

After serving masses for almost 75 years, Franco Center building still serves the community



Story and photos by Nathan Tsukroff

With its first mass on Christmas Day in 1927, the former St. Mary's Church became an important focal

point for the Franco-Americans of Lewiston's "Little Canada," who lived in the neighborhood's densely populated tenements and

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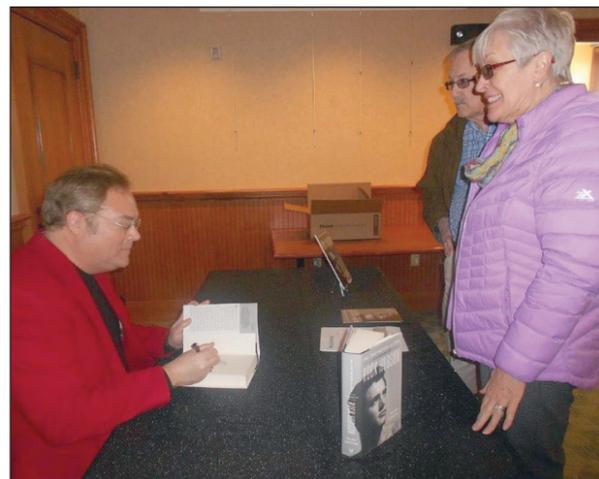
Out & About with Rachel Morin Mark Griffin discusses his Rock Hudson biography at APL

Story and photos by Rachel Morin

When I read that noted local author Mark Griffin would discuss and sign copies of his latest book, "All That Heaven Allows: A Biography of Rock Hudson," at Auburn Public Library on February 14, I knew that I would be there, along with many of Hudson's fans. What better day than Valentine's Day to hear about America's movie star heartthrob?

I arrived early to meet the author and his assistants, who were preparing the book table. It didn't take long before the Androscoggin Community Room filled with fans of Rock Hudson's movies, men and women alike.

Griffin began his talk with a comfortable, relaxed narration on how he came to write the book, including his writing process and distant, ongoing travels to meet the people he interviewed. It was a fascinating subject



Griffin autographs the book for Dale Theriault and Judy Vardamis.

and the audience hung on every word.

I am not going to spoil the book for readers by revealing many of its stories, anecdotes, and facts that have never before been published. Many articles we read about Rock Hudson back in his heyday were incomplete, not totally accurate, or downright misleading.

Griffin gives an ac-

curate, first-rate account, gleaned from his many interviews and unprecedented access to private journals, personal correspondence, and movie production files. The book is so very interesting and the back cover lists rave reviews. Readers and fans will gain a new perspective on Rock Hudson. Let's just say that I devoured every page.

The book includes pages of interesting black-and-white photos of Rock and family members, friends, co-stars, political figures, and partners over the years. It also provides a complete compilation of Hudson's life in painstaking, careful detail, from his birth on November 17, 1925, through his early years, his military service, his start and rapid rise in the film business during the era of Hollywood's Code of Silence, and his sad demise of AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) on October 2, 1985.

Even though the world was stunned by his AIDS diagnosis, thousands and thousands of letters expressing love and support for Rock came in from all over the world.

Mark Griffin has written a meticulous, well-researched biography of a troubled man who, to protect his career, led three different

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Applications to Bates College set record for second consecutive year

The month of March begins the home stretch of a historic enrollment season as the Bates College Admission Committee embarks on its review of regular-decision applications.

And it's a long stretch: For the incoming Class of 2023, Bates received a record-setting 8,222 applications from prospective first-year students. The total is seven percent ahead of last year's record of 7,688 first-year applications.

The record-breaking pool shows double-digit growth in several key demographic categories, including geographic expansion, first-generation-to-college students, and U.S. students of color.

"Bates continues to build strength on strength," says Dean of Admission and Financial Aid Leigh Weisenburger. "We continue to pair traditional, feet-on-the-ground outreach efforts, including a strategic focus on emerging areas in the U.S. South and West, along with increasingly effective digital outreach to talented

and diverse students who may not otherwise have the chance to learn about Bates College."

The overall applicant pool comprises two early-decision rounds that were completed earlier in the winter, along with the current regular-decision pool, which the admission team will evaluate and complete by mid-March.

Admission deliberations will continue into mid-March, after which Bates will notify applicants of admission decisions by April 1. Admitted students have until May 1 to enroll. As in past years, the college seeks an incoming class of approximately 500 students.

"While the story at this stage often feels numbers-driven, we never lose sight of our goal: to create an intentional learning and living community of students aligned with Bates' mission and values," adds Weisenburger.

"We seek to attract talent and diversity, to get to know applicants as individuals, and to evaluate each

and every candidate in a holistic way that appreciates the very different challenges and opportunities they have experienced in preparation for college."

The college's 2018-19 recruitment season was highlighted by the second year of joint travel with fellow colleges of the American Talent Initiative, which seeks to expand by 50,000 the number of low- and moderate-income students attending 270 top U.S. schools. Bates is a founding member of the initiative.

Last fall, Bates led ATI colleges in recruiting visits to schools in several metropolitan areas, including Little Rock, Ark., and, in Texas, Houston and San Antonio, that yielded significant application increases from all three areas.

In the digital realm, Bates continues to expand and refine its suite of web, social media, and email communications. These efforts offer a one-two approach, first offering helpful information to prospective students and then guiding them toward key, measurable actions, such as visiting a department's web page or scheduling a visit.

In terms of financial aid, the incoming Class of 2023 will be supported by the largest financial aid budget in college history, totaling nearly \$10 million in grant aid. Bates anticipates approximately 40 percent of incoming students will receive institutional need-based grant aid, which is based on their demonstrated financial need, with the average grant approaching \$45,000.

Student Senate leaders at CMCC



The Student Senate at Central Maine Community College is the governing body for all student activities and the official student voice on campus. Elected by the student body, members are responsible for allocating funds received from activity fees paid by students. Pictured here (l. to r.) are officers William Bishop, president; Derek Kuusela, vice president; Brink Beaulieu, treasurer; and Casay Mohamed, secretary.

Health Affiliates Maine welcomes new HR Manager

Health Affiliates Maine has announced the addition of Michelle Nadeau as Human Resources Manager. Nadeau brings a strong HR background to her new position. She has previously worked in human resources in both the labor and restaurant industries. Her skills include employee relations, communication, recruitment and retention, developing and maintaining policies and procedures, and advising management in guidelines, laws, and "best practices." At Health Affiliates Maine, she will also manage worker's compensation, compliance monitoring, and HRIS system maintenance.



Michelle Nadeau

Nadeau holds both PHR (Professional in Human Resources) and SHRM-CP (Society of Human Resources Management Certified Professional) cer-

tifications. She graduated from Concordia University in Montreal, Quebec, and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Applied Human Sciences with a focus in human relations. She is also a Notary Public.

"My desire to help others achieve their goals led me to human resources," said Nadeau. "I am most excited to be a part of Health Affiliates Maine because I am passionate about helping the greater good, and that's what HAM does." A statewide agency, Health Affiliates Maine provides services and support to Mainers affected by mental health and substance abuse issues.

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Governor's Address: I Want You to Hear the Truth About the NECEC Project Directly From Me

Last night, thousands of Maine households turned up their thermostats to keep their families warm as cold weather engulfed us. At \$2.90 a gallon, many households are spending their precious savings on heating oil.

The State of Maine sends five billion dollars out of state every year to pay for our use of non-renewable fossil fuels. We're the most dependent on heating oil of any state in the country, with nearly 70 percent of Maine homeowners relying on oil for heat.

Our high costs of energy and electricity are a barrier to our health and a deterrent to our economy. Our cars and trucks account for more than half of our carbon dioxide emissions.

I ran for Governor with a promise to reduce this dangerous reliance on fossil fuels, to address our carbon footprint, and to accept the challenge of preventing and mitigating climate change. We simply cannot afford to do nothing.

This week, I announced that Maine would become part of the bipartisan United States Climate Alliance, with the goal of reducing our state's greenhouse gas emissions by 80 percent by the year 2050 and achieving 100 percent renewable generation of electricity by that same year.

Consistent with these goals, I authorized the Governor's Office of Energy to sign onto a stipulation before the Public Utilities Commission that includes a number of added provisions regarding the New England Clean Energy Connect (NECEC) transmission

line proposal in Western Maine. These added provisions will help us wean ourselves off fossil fuels.

Many parties now agree that this project should go through. These parties include the Conservation Law Foundation, the Acadia Center, electrical union IBEW, the Maine Public Advocate, the Passamaquoddy Tribe, the nonprofit Western Mountains & Rivers Corporation, the City of Lewiston, and the Industrial Energy Consumers Group.

I expect - and welcome - a robust and truthful discussion regarding the New England Clean Energy Connect project, a discussion that should be based on facts, not speculation and fear.

But you may have seen the campaign on Facebook and TV this week, funded by someone who refuses to be identified - maybe it's one of those big oil or gas companies wanting to continue taking money out of your pocket. But here is what is clear: that ad misrepresents my position and the process that resulted in this stipulation.

I want you to hear the facts directly from me.

During my campaign for Governor, I said I had serious concerns about the transmission line proposal. I questioned whether it offered concrete benefits to Maine people. I always said that I wanted to see substantial benefits for Maine people before I could support it.

Once I took office, I dug into the file and consulted with people I trust on all sides. I asked HydroQuebec to come to the table, and I insisted that the project, were it to go forward, should include electric vehicle charging stations, provisions to support solar and other renewables, broadband access, heat pumps and similar



Governor Janet Mills

non-fossil fuel heating mechanisms, as well as cash relief for ratepayers - over and above the benefits to Maine electricity consumers of lower prices for all of New England.

I consulted with outside experts and I relied on the objective report of those experts hired by the staff of the PUC to analyze the price benefits of this project and its real impact on reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

As a result, the stipulation I authorized the Governor's Energy Office to sign onto last week is markedly different from where things had stood at the end of last year.

So, here is the truth. This project, if further permitted, will put our state and our region on the road to a zero-carbon economy by 2050. This isn't CMP saying this; it's the experts, and it's me.

This stipulation will allow thousands of Maine's low and middle-income families to shut off the furnace and heat their homes in the winter and cool them in the summer with modern

heat pumps.

It will put our state in the lead nationally, per capita, in electric vehicle usage, creating a network of charging stations that will enable us to travel anywhere across the state.

By all objective analyses, it will suppress the price of electricity in Maine and across the region, saving Maine residents alone millions of dollars each year in electricity costs. In addition, there is that \$50 million Low Income Customer Benefits Fund that will be administered by the Office of the Public Advocate and a \$140 million fund to further reduce electricity rates for Maine consumers.

With an investment of more than \$30 million in broadband, education and scholarships, and other community benefits, this project will boost, not diminish, the Maine economy. In the first ten years, the project will provide nearly \$1 billion in economic benefits to the state, including several thousand jobs in Western Maine during the peak of construction - jobs sorely needed in rural areas of our state.

Finally, while enhancing the reliability of the New England grid to avoid blackouts and brownouts, the project will reduce carbon dioxide emissions in New England by 3.6 million metric tons per year - the equivalent of removing 767,000 passenger vehicles

from our roads.

Importantly, this stipulation creates a new special purpose entity - not Central Maine Power - to build and operate this transmission line.

And this project will cost Maine ratepayers nothing. Massachusetts will foot the bill.

I recognize the concerns of those who oppose the project, many of whom are worried about the environmental impacts. Western Maine is where I live. It's where I was born and grew up, and it will always be my home. No one loves Western Maine more than I do. No one cares about this state more than I do.

But I know that this project will now undergo a rigorous environmental review, with public input and comment, at the DEP, the Land Use Planning Commission, the Army Corps of Engineers, and the Presidential Permitting authorities.

And I know that the project has already changed a lot to accommodate specific environmental and sportsmen's concerns. For instance, the path of the line has been changed to minimize environmental impact. The line will now run under the scenic Kennebec Gorge instead of over it. And there are proposals to preserve deer wintering areas, revegetate cut-over areas, and retain the canopy of tall trees wherever possible.

To put things in con-

text, 411,000 acres of trees are cut in Maine every year. The number of acres that would be felled as a result of this project would be equal to two-tenths of a percent of what we already cut. And, while we also want to encourage solar and other renewables, creating a comparable amount of electricity with solar - even if we could make that into a consistent and reliable energy source - would require clearing about 34,000 acres, or fifty-five square miles, of land

As your Governor, it is my responsibility to study this proposal carefully, weighing the broad ramifications and judging whether it moves us forward. It's so important to look at all sides of the matter.

Substantially enhanced by this stipulation, the New England Clean Energy Connect transmission line project is now poised to benefit Maine people, inject millions into our economy, create jobs, fund electric vehicles, reduce electricity costs, expand broadband, and substantially reduce our carbon footprint. I believe that this is a project, on balance, that is worth pursuing.

Thank You,
Janet Mills
Governor



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Diocese offers Lenten retreats

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Portland is offering retreats and missions at parishes and retreat centers around the state to help parishioners and community members deepen their Lenten experience. For Roman Catholics, Lent, which begins on Ash Wednesday (March 6) and ends on Holy Thursday (April 18), is a period of spiritual renewal to prepare for the celebration of Christ's passion, death, and resurrection at Easter.

Retreats offered at area parishes are listed below. All are welcome to attend. For more information, see www.portlanddiocese.org/lent-retreats-2019.

Sky-Hy Conference and Renewal Center, Topsham (March 8 through 10). Open to men ages 18 and over, this retreat with the theme "Living in the world, but not being of the world" is an informal opportunity to gather for prayer, reflect, and build community with other men serious about their faith. Presenters include Fr. Seamus Griesbach, director of vocations for the diocese, and other local priests. To sign up, see <https://goo.gl/forms/UfzQOmMSGT5YIjnl>.

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Auburn (Sundays during Lent). "Entering the Abundant Life" will be held Sundays during Lent at 2 p.m. at St. Philip Church, 2365 Turner Road in Auburn, or at 6 p.m. at the Village Inn, 165 High Street

in Auburn. Babysitting will be available at Sacred Heart Church in Auburn. Sessions begin March 10 and continue through April 14. For more information or to register, contact Don Smith at 782-8096 or donald.smith@portlanddiocese.org.

Parish of the Holy Eucharist, Falmouth-Yarmouth (March 11 through 13). This retreat, with the theme "Knowing, Loving, and Serving in the Beauty of Our Faith," will be led by Fr. Steven Bell, a missionary priest from the Paulist Fathers. Morning sessions will begin at 8:15 a.m. at Sacred Heart Church, 326 Main Street in Yarmouth, and evening sessions will take place at 5:30 p.m. at Holy Martyrs of North America Church, 266 Foreside Road in Falmouth. For more information, visit www.poth.org.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, Windham (starting March 12). Bible study sessions will be based on the video series "No Greater Love - A Biblical Walk through Christ's Passion." Filmed in the Holy Land, this five-part video series and accompanying full-length book reveals Christ's love by helping participants experience the places where Jesus walked, prayed, suffered, and died. A Bible study group for women, facilitated by Terry Barrieau, will begin on Tuesday, March 12, from 9:30 to 11 a.m. A

Bible study group for both men and women, facilitated by Blanca Lytle, will begin on Wednesday, March 13, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Both groups will meet at the church at 919 Roosevelt Trail in Windham. The cost is \$15 for workbooks. For more information, call Terry at 256-2870.

St. Michael Parish, Augusta (starting March 13). Bible study sessions will be based on the video series "No Greater Love - A Biblical Walk through Christ's Passion." Sessions begin March 13 and will take place on Wednesdays from 2:30 to 4 p.m. or Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the St. Michael Pastoral Center, 24 Washington Street in Augusta. For more information, contact Gail at the pastoral center at 623-8823.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, Windham (March 23). The one-day Lenten retreat called "Change Our Hearts - Making Lent More Meaningful" will be offered on Saturday, March 23, at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 919 Roosevelt Trail in Windham. Check-in begins at 9:30 a.m. and the retreat will conclude prior to the 4 p.m. Mass. Lunch is included. There is no fee to attend, but free-will donations will be accepted. For more information or to register, contact Susan at 632-9009 or email retreats.sebagolr-parishes@gmail.com.

Who Is Lewiston Mayor Shane Bouchard?

By Maura Murphy

Mayor Shane Bouchard's poker-faced expression doesn't reveal many clues about what he might be thinking or what he is like. Lewiston Community Relations Coordinator Dottie Perham-Whittier, who has worked with 11 mayors during her employment with the City of Lewiston, offers a glimpse: "Mayor Bouchard has a confident, to-the-point, go-getter type of presence, but when it comes to teenagers and dogs, you see a whole different side of him - he's a real softie!"

City Administrator Ed Barrett echoes Perham-Whittier's observation: "The mayor is big on dogs, something both I and Charlie, my Golden Doodle, appreciate. He recently adopted a new family member - Moxie - who he has introduced to some of us. If you want to see a softie in action, just check out Shane with his new buddy."

Perham-Whittier says that each mayor has contributed something different to the city we are today. "With Mayor Bouchard, I especially appreciate the fact that at the start of City Council meetings, he recognizes the achievements of staff, community members, and businesses that are making Lewiston shine."

Says Barrett: "The mayor has been particularly strong at reaching out and working closely with other members of the City Council. We have an exceptionally diverse group of elected officials who represent all aspects of the political spectrum, and Shane has built positive relationships with everyone. He works hard to ensure that all views are heard and to maintain positive working relationships even when there are disagreements. It's a pleasure working with a group that can remain positive and productive even when there are strong differences of opinion, and Shane has been important in keeping things positive."

Ward 2 City Councilor Zachary Pettengill says, "This is my first term as a City Councilor and it is great to work with Mayor Bouchard. In every conversation and every council meeting



Lewiston Mayor Shane Bouchard

he is very dedicated and driven to move Lewiston forward and grow to support its people. I'm looking forward to his second year as Mayor and what that means for Lewiston economically, as he has a very clear vision of what it means for Lewiston to succeed!"

Barrett elaborates, "While addressing current issues and problems, Shane always keeps in mind his vision for the future and his strong desire to improve Lewiston. He speaks frequently about his desire for a 'WOW' project that will enhance Lewiston's attractiveness - be it concerts and events on our riverfront or pursuing ideas for lighting our buildings, bridges, and Great Falls. He's open to big thinking and big ideas that will move the community forward."

Barrett says the mayor's outreach extends beyond City Hall and out into the community: "He's always ready to meet with citizens with problems, concerns, and ideas and to do his best to provide the help needed."

Lewiston resident Beth Matthews knows this firsthand. She was surprised and pleased when Mayor Bouchard contacted her personally after hearing about problems she had been having in her neighborhood. "He didn't need to reach out and seek to understand where I was coming from," says Matthews. "It was completely unsolicited and the concern was genuine."

"Despite being on the opposite end of the politi-

cal spectrum, I've come to appreciate the support of the mayor's leadership," she continues. "It's been refreshing, and our shared common denominator is a commitment to what truly best serves Lewiston. There is nothing partisan about what Lewiston needs. The mayor and I have come to this common understanding and I am confident in the direction he can lead us with the community's support."

Lewiston resident Stephen Kottler says, "I don't know Mayor Bouchard very well, but he first impressed me with his common-sense approach to local government when he was a City Councilor and our neighborhood was facing some serious problems. His active interest in solving problems facing some Lewiston residents who were not in the ward he represented really stood out. His approach is respectful, practical, and not tied to any special interest groups or ideology. He really cares about people and the city, but avoids the spotlight. He's not looking for headlines and glory for himself, but justice and improvement for all of us in Lewiston. We're lucky to have Shane Bouchard doing all that he's doing for us."

Maura Murphy is a freelance writer and editor from Lewiston. After writing her way around the world for nearly 30 years, she returned to the city she has always called home.

This article is part of a series featuring Mayor Bouchard and some of the plans, issues, and opportunities facing Lewiston. Questions and suggestions for topics from our readers are encouraged and may be sent to maurakmurphy@gmail.com.

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Local Meals on Wheels to honor Sen. Susan Collins



Senator Susan Collins

SeniorsPlus will host its annual Fill the Plate Breakfast to benefit Meals on Wheels on Friday, March 22, from 7 to 9 a.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn Riverwatch of Auburn. The event will honor U.S. Senator Susan Collins with the Ikaria Award.

Tickets are \$20 per person in advance or \$25 at the door. Seating is limited and advance registration is recommended. To register in advance, call 795-4010 or see www.seniorsplus.org.

In addition to receiving the 2019 Ikaria Award, which honors an individual in the community for singular and outstanding contributions toward improving the lives of older adults, Senator Collins will also be the keynote speaker at the event. In her remarks, she will offer personal and professional recollections of her experiences engaging with older adults and how these

interactions drive her work.

There is always the possibility that the Senate schedule will change and Senator Collins would need to remain in Washington, DC, for a vote, but she is scheduled to attend the Breakfast on March 22.

Senator Collins is Maine's senior U.S. Senator. She ranks twelfth in Senate seniority and is the most senior Republican woman. She chairs the Senate Aging Committee and the Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development Appropriations Subcommittee. She serves on the Intelligence Committee and the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee.

As the Chair of the Senate Aging Committee, she has made it a priority to stop fraud and financial exploitation targeting seniors; lower the soaring cost of prescription drugs;

improve retirement security; promote policies that allow seniors to remain in their own homes if they wish to do so; and increase funding for biomedical research for diseases and illnesses such as diabetes, heart disease, cancer, and Alzheimer's.

For the last five consecutive years, Senator Collins has ranked as the most bipartisan member of the U.S. Senate. Known for her Maine work ethic, Senator Collins has never missed a roll call vote, casting more than 6,800.

Ikaria is a Greek island in the Aegean Sea. It is considered one of the world's five "Blue Zones" - places where an estimated one in three members of the population regularly lives an active life into their 90s.

The Fill the Plate Breakfast is presented in conjunction with March for Meals, a national campaign of the Meals on Wheels Association of America.

Last year, through its Meals on Wheels program, SeniorsPlus delivered more than 100,000 meals to almost 800 homebound older adults and adults with disabilities in Androscoggin, Franklin, and Oxford counties. Almost 700 volunteers donate more than 25,000 hours to the program annually. Each meal provides one-third of the recommended daily allowance of nutrition, a safety check, and a visit to these vulnerable adults. The majority of program recipients are lower-income or on fixed incomes.

Rotary Club meeting spotlights Youth Leadership Advisory Team



Shannon Saxby

The guest speaker at the next meeting of the Lewiston-Auburn Rotary Lunch Club on Thursday, March 14, from noon to 1 p.m. will be Shannon Saxby of the Youth Leadership Advisory Team. The event will take place at the Village Inn at 165 High Street in Auburn.

A joint project of Maine's Youth in Foster

Care, the Maine Department of Health and Human Services, and the Muskie School at the University of Southern Maine, the Youth Leadership Advisory Team is committed to improving short- and long-term outcomes for youth who are or have been in foster care.

Saxby, who has a Master's Degree in Social

Work, designs and facilitates YLAT meetings, panel presentations, and training for young people and their adult partners. She is also the voice behind YLAT's social media pages.

Saxby says she is continually awed and inspired by the courage of young people who use their voices and personal experiences in foster care to promote positive change, not only for themselves, but for future generations of youth in care.

As someone who is adopted, she feels personally invested in the importance of providing a space where youth are connected to people and places where they feel supported and understood.

She feels lucky to be strengthening her connections with youth and adult partners to create a larger voice for developing sustainable change.

Guests are welcome and no reservations are required. Lunch will be available at the restaurant. For more information, contact Club President Thomas MacDonald at 333-4588, follow them on Facebook, or see www.lewistonauburnrotary.org.



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What's Going On

CMHRA offers "Medical Leave or Sick Leave" workshop in Oxford



Rebecca S. Webber

The Oxford Hills Chamber of Commerce and Central Maine Human Resource Association will present a breakfast workshop on the topic "Medical Leave or Sick Leave" on Wednesday, March 13, from 7:30 to 9 a.m. at Oxford Casino.

The presenter will be Skelton Taintor & Abbott attorney Rebecca S. Webber. She will discuss issues related to family medical leave, Maine sick leave,

and disability accommodation. This will include what employers need to know when employees ask for time off due to illness, including what questions an employer is allowed to ask. The program's primary focus is family medical leave, but other laws will also be mentioned. Participants may submit questions to Webber in advance at rwebber@stlaw.com.

Webber's practice areas include employment liti-

gation, civil rights litigation, employment law, counseling and compliance, and employment law training. She has earned the preeminent AV-rating from Martindale-Hubbell and has repeatedly been named to the Best Lawyers in America list, including 2019 "Lawyer of the Year," State of Maine, for Employment Law, Individuals. For more information about the workshop or how to register, visit www.oxfordhillsmaine.com.

CMCC offers course on real estate buying, selling, investing

The Center for Workforce & Professional Development at Central Maine Community College will offer a course called "Real Estate: Buying, Selling, and Investing" on Thursday, March 21, from 5:45 to 7:45 p.m. In this two-hour workshop, participants will learn about purchasing real estate for personal use and investment purposes. They will explore best practices for buying and selling at optimal prices. They will also analyze their situation and risk tolerance level to determine their readiness to enter the real estate market as consumers or investors.

The cost of the class is \$20, which includes all instructional materials. The deadline to register is March 12. For more information or to register, contact the Center for Workforce & Professional Development at 755-5280 or see www.cmcc.edu/professionaldevelopment.

Chamber Breakfast Meeting

The LA Metro Chamber of Commerce will host its monthly Breakfast Meeting on Thursday, March 14 at 7 p.m. at the Ramada Hotel & Conference Center by Wyndham in Lewiston. The speakers, Auburn City Manager Peter Crichton and Lewiston City Administrator Edward Barrett, will discuss "Maine's Service Centers: The Challenge of Hosting the Maine Economy." The cost is \$22 for members and \$35 for non-members. Registration is available at www.LAMetroChamber.com.

Check TCT every week for updated Calendar listings!

Auburn seeks participants for Memorial Day events



The City of Auburn is planning a monumental and meaningful Memorial Day Celebration in 2019. Part of Auburn's ongoing 150th anniversary celebration, the events on Monday, May 27 will include a special Memorial Day Parade and Auburn's first-ever "Art in the Park" show.

The Memorial Day Parade will feature an enhanced parade route and

cash prizes in various categories, while Art in the Park will be a juried art show with cash prizes and a vendor area where artists will display and sell their work.

The City is seeking participants for both the parade and the art show; application deadlines are fast-approaching. For more information, or to sign up as a volunteer, call 333-6611 or see www.auburn150.com.

AVSWC plans Annual Meeting

The Androscoggin Valley Soil and Water Conservation District will host their Annual District Event at the VFW Hall of Auburn, located at 588 Minot Avenue, on Friday, March 22, from 5

to 9 p.m. The event is open to the public. Dinner will be provided and a cash bar will be available. To register, contact Mackenzie at 241-5377 or mrichard@maineconservationdistricts.com.

Sen. Claxton, Rep. Fay hold public office hours

Sen. Ned Claxton (D-Androscoggin) and Rep. Jess Fay (D-Poland) will hold public office hours on Friday, March 15 at 3 p.m. in the downstairs conference room at Ricker Memorial Library, located at 1211 Maine Street in Poland.

Public office hours provide residents a chance to meet with their elected officials, ask questions, and get help with legislative

or state government matters. Sen. Claxton and Rep. Fay will provide updates on their work on various policy committees and upcoming issues.

Additional dates and locations for public office hours throughout Senate District 20 will follow. Senate District 20 includes Auburn, Mechanic Falls, Minot, New Gloucester and Poland.

LYAC plans bullying awareness campaign

In an effort to focus attention on the dangers of bullying, the Lewiston Youth Advisory Council is seeking individuals who would like to share their stories for a bullying awareness video that the group will produce.

"I think bullying is very prevalent, not just in Lewiston, but all over the country," said LYAC member Christine Chasse. "I hope that LYAC, being made up of older students, can help shed light on this

harsh reality."

"Bullying can result in physical injuries, social and emotional problems, and academic problems," according to the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention. "The harmful effects of bullying are frequently felt by friends and families and can hurt the overall health and safety of schools, neighborhoods, and society." For more information on how to be considered for inclusion in the video, visit www.lewistonmaine.gov/bullyproof.

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Hall of Flags to host National Vietnam War Veterans Day observance

The Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services invites the public to observe National Vietnam War Veterans Day in the Hall of Flags at the Maine State House in Augusta on Friday, March 29 from 1 to 4 p.m. The afternoon's events will include opening remarks by Governor Janet Mills and the Adjutant General Douglas Farnham, as well as veteran recognition conducted by state legislators and Acting MBVS Director David A. Richmond.

Members of the public who would like to recognize a friend or family member killed or missing in action during the Vietnam War are encouraged to submit a copy of their favorite photograph with a brief remembrance of their loved one to be displayed on the day of the event.

Mail your submissions to Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services, 117 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0117 or email an electronic version to sarah.sherman@maine.gov. Please note the cutoff date for entries is March 22. Also, please submit copies of photographs only because they will not be returned.

Also on display in the rotunda will be photographs taken during the war by

Vietnam veterans from the Boothbay region.

Navy Veteran Joy Asuncion, Maine's Ambassador to the Women's Memorial in Washington, D.C., will provide registration information to female Veterans and their families and will answer questions about the Honor Flight program. Representatives from the VA at Togus will also be in attendance. Acoustic musical entertainment will be provided by Blind Albert, a musical group of which one member is a Vietnam veteran. Light refreshments will be served.

The Maine State House is located at 210 State Street, on the corners of Capitol and State Streets in Augusta. The west entrance, facing the Cross Office Building, is open to the public. Free public parking is located in front of the Cross Office Building, accessible from Sewall Street, and in the multi-level parking garage on the corner of Capitol and Sewall Streets. There are several additional smaller lots, northeast of the parking garage, near the Blaine House, on Wade and Grove Streets.

Handicapped parking spaces are located between the State House and the Cross Office Building and

on the Capitol Street side of the west entrance. There are additional spaces on the lower levels of the parking garage and near the north end of the Cross Office Building lot. The public entrance to the State House is on the back side, facing the Cross Office Building.

Please note that the Maine Capitol Police conduct entry screening of all visitors to the State House, including students. To expedite the screening process, please arrive early to allow for time needed for the screening process and leave bags, unnecessary metal objects, and other personal belongings in your vehicle.

Phones, keys, and other personal belongings brought into the State House will be screened by an x-ray machine. If you have any metal in your body, such as shrapnel or a replacement knee or hip, please be prepared to produce a medical card or doctor's letter to the screening officer.

Send all items for **Names & Faces** to **Editor@TwinCityTimes.com**. Deadline is **Friday by five**.

What's Going On

Auburn Police Department seeks full-time officers

The Auburn Police Department, a progressive, nationally-accredited law enforcement organization with 55 sworn officers and eight civilian employees, is seeking full-time police officers. Applicants must be high school graduates or have passed a high school equivalency exam, must be 21 years of age (or 20 with at least 60 college credits), and possess a valid driver's license.

In addition, the testing process for police officers is rigorous. Applicants must pass the Maine Criminal Justice Academy's physical agility test and ALERT exam. Lead candidates are also required to pass oral board, polygraph, medical,

substance and psychological testing and an extensive background check.

"It's a challenging career field," said Chief of Police Jason Moen. "The schedule is demanding and includes nights, weekends, and holidays."

"But it's also incredibly rewarding work," he noted. "The camaraderie you have with your fellow officers; the challenges; and the opportunity to save lives every day - these are just a few of the reasons this is one of the best jobs out there. We are looking for individuals who truly want to have a positive impact on our community."

Starting salary and benefits are highly competitive. Graduates of the Maine

Criminal Justice Academy, Certified Police Officers and veterans are strongly encouraged to apply. Auburn has lateral entry and will recognize up to six years of full-time law enforcement experience in municipal, county, state, or federal law enforcement.

The application period will close on March 30. Application packets may be obtained at City Hall, by calling 333-6650, ext. 207, by e-mailing Professional Standards Sergeant Eric Audette at EAudette@auburnmaine.gov, or at www.AuburnPD.com.

Candidates can also apply online at www.surveymonkey.com/r/APDapplication.

Local Century 21 affiliates receive Quality Service Award

Century 21 Real Estate LLC recently recognized sales affiliates Kelly Barrett and Roy L'Italien of Century 21 Advantage in Lewiston with the Century 21 Quality Service Pinnacle Producer Award.

The annual award is

based on results from the Century 21 Quality Service Survey, which is e-mailed to consumers immediately after the purchase or sale of a home. To earn the Century 21 Quality Service Pinnacle Producer Award, an agent must receive completed cus-

tomers surveys for at least 50 percent of their transactions surveyed from January 1 through December 31, with an average survey score of at least 95 percent or better for two consecutive years.

"The Quality Service Award, page 13

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Hudson

Continued from page 1

lives: his family life, his professional life, and his private life. In managing this fine balancing act, Hudson learned to “keep his mouth shut” in the world in which he lived.

Writing the book over a period of five-plus years, Griffin made countless trips to California and many other distant places to track down the people from whom he gleaned new information. Griffin met with Rock’s friends, family, co-stars, directors, and other movie personnel.

Those interviewed for the book included Carol Burnett, Doris Day, Tab Hunter, Joel Grey, Piper Laurie, Jack Scalia, Claudia Cardinale, Armistead Maupin, Arlene Dahl, and Robert Osbourne. Everyone had something to tell.

Griffin even interviewed Rock’s personal staff, who maintained his huge, 5,000 square-foot, 27-room mansion called “The Castle,” situated on a steep cliff overlooking Beverly Hills. The extensive grounds were filled with large, vibrant flower gardens as Hudson had a passion for flowers. He even employed a Japanese gardener.

Griffin was on the move constantly during these years, adding to his



Author Mark Griffin addresses Rock Hudson fans who assembled to learn more about the life of a truly memorable movie star.

copious files of material. The project became his major focus and demanded much of his time and energy, to the exclusion of other facets of his life. It was a labor of love.

Griffin ended the program with a question-and-answer period, when audience members eagerly asked questions and made comments. Then happy patrons with copies of “All That Heaven Allows” lined up to get their books signed by the author.

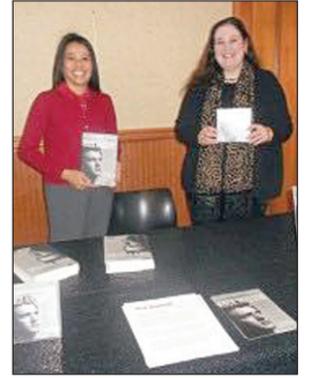
Wherever Rock Hudson went, he made headlines, though much of what was written about him at the time was either incomplete or unreliable. With “All That Heaven Allows,” Mark Griffin has finally produced a definitive biography of one of the most fascinating

movie stars in Hollywood history, including a full-scale exploration of Hudson’s immense body of work - on film, television and stage. More than three decades after his death, Rock Hudson’s complete story - sensational, heartbreaking, and courageous - has finally been told.

Mark Griffin is also the author of “A Hundred or More Hidden Things: The Life and Films of Vincente Minelli.” His interviews, reviews, and essays have appeared in scores of publications, including the Boston Globe, Premiere, Movie Maker, Genre, and the anthology “Humor Us: America’s Funniest Humorists on the Power of Laughter.” He recently appeared in the documentary “Gene Kelly: To Live and Dance.”



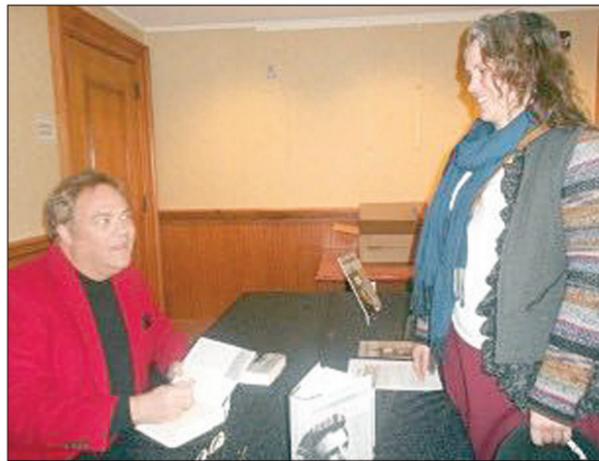
Griffin and Diane Estabrook pause their discussion of favorite Rock Hudson movies to pose for a photo.



Phet Walker and Maura Murphy stand ready at the sale table.

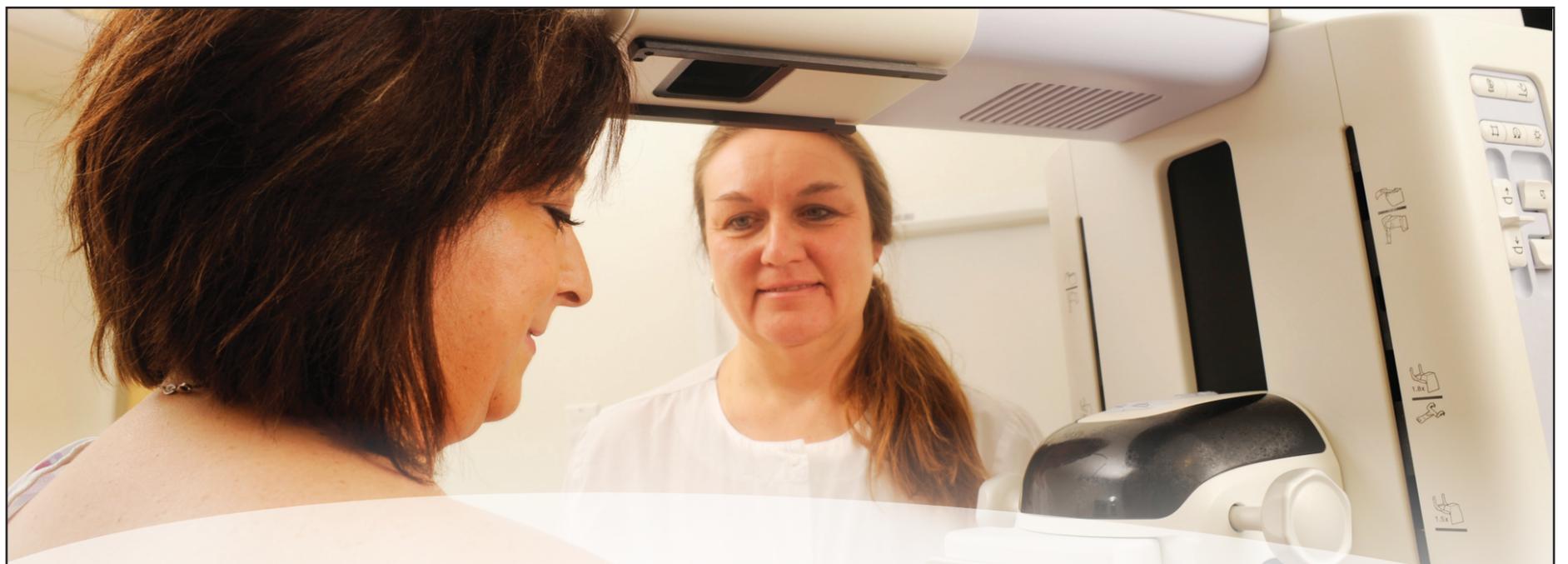


First to arrive were (l. to r.) Theresa Smith, Sheila Plummer, Bob Gardner, Don Robitaille, and directly in back, Diane McKenney.



Griffin reveals a few tidbits about the book to Sadie Landry.

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3D Mammography Now Offered at Central Maine Medical Center

Central Maine Medical Center’s Sam & Jennie Bennett Breast Care Center is proud to be the only facility in the Lewiston/Auburn area to offer 3D breast imaging to every woman having a screening mammogram. Also known as tomosynthesis, 3D mammography is a safe and proven technology that has a number of benefits over traditional 2D methods, including:

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cmhc.org

Franco

Continued from page 1
worked at its thriving factories.

By the turn of the 21st century, that neighborhood had weathered decades of economic, demographic, and cultural change. The church was closed in 2000. It was then sold for one dollar and became the Gendron Franco Center for Heritage and the Performing Arts.

This unique sale saved the Catholic Diocese of Portland nearly a quarter million dollars in demolition costs while honoring the heritage of the French-speaking families who had settled in the greater-Lewiston area.

Today, the Gendron Franco Center hosts performing arts and other cultural events throughout the year, including symphony and piano concerts and comedy and talent shows. The main Performance Hall has seating for hundreds. Now aligned in rows sweeping up towards the stained glass windows surrounding the hall, it provides excellent views for everyone in the audience.

Nearly 70-foot tall, the center's Performance Hall preserves the soaring interior of the former church, still reminiscent of Catholic churches and cathedrals around the world. Historical displays are placed along the

walkways from the main entrance to the seating area, allowing the audience to share in the history of both the church and Lewiston-Auburn's Franco-American community. Two Steinway concert grand pianos are kept near the stage, ready for the next concert.

Weddings, anniversary parties, retirement parties, and other celebrations are hosted in the Heritage Hall on the building's lower level. Mitchell "Mitch" Thomas, Executive Director of the Gendron Franco Center, says that a virtual meeting system is being installed in the Heritage Hall so companies can conduct business meetings between their various branches.

Events sponsored by various community groups are a big part of the former church's new life. Recent examples have included a Community Concepts Concert with Noel Paul Stookey in September; the Jamie Donahue Music Fund Benefit with Rustic Overtones in October; and the St. Martin DePorres Fundraiser and Denny Breau's Happy Together Pettingill Park Fundraiser, both in November.

Upcoming events include Sandcastle Clinical and Educational Services' "Maine's Got Talent" show on March 9; the L/A Emerge Film Festival on March 26, 27, and 28; the Tri-County Mental Health concert on

June 22; and the Roger Renault Scholarship Fundraiser on July 21.

The popular Center Series of "dinner-with-a-show" events recently featured a Mardi Gras party "in the great tradition of those legendary New Orleans celebrations everywhere..." on March 2. Coming soon are a Buccaneer Banquet and Feast, where guests are invited to "Dress up and be a pirate for an evening!" on March 22 and 23; a jungle-themed Adult Prom Night on April 13; and the St. John the Baptist "Celebration of Franco-American and Quebec Culture and Heritage" on June 24.

The center also hosts an annual piano concert series. The 2018-19 season started with George Lopez in September and Diane Walsh in December. The next concert will feature Gendron Franco Center favorites Igor Lovchinsky and Matthew Graybill on Friday, March 8.

On April 5, David Fung and Henry Kramer, who have each performed solo at the center, will present a dual program. Kramer, a graduate of Cape Elizabeth High School and the Juilliard School, will also present the final program of the season on Friday, May 10.

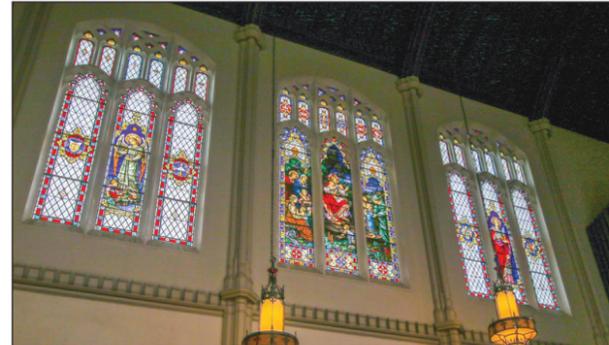
The Franco Center Concert Series began in October with "Fiddle-icious,"



an orchestra that includes fiddles, guitars, flutes, banjos, tin whistles, accordions, cellos, violas, mandolins, harps, and a stand-up bass. "Audio Body," a juggling show with high-tech comedy, took place in February.

The world premier musical "Come Out Swingin'" will be presented on May 31 and June 1. Written and composed by Brian Daly of Portland, Maine, the musical is being produced by the Franco Center in partnership with Community Little Theater. It takes place in the spring of 1965, two weeks before Muhammed Ali's historic boxing match against Sonny Liston in Lewiston, Maine.

As part of its mission to preserve and promote French-language skills, the Gendron Franco Center hosts French Film Mondays. Upcoming films include "Un jour, une histoire: Simone Veil, l'instinct de vie," a 2014 documentary from France, on March 25; "Petit Paysan,"



an award-winning drama at the 2017 Cannes Film Festival in France, on April 29; "Aurore," a 2017 French romance comedy-drama about a woman going through major life changes, on May 27; and "Corbo," a 2014 drama from Quebec that chronicles the origins of the Quebec Liberation Front in the decade preceding the 1970 October Crisis, on June 24.

The Franco Center Comedy Series, "Just for Laughs," started with the Fall Comedy Showcase in October. Up next will be the third annual Central Maine Comedy Invitational, offering comedians who signed

up before mid-February a chance to do 5 to 10 minutes of original comedy on the Franco Center stage, on Friday, March 15.

The Spring Comedy Showcase will see Lewiston comedian Dawn Hartill hosting another round of comedians from across New England on Saturday, May 4. Bob Marley, a Maine native and one of the most sought-after comedians in the country, will be at the Franco Center on Friday, May 17.

For more information about programs and events at the Gendron Franco Center, see www.francocenter.org.

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TWIN CITY NIGHTS

Weekly Arts & Entertainment

Public Theatre stages "A Doll's House, Part 2"



The play begins a two-weekend run at the Public Theatre on March 15.

Widely acclaimed as the best play of the 2017 Broadway season, "A Doll's House, Part 2" is a contemporary sort-of-sequel to Ibsen's classic play "A Doll's House." Crackling with humor and intelligence and relevant to today's audiences, the play begins a two-weekend run at Lewiston's Public Theatre on Friday, March 15.

A Doll's House, Part

2 begins with a knock on the front door. Fifteen years earlier, unhappy with her husband's failure to regard her as a complex person, Nora famously slammed this door behind her, leaving her family to pursue her own happiness. Now, she returns for reasons unknown. But is everyone happy to see her?

No knowledge of Ibsen's original story is necessary to enjoy or under-

stand the play, which raises questions that remain highly relevant in today's world. For those who would like a refresher on Ibsen's original, a study guide written by Bates College Professor of Theater Martin Andrucki is available on the Public Theatre website.

Doll's House, Part 2 features four compelling and a powerful roles that provide an excellent vehicle for great acting. Playing these roles are professional actors Janet Mitchko (Nora), Paul Schoeffler (Nora's husband, Torvald), Ally Carey (Nora's daughter, Emmy), and Viki Boyle (Anne Marie, the maid).

Janet Mitchko is the Co-Artistic Director of the Public Theatre and has a long history on stage as both an actress and director. Paul Schoeffler has appeared in multiple Broadway productions, playing lead roles in "Sweet Charity" (opposite Christina Applegate), "Peter Pan" (opposite Cathy Rigby), "Sunset Boulevard" (opposite Glenn Close), "Beauty and the Beast," "Nine," "Victor/Victoria" and "Sunday in the Park with George." Aside from his additional television and voiceover credits, he is also a classmate of Mitchko's from the acting program at Carnegie-Mellon University. They are looking forward to performing together again.

New to Public Theatre audiences will be Viki Boyle, who is a 40-year veteran of New York and re-

gional theater, film, and TV. She has twice received the Carbonell Award for theater work in South Florida and her movie and TV credits include "The Wolf of Wall Street," "Person of Interest," and over 200 commercials, where her work has been recognized with the CLIO award. Cast member Ally Carey has appeared in multiple regional theaters and is a graduate of the Guthrie Theatre and Old Globe.

The production is directed by Chris Clavelli, resident director of the Florida Repertory Theatre. His work has been recognized with a Barrymore Award, a Carbonell Award (for Best Actor), and a Broadway-world.com Award (for Best Director).

The Public Theatre will continue its exciting pre-show extras starting at 6:30 p.m. in the theater lobby, with a complimentary beer sampling for ticket holders on March 15 (opening night) and a wine sampling sponsored by The Vault on Thursday, March 22.

The play runs March 15 through 24, Thursday through Saturday at 7:30 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m., with a Saturday matinee on March 23 at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for adults, just \$5 for those 18 and under, and \$17 for those attending in groups. The Public Theatre is located at 31 Maple Street in Lewiston. For more information or to buy tickets, call 782-3200 or visit thepublictheatre.org.

Jazz pianist to perform at Bates College



Frank Carlberg is 2018-19 artist-in-residence of the college's music department.

Jazz pianist-composer Frank Carlberg, 2018-19 artist-in-residence of the Bates College music department, will lead two concerts in March. Both concerts are free and open to the public, but tickets are required from batesconcerts.eventbrite.com.

Carlberg will perform with his quartet, Dream Machine, on Friday, March 8 at 7:30 p.m. in the college's Olin Arts Center Concert Hall at 75 Russell Street in Lewiston. Featuring accordion, tenor sax, bass, and drums, the band's music,

"resides in the area between dusk and dawn of our consciousness and draws from half-remembered recollections of things past," asserts Carlberg. "Images of fantasy and reality intermingle in memories of carnivals, side shows, and fairgrounds."

Carlberg will then presents a concert celebrating pioneering composer, bandleader, and pianist Mary Lou Williams on Saturday, March 23 at 7:30 p.m. at the same venue. For more information, call 786-6135 or write to olinarts@bates.edu.



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“Central Maine’s Funniest Comedian” to be crowned at Franco Center Invitational



Local comedian and Franco Center board member Dawn Hartill hosts the event.

Twelve local comics have been chosen to compete in the Central Maine Comedy Invitational on Friday, March 15 at 7:30 p.m. at the Gendron Franco Center in Lewiston. They will vie for a chance to take home the grand prize of \$250 and the title of “Central Maine’s Funniest Comedian.”

Local comedian and

Franco Center board member Dawn Hartill will host the event. The first winner of the title, Billy Jack Goodwin, will headline with a guest appearance. Each contestant will be given five minutes to present an original monolog that would be considered “PG-13.” The 2019 winner will be chosen by audience vote at the end of the evening. Admission is

\$5 at the door.

Located at 46 Cedar Street, the Franco Center is wheelchair accessible. On-site parking is available at the Continental Mill on Oxford Street. Doors and the cash bar open at 6:30 p.m. For more information, visit the box office, call 783-1585, or see www.franco-center.org.

DAR topic of Lisbon Historical Society meeting

The guest speaker at the next meeting of the Lisbon Historical Society will be Beverly Robbins, Maine State Vice-Regent of the Daughters of the American Revolution. On Wednesday, March 13 at 7 p.m., Robbins will discuss the history of the DAR, recounting some accomplishments of a service organization that is now part of American history. The event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

“The Daughters of the American Revolution have

been around, well, since just after the American Revolution. Women wanted to memorialize their father Patriots but were denied admittance to the Sons of the American Revolution,” notes Robbins. “But today’s DAR is not the same as your Grandmother’s!”

Robbins also serves as program director and vice-president of the Androscoggin Historical Society and as Regent of Lewiston-Auburn’s Mary Dillingham-Burnt Meadow Chapter of the DAR.

Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. Parking and entrance are at the rear of the MTM building at 19 School Street in Lisbon Falls. For more information, call 353-8510 or email LisbonHist-Soc@gmail.com.

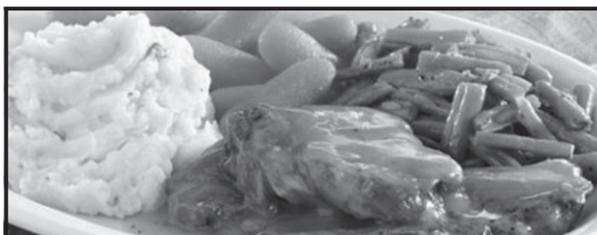
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Deadline is **Friday by five.**

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We strongly encourage Letters to the Editor, Op/Eds, columns or any other submissions from our readers.

Agree with us or another columnist? Disagree? Write to us and let us know!

Email all submissions, including name, address and phone number, to Editor@TwinCityTimes.com.



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Twin City Nights

Scottish Celtic band to perform at Chocolate Church



Since their inception in 2014, Heron Valley has earned a reputation for energetic and committed live performances.

The Scottish Celtic band Heron Valley will travel from the UK to perform at the Chocolate Church Arts Center on Friday, March 8 at 7:30 p.m. The concert will take place in the center’s building annex at 804 Washington Street in Bath.

Heron Valley is an energetic young band from Scotland who have serious enthusiasm for the traditional music they play. Their roots lie in Scottish and Irish traditional music, while taking influence

from various folk, country, and Bluegrass styles. The five-piece group includes bag piper Kyle Howie of the Red Hot Chili Pipers, banjo player-drummer Nick Hamilton, pianist Arlene Mackechnie, guitarist-vocalist Abigail Pryde, and bassist Callum Cronin.

Since their inception in 2014, Heron Valley has earned a reputation for energetic and committed live performing. In 2015, they released a music video and a debut single, followed by the well-received collection

“Pressed for Time.” After the release of their second single, “Home,” and a successful YouTube music video in 2016, the band quickly made an impact on the Celtic folk scene in Scotland and throughout the UK. In 2017, they performed at over 20 festivals around the UK and Europe, quickly becoming one of Celtic music’s hottest new bands.

Tickets are \$20, available by calling 442-8455 or at www.chocolatechurcharts.org.

A Doll’s House

PART 2

by Lucas Hnath

Smart, funny and utterly engrossing.
- *The New York Times*

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Twin City Nights

Open Mic & Poetry Slam rolls on at First Universalist



Since 2006, this free monthly show has drawn people of all ages to share the spirituality of music and spoken word.

The Pleasant Note Coffeehouse at the First Universalist Church of Auburn will celebrate the 13th anniversary of its Open Mic & Poetry Slam on Friday, March 8 at 7:30 p.m. Since 2006, this free monthly show has drawn people of all ages to share the spirituality of music and spoken word.

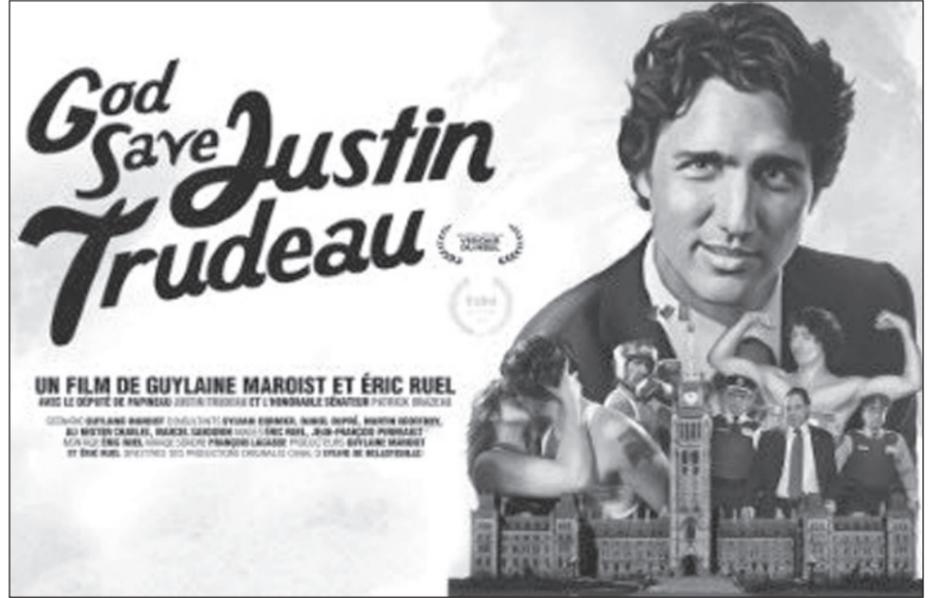
Guitars and singers are typical guests, but over the years, the event has also

welcomed performances by belly dancers, poets, rappers, storytellers, and trick dogs. Participants say they like this monthly show for its excellent sound quality and its focus on the performer, in contrast to more typical open mic events at bars and clubs. A video of the event's 10th Anniversary Show, shot and edited by Karen Hill and featuring originals only, may be

viewed at <https://youtu.be/QvSiUQKtoDg>.

Pleasant Note Coffeehouse's Open Mic & Poetry Slam takes place at 7:30 p.m. on the second Friday of each month at First Universalist Church, 169 Pleasant Street in Auburn. Refreshments are served. Please enter on Spring Street, across from Dairy Joy. For more information, call 783-0461 or see www.auburnu.org.

Franco Center to show three films during Francophone month



The Gendron Franco Center will mark Francophone Month in March by screening three French-language films. Presented in French with English subtitles, the screenings are free and open to the public. Donations will be accepted to benefit the center.

The film "God Save Justin Trudeau" will be shown twice, on Monday, March 11 at 6:30 p.m. and Thursday, March 28 at 3:30 p.m. Neither a boxing movie nor an authorized biography, this Canadian documentary examines the art of media politics in the 21st century. The film follows Justin Trudeau and Senator Patrick Brazeau as they train for a boxing match that will forever change their lives. A metaphor for the ongoing political strug-

gle between Canada's Liberals and Conservatives, the match provides a window into the rise of a young politician in an era dominated by spectacle.

The film "Hochelaga, terre des âmes (Land of Souls)" will be shown twice, on Thursday, March 14 at 2:30 p.m. and Sunday, March 24 at 6:30 p.m. This 2017 Canadian film explores how Quebec's archaeology reveals the past of indigenous peoples, dramatizing several centuries of Québec history, and the history of Montreal in particular.

The film "Un jour, une histoire: Simone Veil, l'instinct de vie" will be shown on Monday, March 25 at 6:30 p.m. This 2014 French documentary recounts the life of former French minister and Holocaust survi-

vor Simone Veil, who was buried in the Panthéon last summer with all the pomp and symbolism the French republic can muster. Veil was 16 years old when, in 1944, she was sent to Auschwitz. She was a survivor who, for many decades, was discrete about her past.

All movies in the monthly series are provided by series underwriter TV5MONDE USA. This month's additional films, "God Save Justin Trudeau" and "Hochelaga, Terre des âmes (Land of Souls)" are sponsored by the Québec Government Office in Boston.

Located at 46 Cedar Street in Lewiston, the Franco Center is wheelchair accessible. For more information, call 783-1585 or visit FrancoCenter.org.

Franco Center concert features works for two pianos

Concert pianists Igor Lovchinsky and Matthew Graybil will perform at the Gendron Franco Center in Lewiston on Friday, March 8 at 7 p.m. This third program in the center's ongoing Piano Series season will feature works for one and two pianos by Liszt, Debussy, Saint-Saëns, Poulenc, and Kapustin.

Favorites of Franco Center audiences, these two performing artists met as undergraduates at the Juilliard School, where they were students of Jerome Lowenthal. Their graduate studies took them to different cities, but they stayed in touch and have continued their collaboration as performers of two-piano compositions.

Igor Lovchinsky showed extraordinary promise at an early age; by the age of four, he was giving recitals for family and friends in his native city of Kazan, Russia. When he was ten, his family settled in Columbus, Ohio. After his undergraduate study at the Juilliard School, he obtained his Master's Degree at the

New England Conservatory, where his teachers were Patricia Zander and Wha-Kyung Byun.

He has performed with orchestras in Europe and the United States and presented recitals in Eastern Europe, Asia, and North and South America. His debut CD, released in 2008, was voted one of the top five classical recordings that year by Time Out International.

A native of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, Matthew Graybil began his piano studies at age 6 and gave his first recital within a year. He made his orchestral debut at age 14 with a performance of Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1. During his master's degree study at Juilliard, he studied with Matti Raekallio and continued to work with Jerome Lowenthal.

A prize winner in national and international competitions, he has performed with orchestras and in chamber groups and presented recitals in the United States, Canada, Mexico, and France. Following the

release of his debut album in 2012, Fanfare Magazine called him "one of the most sensitive, poetic young pianists to debut on record in recent memory."

The doors and cash bar will open at 6 p.m. Admission is \$15, free of charge for students. Tickets can be purchased at the door or in advance by calling 783-1585 or at FrancoCenter.org.



Igor Lovchinsky



Matthew Graybil

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Thursday, Mar. 7

Community Conversation Series. 6 p.m. Auburn Public Library. After a screening of the film "American Creed," history professor Joseph Hall leads a discussion on various concepts of American identity. Free.

Social Justice Lecture. 7 p.m. Olin Arts Center, 75 Russell St., Bates College, Lewiston. Princeton University Prof. of African American Studies Imani Perry discusses "The Possibilities & Pitfalls of Digital Activism." Free, but tix required from batesconcerts.eventbrite.com.

Political Science Lecture. 7 p.m. Muskie Archives, 70 Campus Ave., Bates College, Lewiston. Emily Cain, executive director of the political advocacy group Emily's List, discusses "Women in Politics: Welcome to the New Normal." Free.

Theater: "We Are Proud to Present..." 7:30 p.m. Gannett Theater, Pettigrew Hall, 305 College St., Bates College, Lewiston. Asst. Prof. of Theater Tim Dugan directs Jackie Sibblies Drury's darkly comedic play. Again 3/8, 3/9 (5 p.m.), 3/10 (2 & 7:30 p.m.), 3/11. Free, but tix required at bit.ly/bates-theater-dance.

Friday, Mar. 8

Senior College Luncheon. 12 p.m. Room 170, Lewiston-Auburn College. Hancock Lumber Company president Kevin Hancock discusses how spasmodic dysphonia has changed his life. Lunch is \$8; reserve by noon on 3/6 at 753-6510.

Community Discussion. 4 p.m. Room 170 L-A College, 51 Westminster St., Lewiston. The Franco American Collection marks International Women's Day with a presentation and discussion on the theme "Home." Free.

Concert: Pianists Igor Lovchinsky and Matthew Graybil. 7 p.m. Franco Center, 46 Cedar St., Lewiston. The talented duo performs works for one and two pianos by Liszt, Debussy, Saint-Saëns, Poulenc, and Kapustin. Doors open at 6 p.m. \$15 (students free). 783-1585; FrancoCenter.org.

Concert: Frank Carlberg and Dream Machine. 7:30 p.m. Olin Arts Center, Bates College, 75 Russell St., Lewiston. The jazz pianist-composer performs with his quartet. Free, but tix required from batesconcerts.eventbrite.com.

Open Mic & Poetry Slam. 7:30 p.m. First Universalist Church, 169 Pleasant St., Auburn. Pleasant Note Coffeehouse celebrates the 13th anniversary of this monthly event; refreshments. Free. 783-0461; www.auburnuu.org.

Concert: Heron Valley. 7:30 p.m. Building Annex, Chocolate Church Arts

Calendar

See more Calendar at www.TwinCityTimes.com

Center, 804 Washington St., Bath. This hot young Celtic band from Scotland has a reputation for strong live performances. \$20. 442-8455; www.chocolatechurcharts.org.

Saturday, Mar. 9

Bean & Casserole Supper. 4:45. Calvary United Methodist Church, 59 Sabattus St., Lewiston. Baked beans, hot dogs, assorted hot casseroles, salads, desserts, and more. Bartlett St. entrance. \$8/3 782-3221; www.calvarylewiston.com.

Bean & Casserole Supper. 5 to 6 p.m. United Methodist Church, corner of Rte. 121 and Empire Rd., Minot. Tickets at the door: \$7 adults, \$5 children 7-12, kids 6 and under free.

Monday, Mar. 11

Film Screening. 6:30 p.m. Franco Center, 46 Cedar St., Lewiston. Canadian documentary "God Save Justin Trudeau" explores the rise of a young politician in an age of modern media politics; in French, w. English subtitles. Free; donations accepted. www.francocenter.org.

Wednesday, Mar. 13

Lisbon Historical Society Meeting. 7 p.m. MTM Center, 19 School St., Lisbon Falls (park, enter at rear). Beverly Robbins discusses the history of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Free. 353-8510; LisbonHistSoc@gmail.com.

Thursday, Mar. 14

Chamber Breakfast Meeting. 7 a.m. Ramada Hotel & Conference Center, Lewiston. This month's speakers are Auburn City Manager Peter Crichton and Lewiston City Admin. Edward Barrett; pres. by L-A Metro Chamber of Commerce. \$35 (members \$22). Register at www.LAMetroChamber.com.

La Rencontre. 11:25 a.m. Franco Center, 46 Cedar St., Lewiston. Following a corned beef boiled dinner, students from the French School of Maine in Freeport present their annual children's opera. \$12. Reserve at 783-1585 or boxoffice@francocenter.org.

Rotary Club Lunch Meeting. Noon to 1 p.m. Village Inn, 165 High St., Auburn. The guest speaker is Shannon Saxby of the Youth Leadership Advisory Team. 333-4588; www.lewistonauburnrotary.org.

Sampson AFB Veterans Luncheon. Noon. Governor's Restaurant, Lewiston. This informal monthly get-together of those who took basic training at Sampson Air Force Base in the 1940s and '50s is open to all veterans and their guests.

Film Screening. 2:30 p.m. Franco Center, 46 Cedar St., Lewiston. Canadian documentary "Hochelaga, terre des âmes (Land of Souls)" portrays how Quebec's archaeology reveals the past of indigenous peoples; in French, w. English subtitles. Free; donations accepted. www.francocenter.org.

Community Conversation Series. 5 p.m. Auburn Public Library. After a screening of the film "Blue Collar and Buddha," the library hosts a discussion on concepts of American identity. Free.

Friday, Mar. 15

French Sing-Along. 1:30 p.m. Room 170, L-A College, 51 Westminster St., Lewiston. French-language singing group Les Troubadours lead the singing of favorite French and Franco-American songs; all welcome. Free. 576-4109.

Public Office Hours. 3 p.m. Conf. Room, Ricker Library, 1211 Maine St., Poland. Sen. Ned Claxton (D-Androscoggin) and Rep. Jess Fay (D-Poland) answer questions and provide information on legislative issues. All welcome.

Comedy Invitational. 7:30 p.m. Franco Center, 46 Cedar St., Lewiston. Twelve contestants have five minutes each to present their original monologs, with the winner chosen by audience vote. \$5 at door. 783-1585.

Theater: "A Doll's House, Part 2." 7:30 p.m. The Public Theatre 31 Maple St., Lewiston. This sequel to Ibsen's classic was widely acclaimed as the best play of the 2017 Broadway season. Again 3/16-17, 21-24 (Suns. at 2 p.m.). \$20/5. 782-3200; thepublictheatre.org.

Saturday, Mar. 16

Name that L/And-mark. 1 to 3 p.m. Callahan Hall, Lewiston Public Library. Contestants vie for prizes by identifying video close-ups of local landmarks. \$20. Adv. regis. required; proceeds benefit the Friends of LPL. 513-3134; lplonline.org.

Concert: Midcoast Symphony Orchestra. 7 p.m. Franco Center, 46 Cedar St., Lewiston. The MSO presents a program of "Magical Movie Music"; the Youth Orchestra of Lewiston-Auburn performs at intermission. Students free, others \$20 (cash or check) at door. 846-5378; www.midcoast-symphony.org.

Thursday, Mar. 21

Book Discussion. 5:30 p.m. Morse Library, 220 Main St., Greene. This month's book is "Hillbilly Elegy" by J.D. Vance.

Copies available to borrow at the library. 946-5544; sbouchard.jamm.library@gmail.com.

Theater: "A Doll's House, Part 2." 7:30 p.m. The Public Theatre 31 Maple St., Lewiston. This sequel to Ibsen's classic was widely acclaimed as the best play of the 2017 Broadway season. Again 3/22-24 (Suns. at 2 p.m.). \$20/5. 782-3200; thepublictheatre.org.

Friday, March 22

Fill the Plate Breakfast. 7 to 9 a.m. Hilton Garden Inn, Auburn. This benefit for SeniorsPlus' Meals on Wheels program features keynote speaker Sen. Susan Collins. \$20 adv./\$25 at door. Register at 795-4010 or www.seniorsplus.org.

Annual District Event. 5 to 9 p.m. VFW Hall, 588 Minot Ave., Auburn. Join the Androscoggin Valley Soil and Water Conservation District for their annual meeting, dinner, and entertainment. Register at 241-5377 or mrichard@maineconservationdistricts.com.

Saturday, Mar. 23

Continuous Improvement for Businesses. 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Room 285, L-A College, 51 Westminster St., Lewiston. Learn about this method by which businesses of all types can improve products, services, or processes. Lunch provided. Free; register at www.LAMetroChamber.com.

Concert: Frank Carlberg. 7:30 p.m. Olin Arts Center, Bates College, 75 Russell St., Lewiston. The jazz pianist celebrates pioneering composer, bandleader, and pianist Mary Lou Williams. Free, but tix required from batesconcerts.eventbrite.com.

Sunday, Mar. 24

Film Screening. 6:30 p.m. Franco Center, 46 Cedar St., Lewiston. Canadian documentary "Hochelaga, terre des âmes (Land of Souls)" portrays how Quebec's archaeology reveals the past of indigenous peoples; in French, w. English subtitles. Free; donations accepted. www.francocenter.org.

Monday, Mar. 25

Film Screening. 6:30 p.m. Franco Center, 46 Cedar St., Lewiston. French documentary "Un jour, une histoire: Simone Veil, l'instinct de vie" examines the life of the former French minister and Holocaust survivor; in French, w. English subtitles. Free; donations accepted. www.francocenter.org.

Thursday, Mar. 28

Film Screening. 3:30 p.m. Franco Center, 46 Cedar St., Lewiston. Canadian documentary "God Save Justin Trudeau" explores the rise of a young politician in an age of modern media politics; in French, w. English subtitles. Free; donations accepted. www.

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Alita: Battle Angel (PG-13)	12:40	3:40	6:45	9:35	
Cold Pursuit (R)	12:55	3:55	6:50	9:30	
Captain Marvel (PG-13)	12:30	12:45	1:00	1:30	
	3:30	3:45	4:00	6:30	
	6:40	7:00	7:30		
Captain Marvel 3D (PG-13)		4:30		9:40	
The LEGO Movie 2: The Second Part (PG)	12:50	3:50			
Isn't It Romantic (PG-13)		7:05	9:15		

francocenter.org.

Community Conversation Series. 5:30 p.m. Auburn Public Library. Reps of Catholic Charities' Refugee and Immigration Services speak about their cultural orientation programs, sharing accounts of what newcomers to America ask about navigating daily life in the U.S. Free.

Friday, Mar. 29

National Vietnam War Veterans Day Observance. 1 to 4 p.m. Hall of Flags, Maine State House, 210 State St., Augusta. Open to the public. Free.

Friday, Apr. 5

Theater: "Avenue Q." 7:30 p.m. Great Falls Performing Arts Center, Auburn. Community Little Theatre presents this puppet-filled musical comedy about becoming an adult; adult themes. Again 4/6, 7, 11-14 (Suns. at 2 p.m.). 783-0958; LACLT.com.

Thursday, Apr. 11

Theater: "Avenue Q." 7:30 p.m. Great Falls Performing Arts Center, Auburn. Community Little Theatre presents the puppet-filled musical hit comedy about becoming an adult; adult themes. Again 4/12-14 (Sun. at 2 p.m.). 783-0958; LACLT.com.

Award

Continued from page 7

Pinnacle Producer Award is an integral part of our brand's commitment to excellence and recognizes their dedication to making each and every client interaction a positive one," said Michael Miedler, president and CEO of Century 21 Real Estate LLC.

Century 21 Advantage is a full-service brokerage located at 506 Main Street in Lewiston. For more information, contact broker-owner Angela White at 782-2121 or AngieMWhite@aol.com.

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Agree with us or another columnist? Disagree? Write to us and let us know!

Email all submissions, including name, address and phone number, to Editor@TwinCityTimes.com.

Rotary Lunch Club supports Washburn School



The L-A Rotary Lunch Club recently donated \$600 to community partner Washburn Elementary School of Auburn to help families of students provide holiday staples. Thanks to the donation, 67 families received contributions of food and clothing to make the holidays brighter. Here above are school principal Andrew Bard, L-A Rotary Gift of Caring Project Chair Lorraine Bard, and school guidance counselor Maggie Luce. (Photo by Jackie Majerus-Collins)

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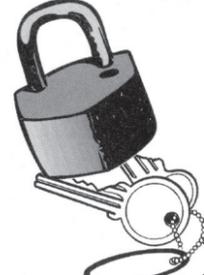
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