



SERVING THE WESTERN MOUNTAINS OF MAINE WHERE THE KIDS GROW STRAIGHT AND TALL AND THE WOMEN ARE ALL GOOD LOOKING.



Carrabassett Valley's Seth Wescott stands outside The Rack after taking the time to discuss his vision for Sugarloaf's future and his proposal for the town. (David Hart photo)

The Wescott plan:
RETURN TO THE GLORY DAYS OF SUGARLOAF

By David Hart Irregular Staff
 CARRABASSETT VALLEY — Today, Sugarloaf offers the only lift-serviced, above treeline skiing in the Northeast with vertical drops from the second highest peak in Maine at 4,237 feet. It offers some of the east coast's most challenging terrain and under the management investments of Boyne Resorts now has

I think it's important for people to think back to the origins of this place, both for the mountain and the town of Carrabassett.

launched a significant boost in its snowmaking capacity, among other capitol improvements.
 "I call it home... this is it," said Carrabassett Valley resident and Olympic Gold medalist Seth Wescott in an exclusive interview.
 Wescott has been making news in the area and generating excitement by providing a vision for the mountain's future. Earlier this fall he gave a speech to the town's selectmen that drew lasting applause from municipal leaders, residents and Sugarloaf management. The speech, which was well received, was video produced by WSKI and posted on several Web sites including WSKI-TV's and Sugarloaf's.
 "Sugarloaf changed my life and sent me on a path

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Town of Kingfield
New fiscal year, more selectmen and shuttle in store

By David Hart Irregular Staff
 KINGFIELD — On Nov. 9 about 30 voters at a Kingfield Special Town Meeting made significant changes affecting municipal affairs. Three articles were debated that evening. Through an overwhelming majority, changes were made to the town's fiscal calendar, the town's number of selectmen and voters supported ongoing public transportation infrastructure.
 All three debates that evening had to do with why these important issues were not going before the voters at the Annual Town Meeting.

Selectmen Neal McCurdy explained that the issue of changing the town's fiscal cycle from a calendar year beginning on Jan. 1 to a fiscal year beginning on July 1, stemmed from a request from a committee set up by the town.
 He said this article was not driven by the board of selectmen. The group was formed to look into whether or not the first Saturday morning in March was the best time and date for the Annual Town Meeting.
 The committee was driven by resident Jack McKee. He and others realized that there was no better date and

time for a town meeting with a calendar fiscal period. After surveying other municipalities, the concept evolved into changing the fiscal year.
 Changing the fiscal year, changes the date and time for the annual town meeting. The selectmen agreed that a late May or early June Town Meeting would attract a greater representation of the town.
 For years, board chairman Heather Moody explained, people have had to choose between going to work during one of the busier times on the moun-

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Jared Emerson, the on-hill supervisor, (top right) gets his group together for a photo during a break cutting the new Casablanca Glade at Saddleback Mountain last week. See story on Page 15. (Russ Dillingham photo)

State education curtailment continues

By David Hart Irregular Staff
 PHILLIPS — Superintendent Quenten Clark recently said he has received a letter from Department of Education Commissioner Susan Gendron.
 We can anticipate next year's curtailment by multiplying the last curtailment by 1.4 percent, Clark said.
 The last curtailment was \$68,000. This means that the district may see as much as \$95,000 cut from this year's budget, he explained.
 This might represent the budgeted costs of a projected bus purchase or teacher salaries.
 Another cut is forecast for the very near future and not included in these amounts, Clark said.
 "The commissioner estimates that education will ab-

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Governor opposes, citizens speak out at low flight meeting

By David Hart Irregular Staff
 FARMINGTON — Over 200 residents attended a public comment period hosted by the Massachusetts Air National Guard last Saturday at the University of Maine, Farmington. About 50 people spoke in opposition to a proposal to lower the military flight floor from 7,000 to 500 feet over much of Western Maine known as Condor 1 and Condor 2 Military Operations Area.
 The intent of the ANG in developing an Environmental Impact Study is to provide better flight training for its pilots to conduct interceptor type missions over mountainous terrain.
 The public comments received that afternoon and other

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