



Kara DioGuardi, a songwriter, music executive and former judge on the hit television show “American Idol,” has erected a ‘For Sale’ sign in front of her home in the local village of Prospect Harbor. DioGuardi bought the home in 2004. Since 2010, she has bought two large homes, each with assessed values of more than \$1 million, in the village of York Harbor in southern Maine.

Former ‘Idol’ judge puts Gouldsboro home up for sale

BY BILL TROTTER
BDN STAFF

GOULDSBORO — Kara DioGuardi’s time as a local property taxpayer appears to be coming to an end.

The songwriter, record producer, music executive and former “American Idol” judge has put a “For Sale” sign in front of her home on Main Street in the local village of Prospect Harbor.

DioGuardi bought the house in 2004, prior to her stint on “American Idol,” which now is in its final season. She spent two seasons as a judge on the Fox television show, in 2009 and 2010.

The asking price for the house has not been publicized.

A voicemail message left recently at the phone number listed on the “For Sale” sign was not returned.

The waterfront proper-

ty of nearly 1.5 acres is modest by DioGuardi’s current standards, having an overall tax-assessed value of less than half a million dollars.

DioGuardi met her husband, Michael McCuddy, when he was working as a carpenter and building a house next door. DioGuardi and McCuddy, who previously had been an art teacher at Orono High School, were married July 5, 2009, at the Methodist church across the street.

DioGuardi, a New York native who grew up in New Rochelle, spent several summers in the area, even helping to judge the local “Schoodic Idol” competition in 2010.

According to records on file at the Hancock County Registry of Deeds, the town of Gouldsboro filed liens against the property in 2013 and again in 2014, after DioGuardi failed to fully pay her property tax

bills. The liens later were discharged after she paid the outstanding balance.

The 2015 property taxes on the parcel amount to \$3,739.97, according to the town’s records.

DioGuardi, who has an estimated net worth of approximately \$25 million, has been on a real estate buying and selling spree since her time on “American Idol,” according to published reports.

Over the past six years, she has sold one multimillion-dollar apartment in New York City and just last fall put another on the market. She has put two multimillion-dollar California homes on the market, selling one in Studio City, California, for \$6.3 million.

In that time, she and McCuddy also have bought two large houses, each worth more than \$1 million, in York Harbor in southern Maine.

Schools

Madawaska High School Second quarter honor roll

Grade 12, high honors: Samuel Caron, Aspen Cote, Alexandra Daigle, Chelsea Daigle, Courtney Daigle, Lucas Gendreau, Chasity Lizotte, Elizabeth Theriault; **honors:** Adam Belanger, Reagan Deschaine, Jake Hebert, Katie Hebert, Morgan Kelly, Alex Levesque, Alexis Levesque, Mandie Morin, Julia Richards, Dmitri St. Jarre, Emily Thibodeau.

Grade 11, high honors: Kathryn Bosse, Paige Brown, Gabriella Cyr, Edward Dechaine, Abigail Gonneville, Alex Lagasse, Brooke Morneau, Tabitha Nadeau, Alexander Ruest, Felisha St. Pierre, Raleigh Toussaint; **honors:** Colby Albert, Katelyn Beaulieu, Jenna Burrell, Emily Dumond, Zachary Epstein, Sarah Gendreau, Evan Hebert, Alissa Mathieu, Jessica Morin.

Grade 10, high honors: Alex Daigle, Taylor R. Dionne, Shterna Kuptchik, Mandy Li, Megan

Ringuette, Megan Roy; **honors:** Emily Boucher, Isaiah Bourgoine, Logan Cyr, Anthony Daigle, Taylor A. Dionne, Ben Hebert, Kameron Landry, Lance Lavoie, Hannah Nadeau, Chelsea Pelletier, Jessica Russell, Ashley Williams.

Grade nine, high honors: Kasie Blanchette, Isabelle Jandreau, Hollie Morneau, Emily Thibeault; **honors:** Tristan Cyr, Austin Dechaine, Delaney Deschaine, Jacob Dube, Jenna Dugal, Shayki Kuptchik, Donna Morin, Benjamin Ruest, Brianne Thibeault.

Why you couldn’t score those hot concert tickets

BY RENAE MERLE
WASHINGTON POST

NEW YORK — Buying concert tickets can feel like a game of chance. But in this game, the outcome is fixed, according to a report issued recently by the New York attorney general.

The report alleged that in some cases half of event tickets are reserved for insiders before the public has a chance to buy any. Ticket brokers can scoop up thousands of tickets in a matter of minutes using allegedly illegal software and then sell them with a 1,000 percent markup.

“Whereas in many areas of the economy the arrival of the Internet and online sales has yielded lower prices and greater transparency, event ticketing is the great exception,” the report by New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman said.

Here are four reasons the report, “Obstructed View:

What’s Blocking New Yorkers from Getting Tickets,” alleged that the system is broken:

- The insiders go first. For the most popular concerts, more than half of the tickets are reserved for industry insiders, including promoters, or set aside for “pre-sale” to special groups such as those with a particular credit card, the report found. The public is then left to scramble over the remaining tickets.
- Illegal software. Schneiderman’s office places a lot of the blame on ticket brokers. Some brokers allegedly use Ticket Bots, illegal software that allows them to buy tickets quickly, the report said, then mark up the price an average of 49 percent.
- Licensing issues. Some brokers are also operating without a license, the report suggested. Schneiderman announced settlements with two such companies, MSMSS and Extra Base

Tickets, on Thursday and said they would pay penalties of \$80,000 and \$65,000, respectively. Representatives of the companies could not be immediately reached for comment.

“My office will continue to crack down on those who break our laws, prey on ordinary consumers, and deny New Yorkers affordable access to the concerts and sporting events they love,” Schneiderman said in a statement. “This investigation is just the beginning of our efforts to create a level playing field in the ticket industry.”

— Then there are the fees. The New York Attorney General’s Office examined the ticket fees of 150 venues and found that convenience charges and service and processing fees could add an average of 21 percent to the cost of a ticket. In some extreme cases, the fees amounted to more than the cost of the ticket, the report said.

Kindergarten sign up for Ellsworth

ELLSWORTH — Ellsworth Elementary-Middle School will hold its kindergarten registration Tuesday, March 1, and Thursday, March 3, at the school. Incoming kindergarten students will be registered

through hourly appointments.

Parents may call Mrs. Cox at 667-6241, ext. 2, to set up an appointment to register their child for the 2016-2017 school year. Children need not be present.

An open house for incoming kindergarten families will be held in late spring. A screening process will be done

in the fall when the new school year opens. Any child who is 5 on or before Oct. 15 is eligible to enter kindergarten.

Bring the child’s original birth certificate, immunization records, a current photo of the child and proof of residency in Ellsworth. A copy of custody papers must be provided if the child’s parents do not live together.

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WHAT IS IT?

Send your answers for this week’s What Is It (right) to: Robert Croul, 1095 North Road, Newburgh, Maine 04444. Readers may respond by email to recestate@myfairpoint.net. Be sure to write “What is it?” in the subject line.

ROBERT CROUL

The Jan. 23 Bangor Daily News “What Is It?” was correctly identified by Andrea Pelletier of Fort Fairfield, Jam Wagner of Sorrento, Erny Levesque of Saint David, O.K. Blackstone and Pete Lammert of Thomaston as an antique tin water pump with a wood plunger. It could have been designed for many uses, but according to the owner this one was used to wash buggies and wagons.

Featuring Babies Born In 2015!

Parents, Grandparents, Aunts and Uncles... Show off your beautiful 2015 baby in the Bangor Daily News, **Saturday, February 27, 2016**

Hurry! We must have your beautiful baby's color photo and *\$38.00 payment by Noon on MONDAY, February 22nd, 2016. Questions? Call Laura at 990-8110.

Jace Richard Oliver
June 9, 2015
Brewer, ME
Parents: Jason & Erika Oliver
Siblings: Chloe Oliver & Adrienne Barker
Grandparents: Susan Sweetland, William Sweetland, Richard Largay & Nancy Theriault.

BDN bangordailynews.com
Bangor Daily News

☐ **Yes, please include my baby!**

BIRTHDATE: / /

BABY'S NAME _____ HOMETOWN: _____

Parents Name _____ Grandparents or Siblings Name _____

Contact Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: (a.m.) _____ (p.m.) _____

Select your payment method: ☐ **Personal Check** ☐ **Credit Card** (Circle one)

ACCOUNT NUMBER _____

EXPIRATION DATE: Month _____ Year _____ 3-digit CID# _____

SIGNATURE: _____

Include a S.A.S.E and photos will be returned.

BDN

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