

Saint Dom's students enjoy skating party at Norway Savings Bank Arena



View more photos on page 8 & 9

Students from Saint Dominic Academy's Lewiston campus, which includes Pre-K through Grade 5, enjoyed a morning of skating recently at Norway Savings Bank Arena in Auburn.

They were joined by several high school students from the school's Auburn campus, who helped out with the younger ones, some of whom were skating for the first time. They were also joined by one much older skater.

The students didn't know what to expect when Bishop Robert P. Deeley took to the ice, and apparently he didn't either. "I hope it's like riding a bike," he joked. "It's been at least 30 years!"

Their worries ended up being unfounded as the

veteran skater stayed on his feet. "Bishop Deeley is really good out there!" said Ryan, a fourth grader. "He must have played when he was younger."

Off the ice, the students enjoyed hot chocolate, cookies, and a variety of games, including coloring stations and shooting pucks into a guarded net. Prior to the skating party, the academy presented the bishop with a referee's shirt that had "Bishop Deeley" sewn on the back, and the third graders led the group in singing the National Anthem.

It was a morning that all involved won't soon forget. "That was great," said the bishop. "And I didn't fall!"

Auburn Police Department names Deputy Chief

The Auburn Police Department has announced the promotion of Lieutenant Timothy Cogle to the rank of Deputy Chief of Police. Cogle, a life-long resident of Auburn, is a 21-year veteran of the department. He began his career with the APD in January of 1997 and has served as a Detective, Patrol Sergeant, and Lieutenant. As a Lieutenant, he has served as Commander of all three divisions of the department: Patrol, Support Services, and, most recently, Criminal Investigations.

"Deputy Chief Cogle is deeply committed to this community," said Police Chief Jason Moen. "He lives and works here, has built his life and family here, and is well-respected among his peers and by residents. I am truly looking forward to working with Tim as we begin a new leadership journey with the agency."

In 2002, Cogle received the "Act of Bravery by a Law Enforcement Officer" award from the Maine Chiefs of Police Association. In 2018, he received the Auburn Police Department's award for "Supervisor of the Year."

Deputy Chief Cogle currently serves on the Au-



Timothy Cogle

burn PAL (Police Activities League) Board of Directors and the Auburn Recreation Department Advisory Board. He coordinates the department's Lake Auburn Neighborhood Watch group.

He has coached numerous Auburn Suburban Little League and YMCA Pee Wee basketball teams. He makes his home in Auburn with his wife, Kara, and their son, Landon.

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Honor Society welcomes new inductees at CMCC



CMCC student Sarah Chaput of Lewiston reaches for her ceremonial white rose after signing the official register at the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society induction ceremony. Behind her is fellow inductee Carla Dionne of Livermore Falls.

Thirty-three students at Central Maine Community College were recently inducted as members of the Alpha Phi Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges. To be eligible for Phi Theta Kappa membership, students must

be pursuing an associate degree and have a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.5 on a 4.0 scale. Lilly Huang, owner of Wei Li Restaurant in Auburn, was the guest speaker at the induction ceremony. Huang is a CMCC graduate and Phi Theta Kappa member.

The new inductees are Nasteho Abdi, Adam Baril, Laura Breton, Tracy Brooke, Daniel Bussiere, Shelly Carver, Daphne Champagne, Sarah Chaput, Courtney Charest, Carla Dionne, Maurice Drouin, Bethany Ellis, Chandler Ellis, Brooke Haegele, Gabriel Hoy, Kristen Huntress, Grace Kidd, Kevan Kidd Sr., Emelia Krapovicky, Zoe Lamoureaux, Isaiah Louis, Shannon Monahan, Jessica Moore, Mason Morin, Nathaniel Outslay, Ian Pantanella, Chris Rider, Grace Royle, Whitney Smith, Brooke Tracy, John Wardwell, Jennifer Wentzheimer, and Robin Woodard.

Claxton sworn into Maine Senate

Democratic Senator Ned Claxton of Auburn was recently sworn into the Maine Senate. Claxton was elected to his first term in the Senate in November. Chief Justice Leigh Saufley administered the oath of office to Sen. Claxton and 32 of his Senate colleagues, all of whom have been elected to serve two-year terms. He represents Senate District 20, which includes Auburn, Mechanic Falls, Minot, New Gloucester, and Poland. “While I may be new to the Legislature, I’m certainly not new to the challenges Mainers are facing when it comes to health care,” said

Claxton. “For more than 35 years, I’ve watched my patients struggle to afford their medicine and jump through hoops to appease insurance companies. These issues aren’t going away anytime soon. We need to take action. I’m excited to join my new colleagues in the Maine Senate, roll up my sleeves, and get to work.” Sen. Claxton has spent his career as a family physician working to improve the health of individuals and families in the greater Lewiston-Auburn area. He previously served as President of the Medical Staff at Central Maine Medical Center, co-chairman of the

Lewiston-Auburn Community health committee, and on the board of the Maine Public Health Association. In 1987, he was the first person to be named Maine Family Physician of the Year by the Maine Academy of Family Physicians. Aside from his work, Claxton is an active member of his community. He provides medical support for the annual Dempsey Challenge and Beach to Beacon events, volunteers with the Androscoggin Land Trust, and sings in the choir of the First Universalist Church in Auburn. He has two adult sons and lives with his wife, Marian, in Auburn.

Healthy Androscoggin receives \$94,800 grant from Maine Cancer Foundation

Healthy Androscoggin has received a \$94,800 Maine Cancer Foundation Grant for an initiative called “Preventing Youth Smoking Through Community Education: The Tobacco 21 Law.” Through this grant, Healthy Androscoggin will create a public health campaign to provide information to the community about the Tobacco 21 law and how it prevents youth initiation. With the assistance of a contracted marketing company, HA will combine information about why the law is important and include links to cessation resources, such as the Maine Tobacco Helpline and Quitlink. “We know that tobacco use starts and established primarily during adolescence,” said Emily Dooling Hamilton, Health Promotion Coordinator at Healthy Androscoggin. Nearly 9 out of 10 cigarette smokers first tried smoking by age 18. Our proposed work will include prevention activities, education, and cessation support, all components of

an evidence-based, comprehensive tobacco prevention plan.” Preventing tobacco use among youth is critical to ending the tobacco epidemic in the United States. The 2017 Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey found that 3.4% of Androscoggin County middle school students and 11.8% of Androscoggin County high school students said they used tobacco products in the past 30 days. This includes cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco, snuff, snus, dip, and dissolvable tobacco products. The survey excluded electronic products. Each day in the United States, more than 3,200 youth aged 18 years or younger smoke their first cigarette. Every day an additional 2,100 youth and young adults become daily cigarette smokers. The Maine Cancer Foundation’s grant is offered as part of their ongoing Challenge Cancer 2020 initiative, aimed at reducing cancer incidence and mortality 20% by 2020. They

have awarded \$8 million since 2015 in support of this initiative, focused on prevention, early detection and screening, and access to care for all Mainers. To learn more about the Maine Cancer Foundation, contact Kristen Smith at 773-2533 or kristen@mainecancer.org, or see www.mainecancer.com. Healthy Androscoggin is a community coalition of dedicated community members and organizations who, through ongoing planning, community action, education, and advocacy, work to improve the health and quality of life of those living in Androscoggin County, Maine. HA was founded in 1995 by a concerned group of citizens who were witnessing alarming trends in youth tobacco use increasing in the region. Since that time, HA has expanded to focus on five main goals: supporting tobacco-free lifestyles, preventing youth substance use, encouraging physical activity, promoting healthy eating, and preventing childhood lead poisoning.

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Governor's Address: Our Revenue Surplus Should Be Returned to the People Through Tax Cuts

Dear Maine Taxpayer,

Over the next three years, the State is projected to collect more than \$362 million than budgeted. Maine can - and should - return this money to the hardworking people who earned it.

Now that we have restored fiscal sanity to Augusta, we need to ensure that legislators and the new administration make wise choices that continue to drive prosperity for Maine people.

The Biennial Budget recommendation I have provided to Governor-elect Janet Mills does this in two critical ways. First, instead of using the budget surplus to fund Medicaid expansion, we included an increase to the hospital tax to provide sustainable funding for

these ongoing costs.

The hospital tax is how the federal government envisioned states would pay for their share of the costs of Medicaid expansion. In Maine, we estimate this to be about \$100 million per year. Since expansion revenues to Maine hospitals are expected to well exceed \$100 million, this hospital tax makes sense.

The second major recommendation in the budget is to cut taxes by an additional 20 percent. My administration has already lowered taxes by 20 percent for more than half a million Mainers.

Cutting taxes for Maine families has proven to be an excellent policy decision. Despite this cut, we are taking in record tax revenues. That's why I've recommended to Governor-



Governor Paul R. LePage

nor-elect Mills that she return surplus tax dollars to Maine families in the form of new income-tax reductions.

We are seeing higher revenue in almost every tax category - sales and use tax, individual income tax, and corporate income tax. We must always remember that the revenue we receive

in taxes is due to the hard work of Maine's people. That's why I'm advocating for accelerating the tax cuts contained in our budget proposal.

Our strong economic growth and rising wages reflect Maine's strong economy.

Cutting state income taxes means the money you would have paid stays in your wallet.

Democrats stated they want to use surplus money to fully fund revenue sharing at 5 percent, rather than the 2 percent the towns have received for the past 6 years. There is no guarantee that your local government will cut your property taxes, never mind dollar-for-dollar, if revenue sharing is increased.

The people of Maine and the municipal balance

sheets would be better off if the state cut income taxes and allowed municipalities to collect property taxes or service fees from non-profits to supplement the local property taxes.

Everyone should contribute to the operation of local community governments.

Eighteen billion dollars of property value has been taken off the tax rolls over the past 20 years. Hard-working Maine families have to pick up the tab, while wealthy land trusts with millions of dollars continue to take more property off the tax rolls.

My administration's budget recommendations offer a path to sustainable Medicaid expansion funding and strategic investments in needed improvements while cutting income

taxes. It can be done.

During my time as governor, our administration has brought stability to state finances and implemented pro-business, pro-growth policies across state government.

The incoming administration is poised to assume a state government that is vastly improved - both structurally and financially - from the one I inherited.

Don't let them go on a spending spree with your money.

There is no reason to roll back the tax cuts we put in place in my first term.

I'll be watching.

Thank You,
Paul R. LePage
Governor

Community Credit Union supports New Beginnings



Pictured here (l. to r.) are Andrew Wessling of Community Credit Union, Amber Kruk and Rachel Spencer-Reed of New Beginnings, and Ashley Ward of CCU.

Community Credit Union recently presented New Beginnings with a donation check in the amount of \$250. New Beginnings serves an average of 700 teens and young adults each year through its many programs, including shelter, transitional living, and outreach. Each year, about 500 teens and young adults are served through their Drop-In

Center in Lewiston.

"Addressing hunger and food insecurity for young people is one important way that we help homeless youth find the stability and opportunities they need to become successful adults," said New Beginnings Director of Development & Community Services Rachel Spencer-Reed.

Community Credit Union raised the funds through its participation in the Maine Credit Union League's ongoing Campaign for Ending Hunger. CCU has branches at 144 Pine Street in Lewiston, 40 Stanley Street in Auburn, and 1025 Auburn Road in Turner. For more information, see www.community-creditunion.com.

Libby elected Senate Majority Leader

Sen. Nate Libby of Lewiston was sworn into the Maine Senate at the State House in Augusta recently. He was elected to his third term in the State Senate in November.

Chief Justice Leigh Saufley administered the oath of office to Sen. Libby and 32 of his Senate colleagues, all of whom have been elected to serve two-year terms. Libby represents Senate District 21, which is made up entirely of the City of Lewiston.

Sen. Libby was also recently elected unanimous-

ly by the Senate Democratic Caucus to serve as the Majority Leader, the second highest position in the Legislature's upper chamber.

Prior to his service in the Senate, Libby served in the Maine House of Representatives and on the Lewiston City Council. He works as an economic development consultant and is pursuing his Master's in Business Administration (MBA) at the University of Southern Maine. He lives in Lewiston with his wife, Andrea, and their family.

Of the 35 senators,

there are 21 Democrats and 14 Republicans. Twelve are women and 23 are men. There are 13 new members: 11 have recently served in the House of Representatives, two have no previous legislative experience, and 22 are incumbents.

The Legislature will reconvene at the start of the new year.

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Lewiston names new Public Works Director



Dale Doughty

City Administrator Edward Barrett has announced that Dale Doughty will be Lewiston’s next Public Works Director. Doughty will start his new job on December 27, replacing David Jones, who will retire on January 9.

Doughty comes to the city after twenty-two years with the Maine Department of Transportation, including the last eight years as Director of Maintenance and Operations, where he managed a budget of over \$170 million and 1,250 employees. He has also served MDOT as manager of its Eastern Region and on assignments for its Planning and Program Development Division.

“We are extremely pleased to bring on board someone with Dale’s many years of public works experience who is strongly re-

garded throughout the State of Maine,” said Barrett in announcing the appointment.

“Dale is a great choice and was unanimously recommended by the hiring panel,” said Mayor Shane Bouchard, who served on the panel with City Councilor Jim Lysen, Deputy City Administrator Denis D’Auteuil, and retiring Public Works Director Dave Jones. “His experience and contacts with public works professionals throughout the state will allow him to quickly move into the position and maintain Lewiston’s state-wide reputation for excellence in Public Works.”

“Dale has a strong management background and has shown the interest and ability to work to help his employees develop their skills and abilities

and advance to more responsible positions,” said City Councilor Jim Lysen. “This will be of great benefit to a department that is facing a significant transition due to the number of employees who are nearing retirement.”

“I am pleased and honored for the opportunity to direct a public works department that has such a history of excellence,” Doughty said in reacting to his selection. “I look forward to working with the city, council, and department staff to build on and enhance that history.”

A Maine native, Doughty has a degree in geology and chemistry from the University of Maine at Farmington. He also did additional graduate work in geology at West Virginia University. He is a Maine Certified Geologist.

When a Plan Comes Together

By Andy Torbett

Political irony is on full display in Maine. The staple of many a politician, hypocrisy has now been foisted upon the voting process. Toddling mere months into its infancy, Ranked Choice Voting was found unconstitutional by the State Supreme Court for use in state elections and has now mired the state in a muck of necessary legal challenges into its federal constitutionality. Media punditry has circled the wagons around their collective talking point that challenging RCV at the federal level erodes the peoples’ confidence in the “institution” of voting, seemingly oblivious to the millions of dollars and years of political spin spent on ads, campaign mailings, and signature drives, all in an effort to erode the voters’ confidence in Maine’s already constitutionally established voting system.

Here, the time proven political ploy of accusing your opponent of the very thing to which you are guilty is so stark it cannot be veiled. Could it be that the so-called “erosion” of voter confidence is not the result of inevitable legal challenges by a candidate,

but a collective “a-ha” moment as Maine voters began to pull the propaganda veil away to reveal yet another political con game?

Ranked Choice Voting was passed by peoples’ referendum, a process which has been criticized roundly from all sides of the political spectrum. Because the process does not require signatures to be gathered proportionally by each county, the process becomes a people’s referendum of the most populated areas, not the whole of Maine. Why plod along the byways and dusty ways of Piscataquis County when you can gather all the signatures you need in Portland?

It stands to reason that, from its inception, starting with the referendum process, Ranked Choice Voting was the will of the voters of the 1st Congressional District. The 2nd Congressional District would not have been fertile ground for signature gathering towards a perceived anti-LePage referendum. It was the 2nd District whose votes swung LePage over the top to victory, and this was reflected when CD2 voted down the referendum by 20,000 votes.

Still, CD1 votes won the day. RCV was imme-

diately challenged in court and ruled unconstitutional. The ruling could only apply to the state constitution; therefore, state elections remained one vote for one person, while federal elections remained in limbo until they could be challenged at the federal level.

It was no surprise that the only Congressional District that RCV would affect would be CD2. CD1 would not, and for that matter will never, face an RCV challenge, as it is rumored that Cumberland County is a gated county that requires proof of registration with the Democrat Party before residency. It should be noted that this writer has yet to confirm the veracity of said rumor.

Sarcasm and cynicism aside, at every step in its brief, infantile history, Ranked Choice Voting has been the majority wish of one political demographic, CD1. Unfortunately, CD2 is bearing the repercussions of that wish. Ironically, without legal intervention, CD1 now enjoys two Representatives for the will of its voters and CD2 has none.

Andy Torbett (*meconservativevoice@gmail.com*) writes from Atkinson, Maine.

L-A CASH Coalition names coordinators for 2019

The Lewiston-Auburn CASH Coalition has announced that IRS retiree Rhoby Treadwell will be the program’s new Site Coordinator for the 2019 tax filing season, while Julia Bergquist will come on board as its Financial Literacy Resources Coordinator.

The multi-partner coalition was established by the City of Lewiston in 2003 to provide free tax preparation and asset coaching to low- to moderate-income individuals and families while promoting the Earned Income Tax Credit. In 2018, financial check-ups were added to the service and will be back this year under Bergquist’s direction. This year’s theme will be understanding ways to save even when it seems impossible to do so.

After 26 years with the agency, Treadwell retired from the IRS in 2017 from the role of Senior Individual Taxpayer Advisory Specialist in South Portland. Bergquist is a social work case manager at Family Medicine Residency of Central Maine Health Care. She recently earned a Masters in Social Work, with a focus on policy change, community engagement, advocacy, and access to basic needs, from the University of New England.

The coalition’s tax prep site at the Lewiston Armory will be open from February 2 through April 13. In early January, Treadwell and Coalition Co-Chair Chris Adler of Promise Early Education will lead the training for volunteer tax preparers. Those interested in volunteering are asked to call 513-3018.



Rhoby Treadwell



Julia Bergquist



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What's Going On

State increases tax revenue forecast by \$362.4 Million

The Maine Revenue Forecasting Committee (RFC) recently submitted their General Fund revenue forecast to Governor Paul R. LePage and the Maine Legislature. The RFC has revised Maine's tax revenue forecast upward by \$362.4 million, an increase of 3.25 percent. The report is one of two statutorily-required forecasts that are completed each year.

The current forecast is divided into three parts: revisions to the current 2019 fiscal year, revisions to the fiscal year 2020-2021 biennium, and projections for the fiscal year 2022-2023 biennium.

Changes to the current fiscal year, which concludes on June 30, 2019, include a positive revision of \$99.2 million, an increase of 2.7 percent. The forecast for the 2020-2021 biennium, which will serve as the foundation of the Mills Administration's budget proposal, has been revised upward by \$263.2 million, or 3.52 percent.

The revisions to the forecast come as the State of Maine has recognized revenues above the existing

baseline forecast from tax lines, including, but not limited to, sales and use tax, individual income tax, and corporate income tax. All three tax lines have contributed to the State of Maine's robust tax revenue performance reported by the Department throughout the current fiscal year.

In addition to increases to the existing baseline forecast, the Committee also established the General Fund forecast for the 2022-2023 biennium at \$8.3 billion.

"Maine's robust economy has produced monthly surplus revenues throughout the year," said Commissioner Porteous. "The Revenue Forecasting Committee's report demonstrates that strong revenue collections are expected for the foreseeable future. The pro-growth policies of the LePage Administration have helped fuel these returns. With wages rising faster than any other state in New England, personal income growing at more than 4 percent in three of the past four years, and population increasing since 2015, Maine's economy is

strong and well-positioned to continue growing."

The State of Maine has a two-pronged approach to revenue forecasting that occurs through its independent Consensus Economic Forecasting Commission (CEFC) and the Revenue Forecasting Committee (RFC). The RFC typically meets twice a year and issues a revenue forecast that incorporates the recommendations from the CEFC. The forecast provides state government with an estimate of the tax revenues expected to be available for appropriation.

Membership of the RFC consists of the Associate Commissioner for Tax Policy, the State Budget Officer, the State Economist, an economist on the faculty of the University of Maine System selected by the chancellor, the Director of the Office of Fiscal and Program Review, and another member of the Legislature's nonpartisan staff familiar with revenue estimating issues appointed by the Legislative Council.

Senator Collins pays tribute to President George H.W. Bush

On Tuesday, December 4, U.S. Senator Susan Collins paid tribute to President George H.W. Bush by delivering the following remarks on the Senate floor.

"On Ocean Avenue in Kennebunkport, Maine, stands a simple yet powerful monument, a gift from the people of that small community to a friend and neighbor. The monument is a United States Navy anchor; the friend and neighbor was President George Herbert Walker Bush.

"It is a fitting tribute. President Bush often called the family home at Walker's Point his 'anchor to the windward,' a special place of unsurpassed beauty in a caring community. Through the years, it has been the place that gave him the strength to face the many challenges he took on in dedicated service to our country.

"And, indeed, George Herbert Walker Bush spent every summer of his life at Walker's Point, except when he was defending our country during World War II.

"It is a fitting tribute in another way. As a Navy aviator during World War II, as a Member of Congress, as a Special Envoy to China, as Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, as Vice President, and as President, George H.W. Bush consistently and vigorously demonstrated the values that are the anchor of American

society.

"Courage, duty, honor, and compassion defined his life. As he encouraged Americans to be a 'thousand points of light' through service to others, he shone the brightest himself. He always answered the call to serve our country.

"I had the pleasure to visit President and Mrs. Bush at Walker's Point many times over the years, and how I looked forward to those annual visits in Kennebunkport. The very first time I remember so well. It was in 1994, and I had just won the Republican primary for Governor of Maine. I received a call from President Bush's staff inviting me to have lunch with him and Mrs. Bush at Walker's Point.

"The last time I saw the president was on September 7, just months after President Bush had lost his beloved Barbara and as his own health was declining rapidly. Yet, as the Presiding Officer well knows, the President remained incredibly positive and warm. The qualities that made him such an inspiring leader were undiminished.

"Throughout our long friendship, President Bush, by his example and by his words, was always so encouraging, kind, and thoughtful. He taught me that you must always do what your heart tells you is right, regardless of the consequences, and he demon-

strated that every difficulty must be met with strength and determination.

"George Herbert Walker Bush was so kind to others. I so remember one year when I visited him, and he had completely shaved his head in solidarity with a young boy who was the son of a Secret Service agent who was part of his detail. This young boy was undergoing cancer treatments and had lost all of his hair, so President Bush shaved all of his hair off, too. That's the kind of individual he was: caring, compassionate, and committed.

"The end of a life so devoted to the highest ideals of the human spirit brings to mind the Parable of the Talents in the Bible. The master, leaving on a journey, entrusts a servant with a portion of his treasure. Upon his return, the master is delighted to find that his wealth was wisely invested and multiplied.

"George Herbert Walker Bush was entrusted with the great treasure of principles, determination, and courage. He invested that treasure wisely and multiplied it to the benefit of all, not just here in America, but throughout the world. Like the master in the New Testament, to him we say, 'Well done, good and faithful servant.' May God bless him and may his memory always be anchored in our hearts."

UMF Educator Preparation Program receives national and state accreditation

The University of Maine at Farmington educator preparation program has received national accreditation from the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation. UMF is the first institution in the State of Maine to meet the new, rigorous national accreditation standards. UMF has also received full approval for state accreditation, including several commendations, from the Maine State Board of Education.

A longtime leader

in Maine and one of the premier teacher education programs in New England, the UMF program has been noted for providing pre-service teachers with a unique educational experience that maximizes career preparation and post-graduation success.

The CAEP review recognized the UMF program for providing students with effective learning opportunities in and out of the classroom that help prepare them for a career in teaching. The UMF program passed the rigorous peer review on all five CAEP standards, which are based on the principles that its graduates are competent, caring educators and its faculty have the capacity to maintain and enhance the quality of the professional programs.

CAEP is the sole nationally recognized accrediting body for educator preparation. UMF's accreditation runs from 2018 to 2025.

Notably, CAEP recognized UMF for its strong relationship with the community and how this mutual commitment enriches the student experience through

activities, resources, and support for educational improvement. In addition, the review applauded the UMF teacher preparation program for the quality of its candidates from recruitment through certification.

UMF's teacher preparation program provides students with field experience, early and often, with student teaching, practicums, and internships boasting an average of 329 students in formal placements in schools around the state annually.

These experiences prepare educators for the real classroom and create a statewide demand for UMF graduates while helping to support educational partnerships at more than 130 Maine schools annually, not including early childhood and infant centers.

According to UMF's 2018 teacher education unit alumni survey, 84 percent of respondents indicated being employed as a teacher in the field, and a majority reported being hired within one year of graduation. In addition, 98.9 percent of graduates responding to the See UMF, page 16

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Letter to the Editor: What Should We Do About Immigration - Illegal and Legal?

By Robert Hansen

To interdict illegal immigration, do we build a wall or not? If so, what kind would be most effective? If not, we already know what we can expect. We probably do need some sort of barrier, structural or otherwise.

One significant deterrent might be quite impactful and cost-effective. We need to take a serious look at three very powerful segments of the legal immigration part of the equation: the "fourth branch of government," meaning the non-constitutional agencies that interpret, administer, and adjudicate laws passed by Congress; the embassies and consulates, whose positions are filled by the executive branch; and immigration lawyers.

Immigrants and asylum seekers for and with whom I have worked during the past couple of years have estimated that approximately five to ten percent of those who apply to come to the U.S. receive real consideration; of those, fewer actually gain access to America. A very significant number of both the rejected and successful are people who have a valid reason to fear for their lives and those of their family members at the hands of the regime or warring factions in their nation of origin.

Many are persons who could be exceptional contributors to our society as they possess backgrounds as computer programmers, nurses, public health officials, economic development experts, and other specialties which are currently much in demand. Therefore, they would neither be a drain on taxpayers nor take jobs from others in this country. Indeed, they would become taxpayers themselves. Incidentally, some recent immigrants are well on their way to earning doctorates in various fields.

In my contacts with the federal government, I have gleaned a couple of important things. First, it seems that there are too many different categories of visas. One might assume that this would make it easier for an applicant; however, individual cases easily fall between types of visas. Second, there is a lot of room for embassy and consulate

holdovers from a previous administration to make a current political entity look bad to the U.S. populace by rejecting, without merit, qualified persons.

For the successful, the struggle isn't over once they arrive. They have to jump through myriad hoops to garner work permits, green cards, and permanent resident status, all of which are different and costly to attain. Many newcomers speak English reasonably well, but are no match for the legalese of the system they face. Only by employing interpreters and immigration-specialist attorneys do they have any hope of obtaining government recognition and documentation.

An interpreter, who can both explain the technical language and help complete the forms, will also guide a petitioner through the grueling, three-hour initial interview in Boston for \$1000 plus travel expenses. However, if granted a second interview, the candidate is then required to have a lawyer present - even with all the paperwork already perfectly completed - or the court will not hear the case. The cost for an immigration attorney is \$10,000 or more, plus expenses.

When I met a client and lawyer returning from such a hearing recently, the lawyer excitedly recounted that they were before the judge for a mere two minutes to get a successful outcome. Divide \$10,000 by two minutes and you see this amounts to an incredibly lucrative payday. Also, a lot of these specialists have so many immigrant clients that they decline to take on more at this time.

How long will the applicant be paying off that debt? Incidentally, all that expenditure and effort "buys" a person approximately 18 months until their next appearance in Boston. In the meantime, (s)he must still apply for a permit to legally begin seeking employment. In many cases, very accomplished immigrants must take entry-level positions or even more menial jobs. People with bachelors or masters degrees routinely fill openings as custodians, food processing production line workers, personal care

attendants, or are offered positions such as teachers' aides.

Another immigrant told me: "I would expect - which apparently doesn't happen - that a judge would write a letter to Immigration and Customs Enforcement on behalf of a successful immigrant, saying that he or she is a person who has embraced American customs and ideals and appreciates that this is a Christian nation with values that need to be upheld."

"They also have an 'immigration lottery,' through which some foreign people can get on a plane, come here, and immediately be accepted as permanent residents," he added. "Meanwhile, many of us who have been here for a couple of years or more and have proven ourselves are still struggling to be recognized. This is a big problem."

In a society increasingly fixated on finding "collusion" with foreign entities, shouldn't we be confronting the true obstacles to our nation's being all that it can be? We should be demanding the correcting of the situations vis a vis the administrative branch of the federal government, entrenched State Department employees, and a legal system that is gaming the most vulnerable. Is it any wonder that, seeing all that confronts those seekers who play by the rules, some are emboldened to skirt the law, knowing that, on the off-chance that they are caught and deported, they will be able to come back multiple times? Our nation has been built by legal immigrants, and if America is to be a beacon to the world going forward, we must help them help us.

Instead of penalizing those who are proceeding righteously, we should clean up the system, revamp and streamline the regulations, and put barriers up against those who refuse to go about business the correct way. If we do these things, our illegal immigration problem will probably become comparatively miniscule in relatively short order.

Robert Hansen of Auburn is a semi-retired educator who vigorously advocates for legal immigrants and asylum seekers in his free time.

cash donations will also be gratefully accepted.

This year's event will take place indoors in the old office at Sabattus Street Self Storage, located at 1434 Sabattus Street in Lewiston. All proceeds from the event will support Tommy's work to care for and support local

feral cat colonies through the harsh Maine winter.

Donations may be mailed to Tommy's Feral Feline Friends at P. O. Box 274, Greene, Maine 04236. For more information about the event or how you can help, contact Norm Blais at normblais39@yahoo.com.

What's Going On

First Auburn Seniors plan Christmas Dinner

Tickets are now on sale for First Auburn Seniors' annual membership Christmas Dinner on Wednesday, December 19 at the Green Ladle in Lewiston. The cost of the dinner is \$12. Entertainment will be provided by Maine-ly Harmony. No tickets will be sold at the door, so members who would like to attend should call Frank

Pippin at 212-8540.

First Auburn Seniors is open to all Auburn residents and their friends ages 55 and above. The membership fee is only \$5 per year. The group meets on the first and third Wednesdays of each month at the Auburn Senior Community Center. Each month features a different activity and a lunch, both

reasonably priced. Bingo is usually played after each meeting.

This is a great way for seniors to socialize with others their age, be with others who share similar interests, and make lasting friendships. For more information, contact group president Cindy Larrabee at 345-9533.

Museum L-A offers unique holiday gifts



The museum's gift store offers several products featuring historic designs created by workers of Bates Mill.

What do I get for the person on my list who has everything? Museum L-A might be able to help answer

that question with several unique products featuring historic designs created by the workers of Bates Mill.

These include reproduction tote bags, large reproduction Work Art prints, and locally crafted Maine Heritage Weaver bedspreads. Also available is a "Seven Mills Collage" print, plus a small section of special children's and historical books and stocking stuffers for young and old. All sale proceeds benefit the museum.

Museum L-A is located in the Bates Mill Complex at 35 Canal Street in Lewiston. Its hours of operation are Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, call 333-3881 or email info@museumla.org.

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Tommy's Feral Felines seeks donations for Christmas Bake Sale and Bottle Drive

Does Christmas inspire you to bake? If so, Tommy's Feral Feline Friends is seeking bakers to contribute baked goods for its "Purrfect Christmas Bake Sale and Bottle Drive" on Saturday and Sunday, December 22 and 23, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Returnable bottles and

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TWIN CITY NIGHTS

Weekly Arts & Entertainment

Mitch Thomas and Friends return for "Holiday in Lights"



Local pianist, singer, and songwriter Mitch Thomas also serves as executive director of the Gendron Franco Center.

Mitch Thomas and Friends will present their fifth annual "Holiday in Lights" concert on Saturday, December 15 at 7:30 p.m. at the Gendron Franco Center in Lewiston. The doors and bar will open at 6 p.m. for a pre-show reception.

Thomas is a local pianist, singer, and songwriter

who serves as the executive director of the Gendron Franco Center and directs and performs at Community Little Theatre. He will perform several seasonal favorites, including his own compositions and arrangements "Light a Candle for Peace" and "The Friendly Beasts."

The event will features numerous local artists, including guitarist and singer Tony Morin; Hayden Thomas, who played the teen "Fiona" in CLT's recent production of "Shrek, the Musical"; Kristen J. Thomas and Nakesha (Kay) Warren, who starred in CLT's production of "Sister Act"; and soloist Sue Caron and CLT director, pianist, and composer Paul G. Caron.

Also appearing will be Maddy Leslie, who has performed in many Community Little Theatre productions; her sister Mia-Angelina Leslie; Carl Steidel, who has performed as a featured baritone with the Maine Music Society; singers Jay Barrett, Caroline Young Coffin, and Justin Reid; trumpeter Jody Steidel; violinists Aya Wakita, Ryan Spooner, and Josh White; bassist Jeff Munson; guitarist Neil James; organist Jon Whitmore; pianist Dan Burgess; and drummer Jeff Mayerson.

Tickets are \$18 each; all students will be admitted free of charge. To buy tickets, call 783-1585 or see FrancoCenter.org.

Merrill Auditorium hosts Christmas concert with the Kotschmar Organ



The Friends of the Kotschmar Organ will present their annual Christmas concert on Friday, December 18 at 7 p.m. at Merrill Auditorium in Portland. In honor of new municipal organist and the event's principal performer, James Kennerley, this year's concert is called "Christmas with Kennerley."

The program will include a variety of holiday classics, from traditional carols to modern favorites. For the first time, Kennerley will perform his new transcription of the traditional Christmas ballet, Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker." Metropolitan Opera star and Maine native Ashley Emerson, soprano, will sing "O Holy Night" and a number of other pieces Kennerley has arranged for the event. The ChoralArt Singers will lend their voices

to Christmas carols old and new, including favorites to sing along to, and will present the first performance of Kennerley's new "Carol of the Bells," which he composed earlier this year.

Also on the program will be Anthony DiLorenzo's "'Twas The Night Before Christmas," a witty musical setting with narration of the famous Christmas story, performed by the Kotschmar Festival Brass and Percussion ensemble; a Baroque Christmas suite, featuring glorious music of the season from Venice and Germany; and Kennerley's performance of an improvisation on seasonal melodies selected by the audience.

As Kennerley is known for his flamboyant and colorful socks when he plays the organ, the Friends of the Kotschmar Organ will take the opportunity to

have a sock drive to collect new socks for those in need within the community.

"Socks are the most requested garment at Preble Street and shelters nationwide," attests Dan D'Ippolito, community engagement director of Preble Street, a Portland human service agency. Concertgoers are encouraged to bring socks to Merrill Auditorium on the night of the concert.

Municipal organist James Kennerley is an award-winning keyboardist, conductor, composer and tenor. Hailing from Great Britain, he has performed at major music venues throughout the U.S. and Europe, including Carnegie Hall and the Royal Albert Hall.

"Playing the Kotschmar organ is always such a delight and an adventure," said Kennerley. "This organ is such an impressive instrument, and I'm thrilled to be a part of this beloved holiday tradition with music. It is not to be missed." Tickets are available at PortTIX or by calling 842-0800.

Dedicated in 1912, the Kotschmar organ is one of only two municipal organs in the U.S. Housed in the historic Merrill Auditorium in the Arts District of Portland, Maine, the Kotschmar offers an annual concert series featuring guest artists from around the world.

The Friends of the Kotschmar Organ maintain and preserve the organ in addition to producing and promoting concerts. They also offer a series of educational opportunities for children and adults, including organ tours, lectures, school curriculum, and the Kotschmar Memorial Trust Scholarship. For more information, see www.foko.org.

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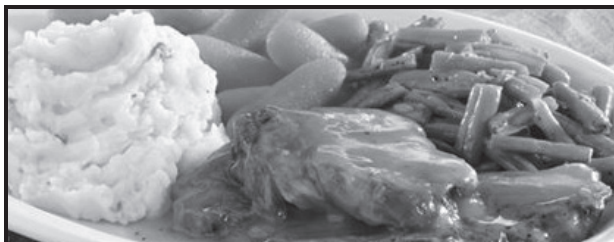
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CLT announces cast for “Lend Me A Tenor”



Pictured here (l. to r. from front) are cast members Caroline Carreras, Benjamin Morang, Paul Menezes, Rebecca Cole, Shannon LoCascio, Jason Pelletier, Jane Mitchell, and Roger Philippon.

Director Mitch Thomas has announced the cast for the upcoming Community Little Theatre production of the Ken Ludwig comedy “Lend Me A Tenor.” Originally nominated for nine Tony Awards, this door-slamming farce is set in a Cleveland hotel suite in 1934, where Tito Merelli, the greatest tenor of his time, is scheduled to perform at the local opera company. Slapstick and mayhem ensue in this fast-paced comedy classic involving two Otellos, a volatile Italian wife, an outrageous bellhop, and mistaken identity. Paul Menezes will play the role of Tito and Rebecca Cole will play his wife, Maria. Roger Philippon will appear as the opera company manager Saunders, Benjamin Morang will play his assistant Max, and Caroline Carreras will play his daughter Maggie. Julia, chair of the opera guild, will be played by Jane Mitchell, and local opera soprano Diana will be played by Shannon LoCascio. Taking on the role of the bellhop will be Jason Pelletier. The show will be performed January 11, 12, 17, 18, and 19 at 7:30 p.m. and January 13 and 20 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$18, or \$15 for seniors and \$12 for students. To buy tickets, call 783-0958 or visit LACLT.com.

Public Theatre’s “A Christmas Carol” opens Friday



Uncluttered by spectacle, six actors and a fiddler grab hold of a handful of props - and your imagination - to present the Public Theatre’s original adaptation of Charles Dickens’ holiday classic, followed by a rousing holiday fiddle concert and sing-a long. The show runs for one weekend only on Friday, December 14 at 7 p.m.; Saturday, December 15 at 2 and 7 p.m.; and Sunday, December 16 at 2 p.m. Tickets are only \$5 each for all kids 18 and under, \$20 for adults. To buy tickets, call 782-3200 or see www.thepublictheatre.org.



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Twin City Nights

Lewiston Public Library plans annual Gingerbread Day

Lewiston Public Library’s Callahan Hall will be magically transformed into the snowy reaches of Arendelle for the library’s sixth annual Gingerbread Day on Saturday, December 15, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Entirely free of charge and best for kids up to age 12 and their families, the event will feature ice castle decorating, glitter tattoos, a reading nook, make-your-own-reindeer, beautiful magic wands, and photo opportunities with the local Arendelle celebrities. There will also be snow balls to eat, hot cocoa to drink, playtime in a crystal castle, a story time with royalty, and prizes for those who participate. Costumes are highly encouraged! For more information about the event, contact the Children’s Department at 513-3133 or lpkids@lewistonmaine.gov.

Former Bruins visit Colisee for PAL benefit

On Friday, December 14, the Androscoggin Bank Colisee will be rocking as a team of former Boston Bruins players faces off against the Lewiston Police All-Star Team at 7 p.m. Past editions of this annual holiday game have featured former Bruins greats, including Terry O’Reilly, Ken Hodge, and Guy LaRose. This year’s game will feature former Bruins goalie and NESN personality Andrew Raycroft and former Portland Pirates player Steve Tsujura. Doors will open at 6:00. Admission will be by a suggested donation at the door. Program guides will be available and there will be music, concessions, t-shirt throws, and raffles. Proceeds will benefit the Lewiston Police Athletic League.

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Twin City Nights

State Library provides free access to new digital resources

The Maine State Library has partnered with Gale, a Cengage company, to provide the state's residents and students with free access to Gale digital resources with high-quality content that supports learning, research, business, career development, and personal enrichment.

These new resources can be accessed through any of the state's nearly 1,000 school, academic, and public libraries or directly from home without the use of a library card or password at library.digitalmaine.org.

"Gale shares our passion and commitment to providing the best user experience possible," said Maine State Librarian James Ritter. "This partnership enables us to accomplish this by providing Maine residents and students with easy access to valuable and reliable content, making our libraries stronger and transforming information into knowledge."

Gale's new digital resources include databases, periodicals, and reference content that are accessible 24/7 from any computer or mobile device. This enables users to seamlessly access Gale's authoritative content, eliminating barriers to access. Additionally, many of the resources feature integrated workflow tools

from Google and Microsoft, as well as language translation, downloadable audio, and easy ways to share and save content.

Gale resources now available to Maine residents include:

- Academic OneFile & General OneFile with InfoTrac Collections: Full-text periodicals and popular magazines, plus peer-reviewed journals aligned to the curriculum.
- Books and Authors: A reader's advisory database for discovery of books by author, genre and topic.
- Career Transitions: Walks job seekers through resume building, career exploration, and more.
- ChiltonLibrary: Automotive repair and maintenance instruction for more than 2,600 vehicle makes and models.
- Educator's Reference Complete: Academic journals and reports covering the education field.
- Gale LegalForms: Access to a variety of document templates - including state-specific legal forms - from wills and rental agreements to forms needed for starting or managing a new business.
- Gale Virtual Reference Library: Gale's online e-book platform provides users with 24/7 hassle-free

access to Gale reference books anytime, anywhere, and from any mobile device.

- GREENR: Authoritative reference content covering the environment, energy, and natural resources.
- Health & Wellness Resource Center: Authoritative source for health information, updated daily.
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- InfoTrac Newsstand: Searchable access to more than 2,000 global newspapers, images, broadcasts, and transcripts.
- Kids InfoBits: Age-appropriate, reliable, curriculum-related content to support elementary students' research and homework needs.

- Literature Resource Center: Represents the most current, comprehensive and reliable online literature database offering the broadest and most representative range of authors and their works, including a deep collection of full-text critical and literary analysis.
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- Scribner Writers Online: Contains more than 2,000 entries and essays on the lives and works of over

See **Library**, next page

Saying "No" To A Child's Holiday Demands

From the American Counseling Association

The holidays can make all of us feel like "kids" again. It's mostly a happy time, but also a season with heavy doses of marketing pressure. As adults, we're able to control (usually) the impulses brought on by all those "buy stuff now!" ads, but our children face the same tidal wave of advertising without the experience to help temper the desires the ads create.

There are real reasons why the latest, heavily advertised toys can seem so appealing to our kids. It's a normal part of development for children to fantasize and jump from reality to a make-believe world with ease. Watch small children dressing up or acting out elaborate games and you can see how real those fantasy worlds can be for a child.

This ability to engage in fantasies is also why all

the newest and "hottest" toys can seem so appealing. Children can easily dream about owning that exciting new game or toy, something they can imagine playing and sharing with friends, and maybe even being envied for owning.

These childhood dreams can be very strong during the gift-giving season, and when we have to let our kids down and say "no" to the latest requests, it can leave us feeling like we're bad parents. This, However, while this may be a common emotional reaction, it's not a realistic evaluation.

As a parent, there may be legitimate reasons why agreeing to a child's demands simply isn't practical, or desirable, or maybe even possible. While those reasons may make sense for you, for the child looking to fulfill his or her fantasy, your adult reality has little or no meaning.

Our normal parental

response to a child's over-the-top request, or "demand," might be something like, "No, that toy is simply too expensive." Such a response often will lead to escalated tension that makes the child cling even harder to the fantasy of how wonderful it could be and how you just don't understand.

Instead, it often works better to allow the child to hold on to and enjoy the fantasy. Respond by showing you understand how wonderful and fun it might be to have that toy. Don't resist the fantasy, but give your child the time to return to reality at his or her own pace. Save the discussion of why the toy is not a good decision for a calmer time when the fantasy is not as strong.

Counseling Corner is provided by the American Counseling Association. Send comments or questions to ACACorner@counseling.org or see www.counseling.org.

Beware of Scammers Pretending To Be From Social Security

By Libby Newport

In the digital age, frauds and scams are an unfortunate part of doing business online. During the holiday season, Social Security has traditionally seen a spike in phishing scams, and we want to protect you as best we can.

We urge you to always be cautious and to avoid providing sensitive information such as your Social Security Number (SSN) or bank account information to unknown individuals over the phone or internet. If you receive a call and aren't expecting one, you must be extra careful. You can always get the caller's information, hang up, and - if you do need more clarification - contact the official phone number of the business or agency that the caller claims to represent. Never reveal personal data to a stranger who called you.

Please take note; there's a scam going around right now. You might receive a call from someone claiming to be from Social

Security or another agency. Calls can even display the 1-800-772-1213, Social Security's national customer service number, as the incoming number on your caller ID. In some cases, the caller states that Social Security does not have all of your personal information, such as your Social Security number (SSN), on file.

Other callers claim Social Security needs additional information so the agency can increase your benefit payment, or that Social Security will terminate your benefits if they do not confirm your information. This appears to be a widespread issue, as reports have come from people across the country. These calls are not from Social Security.

Callers sometimes state that your Social Security number is at risk of being deactivated or deleted. The caller then asks you to provide a phone number to resolve the issue. People should be aware the scheme's details may vary; however, you should avoid

engaging with the caller or calling the number provided, as the caller might attempt to acquire personal information.

Social Security employees occasionally contact people by telephone for customer-service purposes. In only a few special situations, such as when you have business pending with us, a Social Security employee may request the person confirm personal information over the phone.

Social Security employees will never threaten you or promise a Social Security benefit approval or increase in exchange for information. In those cases, the call is fraudulent, and you should just hang up. If you receive these calls, please report the information to the Office of the Inspector General at 1-800-269-0271 or online at oig.ssa.gov/report.

Remember, only call official phone numbers and use secured websites of the agencies and businesses you know are correct. Protecting your information is an important part of Social Security's mission to secure today and tomorrow.

Libby Newport is a Social Security Public Affairs Specialist based in Portland, Maine.



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Thursday, Dec. 13

Chamber Breakfast Meeting. 7 a.m. Hilton Garden Inn, 14 Great Falls Plaza, Auburn. Curtis Picard of the Retail Assoc. of Maine discusses the holiday and 2019 retail outlook. \$20 (members \$30). Register at www.LAMetroChamber.com.

La Rencontre. 11:25 a.m. Franco Center, 46 Cedar St., Lewiston. Following a turkey dinner with Christmas cake for dessert, singer and pianist Louis Philippe performs French and English songs. \$12. Reserve at 783-1585 or boxoffice@francocenter.org.

Chamber Workshop. 12 to 1 p.m. Chamber of Commerce, 415 Lisbon St., Lewiston. Attorney Rebecca Webber discusses “Sexual Harassment Awareness Training for Small Employers.” \$50 (members \$25). Register at www.LAMetroChamber.com.

Rotary Club Lunch Meeting. Noon to 1 p.m. Village Inn, 165 High St., Auburn. The guest speakers are Dumais and Jamie Caouette of Lewiston High School’s Store Next Door project. Free; no reservations required. 333-4588; www.lewistonauburnrotary.org.

Theater: “The Santa Diaries.” 7:30 p.m. Chocolate Church Arts Center, 804 Washington St., Bath. In this holiday romantic comedy for all ages, a jaded Hollywood actor resists taking over the family business. Again 12/14-16 (Sat. at 2 and 7; Sun. at 2:00). \$15/12/10. 442-8455; www.chocolatechurcharts.org.

Friday, Dec. 14

French Sing-Along. 1:30 p.m. Lewiston-Auburn College, 51 Westminster St., Lewiston. Local singing group Les Troubadours lead those attending in singing a selection of French holiday favorites; all welcome. Free. 576-4109.

Benefit Hockey Game. 7 p.m. Androscoggin Bank Coliseum, Lewiston. Former Boston Bruins players face off against the Lewiston Police All-Star Team; program guides, raffles, concessions. Suggested donation at door. Benefits Lewiston Police Athletic League.

Theater: “A Christmas Carol.” 7 p.m. The Public Theatre, 31 Maple St., Lewiston. For one weekend only, the Public Theatre presents its original adaptation of Dickens’ holiday classic. Kids 18 and under \$5; adults \$20. Again 12/15 (2 and 7 p.m.) and 12/16 (2 p.m.). 782-3200; publictheatre.org.

Saturday, Dec. 15

“Holiday in Lights” Concert. 7:30 p.m. Franco Center, 46 Cedar Street, Lewiston. Mitch Thomas and Friends present their annual musical holiday celebration; doors and bar open at 6 p.m. \$18 (students free).

783-1585; francocenter.org.

Sunday, Dec. 16

Lewiston Winter Farmer’s Market. 10 a.m. to noon. YWCA, 130 East Ave., Lewiston. Vendors sell locally grown and produced goods. Harvest Bucks, Market Rewards; credit, debit, cash, and SNAP/EBT accepted. 513-3848; www.lewistonfarmersmarket.com.

Monday, Dec. 17

Film Screening. 6:30 p.m. Franco Center, 46 Cedar St., Lewiston. The center screens the comedy “Montréal La Blanche,” a 2016 feature film made in Canada; in French w. English subtitles. Free; donations accepted. www.francocenter.org.

Saturday, Dec. 22

“Purrfect Christmas Bake Sale and Bottle Drive.” 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sabattus Street Self Storage, 1434 Sabattus St., Lewiston. Help Tommy’s Feral Feline Friends raise funds to support their work caring for local feral cat colonies through the winter; cash donations also appreciated. Again 12/23. normblais39@yahoo.com.

Sunday, Dec. 23

Lewiston Winter Farmer’s Market. 10 a.m. to noon. YWCA, 130 East Ave., Lewiston. Vendors sell locally grown and produced goods. Harvest Bucks, Market Rewards; credit, debit, cash, and SNAP/EBT accepted. 513-3848; www.lewistonfarmersmarket.com.

Saturday, Dec. 29

Christmas Bird Count. 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. In this Stanton Bird Club event, participants spread to survey birds sighted within a 7.5-mile radius of the Bates College campus in Lewiston. All welcome; to participate, call 240-1380 or email seamans.linda@gmail.com.

Sunday, Dec. 30

Lewiston Winter Farmer’s Market. 10 a.m. to noon. YWCA, 130 East Ave., Lewiston. Vendors sell locally grown and produced goods. Harvest Bucks, Market Rewards; credit, debit, cash, and SNAP/EBT accepted. 513-3848; www.lewistonfarmersmarket.com.

Sunday, Jan. 6

Lewiston Winter Farmer’s Market. 10 a.m. to noon. YWCA, 130 East Ave., Lewiston. Vendors sell locally grown and produced goods. Harvest Bucks, Market Rewards; credit, debit, cash, and SNAP/EBT accepted. 513-3848; www.lewistonfarmersmarket.com.

Monday, Jan. 7

Book Discussion. 12:30 p.m. Local History Room, Auburn Public Library. The Auburn Page Turners discuss “A Fine Balance,” by Rohinton Mis-

try. Open to all; copies avail. through the library. Free. 333-6640, ext. 4.

Friday, Jan. 11

Theater: “Lend Me a Tenor.” 7:30 p.m. Great Falls Performing Arts Center, Auburn. Community Little Theatre presents this fast-paced comedy classic involving the greatest tenor of his time, an outrageous bellhop, and mistaken identities. Again Jan. 12-13, 17-20 (Suns. at 2 p.m.). \$18/15/12. 783-0958; LACLT.com.

Sunday, Jan. 13

Lewiston Winter Farmer’s Market. 10 a.m. to noon. YWCA, 130 East Ave., Lewiston. Vendors sell locally grown and produced goods. Harvest Bucks, Market Rewards; credit, debit, cash, and SNAP/EBT accepted. 513-3848; www.lewistonfarmersmarket.com.

Thursday, Jan. 17

Theater: “Lend Me a Tenor.” 7:30 p.m. Great Falls Performing Arts Center, Auburn. Community Little Theatre presents this fast-paced comedy classic involving the greatest tenor of his time, an outrageous bellhop, and mistaken identities. Again Jan. 18-20 (Sun. at 2 p.m.). \$18/15/12. 783-0958; LACLT.com.

Sunday, Jan. 20

Lewiston Winter Farmer’s Market. 10 a.m. to noon. YWCA, 130 East Ave., Lewiston. Vendors sell locally grown and produced goods. Harvest Bucks, Market Rewards; credit, debit, cash, and SNAP/EBT accepted. 513-3848; www.lewistonfarmersmarket.com.

Sunday, Jan. 27

Lewiston Winter Farmer’s Market. 10 a.m. to noon. YWCA, 130 East Ave., Lewiston. Vendors sell locally grown and produced goods. Harvest Bucks, Market Rewards; credit, debit, cash, and SNAP/EBT accepted. 513-3848; www.lewistonfarmersmarket.com.

Monday, Jan. 28

Film Screening. 6:30 p.m. Franco Center, 46 Cedar St., Lewiston. The center screens the comedy “Super Lola,” a 2013 made-for-TV movie from France; in French w. English subtitles. Free; donations accepted. www.francocenter.org.

Sunday, Feb. 3

Lewiston Winter Farmer’s Market. 10 a.m. to noon. YWCA, 130 East Ave., Lewiston. Vendors sell locally grown and produced goods. Harvest Bucks, Market Rewards; credit, debit, cash, and SNAP/EBT accepted. 513-3848; www.lewistonfarmersmarket.com.

Monday, Feb. 4

Book Discussion. 12:30 p.m. Local History Room, Auburn Public Library. The Auburn Page Turners discuss “Future Home of the Living God,” by Louise Erdrich. Open to all; copies avail. through the library. Free. 333-6640, ext. 4.

Sunday, Feb. 10

Lewiston Winter Farmer’s Market. 10 a.m. to noon. YWCA, 130 East Ave., Lewiston. Vendors sell locally grown and produced goods. Harvest Bucks, Market Rewards; credit, debit, cash, and SNAP/EBT accepted. 513-3848; www.lewistonfarmersmarket.com.

Sunday, Feb. 17

Lewiston Winter Farmer’s Market. 10 a.m. to noon. YWCA, 130 East Ave., Lewiston. Vendors sell locally grown and produced goods. Harvest Bucks, Market Rewards; credit, debit, cash, and SNAP/EBT accepted. 513-3848; www.lewistonfarmersmarket.com.

Sunday, Feb. 24

Lewiston Winter Farmer’s Market. 10 a.m. to noon. YWCA, 130 East

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Creed II.....	PG-13.....	12:30.....	3:30...6:40 ...9:35
Ralph Breaks The InternetPG11:45.....		2:15.....	4:45...7:15 ...9:45
Instant Family.....	PG-13.....	1:10.....	4:10...7:10 ...9:50
Bohemian Rhapsody PG-13.....		12:40...1:30 ...3:40.....	6:35...6:45 ...9:35
Spider-Man: Into The Spider-Verse.....	PG.....	12:50 ...3:50 .4:30...7:20 ...9:20	
Spider-Man: Into The Spider-Verse 3D..PG.....			9:55
Fantastic Beasts: Crimes Of Grindelwald.....	PG-13..1:00 ..4:00...7:00 ...9:00		
Dr. Seuss' The Grinch ...	PG...12:20 ..2:30 ..4:40...6:50 ...9:50		

Ave., Lewiston. Vendors sell locally grown and produced goods. Harvest Bucks, Market Rewards; credit, debit, cash, and SNAP/EBT accepted. 513-3848; www.lewistonfarmersmarket.com.

Monday, Mar. 4

Book Discussion. 12:30 p.m. Local History Room, Auburn Public Library. The Auburn Page Turners discuss “Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City,” by Matthew Desmond. Open to all; copies avail. through the library. Free. 333-6640, ext. 4.

Library

Continued from previous page

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What’s Going On

Franco Center schedules film screenings



“Montréal La Blanche” is a 2016 feature film from Canada.

The Gendron Franco Center has scheduled the next two screenings of its year-long series, “French Film TV5MONDE-Days.” All films in the series are in French with English subtitles. The screenings are free and open to the public. Donations are accepted to benefit the center.

On Monday, December 17 at 6:30 p.m., the series will show the comedy “Montréal La Blanche,” a 2016 feature film made in Canada. One Christmas evening in Montreal, Amokrane, an Algerian taxi driver, picks up Kahina, a former pop star who he thought was dead.

On Monday, January 28 at 6:30 p.m., the se-



“Super Lola” is a 2013 made-for-TV movie from France.

ries will show the comedy “Super Lola,” a 2013 made-for-TV movie from France. Chronic shyness and fear of heights make daily life difficult for visiting nurse Lola. When circumstances transform her into a masked heroine, she captures the imagina-

tion of a modest freelancer, who doesn’t suspect that he knows the woman behind the mask.

Located at 46 Cedar Street in Lewiston, the Franco Center is wheelchair accessible. For more information, see www.franco-center.org.

WHA Art Gallery

The Woman’s Hospital Association Rotating Art Gallery at Central Maine Medical Center is featuring the work of photographers Trish Berube and Lindsay White through the month of December. The gallery is lo-

cated at the hospital’s main entrance at 60 High Street in Lewiston. Works on display may be purchased through the WHA Gift Shop, adjacent to the main lobby. A percentage of sale proceeds benefits CMMC.

“Santa Diaries” opens tonight at Chocolate Church



Billy Rankis perfects his holiday dance moves as character “Will Hawes” for the Maine premier of the “The Santa Diaries.” This heartwarming Christmas comedy for all ages plays December 13, 14, and 15 at 7:30 p.m. and December 15 and 16 at 2 p.m. Chocolate Church Arts Center is located at 804 Washington Street in Bath. Tickets are \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door, and \$10 for kids under 12. They may be purchased by calling 442-8455 or at www.chocolatechurcharts.org. (Photo by David Mention)

UMF

Continued from page 6
survey said they were very satisfied or satisfied with the UMF program.

In its overall approval of the UMF program, the Maine State Board of Education also commended UMF for its commitment to staff its educator preparation program with full time faculty. It observed that UMF is unique in that all field supervisors who mentor and oversee pre-service teachers in schools around the state are full-time faculty who can model the best in professional practices.

The Maine review also commended UMF for its dedication to assistive technology within the Spenciner Curriculum Materials Center. The center, connected to the Maine Department of Education’s CITE Program, houses an extensive collection of assistive technology devices, such as adaptive gaming controllers and 3-D printers that are available to loan to students, educators, and the general public.

These resources can help all children, including those with disabilities, succeed in the classroom. The report noted the facility is “a remarkable resource for the students, faculty, and the larger community, encouraging inclusive practice with state of the art materials and equipment.”

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