



OIT Connection

Volume 2 Issue 4

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It's that time of year again...

JEOPARDY!

Join us on December 9th for
“America’s Favorite Quiz Show” OIT Style

We will be playing a fun filled game of Jeopardy!
Teams will be competing so, grab your **smartest**
co-worker and join in the fun!



DATE: December 9, 2014
TIME: 12:00-1:00
LOCATION: Room 317 A/B



YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS IT!!!



Investing Gets Easier!

Saving for retirement through MaineSaves is getting easier. In December, the Advisory Council that governs MaineSaves will simplify the line-up of investment funds available for you to invest your savings. Their goal is to offer a diversified lineup of investment fund options so you can select a mix of investments that best suits you and your retirement income goals. With these changes, MaineSaves will be easier to understand and use.

TAKE NOTE!

If you currently invest in MaineSaves, your local provider (MassMutual, VALIC, or Voya (formerly known as ING)) will send more information about what's changing to your home—so keep an eye on your mail. You can see the new fund choices at the [MaineSaves website](#).

What You Need to Do

There's no action you need to take. If you currently invest in one or more of the funds being discontinued, your assets will be transferred or "mapped" to comparable funds in the new fund line-up during the week of December 15.

With the new line-up, some of the funds previously available will be discontinued. If you wish to continue to invest in one of these discontinued funds, you may do so through your local provider's self-directed brokerage fund. However, you may have to pay additional account and trading fees to use that option, and you will lose the benefit of having the Advisory Council review the fund's performance on a regular basis. Now is a good time to look over the new options and check where you want to be invested for your future.

NOT PARTICIPATING IN MAINESAVES?

If you're not participating in MaineSaves, why not start now? Check out the new line-up of funds on the MaineSaves website, make your choices and enroll! Visit the MaineSaves website's Enroll Now page to get started.

Save Even More in 2015

MaineSaves contribution limits are increasing for 2015. Your total annual contributions to all 457(b) plans like MaineSaves can't exceed the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) annual limit of \$18,000 in 2015.

If you're over 50, you're allowed to make a special "catch-up" contribution every year, which have a limit of \$6,000 in 2015. (Alternatively, you may make special pre-retirement catch-up contributions if you're within three years of normal retirement age. Call your local representative for more information. Contact information for local representatives is available from the Home Page of www.MaineSaves457.com.)

Reminder:

Workplace Policy on Smoking

Smoking at 51 Commerce Drive is prohibited, except at the designated smoking area which is the covered pavilion in front of the Central Maine Commerce Center located between rows D and E.

Human Resources has reviewed MRS/OIT's work rule on smoking and has determined that smoking in a vehicle in the parking lot violates the work rule.

Effective Wednesday, October 29th, 2014, the work rule on smoking will be enforced.

For your reference, the work rule on smoking is attached.

If you have any questions, please contact your supervisor.

A breakfast of
DOWNEAST ENTERTAINMENT
 With Bert and I recording/video artist

Tim Sample

*"Tim Sample
 is Maine's
 Humorist
 Laureate."
 -Charles
 Kuralt*

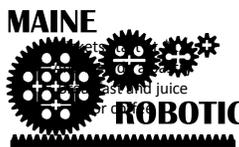


*"He's funny if you're
 from Augusta,
 Maine. He's just
 as funny if you're
 from Augusta,
 Georgia."
 -Stephen King*

December 13th, 2014

Join Tim Sample and Maine Robotics at the
15th Annual FIRST® LEGO® League Championship
 December 13th, 2014
 8:00-9:00 am
 Augusta Civic Center

All proceeds from this event will go to support the Maine FIRST LEGO League program, Maine's largest STEM/STEAM learning opportunity, offered since 2000!



For more information and to purchase tickets visit:
www.mainerobotics.org/breakfastwithtim.html or
<http://goo.gl/mAKLy0>



See what Maine Robotics does, watch the Maine FIRST LEGO League, and/or volunteer to help out on December 13th at the Augusta Civic Center. Opening ceremonies begin at 9:30 am. It's free to come and watch! If you'd like to volunteer, visit <http://www.mainerobotics.org/volunteer-registration.html>



Does your daughter or son get excited when they're creating something new on a laptop, tablet, or smart phone? Do you wonder how to turn that curiosity into deeper learning or even pathways to a future career?

The Maine Digital Festival is part of a nationwide movement to help students sparked by digital tech to discover more opportunities for engaged learning. That's why we've brought together leaders who can share exciting activities that work! They'll have fun at the Hour of Code Lab and MIT Arcade, and you can learn more from leaders in Maine's campaign to promote digital learning.

Bring your son or daughter, and their friends, to the Festival and take home some excitement!

**Saturday, December 13, from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
at the Augusta Civic Center**

We'll have a day of fun games, tutorials, and workshops for students, parents, teachers, and coaches, including:

- » A DIY Hour of Code lab to explore new online learning games from Code.org (ages 6 to 86)
- » Workshops on MIT App Inventor and Star Logo Nova with coaches from the MIT Education Arcade
- » Lightning presentations by professionals, educators, and students

Who will be at the Digital Festival?

- » Coaches from the MIT Education Arcade
- » Chuck Carter (co-designer of Guitar Hero and Myst)
- » Elizabeth Chabe from High Touch Courses
- » Mike Harvey from Code.org
- » The Crew from The Maine Game, and many others.
- » And, we hope, you!
- » And it's free!

Due to the generosity of Project>Login, all you need to do is sign up to reserve your spaces in the MIT Arcade, Hour of Code, and Lightning Labs. All remaining spaces will be open to the public, but you can reserve yours now.

Register Now:

<http://mainedigitalfestival14.eventbrite.com/>

Are you interested in volunteering? Let us know, at: <http://goo.gl/XNvfCq>

OIT adopted one large family in need this season from our local Salvation Army. A family of eight that we can make a difference for this year! Thank you to all who donated!



VETERANS DAY LUNCH 'N' LEARN



*Thank you to
all who serve!*

Employee Highlights

Garrett Fitzgerald
Paul Fowler
Maria Irrera
Jeremy Kaherl
Perley Laliberte
Daniel Misner
Nick Vashon

Programmer Analyst
Intern - ISSSI
Intern - Computer Programmer
ISSSI
Senior Programmer Analyst
Intern - ISSSI
Programmer Analyst

New Hires

Ted Brown
Sallie Hutchinson
John Richards

Senior Programmer Analyst
Programmer Analyst
PSMII-Radio Services Director

Promotions

Glenda Winn
Richard Hook
Bruce Prindall
Leszek Rak

Systems Analyst
Senior ISSS
Computer Programmer
Computer Programmer

Retirements

Congrats!

Hazel Stevenson and Rob Cote Receive Patriot Award

The Patriot Award reflects the efforts made to support Citizen Warriors through a wide-range of measures including flexible schedules, time off prior to and after deployment, caring for families and granting leaves of absence if needed. Hazel and Rob received the award for support of Will Schoen and his recent service abroad.



GETTING TO KNOW U

BRRRRR EDITION!

Name: **Colin**

Job Position in OIT: **ISSS 1 Contractor**

1. What is your “hometown” or place of birth? Does it snow there?

Tucson, AZ. Not unless something is seriously wrong!

2. What is your favorite cold weather food or drink?

Hot Cocoa and plain oatmeal with brown sugar melted on top

4. What is the “silliest” family tradition you do, or miss doing?

When the power went out, we'd light candles and play Cribbage.

5. What do you find is the most annoying thing about the holiday season?

Christmas music – at the beginning of the season, it's tolerable. Towards the end, it's like nails on a chalkboard!

6. What was your favorite gift received or given and why?

Last year my wife got me an FM transmitter to hook my iPod up to in my car. I love it because it makes those slow, snowy drives so much more enjoyable!

7. If you had to choose just one charity to support, which would you choose and why?

Toys for Tots – I have supported this charity in the past and I enjoyed being able to make the holiday brighter for the little ones.

8. What is one thing you would like to have accomplished by this time next year?

I would like to have my CCNA certification

9. What was the most fulfilling experience you had this past year?

Nesting with my family – we have adopted a puppy, bought a house, and are expecting a baby boy!

10. What is your favorite winter book or movie?

My favorite winter movie is Charlie Brown Christmas – always has been, always will be.

11. Do you enjoy any winter sports or activities?

Snowboarding, snow shoeing, snowmobiling, and snowball fights!



GETTING TO KNOW U

BRRRRR EDITION!

Name: **Shelly Brann**

Job Position in OIT: **Office Assistant II**

1. What is your “hometown” or place of birth? Does it snow there?

My hometown is Jefferson, Maine, though I was born in Augusta. Yes, it snows!!!

2. What is your favorite cold weather food or drink?

Hot cocoa.

4. What is the “silliest” family tradition you do, or miss doing?

I don't have any.

5. What do you find is the most annoying thing about the holiday season?

Crowded stores.

6. What was your favorite gift received or given and why?

Money - you can always use money!

7. If you had to choose just one charity to support, which would you choose and why?

Cancer research, because I have a family member who has it.

8. What is one thing you would like to have accomplished by this time next year?

To have learned my new tasks & more well.

9. What was the most fulfilling experience you had this past year?

Having the opportunity to take this position & learn the different tasks of something new.



10. What is your favorite winter book or movie?
Christmas Story

11. Do you enjoy any winter sports or activities?
Sliding, snowmobiling, and ice skating.

GETTING TO KNOW U

BRRRRR EDITION!

Name: **Katherine Eggleston**

Nickname: **Katie**

Job Position in OIT: **Office Specialist I in Billing**



1. What is your “hometown” or place of birth? Does it snow there?

My hometown is Leicester, Massachusetts. It is right next to Worcester. I lived half of my life there and half in Worcester, and it snows in both places.

2. What is your favorite cold weather food or drink?

Mint hot chocolate.

10. What is your favorite winter book or movie?

The Shining

11. Do you enjoy any winter sports or activities?

I like to knit more in the winter because the wool is not too hot to deal with.



GETTING TO KNOW U

Name: **Michael Rawlings-Sekunda**

Job Position in OIT: **Management Analyst I in DAFS Applications**

1. What is your “hometown” or place of birth? Does it snow there?

I was born in Croix Chapeau, France when my father was in the Army and was stationed there. Apparently, under the laws that were on the books back then, it means I technically have dual citizenship.

2. What is your favorite cold weather food or drink?

Soups, Stews, and Chowders; I start making them weekly in the fall and don't stop until the spring.

5. What do you find is the most annoying thing about the holiday season?

Well there are 2 things at the same level of annoyance. 1. Anything to do with buying gifts; I'm awful at coming up with ideas. 2. Television commercials. PBS gets all my attention until the end of December.

7. If you had to choose just one charity to support, which would you choose and why?

I've been a supporter and trumpeter of Preble Street in Portland for the past 22 years. They are one of the highest ranked national charities. Charity Navigator gives them a score of 99.17 out of 100. 88.4% of all their funding goes directly to client services; a percentage that is almost unheard of. I'd urge everyone to check them out. You'll be amazed at what they do. <http://www.preblestreet.org/> I told you I was a trumpeter for them. :-)

8. What is one thing you would like to have accomplished by this time next year?

Go skydiving.

9. What was the most fulfilling experience you had this past year?

Getting this job; it has completely changed my life.

10. What is your favorite winter book or movie?

The Muppets Christmas Carol. When our friends still had kids at home we would invite everyone to our house to watch it and drink hot chocolate and eat Christmas cookies. Our house would be packed to the point of bursting full of parents, children, and even teenagers of all ages!

11. Do you enjoy any winter sports or activities?

No. I pretty much go into hibernation mode after December 1st.



Photo By Morgan Sherwood
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/flawedartist/>

GETTING TO KNOW U

Name: Joan Lorraine Rhoda

Preferred Nickname (if any): Joanie

Job Position in OIT: Computer Programmer, Office of Child and Family Services



1. What is your “hometown” or place of birth? Does it snow there? Queens, New York. Yes, it snows there. Since space on city streets is limited, the snow would get plowed into 2-story mountains of snow for children to play on.

2. What is your favorite cold weather food or drink? Hot sugared tea with ginger snap cookies

4. What is the “silliest” family tradition you do, or miss doing? My husband and I started the tradition when we were first married to exchange an ornament every Christmas. It would be an ornament to remind us of something that happened during the past year (like an ornament of a house the year we bought our house). Being married for 38 years, we have a LOT of ornaments but they all have a special memory associated with them.

6. What was your favorite gift received or given and why? For Christmas of 1997, my daughter Erin, who was 12 years old at the time, gave me a Momery – a handmade embroidered pillow stuffed with special items. The rule, she told me, was that I had to wait until the night before she got married to cut open the pillow and look at what was inside. The Momery sat in my closet for 18 years until my daughter got married this past August at the age of 30. It was finally time to open my Momery! Inside were precious mementos of the past: a lock of her hair from her first haircut at the age of 2, a braided lock of my own hair when I cut it off almost 2 decades ago, a precious picture of her smiling with braces at the age of 12 after climbing Katahdin, her Sleepy doll that I gave her when she was born, a cross made of a palm branch from some long-ago Palm Sunday, her old assignment book from middle school, along with other memorabilia.

7. If you had to choose just one charity to support, which would you choose and why? I like to support my local land trusts, in particular Medomak Valley Land Trust and Coastal Mountains Land Trust because they work to conserve the beautiful land and mountains in mid-coast Maine where I live.

8. What is one thing you would like to have accomplished by this time next year? I would like to complete 2 section-hikes of the Appalachian Trail in Pennsylvania. My husband and I have a lifelong dream of backpacking the entire Appalachian Trail. We have hiked 1100 miles from Springer Mountain in Georgia to Pinegrove Furnace State Park in Pennsylvania over 9 years. We are over halfway to Maine.

9. What was the most fulfilling experience you had this past year? Renovating one side of our 1800’s-era barn for my daughter’s wedding. It was a 6-month effort with a community of family and friends coming together to get it done, with my husband masterminding the whole project.

11. Do you enjoy any winter sports or activities? I run outside all year long except when snow or ice makes conditions dangerous. I try to not let the weather keep me from staying fit and healthy. You’d be surprised how beautiful winter can be.

GETTING TO KNOW U BRRRRR EDITION!

Name: **Ravikiran Dubagunta**

Preferred Nickname (if any): **Ravi (Short name)**

Job Position in OIT: **Business Analyst**

1. What is your “hometown” or place of birth? Does it snow there?

Hyderabad, India. Nope, it does not snow at the place I come from.

2. What is your favorite cold weather food or drink?

Coffee always. Starbucks Cappuccino

4. What is the “silliest” family tradition you do, or miss doing?

Playing Dumb - charades with family & relatives

5. What do you find is the most annoying thing about the holiday season?

There seem to be no more people gathering (or) Family & Friends Partying. Everyone is busy in life.

6. What was your favorite gift received or given and why?

iPad (Apple Products) as I like using Apple products.

7. If you had to choose just one charity to support, which would you choose and why?

I would love to donate money and services to Orphans/Orphanage. Helping unfortunate will help enhance my values.

8. What is one thing you would like to have accomplished by this time next year?

Increasing Personal Values and Ethics that can make me a better humanist than what I am this year.

9. What was the most fulfilling experience you had this past year?

My Education, Career (Job), Marriage.

10. What is your favorite winter book or movie?

Mostly Business magazines, Health magazines and Action packed movies

11. Do you enjoy any winter sports or activities?

Not really :-)



Photo By James S Warwick
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/jameswarwick/>

GETTING TO KNOW U

Name: **Rajiv Bandothkar**

Preferred Nickname (if any): **Raj**

Job Position in OIT: **Lead Business Analyst**

1. What is your “hometown” or place of birth? Does it snow there?

Born and raised in Mumbai, India. Lived in Cincinnati OH, Northern Virginia and Harrisburg Pennsylvania

2. What is your favorite cold weather food or drink?

Soup, Chicken pie

3. What is the “silliest” family tradition you do, or miss doing?

Celebrating Christmas in Santacruz /Bandra , Mumbai, India

A lot of multi-family gatherings, parties ranging from 20 – 400 people, from December 20th – January 1st. Building huge 20 foot tall stars and suspending them around 50 – 80 ft. high. Building a huge crib for Christmas

4. What do you find is the most annoying thing about the holiday season?

Can't think of anything annoying

5. What was your favorite gift received or given and why?

Gifted my younger brother a motorcycle for his 21st birthday and threw him a huge party.

6. If you had to choose just one charity to support, which would you choose and why?

A charity to support Animals especially Dogs and/or a charity that supports persons with Mental illnesses

Why Animals / dogs? Because I just love animals especially dogs.

Why Mental Illnesses? Because a lot of subtle mental illnesses like ADHD, ADD, Depression, Dyslexia, Autism are not very physically, obviously noticeable but they poses tremendous challenges for persons especially children with these illnesses. The knowledge about mental illnesses in developed countries are still in their infantile stage, in certain other countries, the existence of mental illnesses are not even recognized, they are attributed to demons, being possessed, being defiant, stupid etc.

7. What is one thing you would like to have accomplished by this time next year?

Get a billion dollars or rather a few billion...lol

8. What was the most fulfilling experience you had this past year?

Being reunited with my wife and 3 and a half year old daughter after living apart for 3 almost years.

10. Do you enjoy any winter sports or activities?

Ice skating, skiing



*Photo By Trysil Ski Resort
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/trysil/>*

GETTING TO KNOW U BRRRRR EDITION!

Name: **William Schoen**

Preferred Nickname (if any): **Will**

Job Position in OIT: **Computer Programmer**

1. What is your “hometown” or place of birth? Does it snow there?

Portland, yes.

2. What is your favorite cold weather food or drink?

Tea

3. What is the “silliest” family tradition you do, or miss doing?

Watch ‘a Christmas story’

4. What do you find is the most annoying thing about the holiday season?

Shopping

5. What was your favorite gift received or given and why?

A trailer for my four wheeler

6. If you had to choose just one charity to support, which would you choose and why?

The Homeless Veteran Fund

7. What is one thing you would like to have accomplished by this time next year?

Fix my garage

8. What was the most fulfilling experience you had this past year?

Coming home.

9. What is your favorite winter book or movie?

**Book: The Barsoom Series by Edgar Rice Burroughs and
Movie: Jurassic Park.**

10. Do you enjoy any winter sports or activities?

Ice Fishing, Four Wheeling, Snowmobiling.



Photo By JD Hancock
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/jdhancock/>

TechNight2015



WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

Our third annual Tech Night is March 19, 2015 from 3:30 - 7:30 pm and we need your help! If you are willing to volunteer, contact Courtney Alley at Courtney.Alley@maine.gov. Thanks!

Future Tech Night Participant!

On November 2 at 10:24 PM, Saksham Sharma and his wife welcomed their baby boy, Samraat Raj Sharma, into the world! He is 9.2 lbs and 22" long. Congrats to the happy (and sleep deprived) parents!



PROJECT > LOGIN

Engage. Educate. Employ.

Here are some photos from the Project>Login reception at UMA on November 20. Several OIT employees attended and speakers at the event included CIO Jim Smith, Programmer Analyst Nick Vashon, and Computer Programmer Will Schoen.



DAFS Employees of the Month

September: Kayla Cole, Business Analyst, OIT

Kayla has recently successfully achieved three certifications; Pega Certified Business Architect, Certified ScrumMaster, and Certified Methodology Black Belt. These achievements will greatly benefit the Office of Information Technology (OIT) and other State Agencies as she provides expert guidance and support in her role as a project Business Analyst. Kayla's work ethic and exemplary customer service is one reason why she is highly requested by our business partners to work on their projects. Kayla has been a lead advocate in OIT's transition to Agile Project Management. She has played a vital part in developing and implementing new processes and laying the foundation for OIT's Agile Center of Excellence. Kayla's skillset, knowledge and can-do attitude are why she is asked to mentor new Business Analysts. Kayla's accomplishments have earned her great praise and she is deserving of recognition.

October: Joshua Jacques, Programmer Analyst, OIT

Joshua identified an inefficiency in storage and archival policies for the Division of Administrative Hearings in March. He took the lead in working with his management team, his customer base and the OIT backup and storage teams to create a plan which will eliminate over 700 GB of data. This represents an approximate savings of \$12,000 annually. This type of initiative and respect for cost reflects well on Joshua and the Department of Administrative and Financial Services as a whole.

November: Michelle Quirion, Office Specialist I, MRS, Central Registration Unit

Michelle consistently goes above and beyond to assist taxpayers, screening and routing taxpayer inquiries to the proper unit and individual. Often taxpayers wait until the last minute to complete their registration process, and Michelle always takes the extra time to help them meet the deadline for filing returns. In addition, she is the go to person when assistance is needed in other units, and is a valuable team player.

Taxpayers have written in praise of her patience, willingness and desire to assist, her knowledge and professionalism, and for making their experience with Maine State Government a pleasant one.

Thank you, Michelle, for your dedication and service.

Apple Pie Bake-off Winners

1st Place – Barbara Buck – Old Fashion Apple Pie

2nd Place – Bill Waterman – Diabetic Explosion

3rd Place – Hazel Stevenson – Old Fashion Apple Pie

People's Choice – Cassandra Perkins – Apple Raspberry, Oatmeal Crumble topping Pie

Bill Waterman's Diabetic Explosion

Ingredients:

1 pie crust
 1 bag apples
 1 bag Reese's Peanut Butter Cups
 17 Sugar in the Raw brown sugar packets
 Cinnamon
 1 jar Death By Chocolate (or another pure chocolate product in a jar)
 1 tub Cool Whip
 Chocolate chips

Core as many apples as you can fit in a pot of water and boil until liquefied.

Spread the apple goop into the pie crust and add cinnamon, Reese's, chocolate chips, and brown sugar, and then spread the liquid chocolate on top.

Let bake for two hours, let cool, and then add the Cool Whip.

Add more Reese's and brown sugar if there's any left-over.



Photo By Winston Wong
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/zzinger/>

Barbara Buck's Old Fashion Apple Pie

Ingredients:

4 Macintosh apples
 3 Cortland apples
 4 Northern Spy apples (or equal amounts of Macs and Cortlands)
 1 cup sugar
 1 tsp cinnamon
 1/4 tsp nutmeg
 Butter

Peel, core, and slice apples and place in bowl.

Mix together sugar, cinnamon, and nutmeg and pour over apples.

Let set 30 minutes and then pour into pie crust.

Put on 3 pats of butter.

Cover with top crust and bake at 400°F for 15 minutes, then turn oven down to 350°F and cook for 45-50 minutes more.



"Chocolate Covered Apples" Photo By Eric Kilby
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/ekilby/>

Cassandra Perkins' Apple Raspberry, Oatmeal Crumble topping Pie

Never Fail Pie Crust:

(This is enough for 2 double crust pies)

3 cups flour

1 tsp baking powder

1 tsp salt

1 1/3 cup shortening

1 Tbsp vinegar

1 egg (beaten)

5 Tbsp ice water

Mix dry ingredients, cut in shorting, make a well and add vinegar, egg and water. Combine until crust just holds together. Form into two round balls, cover w/plastic wrap and refrigerate until needed.

Peel, core and slice between 6-8 apples, depending on size, enough to fill whatever size pie pan you are using.

Add 1 cup of sugar, 1 ½ tsp of cinnamon, 1 Tbsp flour and a pinch of salt. Set aside.

Roll out pie crust and place in the bottom of pie pan.

Add 2 cups of fresh or frozen raspberries to the reserved apple mixture, stir and pour into prepared crust.

Dot w/1 Tbsp of butter.

Crumb Topping:

½ cup br. Sugar

1 cup flour

¼ pound butter chilled

Mix flour and sugar, cut butter into mixture w/pastry blender until mix resembles coarse crumbs.

Spread above evenly over prepared pie.

Bake in a 400 degree, preheated oven for 10 minutes, reduce temp to 350 degrees and continue backing for additional 30-45 minutes, until apples are soft.



Pumpkin Palooza Contest Winners

1st Place – Cassandra Perkins – Pumpkin Mousse
 2nd Place – Jan Welch – Downeast Pumpkin Cake
 3rd Place – Mary Colson – Pumpkin Cheese Cake
 People's Choice – Cassandra Perkins – Pumpkin Mousse

Cassandra Perkins' Pumpkin Mousse

Ingredients:

1 cup cold 2% milk
 1/2 cup light cream
 1 can (15 oz.) pumpkin
 1 large box vanilla flavor instant pudding
 1 small box cook and serve butterscotch pudding (uncooked)
 1-1/4 tsp. pumpkin pie spice
 2 cups thawed light whipped topping
 1/2 cup chopped pecans
 1 Tbsp. butter or margarine, melted
 1/3 cup packed brown sugar

BEAT first 6 ingredients in large bowl with whisk 2 min. (Mixture will be thick.) Stir in whipped topping. Spoon into dessert glasses.

REFRIGERATE 4 hours. Meanwhile, toss nuts with butter and sugar.

SPRINKLE nut mixture over desserts just before serving.



Photo By Kam Abbott
https://www.flickr.com/photos/kams_world/

Mary Colson's Pumpkin Cheese Cake

Ingredients:

1 pkg. (8 oz.) cream cheese, softened
 1 cup canned pumpkin
 1/2 cup sugar
 1/2 tsp. pumpkin pie spice
 1 tub (8 oz.) whipped topping, thawed, divided
 1 ready-to-use graham cracker crumb crust (6 oz.)

BEAT cream cheese, pumpkin, sugar and pumpkin pie spice with electric mixer on medium speed until well blended. Gently stir in 2-1/2 cups of the whipped topping. Cover and refrigerate remaining whipped topping for later use.

SPOON cream cheese mixture into crust.

REFRIGERATE 3 hours or overnight. Serve topped with remaining whipped topping. Store leftover cheesecake in refrigerator.



Photo By Ruth Lozano
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/ruthbruin2002/>

OIT Annual Potluck Luncheon Holiday Celebration

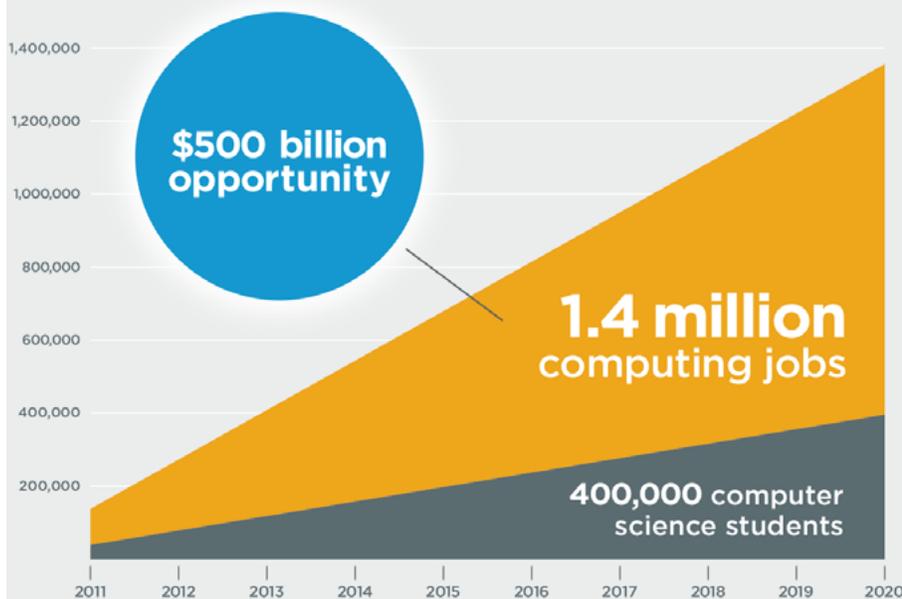
*Thursday, December 18th, Noon-2:00pm
Room 414 A & B*

*Contact Barbara Buck to discuss dishes to bring
or any monetary donations*

Hour of Code

Code.org is once again hosting the Hour of Code during Computer Science Education Week, December 8-14, 2014. Participants can learn programming languages or make apps, and teachers can hold events in their classrooms with the goal of encouraging students to try an hour of code. Learn more, or try Hour of Code for yourself at <http://csedweek.org>.

1,000,000 more jobs than students by 2020



Computer science is a top paying college degree and computer programming jobs are growing at 2X the national average.

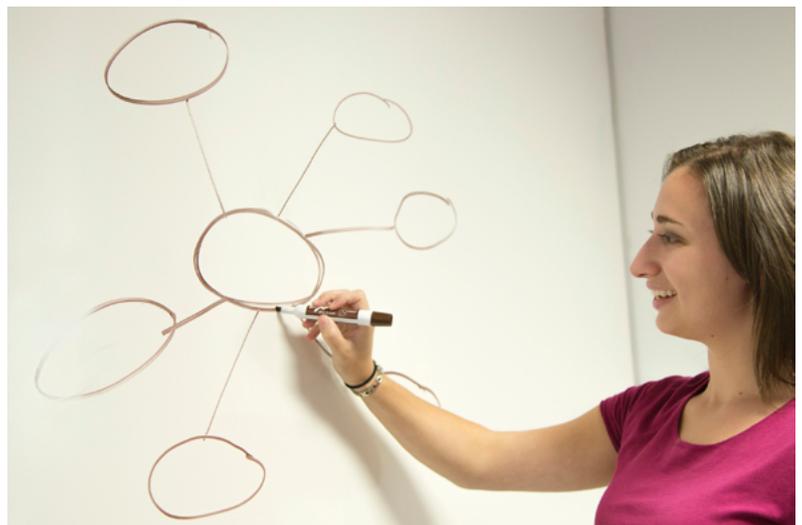
View the complete infographic and learn more at <http://code.org/stats>

Upcoming Training

Dec. 11	Managing in State Government 12/11: 9:00-4:00, 51 Commerce, Room 317 A/B
Dec. 8-12	SharePoint 2010 Site Collection and Site Administration 51 Commerce, Room 416
Dec 16-17	Kanban 51 Commerce, Rooms 317 A/B and 208 A/B
Dec 17-18	Kanban 51 Commerce, Room 208 A/B
Jan 5	Managing Agile Projects Executive Session 8:30-12:00 or 1:00-4:30 Kaplan University, Room 102
Jan 6-9	Managing Agile Projects Kaplan University, Room 102
Jan 22, 29, Feb 4	Leader Effectiveness Training 45 Commerce, Quaver Room

Other Training, Dates TBD

- CA Workload
- Customer Service – Level One
- Database Modeling
- Effective Communication
- Team Building and working effectively in Small Groups
- PowerBuilder, Intermediate
- PowerShell Scripting
- SharePoint End User Level 1



SOCIAL MEDIA RECRUITING

OIT uses a number of social media channels to promote current openings and we're analyzing success and trying new channels constantly. Here's a look at some of our current job posting distribution channels.









Office of Career Services
Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Harvard University

54 Dunster Street
Cambridge, MA 02131

CRIMSON CAREERS JOB & INTERNSHIP DATABASE

Help us hire rock-star talent! Like/follow OIT Careers and share job postings and other OIT-related info at
<https://www.facebook.com/maineoitcareers>
<https://www.linkedin.com/company/9196721>

Coming Soon: Applicant Tracking System and Online Job Applications!

Starting January 1, candidates for OIT positions will be able to apply quickly and easily by visiting the OIT Web site and uploading a resume and cover letter! Once submitted, applications will be directly routed into an applicant tracking system where hiring managers can easily see all applicants and keep track of the status of each. This is a huge step forward for OIT and will strengthen the ability to recruit and retain quality talent!

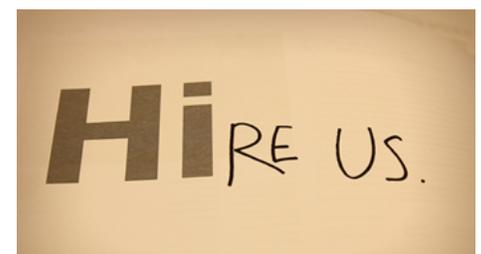


Photo By Dita Margarita
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/ditaditamargarita/>

WEBINAR GOVERNMENT TECHNOLOGY**Crawl, Walk or Run to Improve Citizen Service:
Why Open Data Is the Next Big Thing****Crawl, Walk or Run to Improve Citizen Service:
Why Open Data Is the Next Big Thing**

In August of this year, a benchmark study on open data was conducted by Socrata, a cloud software company focused on democratizing access to public sector data – both internally and externally. The purpose was to learn why policy-makers believe an open data strategy is important; what measurable results have been obtained as a result of opening up data for internal and external stakeholders; and what future plans organizations have for open data initiatives.

This webinar will provide a forum to share and discuss the results of the survey. Topics will include:

- How open data is sparking economic development
- Why open data may be a boon for those organizations interested in increasing citizen trust of government
- What open data can do to decrease FOIA or other types of open record requests
- Where open data can have the biggest impact on government itself

Join Government Technology magazine and Socrata for this webinar which will also include access to the complete results of the benchmark survey.

Visit <http://bit.ly/1wkdHvY> to register!

For questions or to register, contact:

Michael Shane
Government Technology
800.917.7732 ext. 1410 direct
mshane@govtech.com

Complimentary Webinar

Tuesday, December 16, 2014

Time: 11am PT / 2pm ET

Duration: 60 Minutes

Visit <http://bit.ly/1wkdHvY>
to register!

Speakers:

Bill Glen
VP Marketing
Socrata



Ian Stewart
VP and Senior Analyst
EMC Research

Moderator:

Harold Tuck
Senior Fellow, Center
for Digital Government
Former CIO, San Diego
County, CA

Sponsored by:

On Boarding – New Employees

We have been practicing our new OIT on boarding for a few months, and we have worked to improve the process. We believe that we have worked out most of the major glitches. There is a different process for someone new to the State and someone new to OIT (transfer in), though all should still receive an organized and warm welcome.

Below outlines the process to hire/on board, and a glimpse of the first day's agenda.

1. Workforce Development Office will work with the hiring Manager/Supervisor on the justification to hire and determine the hire date.
 - a. HR will include Salary and stipend information for the Selection/On Boarding Letter
 - b. Workforce Development office will send out the On Boarding Letter and Employee's first day agenda (back-up Senior Administrative Staff) (Letter located at *L:\WorkForceDevelopment\Letter_Memos*)
 - c. Agenda will be edited a bit for Internal Transfers (they will not need any paperwork done with HR at COB)
 - d. **Non-Selection** - The hiring Manager/Supervisor, will notify the Administrative staff when to prepare the letters for their signature
2. Workforce Development office will send Senior Administrative staff an email with the On Boarding letter and Agenda to initiate the **Check-In** form.
3. Senior Administrative Staff will assign processing the **Check-In** form to the appropriate staff.
4. The Administrative staff will contact the Supervisor/Manger to go over the Check-In form to ensure all areas are covered and complete. **IMPORTANT: Ensure that the footprint ticket for email and hardware has been executed. The footprint ticket needs to be completed ASAP to ensure Client Tech has as much time as possible to prepare the device for deployment.**
5. Administrative staff will ensure new employee's desk has a "Welcome Box", which includes essential office supplies and put up the "Welcome Sign".
6. Give Check-In form to the Supervisor to initiate the areas of their responsibility (supervisors should keep for 30 days, no other retention is required).
7. Employee Start Dates – We have held every Monday (Tuesday if Monday is a holiday) as the official start date to consolidate as many new hires as possible to be able to follow the Agenda (below) for the employees first day.



AGENDA includes (in Red are the areas each section will go over with the employee):

- 0830 3rd floor - Cross Building with Human Resources and complete the new hire paperwork with Ruth Allen (HR will go over all New Hire paperwork)**
- 1015 Travel/break to 51 Commerce**
- 1030 Derek Mullens – 4th floor – security badge (OIT Security office will give the new employee their security badge, cover basics for system security, and assign security training that is required)**
- 1050 Roger Gagnon - Building Tour – Introductions (Building Committee will get them a tour of 51 CC and go over other building details)**
- 1110 Kelly's office – 3rd floor – workforce development (Workforce Development office will go over the following items with the new employee: TAMS, Benefits, Employee Center and Website)**
- 1145 Leader/Mentor - pick you up from Workforce area, and discuss lunch plans (Supervisor/Mentor will pick up new employee and discuss lunch plans)**
- 1315 Meet with Sue Donovan or assigned Technology person for computer set up and overview of services the help desk provides; show footprints and online resources that may be of help (Meet with Client Technology staff for computer set up and overview as stated)**
- 1400 Assigned area –introductions to team and director; spend remainder of the day in department**

