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GA News



PILOT SENTENCED TO JAIL FOR LYING ON MEDICAL APPLICATION

Ronald Crews was sentenced on March 20 to 16 months in federal prison and two years of supervised release after pleading guilty in 2007 to four counts of making false statements to a federal agency, according to the District of Massachusetts U.S. Attorney's Office. Crews had lied to the FAA about his diabetes and dependence on insulin injections. The charges resulted from an investigation into a February 2002 incident in which a passenger, who happened to be a student pilot, landed the Cessna 402 Crews was flying for an air taxi flight after he suffered a diabetic seizure. "While this type of incident is extremely rare, it is a strong warning to all pilots," said Andy Cebula, AOPA executive vice president of government affairs. Read more about the incident on [AOPA Online](#).

FIGHT TO SAVE MAINE AIRPORT TAKES OFF

With the fate of Biddeford Municipal Airport in Biddeford, Maine, in the hands of city residents, AOPA has kicked off an all-out campaign to educate the residents and save the airport. In an [open letter from AOPA President Phil Boyer](#) published in the weekly *Biddeford-Saco-OOB Courier* on March 27, city residents learned just how important the airport is to their community. "As you consider the discussion of a voter referendum on keeping or closing the airport, it's important to have the facts about general aviation, Biddeford Airport, and why both are important to you," Boyer wrote. Read more on [AOPA Online](#).



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PREVENT GOVERNMENT REGULATION—LOCK UP AND LOOK OUT

State and local governments remain interested in security at GA airports, even though the federal government and the aviation community have taken steps to ensure the pilot population and aircraft are secure. The Pennsylvania legislature is considering a bill that would require two locks on all aircraft and institute criminal penalties for failing to use them. On March 26, AOPA traveled to Harrisburg, Pa.,