all know that the cookbooks are finally finished and are available to purchase for ONLY \$10.00!!! Help us support our New Portland/Kingfield area veterans.

The cookbooks came out so beautifully with a sturdy hard cover, over 200 delicious recipes, and a bunch of great cooking tips and tricks! These would make an excellent addition to anyone's kitchen or it would make a perfect Christmas gift.

If you would like to purchase one, you can message Leisa Emery-Burns on facebook or you can call 207-399-1045, if I don't answer, leave me a message, and I will return your call. Or, you can contact Donette at 207-592-3691or Diane at 207-265-2541.

Submitted: Leisa Emery-Burns







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YAGAUTAS	YADIЯŦ	YAGSAUHT	MEDNESDAY	YAGSƏUT	YAdnom	YADNUS
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NONEMBER 2020
NEW PORTLANDER CALENDAR

