

Cigar

From Page 1

Once the business closed in 1961, a lot of things were simply left behind, including hundreds of the red and gold paper bands that were put on the ends of the cigars made in house, old paperwork from as far back as the 1930s, special occasion holiday cigar boxes that read “Merry Christmas” or “Happy New Year” on the lids, little scraps of tobacco, and enormous cigar humidors, built from Douglas fir, that were too large to move out of the building.

“It was amazing. It was like walking into the past,” said Abe Furth.

According to a 1996 Bangor Daily News article, Bangor Cigar Manufacturing Co. was the first cigar manufacturer in the city, founded by Albert Lewis in the late 1870s and originally located on Harlow Street. After the Bangor Fire of 1911, the business moved to 26 State St. The business passed in 1908 to Lewis’ son-in-law, G. Rockwell Youngs, Maine’s first boxing commissioner, and then, eventually, to his son Albert Lewis Youngs, well-known among Bangor children as a professional magician as well as a cigar maker. When Youngs died in 1961 — and when cigar-rolling machines made hand-rolled cigars obsolete — the busi-

ness died with him.

Despite the building’s historical charm, the space needed a lot of work. So far, Quinn has stripped the walls down to the original brick, has removed several dumpsters full of debris, and has removed the original back staircase, to be replaced with a brand-new staircase accessible by a newly-constructed side entrance and hallway, which will lead to the apartments. The front facade will be replaced, and will have its own entrance to the commercial space.

“One of the things that we love most about these old buildings is that each one is different, and each one has its own challenges in terms of the demo,” said Heather Furth, who with her husband has also renovated properties including both Verve Burritos locations. “There are some things that will always look great, like hardwood floors and exposed brick and tin ceilings. Those are timeless. And then there are things you’ve got to change in order to bring these buildings up to code. There are tons of places like that in Bangor.”

Some of the traces of the old cigar factory will remain, however, in the apartments, which the Furths estimate will be read to rent in Spring 2016. The huge skylight on the third fourth floor is staying put, and the Furths intend to turn those old humidors into one-of-a-kind kitchen islands for each new apartment.

Fat biking a growing trend among cyclists, winter sports enthusiasts

BY EMILY BURNHAM
OF THE WEEKLY STAFF

If you’re a regular visitor to the Roland F. Perry City Forest in Bangor in the past few years, there’s a good chance that during the cooler months you’ve seen folks riding bikes with giant, oversized tires on them. They look a little silly, sure — but they also look like a lot of fun.

Fat bikes, as they’re known, are mountain bikes with extra thick, extra wide tires that allow riders an easier,

safer way to ride on trails, and a much easier way to ride in the snow. Though fat bikes have been around since 2005, it’s only been in the past few years that the fad has really caught on.

Scott Seymour, owner of Pat’s Bike Shop in Brewer, has seen a marked increase in the number of fat bikes he’s sold in the past few years.

“They’re just a ton of fun, and they’re really easy to ride,” he said. “It really makes it easy for someone to ride in snow, and makes

mountain biking much more accessible for people that aren’t technical riders.”

The ideal place for fat bike riding is on a groomed, packed down trail — cross country skiing or snowshoeing trails, or snowmobile trails, for example. Though there are trails, such as the City Forest or the trails at the University of Maine, that will accommodate fat bikes, in many instances it’s unsafe for a bike rider to use the same trail as snowmobiles, which are much larger

and go much faster and pose a risk for both snowmobilers and bikers. At least, it’s always best to check with the groups that maintain various trails in the area, to make sure fat bikes are welcome.

Aside from trails, however, fat bikes are also great for riding in town, after lighter snowstorms. Though six or more inches of snow are too much for even fat bikes, most of the time a fat bike allows a rider the chance to travel by bike year-round. It’s also safer for less experienced riders, as well as older riders concerned about potential injuries. After all, those big fat tires absorb impact — just as mountain bikes tires do, except on an even greater level.

“It’s much safer,” said Seymour. “There’s even studded tires for fat bikes that make it safer to ride on ice.”

A fat bike can retail for anywhere from \$300 online for a cheap, lower quality ride, to higher end models topping out at \$2,000. The fat bikes available for purchase at Pat’s Bike Shop cost between \$600 and \$1,500. They are also available for purchase at Rose’s Bike Shop in Orono. For more information, call Pat’s Bike Shop, located at 373 Wilson St. in Brewer, at 989-2900.



BDN reporter Aislinn Sarnacki tries out a fat bike in March 2015.

BDN FILE PHOTO

Maine Discovery Museum art auction set for Nov. 13

The Maine Discovery Museum annual gala auction will be held at 6 p.m. Friday, Nov. 13, at the Hilton Garden Inn, located at 250 Haskell Road, off Hogan Road.

Each year the museum provides a unique piece of small furniture to Maine artists to transform into beautiful works of art. In years past artists have transformed benches, bookshelves, rocking chairs,

chests and many others; this year, the chosen piece of furniture is a mirror. The auction, now in its thirteenth year, will include the 55 mirrors, jewelry by Maine jewelers and businesses, and several original pieces of art.

Some of the artists featured this year include a Maine lupine mirror by Bangor Art Society president Teddi-Jann Covell, acclaimed Midcoast painter Janice Kasper’s “Cat Dreams” mirror, 14-year-old Bangor artist JoJo Piconi’s monster movie mir-

ror, and two Bangor father-daughter teams, including Irvin and Rebecca Krupke’s stained glass and oil paint mirror, and Ronald and Andrea LaFlamme, who created a mirror inspired by a barn door and a hand-carved wooden mirror, respectively.

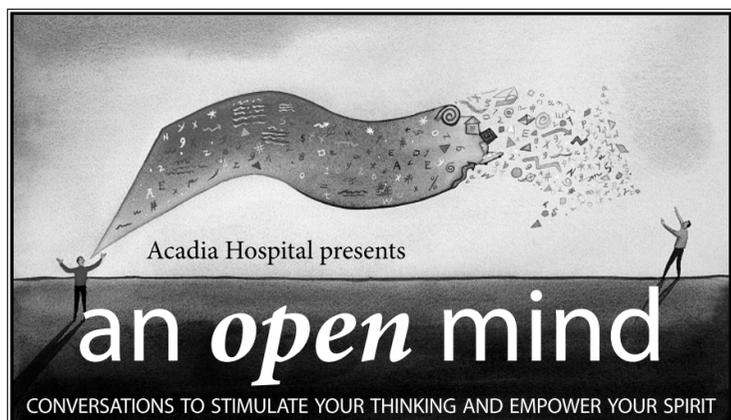
Tickets for this festive event, which includes food created by the chefs at the Hilton Garden Inn, are \$50 per person. To reserve tickets, call 262-7200. Preview the items up for bid at mainediscoverymuseum.org/auction.

Tozier’s Turkey Trek to challenge Bucksport to scavenger hunt

The Tozier’s Turkey Trek is set for Sunday, Nov. 15, at the Bucksport Bay Area Chamber of Commerce office, located at 52 Main St. Registration is at 11 a.m.; the race starts at noon. Entry fee is \$4 per person or \$2 a person with a toiletry donation for the Bucksport Community Concerns pantry or pet supplies for the Bucksport Animal Shelter.

Like a traditional scavenger hunt, racers will meet, split into teams and compete against each other. The course has six hidden turkey idols, all within 30 minutes of Bucksport. Teams receive a clue sheet at the start of the race. Each clue will lead racers to an idol or other challenge. As teams complete each challenge, which will have them find things, solve riddles, take photos and more, they will upload their pictures to the Tozier’s Turkey Trek event page on Facebook.

If done correctly, teams will be entered in a drawing for Thanksgiving meal for six to eight, prepared and provided by The Good Kettle. The teams that retrieve the Idols, complete the picture challenges and bring them back to the Chamber will be awarded a frozen turkey certificate from Tozier’s Family Markets. The limit one turkey idol per team. Teams have two hours to complete the quest, and will be disqualified if they have not returned to the Chamber by 2 p.m. For more information, call 469-6818.



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Wednesday, November 18

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Presented by

Acadia Hospital Medical Director of Outpatient Services, Vijay Amarendran, MD

Methadone and Suboxone are two of the most studied drugs on the market, yet controversy and misinformation distracts from their therapeutic role in treating opioid addiction.

Dr. Amarendran will provide facts related to the history of each drug, as well as their characteristics. He will also offer a description of how each drug is used to treat opioid addiction.

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Our local business is family-owned by Marty and Gary Eckmann.

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