



On May 13 & 14, Yarmouth, Maine high school freshmen and seniors performed service days at Skyline Farm. Here the seniors are raking rocks off the lawn. Pamela Ames photo

# Down The Lane



SKYLINE FARM  
95 The Lane  
North Yarmouth, Maine  
(207) 829-9203  
www.skylinefarm.org

SUMMER 2009

## Skyline Farm's Annual Fundraiser in the Field - Keeping it Local - July 11

*Benefit Silent Auction, Al Fresco Supper provided by Cumberland, Maine's Basil Provisions, Bagpipe Performance by Jeff Herbster and Concert by Harmony Station, Saturday, July 11, 5-9 pm.*

Make plans to catch up with friends and meet new ones at Skyline's annual summer fundraiser. Once again, we will be featuring a silent auction and meal served overlooking Skyline's beautiful fields in their full summer glory. A bagpipe performance by Jeff Herbster will call you to the social hour. While getting acquainted, you are encouraged to bid early, often and high in the silent auction while awaiting the meal to begin. Keep in mind that your support enables Skyline to provide a living window into our shared history of carriages, farms and community.

Inspired by Skyline's role in hosting Deri Farm, one of Maine's newest community supported agriculture farms, we are featuring delicious summer foods prepared by Basil Provisions of Cumberland that emphasize Skyline's ties to the land. Again, focusing on local ties, we are pleased to have Harmony Station, a local band who will delight you with an eclectic mix of music. As with all Harmony Station shows, all members of the family will have a chance to participate.

Don't wait to make your reservations! This year's donation is \$65 per person for a full evening fun, food and entertainment - and most importantly - support for your local museum and green space.

We are encouraging you to bring the entire family so kids under 12 will eat for free and will have loose reigns to romp around the field and join in for fun activities.

Please reserve your spot by July 7 by calling Greg Wiessner at (207) 400-7809 or by e-mailing: info@skylinefarm.org.

Payment can be made in advance or at the Fundraiser by cash, check (payable to Skyline Farm), Visa or Master Card.

All profits will benefit Skyline Farm's operational expenses.



*Jeff Herbster will entertain dinner guests during the social hour again this year. Patti Mikkelsen photo*

## Schedule

5:00 - 6:00	Music by Jeff Herbster, Social Hour
5:00 - 7:30	Silent Auction
6:00 - 6:45	Al Fresco Supper
6:30 - 8:00	Concert by Harmony Station
7:45	Silent Auction Winners Announced
8:00 - 9:00	Carriage Museum Exhibit Open

*High Tech Talk: Facebook*

Did you know that Skyline Farm is on Facebook? A page has recently been created, so users can post pictures and comments to share with the world. <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Skyline-Farm/89924318927?ref=ts>

If you are already on Facebook, then please "Become a Fan" of Skyline Farm to be kept in the loop. If you are not on Facebook, you may want to consider signing up, but please allow some time to set up your profile. It will open up a whole new world that you didn't know existed. You will find old friends and neighbors with whom you've lost touch. It is amazing!

*High Tech Talk: GPS Coordinates*

Would it be convenient to plug the coordinates for Skyline Farm's Visitor Center into your vehicle's GPS unit? The GPS reading is: N 43° 49.780 W 070° 14.314. Plug that coordinate into [www.geocaching.com](http://www.geocaching.com) to find out about the hidden caches on Skyline's premises.

CORRECTION:

A child pictured in a photograph that ran in the spring newsletter was misidentified. The sledder was actually Kyle Lamberson; not Liesel Cybulski. It was an error on my part as editor, for which I'm very apologetic.

*Patti Mikkelsen, Editor of "Down The Lane"*

*We are especially grateful for our Annual Business Sponsors' contributions toward our general operating support. Please consider contacting them for your business needs.*

**\$500 LEVEL**

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Pet Connection, Dog Training  
Plainview Farm, Fine Perennials  
Sweetser's Apple Barrel & Orchards  
The Notes, a Free Weekly Magazine  
Toddy Brook Golf Course & Café

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**NEWSLETTER EDITOR:** (not a board position) Patti Mikkelsen, [mikks@securespeed.us](mailto:mikks@securespeed.us) (207) 926-5660  
Fall issue (covers events through the remainder of 2009): August 30 deadline for September 10 mailing

### *Carriage, Sleigh & Antiques Auction 7<sup>th</sup> annual - Saturday, July 11, 10 am*

Plan to attend Maine's premier horse-drawn carriage, sleigh, and antiques auction, which also offers collectibles, driving and riding appointments, carriage and wagon parts, harness, and miscellaneous horse related items.

Once again auctioneer Phil Stanton from Falmouth, Massachusetts, has volunteered his services. Come find that next gem to add to your collection

or get you in the driver's seat! A 10% buyer's premium applies.

We're accepting any quantity of quality consignments, and donated items are also welcome! We would also like to include an estate in this auction. The sooner we receive your consignment information, the sooner we can start advertising your items. The consignment form can be found on the web at [www.skylinefarm.org](http://www.skylinefarm.org).

Info: Greg Cuffey, (207) 239-5782



*Auctioneer Phil Stanton (on right) looks on as the bidders examine the merchandise at last year's auction. Jennifer Wiessner photo*

## Benefit Silent Auction - 7<sup>th</sup> annual - July 11

### *Got Talent?? Got Stuff??*

If so, Skyline Farm's annual benefit silent auction needs YOU! We are soliciting goods and services to feature in the ever-popular silent auction scheduled for July 11th.

If you have a talent you can share or something you can donate whose value is \$25 or more, or if you know of a business or individual who may be willing to contribute, please contact Diana Logan, auction chair, as

soon as possible at (207) 252-9352.

Gift certificates, interesting objects and "big-ticket" items are all welcome. With your help, the silent auction will see plenty of bidding action and help bring in plenty of financial support for Skyline Farm.

Don't forget to bring your checkbook, Visa or Master Card when you come to the event - there are always GREAT DEALS at the silent auction tables!

## Carriage Driving Clinics #2 and #3 - July 18 and August 15

The first of three carriage driving clinics taught by Patsy O'Brien and Judith Bean took place at Skyline Farm on Saturday, June 6. Both instructors judged it to have been extremely successful, and all of the drivers have signed up for clinic #2, set to occur at Snowfields in Pownal, Maine on July 18. All of the available spots are filled, but a waiting list will be compiled in case of cancellations.

Clinic #3 to be held at Skyline Farm on August 15 still has some openings. It will start at 9 am, and each driver will be assigned an hour, dressage and cones, with the option of observing prior and later lessons. Hard hats are mandatory. The fee is \$60 for the day.

If you have any questions, please contact Judith Bean at (207) 375-4461, or Patsy O'Brien at (207) 688-4748.

## HenryFest: An Acoustic Music Festival - 5<sup>th</sup> annual - August 29

Skyline Farm will be the host site for the 5th Annual HenryFest, an acoustic music festival on Saturday, August 29 that takes place in the Farm's picturesque fields. This community-oriented event includes workshops and plenty of music by an array of performers. Delicious food and thirst-quenching drinks can be purchased separately.

Advance tickets are available at 317 Main St, Yarmouth.

### Admission fees are:

Family \$40, Individual \$20, Student \$10.

For more information about HenryFest, or to order your tickets through the mail, call 317 Main Street at (207) 846-9559 or e-mail: [frontdesk@317mainst.org](mailto:frontdesk@317mainst.org).

Check its web site for updates on musical acts, schedule and concessions: [www.henryfest.com](http://www.henryfest.com).

The gala opening of the "Age Of Innocence" Exhibit occurred on Sunday, May 17. Here are excerpts from the address given by President Pamela Ames that afternoon:

"The Big Read, an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts, encourages reading for pleasure and enlightenment. The Big Read, in partnership with the Institute of Museum & Library Services and in cooperation with Arts Midwest, brings together partners, such as Victoria Mansion in Portland and Skyline Farm, to celebrate literature, such as Edith Wharton's book "The Age of Innocence".

This carriage & sleigh exhibit you are viewing and the book discussion to be held here on May 31 help interpret the relevance of "The Age of Innocence" to our lives today.

One year ago, we jumped at the opportunity to partner with Victoria Mansion - to exhibit car-



*Janet Lynch in costume greets the guests to the exhibit opening by playing period music on her fiddle. A table full of sweets and a spring bouquet also provided ambience. Pamela Ames photo*

riages and sleighs from the 1870's that would give viewers a 3-dimensional perspective of the book. The type of carriage a person rode in during the "Gilded Age" signified the owner's wealth and social position. We've placed excerpts from "The Age of Innocence" near various vehicles, making it easier to visualize scenes from the book.

Sheila Alexander and I from our Board worked with Tracy Quimby, Education Director at Victoria Mansion, and Julia Kirby, Deputy Director at Victoria Mansion, in addition to Dale King, Skyline Farm supporter and member of Victoria Mansion's Board of Education.

Greg Cuffey headed up our museum collection committee, including Ursula Baier, Jane Gordon, and Sheila, who all worked countless hours designing and setting up the exhibit ... Diana Logan produced the graphics; Patti Mikkelsen, the booklets." Thank you!

## Compliments from Special Guests Attending the Exhibit Opening

*Patrick and Norma Leonard's comments to Pamela Ames:*

"This exhibit is an especially charming one, Pam; from the moment that the vehicles come into view when you enter the reception room. They are so beautiful to see! There are times when you can see their history with your eyes closed; and your imagination working.

When I see the vehicles I always wonder: Who selected this particular vehicle for purchase? Who was the first person to hold the reins? Where did they go on the first trip? With a vehicle like the doctor's buggy, it makes you imagine people at the window on a dark night (the night's were darker then!) anxiously waiting for this buggy to arrive so that the doctor it carried could attend a family member. Did the doctor ever fall asleep in the buggy on the way home, only to wake up with a start when the faithful horse reached the barnyard on his own. Was George Washington's election as President discussed by the passengers in that beautifully painted sleigh?

Imagine the feelings of the man who brought that magnificent beveled glass windowed rockaway home to show it to his wife and family! Picture their first ride! How carefully the lady of the house would have dressed them all;

how proudly they would have taken their places and how carefully they would have closed the door. What sights were seen through those windows; and who was it who looked out through them? With a vehicle as elegant as the spider phaeton the old cliché of "If only they could talk!" comes to mind as you picture a stylishly dressed couple seated in horsedrawn elegance and going on their business calls, social calls, pleasure drives, shopping trips and picnics. If only they could talk. Finally - when was each vehicle used, in just normal use, for the last time? There had to have been a "last time" when each vehicle was simply used as transportation, as it always had been. Following that last "normal" ride there would have been the ride when something had happened and the owner realized that he would no longer need the vehicle and into the barn it went; to accumulate dust and



*Patrick and Norma Leonard drove from South Weymouth, MA to attend the exhibit opening. They are given the grand tour by Gregory Cuffey, Chairman of the Museum Collection Committee, standing beside the Doctor's Phaeton. Pamela Ames photo*

cobwebs, and slowly begin to rust. What memories the vehicles must have! If ONLY they could talk! There is an quiet elegance about so many of these vehicles which is the elegance of fine art; they truly ARE fine art. The carriage makers of the 19th century were truly craftsmen.

Thank you again, Pam; and thanks to all at Skyline Farm! We are looking forward to our next visit!"

*The Big Read Book Discussion on May 31st**By Sheila Libby Alexander*

Skyline Farm collaborated with Portland's Victoria Mansion in the National Endowment for the Arts "The Big Read." The program was based on Edith Wharton's book entitled "The Age of Innocence" which won the Pulitzer Prize in 1921. The novel was set in New York City and Newport, R.I. during the 1870's when "only the people one knew had carriages."

Skyline's current museum exhibit is based on the carriages and sleighs that were mentioned in the book. The city vehicles and the less formal country vehicles which would have been used during the summer season in Newport are arranged around the Museum in a charming display that has drawn raves from all who have visited since the opening in mid-May.

On May 31st, Dale King, who is on the Education Committee at the Victoria Mansion and is also a friend of Skyline Farm, lead a



*One of the Victorian costumes on loan from the Portland Stage Company, Portland, Maine.  
Greg Cuffey photo*

very spirited discussion of The Age of Innocence. Eighteen people, most arriving in time to tour the exhibit, gathered in a large circle just inside the doors of the Museum for the book discussion. The ambiance provided by the carriages and displays added greatly to the enthusiasm of the discussion participants. Dale had prepared some probing questions to get the conversation started and once started everyone gave freely of his or her thoughts/opinions about the characters, motivations, society, villains and the ending.

We might still be talking but the beautiful sunny day vanished, replaced by a stormy late afternoon rain shower which drove us all into the Visitor Center because the rain on the roof was just too noisy to carry on. Even so, people remained for some time talking about May, Archer, Ellen and the other book's characters. It was a grand afternoon and a fitting conclusion to "The Big Read" program.

## Collection Corner: Scroll Front Phaeton

*Scroll Front Phaeton**By Greg Cuffey*

Skyline Farm Carriage Museum recently received a Scroll Front Phaeton from the Vaill family formerly of Vaill Point, Yarmouth, Maine. This type of owner driven vehicle's name is derived from the son of the Greek god Helios. Strangely Phaeton drove a chariot, which was much different than this elegant vehicle. A few of the attributes of the vehicle continued on into the age of the automobile including the extension top and location of the lamps.

Frederick S. Vaill lived at eighty-nine and a half Park Street in Portland, Maine and owned FS & EG Vaill Realtors on Exchange Street between the years 1880 & 1920. Four of the vehicles he used in Portland ended up at what would become known as Vaill Point in Yarmouth, Maine. Vaill created one large farm by buying 5 existing farm mortgages. He hired a farm overseer to

raise dairy cows on the many tree-less acres. One of the ocean view farm houses was used as the family's summer retreat up until this year. In the early years Yarmouth was an easy commute from Portland via trolley.



FASHION PLATE NO. 31-VOL. 30  
HALF-INCH SCALE  
*Scroll Front Phaeton*

Fire destroyed the Vaill farm carriage house and three of their fine carriages housed within. This Scroll Front Phaeton was saved, because there wasn't room for it in the carriage barn so it was stored in another nearby barn.

For many years Mrs. Vaill would have a bit of fun with family and friends who visited the farm. She maintained a lady's dress form seated in the carriage complete with a death mask for the face, lipstick, straw hat, coat and gloves. Her creation was introduced fondly as Mrs. Tweedels. Mrs. Tweedels could raise her arm and nod her hat on cue. She answered questions with the pull of a discrete black thread. Many a child lost a night's sleep after any encounter!

Come one, come all, to Skyline Farm's 4th annual invitational art exhibit and sale, one of its most significant fund raisers! For six weeks "Maine Harvest – Land and Sea" will showcase talented Maine artists and artisans whose paintings, photographs, sculptures, and fine crafts are inspired by the cornucopia of Maine's bountiful harvest –both from the land and the sea.

Please join us on Friday, September 25th from 5-7 p.m., to help kick off the show, where you can buy artworks or bid on intriguing silent auction items. Enjoy light refreshments while meeting talented Maine artists, sculptors, photographers and artisans of fine crafts, including fiber, jewelry, wood, glass and pottery.

"Maine Harvest – Land and Sea" is open free of charge from 12 - 3 p.m. each Saturday and Sunday from September 26 through November 8 or by appointment.

Original paintings, photographs, sculptures, and fine

crafts are for sale just in time for the holiday buying season for your gift-giving pleasure. There are items for every taste and budget. The show is complemented by vehicles from the museum's carriage and sleigh collection.

A Silent Auction, featuring artworks and related items donated by the artists and local businesses, will run concurrently with the art show. Bidding action will begin on September 25 and conclude at 3 p.m. on Sunday, November 8. As we've seen in the past, we hope that "bidding wars" will break out during that time span.

Artists are generously sharing a portion of each artwork's sale and 100% of the funds raised from their Silent Auction donations to benefit Skyline Farm's programs and operations.

Call Pamela Ames at (207) 829-5708 or e-mail: info@skylinefarm.org for an appointment or more info.

## Facilities Update: Keeping Skyline's Grounds in Check

### *Keeping Skyline's Grounds in Check*

*By Kristi Wright*

It is not easy keeping the green grass of Skyline Farm's lush grounds in check.

For three summers, William Lones spent hours on the family riding lawn mower trimming the grass every week or so.

This summer, Jeanne Chadbourne with co-pilot Tim, Jeanne's Cockapoo, took over the mowing task. She spends 8 to 9 hours driving Skyline's mower (a gift from Jeanne) whenever the grass starts to get unruly, thus ensuring the Farm's pathways are clear and its arenas and lawn look golf-course tidy.

Jeanne has been a long-time supporter of Skyline Farm. She was on North Yarmouth's Board of Selectmen when Skyline was founded in 1999. She often attends exhibit openings and likes to walk on Skyline's wooded trails.

"It's a beautiful place – a real treasure to the town and we are very lucky to have something like it here," she said.

And Skyline Farm could not exist without volunteers, who like Jeanne, figure out how to lend a helpful hand.



*Jeanne Chadbourne keeps Skyline Farm's grounds looking golf course tidy. Pamela Ames photo*

"It's unbelievable the institutions that would fold without volunteers – churches, non-profits, schools – all rely upon volunteer contingencies," Jeanne says.

Her service illustrates the win-win of volunteer service. Jeanne likes to match what she loves to do with organizations that need that skill or service. Last year, when she moved and no longer had a winter storage shed for her riding lawn mower and a summer lawn to mow, she thought of Skyline. Jeanne donated her mower to Skyline Farm on the condition that the Board allows her to use the mower at the farm.

This spring, she started mowing. Jeanne says she would be happy once in a while to hand over the mower keys to another volunteer who also likes the work. And there are areas that need trimming. In the meantime, Jeanne plans to keep on mowing.

Her service, she says, is self-serving.

"No.1, I love to mow. No. 2, I love being on a farm. No. 3, I get to spend time with Timmy," she says. "I only do what I like to do. It does not seem like a big deal. I'm lucky to have the time to do it."

## Skyline Farm Membership Form

Your membership is effective through April 30 of next year.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Street \_\_\_\_\_  
Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Regular Membership Levels:  \$25 Student  \$35 Individual  \$50 Family  \$100 Participating  
Equine Membership Levels:  \$40 Student  \$50 Individual  \$90 Family  Other gift \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to 'Skyline Farm' and send to: Skyline Farm, PO Box 144, Yarmouth, ME 04096

Skyline Farm is a 501 (c)(3) organization. Gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Your membership support is appreciated.

Would you help reduce our postage costs by receiving newsletters and event reminders via e-mail?  Yes  No e-mails, please

## Important Message from Skyline Farm's President

To all of you Skyline Farm Fans,

Thank you to the 5% of you who have sent in your membership donations in response to the solicitation letters we mailed out at the end of April, but we are still down (35%) from last year. If you've overlooked the form on your desk, please pull it out now and consider supporting Skyline Farm. In addition to the Membership Form above, there is one posted on the website for your convenience.

Membership support is critical for Skyline Farm to continue to be a valuable community resource and to conduct events and educational programs.

Please join me in renewing your membership or becoming a member at the highest level you can. Skyline Farm would not exist without your help. Thank you for supporting our important and unique mission!

Pamela Ames, President

## Dog Day 3 Returns This Fall

### DOG DAY RETURNS

Tentative dates:

Sept. 19 (rain date: Sept. 20) 10 to 3

\$10 per person; \$5 for kids 8 and under

Sure there are lots of events featuring our best friends, but DOG DAY at Skyline Farm is like none other. Where else can you come and enter your dog in the races or show off his retrieving, catching and other skills? Try out agility obstacles with experienced handlers? Learn handy ways to solve dog-related problems? See exciting demos and meet one-on-one with professional trainers?

Then there's the unique "Train Off" where professional trainers and their dogs are pitted against each other in nose-to-nose training races. Dog Day is all about celebration and education: celebrate the love you have for dogs, and be sure to go home having learned something very valuable. It's a wild and fun day for humans and canines!

Dog Day 3 is in need of volunteers both before and during the event. For more information, call Diana Logan, Certified Pet Dog Trainer, at 207-252-9352 or e-mail: petconnectionmaine@yahoo.com.



"Miles," a well-trained 2-year old Akida-Shepard mix easily leaps over an obstacle at Dog Day 2. Patti Mikkelsen photo



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Nancy Ashe, a T-Bird owner from Cumberland, Maine, visits with Skyline Farm President Pamela Ames in the museum during New England's Vintage Thunderbird Club's Late Spring Cruise. Patti Mikkelsen photo

**2009 SKYLINE FARM CALENDAR OF EVENTS - All are open to the public.**

All event proceeds benefit Skyline Farm, a nonprofit organization, which owns an historic farmstead, including a carriage and sleigh museum, and offers trails through its woods and fields for public use. FMI: Call event chair, go to [www.skylinefarm.org](http://www.skylinefarm.org), [info@skylinefarm.org](mailto:info@skylinefarm.org), or (207) 829-9203 (leave message).

<b>May 24 thru Aug. 23</b>	<p><b>Horse Drawn Vehicles of "The Age of Innocence" Exhibit</b> <i>Suns., 12-3 pm or by appointment</i> In collaboration with the Victoria Mansion in Portland, Maine, the Skyline Farm Carriage Museum showcases carriages and sleighs representative of the 1870s in New York City, the backdrop for the book. Knowledgeable docents explain why the type of carriage being driven often signified the owner's economic status and social standing during the Gilded Age. Free admission; donations welcome. Info: Sheila Alexander, (207) 799-7614</p>	<b>Aug. 29</b> <b>Henry Fest 2009: A Music Festival</b> An event to celebrate community, the great outdoors, music, food, and family. (see page 3) Info: Anne Coleman (207) 846-9559
<b>July 11 Double Header</b>	<p><b>Carriage, Sleigh, and Antiques Auction - 7<sup>th</sup> annual</b> <i>10 am</i> Maine's premier horse-drawn carriage, sleigh, antique &amp; collectibles, driving &amp; riding appointments, carriage &amp; wagon parts, harness, miscellaneous horse related items, auction. Donated and consignment items needed. (see page 3) Info: Greg Cuffey (207) 239-5782</p> <p><b>Benefit Al Fresco Supper, Concert &amp; Silent Auction - 7<sup>th</sup> annual</b> <i>5-9 pm</i> A Skyline Farm fundraiser that takes place in a beautiful outdoor setting where you can enjoy a great meal, the sounds of a live band, and bidding on a myriad of interesting offerings. (see page 1) Info: Greg Wiessner (207) 400-7809</p>	<b>Sept. 19 (tent. date)</b> <b>Dog Day 3</b> <i>10 am - 3 pm</i> All games, demos, agility, training clinics, presentations, mini-consults with professionals are included in the admission price of \$10/ adult (\$5 for kids 8 and under; dogs free). Attending dogs must be well socialized. Lunch available for purchase. (see page 7) Info: Diana Logan (207) 252-9352
<b>July 18 and Aug. 15</b>	<p><b>Carriage Driving Clinics 2 &amp; 3</b> <i>9 am</i> Instruction in basic carriage driving skills at Snowfields in Pownal (#2) and Skyline Farm (#3). Info: Judith Bean, (207) 375-4461 (see page 3)</p>	<b>Sept. 25</b> <b>Opening of "Maine Harvest-Land and Sea" Art Exhibit and Sale with Silent Auction</b> <i>5-7 pm</i> Kick off to the fourth invitational art show and sale, plus silent auction. Meet the artists. Info: Pamela Ames (207) 829-5708
		<b>Sept. 26 thru Nov. 8</b> <b>"Maine Harvest-Land and Sea" Art Exhibit and Sale with Silent Auction</b> <i>Saturdays and Sundays, 12-3 pm or by appt.</i> Talented Maine artists and artisans whose paintings, photographs, sculptures and fine crafts are inspired by the cornucopia of Maine's bountiful harvest-both from the land and the sea. (see page 6) Info: Pamela Ames (207) 829-5708
		<b>Oct. 24</b> <b>Pumpkin Fest - 10<sup>th</sup> annual</b> <i>3 - 5 pm</i> Traditional Halloween party festivities. Wagon rides. Info: Jennifer Kimball (207) 829-6278
		<b>Nov. 8</b> <b>Pleasure Trail Ride/Drive - 4<sup>th</sup> annual</b> <i>10 am at Kennebec Morgan Farm</i> Info: Becky Totten (207) 522-9668