



TWIN CITY TIMES

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Out & About with Rachel Morin

Celebrating the Publication of "Wit, Wisdom and Whimsy" with the Monday Morning Poets



The Monday Morning Poets present a copy of their recently published book to USM's Lewiston-Auburn Campus Library. Pictured here (l. to r.) are Diane Clay, Bill Frayer, Nancy Orr, Interim Dean Brian Toy, Librarian Evelyn Greenlaw, Brigitte Whiting, and Anita F. Poulin. Absent from the photo are Linda DeSantis, Darlene Glover, and Kathryn Tracy.

Story and photos by Rachel Morin

April is National Poetry Month, so what better time to tell you about the recent publication of "Wit, Wisdom and Whimsy," the first poetry book by a group of students of USM's Lewiston-Auburn Senior College? I say "first" because, at the rate they are writing poems, another book may soon be on the bookshelves!

The authors of the an-

thology are Senior College members Diane Clay, Linda DeSantis, Bill Frayer, Darlene Glover, Nancy Orr, Anita F. Poulin, Kathryn Tracy, and Brigitte Whiting. April 4 was a special day for them as they gathered at USM's Lewiston-Auburn Campus Library to present a copy of the book to Librarian Evelyn Greenlaw, with Interim Dean Brian Toy attending.

To hear more about how the book came about, I

met with the authors a few weeks ago at Auburn Public Library, where they have been meeting every Monday morning. The project began a few years ago with a Senior College poetry workshop, led by long-time instructor and published poet Bill Frayer.

In the workshop, the students learned how to write their original poems and read them back to their fellow students for critiqu-

ing. They found the feedback from their classmates to be very helpful. They then revised their poems and returned for a second critique.

They wrote new poems each week to be critiqued by their peers. During this process, the language, description, and feeling of their poems steadily improved. More importantly, they bonded together as poets.

The final class ended with a public poetry reading, where each student selected a poem to read for the audience of family and friends. The session was well attended, and the reaction was so supportive that seven women from the class decided to continue to meet each week to critique each other's poems. At the end of the semester, they invited Bill Frayer to join them, which he was pleased to do.

Unknown to them at the time, a seed was being planted for a future anthology of their poems! It didn't take long before the Monday Morning Poets, as they called themselves, had created a collection of good poems, so they started thinking about self-publishing an

See Poets, page 9

Bates Dance Program turns 50



The Bates Modern Dance Company performs "Appalachian Spring" in 1979. The photo was taken by Leonard Plavin, husband of Bates Dance Program founder Marcy Plavin.

Bates College will mark the 50th anniversary of the establishment of its Dance Program by the late Marcy Plavin with an informal performance by dance alumni and current students on Saturday, April 27 at 4 p.m. at Schaefer

Theatre, located at 329 College Street in Lewiston. Free and open to the public, the event is offered in lieu of a formal evening performance that was announced earlier in the year. For more information, call 786-6161.

Auburn Public Library presents "Planning Your Garden"

If you are eagerly awaiting spring and dreaming of an amazing garden, plan to attend "Planning Your Garden" on Thursday, May 2 at 1 p.m. in the Androscoggin Community Room at Auburn Public

Library. The program is free and open to the public.

Master Gardener Fern Lake will provide tips for planning, designing, and creating your dream vegetable or flower garden. The workshop will look at such questions as: What do you have for space, budget, and other limitations? What do you need and want? Do you want a raised garden or a container garden? and, How do you start? The audience is encouraged to bring questions.

The Master Gardener program, typically offered through universities in the United States and Canada, provides intensive horticultural training to individuals who then volunteer as Master Gardeners in their communities by giving lectures, creating gardens, and conducting research. Last year, 910 Master Gardener Volunteers (MGVs) donated nearly 28,000 hours toward educational and food security projects.

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

CREA hires new Development Coordinator



Pat Bobker

The Cathance River Education Alliance has hired Pat Bobker to the position of Development Coordinator. Bobker (formerly Pat Friedman) brings 20-plus years of experience

in nonprofit and for-profit development, environmental journalism, and education to the position.

“It’s the perfect opportunity for me to bring the three-legged stool of my

career to one great cause,” she said. “CREA is Maine’s hidden gem of environmental education for all ages.”

Widely known for her lifelong commitment to community leadership, Bobker has written hundreds of feature articles that have appeared in scores of publications.

“Pat brings a level of enthusiasm, creativity, passion, and an array of skills to her work that complement and enrich CREA’s outreach to the community,” said Board Chair Ellen Bennett. “We are delighted to have her as part of our team.”

CREA’s work takes place at their Topsham Ecology Center, surrounded by hundreds of acres of wooded trails and wild views of the Cathance River, as well as in local schools and throughout the region. For more information, see www.creamaine.org.

Androscoggin Bank hires new Executive VP



Karen Hayden

Androscoggin Bank has announced that Karen Hayden has joined their Senior Leadership Team as Executive Vice President, Chief Funding & Client Relationship Officer. In her new position, Hayden has responsibility for funding strategies, which includes providing a seamless and positive client experience.

Prior to joining Androscoggin Bank, Hayden was Executive Vice President for Treasury Management, Government Banking and Commercial Deposits at People’s United Bank. She has more than 18 years of experience in the banking industry. She currently sits on the board of A Company of Girls and volunteers for the Salvation Army and the Westbrook Teen Center.

“In addition to being a highly experienced leader, Karen brings a wealth of knowledge and passion to the position,” said Androscoggin Bank President Neil Kiely. “She shares our values-focused approach and is committed to creating opportunity for her teams and enriching her communities. I look forward to working closely with Karen to help us realize sizable goals.”

Hayden has a passion for leadership coaching and is considered by her colleagues to be a committed coach and mentor. She travels the country speaking on

women in leadership and considers it a priority to develop and encourage new talent so they are prepared to step into leadership roles.

“I am proud to be joining a dynamic team at Androscoggin Bank, a bank that puts their mission, vision and values into everything they do,” said Hayden. “I am thrilled to be working with an energized team of professionals who are working to transform the way we think about banking. This team is well on its way in executing on its strategies, and I look forward to contributing to the positive momentum.”

“I will also have the added pleasure of working in my hometown of Lewiston,” she noted.

Hayden earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration and finance from the University of Southern Maine. She grew up in Lewiston and lives in Cumberland with her husband, Mac.

Headquartered in Lewiston since 1870, Androscoggin Bank is dedicated to serving the communities of Maine, its residents, and the business community. The bank currently has assets totaling \$1.051 billion.

Saturday, April 27 - Save the Date for Rural Community Action Ministry’s 8th Annual Auction for Action at Boofy Quimby Memorial Center, Route 219 in North Turner. Doors will open at 4:30 p.m. with a Silent Auction, a variety of food for sale, live entertainment with Stan Davis, door prizes and more! The Live Auction, with Auctioneer Ed Wheaton, will begin at 6:00 p.m. RCAM provides homelessness and hunger prevention services to our most vulnerable neighbors in Buckfield, Canton, Greene, Hartford, Leeds, Litchfield, Livermore, Monmouth, Sabattus, Sumner, Turner, Wales, Wayne, and limited service to Livermore Falls. RCAM’s Auction for Action is a great opportunity to learn more about RCAM services, meet new friends and strengthen our communities.

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Learn about Chamber membership at Power Lunch Seminar

Are you thinking about joining the chamber of commerce, but aren’t sure what that investment will get you? Or are you already a member but want to learn more about maximizing your benefits?

If so, the LA Metro Chamber of Commerce will host a Power Lunch Seminar called “Chamber Membership, What’s In It For Me?” on Monday, April 29, from 12 to 1 p.m. The event will take place in the Chamber’s conference room at 415 Lisbon Street in Lewiston.

Chamber Ambassadors Nicole Lajoie of Champoux Insurance and Betsy Sibley of Community Credit Union will discuss the benefits that come with

chamber membership and how to maximize those benefits to grow your business, increase sales, make community connections, promote your brand, and build relationships that lead to partnerships. The event is free, but those planning to attend are asked to register at www.LAMetroChamber.com.

Lunch will not be provided. For more information, call 783-2249.

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Governor's Address: Maine's Hire-A-Vet Campaign Exceeds Goals

Earlier this week, I was proud to join a group of business people and veterans to recognize the growing number of employers who participated in Maine's Hire-A-Vet Campaign last year.

Maine's Hire-A-Vet Campaign had such ambitious goals last year - 100 days, 100 employers, 100 veterans hired - some thought they'd never fulfill them. Well, they not only fulfilled these goals, they far surpassed them.

This program's contributions to expanding Maine's workforce, supporting businesses across the state, and improving the financial well-being of our veterans would

be impressive in itself, but the fact that they surpassed these goals to such a degree is nothing short of astounding.

To the 191 different employers across the state who hired more than 286 veterans, including 52 women, in every county of Maine, I want to say thank you. Thank all of you. Thank you to those employers, in every industry, every sector, whose names span from A to Z and would take too long for me to list here.

These employers did not hire veterans merely out of a sense of charity or obligation; they hired them because they recognized what we all know to be true. Veterans know what



Governor Janet Mills

it means to work as a team. They know they can't leave anyone behind. And they know how to serve a vision and mission with integrity and commitment while adapting to dangers that are known and unknown. Sounds like pretty good employees to me.

We are one of three states in the nation with the

highest percentage of veterans. According to the Maine Bureau of Veteran's Services, there are more than 114,000 veterans in Maine. These include thousands of working-age men and women who are ready to learn the skills our businesses need to expand, modernize, and succeed.

With the workforce shortage we are already facing today, and our aging population - a threat that looms over our future - Maine's Hire-A-Vet Campaign is even more critical to making connection between this army of workers and available, high-quality jobs.

The average hourly wage of veterans hired thanks to Maine's Hire-A-

Vet Campaign was \$23.05. This is higher than the mean hourly wage of all occupations in Maine in 2018 and higher than the minimum livable wage across our state. These are not make-work jobs. They are jobs at the foundation of our economy and the financial well-being of countless Maine people.

President F. Kennedy once said: "As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them."

It is not enough to simply say "thank you" and pat ourselves on the back for fulfilling a promise to honor our nation's veterans. As they have done their duty,

it is time we do ours to ensure that every Maine veteran has the opportunity they have earned to live, work and raise a family right here in Maine.

My administration will continue to partner with Maine's Hire-A-Vet Campaign and with employers big and small, private and nonprofit, to make that goal a reality.

I look forward to next year's Campaign, and I thank this year's participants for their hard work and enduring commitment to our people at large, and especially to our veterans.

*Thank You,
Janet Mills
Governor*

LA Hearing Center offers community DocTalks



The program is designed to bring hearing healthcare education into the community with care, compassion, and trained expertise.

Because improving the hearing healthcare in our community begins with education, LA Hearing Center has launched a community outreach program presented by doctors of audiology called DocTalk. The program is designed to bring hearing healthcare education into the community with care, compassion, and trained expertise.

DocTalk presentations cover a variety of topics, including understanding hearing loss, early signs of hearing loss, hearing aid options, recognizing when your hearing aid needs adjusting, and the differences between a hearing healthcare center, doctor of audiology,

and hearing aid dispensary and when to go to each. To schedule a DocTalk presentation at your facility, or for more information about an audiological screening, call 786-3305 or email info@lahearingcenter.org.

LA Hearing Center is the Lewiston-Auburn area's only private, non-profit provider of comprehensive audiological services for people of all ages. For more information, see www.lahearingcenter.org.

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Members of the Marine Corps League Central Maine Detachment 810 present a Certificate of Appreciation to the Cote Corporation for proudly displaying the United States flag. Pictured here (l. to r.) are Cliff Plourde, Joseph Masse, Claire Poirier, Dan Cote Sr., Charlie Paul, and Toby Blais.

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Guest Column: Two bills and a Baby



By Sen. Nate Libby

My colleagues and I in the Senate are committed to making sure all Mainers get a fair shake, and our legislation and priorities reflect that. For example, we recently were able to pass into law two measures that help protect you and your finances: one that helps protect you from discriminatory practices of health insurance companies, and the other that makes a positive step toward ending pay inequality.

The first measure, LD 1, “An Act To Protect Health Care Coverage for Maine Families,” was sponsored by Senate President Troy Jackson (D-Allagash). While politicians in Washington argue over what to do about

healthcare, we took action to protect the most popular consumer protections from the Affordable Care Act.

Thanks to this new law, your insurance company can’t discriminate against you if you have a pre-existing condition or cut off your coverage because you’ve reached a “lifetime limit.” No one should ever have to worry that seeking a diagnosis will hurt them in the long run or that their treatment suddenly won’t be covered.

LD 1 also stops insurance companies from charging seniors higher rates, which is sure to help so many people in and around Lewiston. No one should be discriminated against because of their age.

Further, parents will still be able to keep their children on their health insurance plan until their children are 26. This means families can keep offering that extra bit of support while their kids earn an education, start their careers, and get their feet under them.

These consumer protections have broad, bipartisan support. This bill was signed into law by Gov. Janet Mills on March 19. Because this was an emergency measure, the law went into effect immediately.

The second measure, LD 278, “An Act Regarding Pay Equality,” helps to ensure that one act of pay

See Libby, page 7

Republicans’ Address: Democrats’ Tax Proposals Would Hurt Maine Families

By Rep. Kathleen Dillingham

For the past eight years, Republican leadership has improved the lives of Mainers through responsible fiscal discipline and policies. By lowering taxes, restraining the growth of government, lowering debt, and improving state finances, we have improved the budget for families in Maine. Low unemployment, higher wages, and historically high workforce participation is, and should be, the new norm.

When voters gave Republicans the chance to lead Maine in 2010, 70,000 low-income earners were freed from having to pay state income tax. So what has happened now that Democrats control the Governorship, the House, and the Senate? Proposal after proposal has come forward to tax Maine citizens, small businesses, and families.

Several proposals to “tax” home heating fuel, gasoline, diesel, kerosene, and propane will negatively impact Maine families. Like most listeners, I need to heat my home during the winter and travel long distances to and from work. Anything our family spends on fuel comes directly out of the household budget.

But the ruling party in Augusta doesn’t seem to understand, or doesn’t seem

to care, that high fuel prices cost families twice. Not only does it cost more for fuel, but it will also cost extra at the register for goods that are manufactured with, then transported by, fuel.

When fuel prices are increased, the cost of goods are increased. Since virtually everything that we buy and sell in Maine moves by truck or rail, their proposals would make our businesses even less competitive with the rest of the country.

The desire to tax doesn’t stop with fuel. Just last week, the legislature heard another bill sponsored by six Democrats to impose additional taxes on alcohol. If passed, it will raise taxes on spirits, malt liquor, fortified wines, and hard cider while imposing a higher sales tax on the sale of liquor sold in establishments.

Taxes on malt liquor would increase 43%; taxes on low-alcohol spirits products and fortified wines would increase 21%; taxes on wine would increase 67%; taxes on hard cider would increase 43%, and the sales tax will increase by 2% on all alcohol sold in bars, restaurants and breweries.

It is disappointing to me that my Democratic colleagues want to sacrifice our flourishing microbrewery industry, distilleries, and growing wineries to feed their unending appetite for growing government



spending. Those growing industries and others that support them are creating jobs, opportunity, and economic activity. This is especially true in rural areas, where local businesses help bring people together.

Several testified at the hearing that the new taxes would cost individual breweries anywhere from \$18,000 to \$47,000 dollars and raise the price of a beer .65 cents.

In her testimony, the bill sponsor actually said: “If this increase is a problem, then you are drinking too much.”

Republicans are working hard to try and kill this bill in committee, before it gets to the floor. We are also encouraged that so many citizens and small businesses have let their voices be heard this session. You have shown that you can make a difference by contacting legislators to express your concern over extreme proposals like the ones I have

See Tax, page 13

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April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) is an annual campaign to raise public awareness about sexual assault and educate communities and individuals on how to prevent sexual violence. It is observed in April.

Each year during the month of April, state, territory, tribal and community-based organizations, rape crisis centers, government agencies, businesses, campuses and individuals plan events and activities to highlight sexual violence as a public health, human rights and social justice issue and reinforce the need for prevention efforts.

The theme, slogan, resources and materials for the national SAAM campaign are coordinated by the National Sexual Violence Resource Center each year with assistance from anti-sexual assault organizations throughout the United States.

The 1970s saw a significant growth for prevention and awareness of sexual violence across the country, following the general trend of social activism throughout the decade. Moving beyond awareness of the issue, the Bay Area Women Against Rape opened in 1971 as the nation's first rape crisis center offering immediate victim services. With this heightened awareness of sexual violence, state coalitions began to form, beginning with Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape in 1975.

As early as 1976, Take Back the Night marches

rallied women in organized protest against rape and sexual assault. These marches protested the violence and fear that women encountered walking the streets at night. Over time these events coordinated into a movement across the United States and Europe. Because of this movement broader activities to raise awareness of violence against women began to occur.

In the early 1980s, activists used October to raise awareness of violence against women and domestic violence awareness became the main focus. In the late 1980s, the National Coalition Against Sexual Assault (NCASA) informally polled state sexual assault coalitions to determine the preferred date for a national Sexual Assault Awareness Week. A week in April was selected. By the late 1990s, many advocates began coordinating activities and events throughout the month of April, advancing the idea of a nationally recognized month for sexual violence awareness and prevention activities. SAAM was first observed nationally in April 2001.

Survivors, advocates, and state coalitions mobilized around the creation and implementation of the Violence Against Women Act in 1994. This bill was the first national law requiring law enforcement to treat gender violence as a crime rather than a private family matter. VAWA was also designed to strengthen legal protections for victims of domestic vio-

lence and sexual violence as well as expand services to survivors and their children

The National Sexual Violence Resource Center was established in 2000 by the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape and the Center for Disease Control. In 2001, the NSVRC coordinated the first formally recognized national Sexual Assault Awareness Month campaign, and still facilitates it today. In 2005, the campaign shifted to prevention of sexual violence and the first tool kits were sent out to coalitions and rape crisis centers across the country. Awareness for the campaign culminated in 2009 when Barack Obama was the first president to officially proclaim April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

With a combined history of over 90 years, the rape-crisis centers serving Androscoggin, Franklin and Oxford Counties have worked for change by educating our communities and supporting victim-survivors of rape, child sexual abuse and other forms of sexual violence.

Now these three agencies have joined forces and merged into one agency which covers all three counties. The new agency is named Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Services. This merger has allowed us to combine resources to better support our work, find some savings by combining expenses where possible, and ensure greater financial security.

Looking toward our future together, we are excited to be an even stronger agent for positive change.


Our 24 hour response line is 1-800-871-7741 (voice) and 1-888-458-5599 (TTY) Please call if we can help.

Our Oxford County location also serves the town of Bridgton in Cumberland County, Maine.

Mission Statement

Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Services works to prevent and

eliminate sexual violence and promote healing and empowerment for people of all genders and ages who are affected by rape, sexual assault, child sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, stalking and sexual harassment.



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What's Going On

CMCC Foundation honors achievements at Annual Dinner



Awardees honored at the dinner were (l. to r., from front) Kayla Thayer, Ouseiny Ousmane, Matt Kinney, Shawn Brown, Terry Samson, Kauna Yaga, Kristen Huntress, Jordy Knoren, John Wallace, Zakiya Sheikyh, Chris Thoma, Rusty Vining, Bert LaBonte, Dan Graham, and Ben Creznic. Absent from the photo is Tyler Hayes.

Over 300 people gathered at the Ramada Inn of Lewiston recently for Central Maine Community College's 12th Annual Dinner. The event, hosted by the College's Education Foundation Board of Directors, marked the 30th anniversary of the Foundation's incorporation in 1989.

After welcoming remarks from Foundation Board Chair Christine Bosse, CMCC President Scott Knapp delivered his annual "State of the College" address and recounted some milestone events in the Foundation's 30-year history.

The event concluded with the presentation

of awards to students and others for their achievements or contributions to the College. Awardees honored at the dinner were Kayla Thayer, Student of the Year; Matt Kinney, Scholarship Recipient of the Year; Shawn Brown, Veteran of the Year; Terry Samson, President's Award; Kauna Yaga and Ouseiny Ousmane, "Against All Odds" Award; Kristen Huntress, Female Student Athlete of the Year; Jordy Knoren, Male Student Athlete of the Year; Zakiya Sheikyh, Rusty Vining, Ben Creznic, and Tyler Hayes, All-Maine Academic Team; John Wallace, Faculty Member of the Year; Chris

Thoma, Adjunct Faculty Member of the Year; Dan Graham, Staff Member of the Year; and Bert LaBonte, Corporate Partner of the Year.

Proceeds from the dinner, which are expected to exceed \$25,000, will benefit the Foundation's scholarship fund.

The mission of the CM Education Foundation is to provide financial support to CMCC and its students, advocate on behalf of the college, and nurture relationships with the community and constituencies. Since its inception, the Foundation has raised more than one million dollars in scholarships for the College.



Seated here with President's Award recipient Terry Samson (c.) are Cecile Mathieu (l.) and Holly Coulombe.



Seated with CMCC student Cam Duncan (far left) are (from left) Dan Cote and Bert and Pat LaBonte.



Kauna Yaga (c.), winner of the "Against All Odds" Award, with award sponsors Joanne and Ron Lebel

ATRC launches Transportation Plan update

The Androscoggin Transportation Resource Center (ATRC) is beginning the process of updating its Metropolitan Transportation

Plan (MTP). ATRC is responsible for transportation planning in Auburn, Lewiston, Lisbon, and Sabattus. ATRC is also responsible for advising and prioritizing surface transportation needs for these communities for the Maine Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, and Federal Transit Administration.

The Metropolitan Transportation Plan will be used to guide the development of future Transportation Improvement Programs, transportation studies, and projects over the next 20 years. A copy of the current MTP is available on the ATRC website at <http://avcog.org/Document-Center/View/1700>.

The process for the

update of this plan provides opportunities for public input. ATRC will send out notices requesting review and comments to their "Interested and Affected Parties List" in May 2019. ATRC will provide information on the MTP update at www.atrcmpo.org.

The draft transportation plan will be completed by early June and a 30-day public comment period will begin. A public meeting to discuss the draft plan will be held in late June or early July 2019. The final plan will be completed by the end of July 2019. The ATRC will accept and respond to all comments received during this process. Anyone with questions or comments can contact Joan Walton at 783-9186 or jwalton@avcog.org.

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Judges named for Memorial Day art show

Art in the Park, part of Auburn's 150th anniversary celebration, has named the two judges for its juried Memorial Day art show. In addition to the juried show with awards and prizes, the event will feature art work by students from Edward Little High School, much of which features Auburn subjects and themes, and vendor spaces for artists to display and sell their work.

Festivities will take place 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Edward Little Park, at the corner of Main and Academy Streets in Auburn, adjacent to Great Falls Performing Arts Center.

Charlie Hewitt is a prolific printmaker, painter, and sculptor, who lives in Portland and grew up in Auburn and Lewiston. The imagery in his artwork is influenced by the mill-work-

ing communities in which he was raised. His works are found in distinguished museum collections, such as the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Whitney Museum of American Art, Museum of Modern Art, Library of Congress, Portland Museum of Art, and Bates College Museum of Art. He has produced numerous public art commissions, some of which can be found in Portland, Lewiston, and on the High Line in New York City.

Rebecca Swanson Conrad is President of the Lewiston-Auburn Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce. She previously served as Vice President for Institutional Advancement at Maine College of Art in Portland and, for 21 years, in higher education administration at Bates College. She served on the Maine

Arts Commission for seven years. Conrad received her BA in English from Bates College and studied in the New England Studies MFA Program at the University of Southern Maine. She lives in Auburn with her husband, Austin Conrad, Jr.

Art show prizes will be awarded in several categories. Juried Awards and Public Choice Awards will be presented for First, Second, and Third Place. Honorable Mention ribbons will be issued in both classes. There will also be an Auburn Prize for the best work with an Auburn theme and a "Mayor's Choice" winner selected by Mayor Jason Levesque, who will lead the Awards Ceremony at 2 p.m. For more information, call Anita Poulin at 782-5118 or see www.auburn150.com/artshow.

Dunn School students visit State House



Third and fourth grade students from the Burchard A. Dunn School in New Gloucester visited the State House in Augusta recently. They are pictured here with their state senator, Ned Claxton (D-Auburn).

Libby

Continued from page 4

discrimination won't negatively impact your income for the rest of your career.

Despite efforts to address income inequality in the country, pay gaps persist. In Maine, working women make about 82 cents for every dollar their male counterparts earn. And, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, people with disabilities make about 87 cents for every dollar their non-disabled counterparts earn.

LD 278 restricts employers from inquiring about a job candidate's salary history until after an offer, including a pay rate, is

made. This means that an act of pay discrimination - even one that is unintentional - won't drag down your future earnings.

Diminished earnings leave people at greater risk for poverty and financial hardship, especially later in life when the impact of unexpected costs can be compounded by a fixed income. People who face pay discrimination are more likely to need to rely on financial assistance. Addressing pay inequality helps Mainers as individuals and our economy as a whole.

LD 278 was passed through the Maine Senate and House on April 2, Equal Pay Day, the day U.S. women, on average, "catch up" with the earnings of their

male counterparts from the previous year. I was excited to witness Gov. Mills sign this into law on April 12.

Finally, I'd like to share with you some personal news: last month, my family grew as my wife and I welcomed into the world our new son, Charlie. He is tiny, healthy, and perfect. I am grateful for the support of my friends and colleagues, and I look forward to introducing Charlie to the State House soon.

As always, I am honored to serve you as Senate Majority Leader and now as the proud father of two sons. Sen. Nate Libby (D-Androscoggin) represents Maine Senate District 21, which comprises the City of Lewiston.

Franco Center screens "Petit Paysan"

The next film in the Gendron Franco Center's French film series will be the 2017 Cannes Festival-winning drama "Petit Paysan." Written by Guy Bellinger, the story is about a young farmer who, after taking over the operation of his parents' farm, will stop at nothing to save the rest of the herd when one of his cows gets sick. The film will be shown in French with English subtitles on Monday, April 29 at 6:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 783-1585 or see FrancoCenter.org.



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Poets

Continued from page 1

anthology.

The process of self-publishing was totally unknown and daunting to them at the time. Brigitte Whiting took on the time-consuming task of conducting extensive research on the various options. She researched what Kindle Direct Publishing at Amazon required and what the front and end pages of a book needed to include. She did the work of formatting, editing, and proofing the book.

“When I received the final versions of each poet’s poems, I formatted them for the book based on each poet’s vision,” said Brigitte. “Then I included Anita

Poulin’s artwork for the book covers and sent it to Amazon.”

Anita described how she designed the book’s covers. “I took pictures of each poet’s hand in a writing position and then created a circle of hands writing.” She created four versions for the group to select from.

Proof copies were ordered and approved by the group and it went “live” on Amazon. “It was a group effort,” sums up Brigitte. Those interested in purchasing a copy of the book may do so at <https://www.amazon.com/dp/1729375820>.

The collection features a variety of themes, including Maine and Mexican villages, the beauty and mysteries of the natural

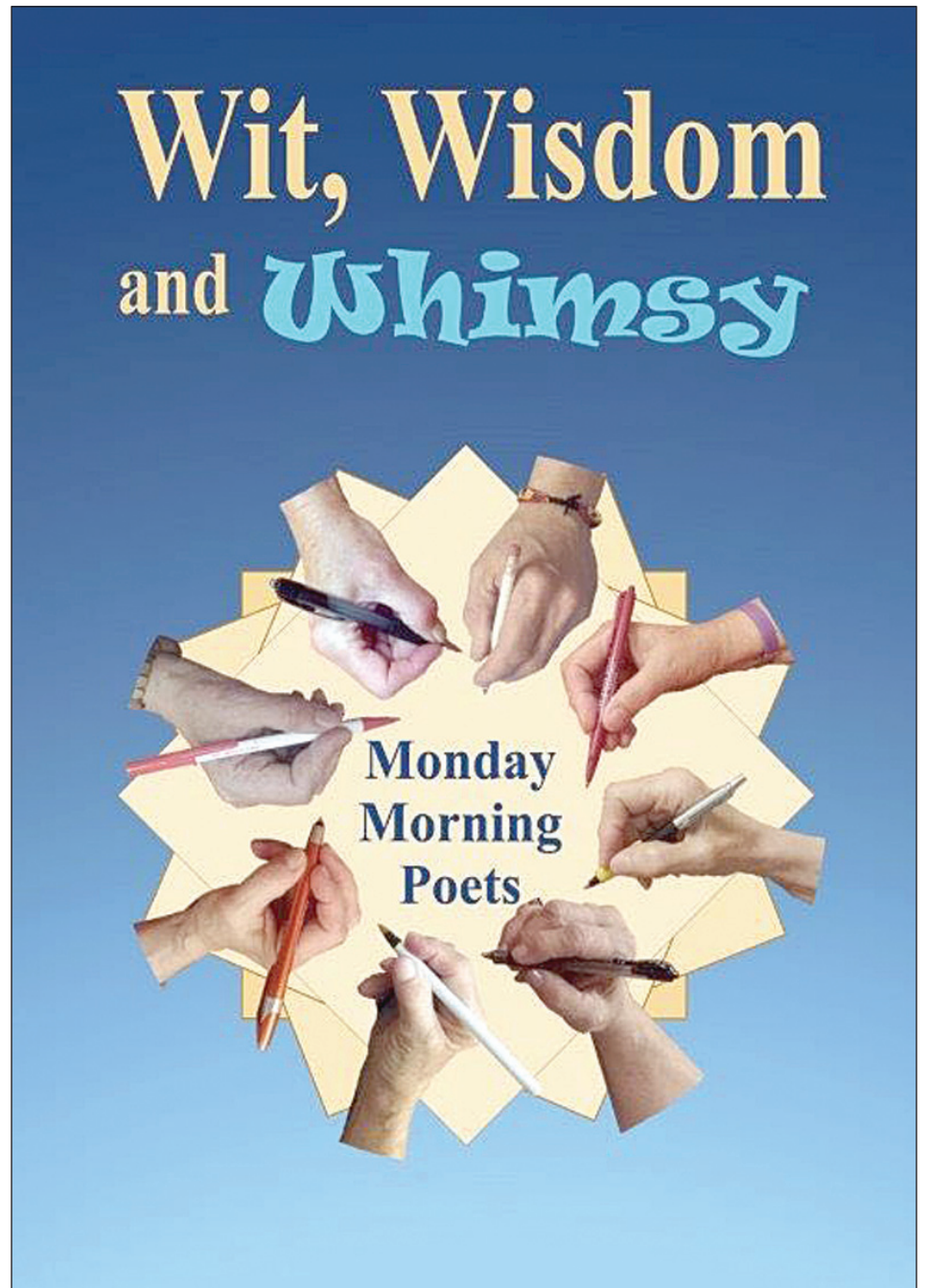
world, and reflections on life’s various experiences. The book is arranged alphabetically, with the name of each poet followed by the poems of that author. Each author is introduced by a brief biographical sketch.

The book includes acknowledgements of poems published elsewhere and ends by thanking Anita F. Poulin for designing and creating the covers and Brigitte A. Whiting for editing and formatting the manuscript.

Copies of the book have also been donated to the following libraries: Auburn Public Library, Lewiston Public Library, Gardiner Public Library, Mann Memorial Library at West Paris, South Paris Public Library and Norway Public Library.



The back cover features this group portrait of the authors, (l. to r., from front) Nancy Orr, Kathryn Tracy, Linda DeSantis, Diane Clay Anita F. Poulin, Bill Frayer, Brigitte Whiting, and Darlene Glover. (GreenWood Gallery Photo)



Created by Anita F. Poulin, the front cover features a montage of the writers’ hands linked in a circle. (Anita F. Poulin/GreenWood Gallery photo)



L to R: Jeff Garrison, System Director of Heart & Vascular Service Line; David Tupponce, M.D., Executive Vice President of Central Maine Healthcare, President of Central Maine Medical Center; Andrew Eisenhauer, M.D., Medical Director of Central Maine Heart and Vascular Institute; Paul Weldner, M.D.; Arun Thukkani, M.D., Ph.D.; and Phillip Terrell, Practice Leader for 100 Top Hospitals, IBM Watson Health

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TWIN CITY NIGHTS

Weekly Arts & Entertainment

"Fireflies" to light up Public Theatre stage in May



Judith Ivey, who appeared in the world premiere alongside Oscar-nominee Jane Alexander, is excited to direct the play at the Public Theatre.

The next production of the Public Theatre's 2018-19 season will be "Fireflies," running May 3 through 12. This humorous and heartwarming love story from the author of the play "Enchanted April" will feature a cast of Broadway veterans directed by two-time Tony Award-winner Judith Ivey.

Retired schoolteacher Eleanor Bannister is a strong, stubborn single woman of a certain age, living alone in a small Texas town. Up to now, her social life has consisted of visits from her nosey next door neighbor, Grace. But when

love in the form of a charming drifter comes knocking at her door, can the sparks of a late-life romance be trusted, or is there no fool like an old fool?

Romantic and humorous, "Fireflies" asks whether we are able to open ourselves up to new experiences as we get more set in our ways, letting go of ideas about ourselves that no longer serve our happiness.

Judith Ivey, who recently appeared in the world premiere of Fireflies alongside Oscar-nominee Jane Alexander, is excited to have the opportunity to direct the play at the Public

Theatre. Several years ago, when Ivey directed "The Ladies Foursome," the production drew record-breaking audiences to the Public Theatre. She is confident that Fireflies will also be a crowd pleaser.

Leading a strong cast of professional actors is Caitlin O'Connell as Eleanor. O'Connell has appeared on Broadway in "The Crucible," "The Heiress," "Mother and Son," and "33 Variations," as well as in television roles on "Law and Order" and "Homicide." Playing her humorous, nosey neighbor Grace is Charlotte Booker, who has appeared in the Broadway revival of "Born Yesterday" and has made numerous TV appearances on "Law and Order," "CSI" and various sitcoms.

Abel, the charming drifter, will be played by John Hutton. A member of the acting company at the Denver Center Theatre for 23 seasons, Hutton has appeared in numerous New York and regional theaters. Playing the role of the Eugene, a former student of Eleanor's, is Jonathan Fielding. Last seen at the Public Theatre in "Rough Crossing" and "A Christmas Carol," Fielding has appeared on Broadway in various shows, including "The Play That Goes Wrong," "Noises Off," "Pygmalion," and "The Seagull."

The Public Theatre will continue its series of *See Fireflies*, page 13

Cherish the Ladies to perform at Chocolate Church Arts Center



The group makes the only New England appearance of their "Heart of the Home" world tour on Friday, May 3.

The Internationally renowned Celtic super-group Cherish the Ladies will make the only New England appearance of their current "Heart of the Home" world tour at the Chocolate Church Arts Center in Bath on Friday, May 3 at 7:30 p.m.

The tour celebrates the Irish-American ensemble's 33 years of making music. Forming in New York City in 1985 to celebrate the rise of women in what had been a male-dominated Irish music scene, the group has since toured the world, playing the White House and Olympics. They have recording 17 albums, including a live recording called "An Irish

Homecoming" that was simultaneously videotaped for a Public Television special that aired across America and won an Emmy.

Under the leadership of All-Ireland flute and whistle champion Joanie Madden, named by the Irish Voice Newspaper as one of the Top 25 most influential Irish Americans of the past quarter century, these ladies create an evening that includes a spectacular blend of virtuosi instrumental talents, beautiful vocals, captivating arrangements, and stunning step dancing. Their continued success as one of the top Celtic groups in the world is due to their ability to take the best of traditional

Irish music and dance and put it forth in an immensely entertaining show.

The New York Times has called their music "passionate, tender, and rambunctious" while the Washington Post has praised their "astonishing array of virtuosity." They've won recognition as the BBC's Best Musical Group of the Year and were named Top North American Celtic Group at the Irish Music Awards.

The center is located at 804 Washington Street in Bath. Admission is \$35 in advance or \$40 door, or \$15 for students. Tickets may be purchased by calling 442-8455 or at www.chocolatechurcharts.org.



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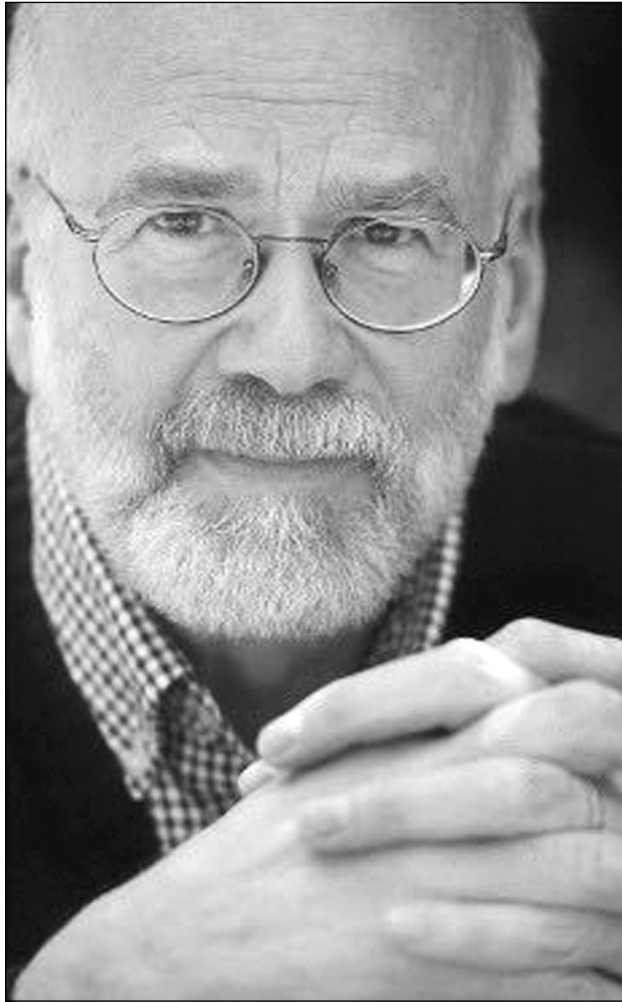
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Bailey Library presents poet Wes McNair



The former Maine poet laureate has received a United States Artists Fellowship as "one of America's finest living artists."

Bailey Public Library in downtown Winthrop will celebrate National Poetry Month by hosting former Maine poet laureate Wesley McNair on Tuesday, April 30 at 6:30 p.m. McNair, who has twice been invited to read his poems at the Library of Congress, will read from his work and discuss the publishing process. The event is free and open to the public. For more information call the library at 377-8673.

McNair has won

numerous awards for his poetry, including Rockefeller and Guggenheim fellowships and a United States Artists Fellowship as "one of America's finest living artists." During his term as Maine poet laureate, he launched five state-wide initiatives in partnership with the Maine Writers & Publishers Alliance. "All of them have the same motive, which is to make poetry part of the cultural life we all share," he says.

UMF offers summer Young Writer's Workshop

Longfellow, a University of Maine at Farmington young writers' workshop for all continuing high school students interested in writing, will hold its ninth annual creative writing conference Sunday, July 14 through Saturday, July 20 on the UMF campus.

Longfellow is a week-long, residential young writers' summer workshop that provides talented high school writers with the opportunity to immerse themselves in the writing world. The conference features small, supportive workshops in poetry, nonfiction, screenwriting, and fiction, taught by distinguished Bachelor of Fine Arts UMF faculty and published authors, as well as readers and lecturers from the dynamic local writing community.

Students will reside in a campus residence hall under the guidance of campus staff and UMF senior creative writing students. During their time on campus, they will publish a chapbook of personal work, become familiar with the offices of nationally acclaimed poetry press Alice James Books, and recreate in the beautiful Maine wild. The cost of the weeklong program is \$800, which includes tuition, fees, and room and board.

The program is pleased to continue to offer three full scholarships, including two Michael Macklin Scholarships for Young Maine Writers. Honoring the memory of the Maine poet and educator, the scholarships will be awarded to male

or female writers who are residents of Maine. Additionally, several tuition-only scholarships are funded by UMF.

To be considered for all scholarships, a five-page creative writing sample and 500-word statement of need must be submitted electronically no later than May 1, 2019.

Students can apply for all awards options from one easy application form at <http://creativewriting.umf.maine.edu/longfellow>.

Maine Event Comedy at Cowbell Grill and Tap



Jonathan Tillson

Maine Event Comedy will present Boston's Jonathan Tillson at Cowbell Grill and Tap on Thursday, April 25 at 7 p.m. He'll be joined by Julie Poulin, Joe Flynn, and special guests.

Jonathan Tillson grew up just outside Beantown, where he quickly developed an aversion to social norms and mainstream traditions. He tackles topics from the mundane to the absurd with dark twists and aloof charm. He's performed at Laugh Boston, the Orpheum Theater, and Comix at Mohegan Sun; and has worked with national headliners, including Nick Dipaolo and Bobcat Goldthwait.

Julie Poulin is making waves in her young stand-up career. She recently bested a

field of 20 comedians from throughout New England to win Maine Event Comedy's Tighest Five contest. A few months later, she won the Central Maine Comedy Invitational at Lewiston's Franco Center.

A likable curmudgeon from Salem, Mass., Joe Flynn recently performed at Comix at Mohegan Sun. He's a two-time finalist in New England's Best Bar Comic Contest and a runner-up in the Witch City Comedy Competition.

The show is free and open to those ages 21 and older. Cowbell is located at 49 Lisbon Street in Lewiston. For more information, call 333-5188 or visit cowbellgrillandtap.com.

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Twin City Nights

MFGS meeting to include program on Acadian history



Lucille Langelier

The Maine Franco-American Genealogical Society will hold its Spring Meeting on Saturday, May 4 at 10 a.m. at Auburn Public Library. Following the meeting, MFGS Treasurer Lucille Langelier (maiden name Doucette) will present an illustrated program on the Acadians. Her program, which will begin around 11:00, is free and open to the public.

Langelier has visited

places in France where the Acadians came from and where some were deported after 1755, known as "Le Grand Derangement." A brief overview of the group's history will also be provided.

Langelier has been the Library Assistant at Lewiston High School for the past 34 years. She has been studying and researching her genealogy since the death of her maternal grandfather, Donat Rousseau, in 1999.

Labor Council to host dinner honoring fallen workers

The Western Maine Labor Council will host its 13th annual Workers' Memorial Day-May Day Dinner on Sunday, April 28 to honor the 21 Maine workers who died on the job in 2018. The event will take place at the Dollard & Priscilla Gendron Franco Center at 46 Cedar Street in Lewiston, beginning with a social hour at 4:30, followed by dinner and the formal program starting at 5:30.

Three awards will be given to champions of workers' rights and workplace safety.

The Bruce D. Roy Award will be given to Tom Fallon, a retired United Steelworkers Local 900

member, former steward in his union, and working class poet who writes about labor's struggles.

The Workers' Solidarity Award will be given to the Kennebec Valley CAP Drivers, who voted overwhelmingly last month to form a union and to affiliate with the International Association of Machinists District Lodge 4.

The Frances Perkins Award will be given to Mary Anne Turowski, longtime political director for the Maine State Employees Association, Local 1989 of the Service Employees International Union, who has been hired recently as a policy advisor by Governor

Janet T. Mills.

Rabbi Sruli Dresdner of Temple Shalom in Auburn will deliver the invocation and the prayer for the fallen. The Lewiston Fire Department Honor Guard will present the colors, accompanied by Sue Mack of Pownal, who will serve as bagpiper.

Charlotte Brody, vice president of environmental and occupational health initiatives for the BlueGreen Alliance, will give a short presentation on the connections between the health of the environment and the health of workers and the rest of the population.

Congressman Jared Golden will also speak briefly in honor of the fallen workers and to offer his support for those who fight for workers' rights, including their right to a safe workplace.

The public is invited to attend. Tickets are \$20 each or \$150 for a table of eight. Tickets can be purchased at the door, but all who are interested should RSVP in advance to Elaine at 784-5726. All proceeds will benefit the Western Maine Labor Council.

What do you think?

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Everyone is invited to purchase a piece of pottery, eat dinner with their family, and enjoy live music.



Proceeds will benefit the center's soup kitchen, which serves nearly 30,000 meals to the hungry and homeless each year.

The Trinity Jubilee Center will host its 15th annual Empty Bowls Supper on Sunday, May 5, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the First Universalist Church of Auburn. Potters from across the state have created hundreds of bowls, plates, and mugs and local restaurants will prepare dinner for the event. Everyone is invited to purchase a

piece of pottery, eat dinner with their family, and enjoy live music.

The Jubilee Center is a community center in downtown Lewiston that is open six days a week. Proceeds from the Empty Bowls Supper benefit the center's soup kitchen, which serves nearly 30,000 meals to the hungry and homeless each year.

Dinner will include soups, breads, drinks, and desserts created by DaVinci's Eatery, Forage Market, Gipper's Sports Grill, Governor's Restaurant and Bakery, Grant's Bakery, Hurricane's Cafe and Deli, The Italian Bakery, Luiggi's Pizzeria, Marco's Restaurant, Sam's Italian Foods, Sedgley Place, She Doesn't Like Guthrie's, Subway, Tripp's Farmhouse Cafe, and Wei Li.

Potters creating bowls, plates, and mugs for the event include Carrie White, Edgcomb Potters, Georgetown Pottery, Meadow Muffin Pottery, Mudroom Pottery, Portland Pottery, The Potter's House, Saltbox Pottery, and students at Bates College, Maine College of Art, and St. Dominic Academy.

Admission and dinner are free with the purchase of pottery. Early admission passes, available for purchase online at the Jubilee Center's website, allow guests to enter 30 minutes early and have first choice of pottery. Those unable to attend can donate online to feed 25 meals to the hungry through the Fill a Bowl project.

The church is located at 169 Pleasant Street. For more information about the Jubilee Center's programs or the Empty Bowls Supper, email erin@trinityjubileecenter.org or visit

www.trinityjubileecenter.org.

City invites resident participation for #EarthDayAuburn



The City of Auburn invites residents to celebrate Earth Day 2019 by taking part in the city's Countdown to Summer, taking place now through Memorial Day. Residents, organizations, businesses, schools, and neighborhood groups are

urged to do something big or small to help keep Auburn beautiful and prepare the city for its upcoming Memorial Day Celebration on May 27. The activities are part of the city's ongoing 150th Anniversary Celebration.

"It's been a long winter, so this is the perfect time to get in the spirit of

spring, help beautify our city, and get ready for our sesquicentennial summer!" said Auburn Mayor Jason Levesque. "I encourage everyone to team up with family, neighbors, co-workers, or a favorite community organization for #EarthDayAuburn."

Whether you take a hike and pick up litter, plant a tree, join one of Auburn's community gardens, "scoop" pet waste, volunteer with a local clean-up event, or simply spruce things up in your yard or neighborhood, the city wants to hear about your #EarthDayAuburn activities.

Residents are encouraged to request volunteers to help with an event, or simply share what they are doing to help keep Auburn beautiful, by checking in on #EarthDayAuburn or visiting www.auburn150.com.

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Thursday, Apr. 25

HR Thursdays Workshop. Noon to 1:30 p.m. Chamber of Commerce, 415 Lisbon St., Lewiston. Sarah Newell and Ryan Dumais of Eaton Peabody present a "Discrimination and Retaliation Law Overview." \$50 (Chamber members \$25; CMHRA members free). 783-2249. Register at www.LAMetroChamber.com.

Marine Corps League Meeting. 6 p.m. Lewiston Armory, 65 Central Ave. Central ME Detachment 810 needs members: they will pay for your first year of membership. All Marines, FMF Corpsman, Navy Chaplains, and anyone interested in helping local veterans is invited.

Self-Employment Workshop. 6 to 8 p.m. RSU 16 Adult Education, 129 Elm St., Mechanic Falls. Find out if self-employment is right for you and how to get started. Free. Pres. by New Ventures Maine. Register at 557-1885 or karleen.andrews@maine.edu.

Discover Girl Scouts. 6 p.m. Turner Primary School, 59 Cobb Rd., Turner. Girls in Grades K-3 and their caregivers are invited to come learn about Girl Scouts. 888-922-4763; girlscoutsofmaine.org.

Maine Event Comedy. 7 p.m. Cowbell Bar and Grill, 49 Lisbon St., Lewiston. Tonight's performers are Jonathan Tillson, Julie Poulin, Joe Flynn, and special guests. Ages 21-plus. Free. 333-5188; maineeventcomedy@gmail.com.

Friday, Apr. 26

Public Office Hours. 8 a.m. Conference Room, Minot Town Office, 329 Woodman Hill Rd. Sen. Ned Claxton (D-Androscoggin) answers questions and provides information on legislative issues. All welcome.

"Six Months Aboard an Aircraft Carrier." 2 and 7 p.m. Sawyer Memorial, 371 Sawyer Rd., Greene. 25-year Navy veteran Alan Elze describes his two cruises aboard the Nimitz-class supercarrier USS Carl Vinson. Free. 946-5311; sawyer-foundation.com.

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. 2 p.m. 105 Middle St., Lewiston. Join the L-A Metro Chamber of Commerce in welcoming Recovery Connections of Maine, a substance use disorder agency that treats addiction. www.recoveryconnections-maine.com.

Theater: "Annie: The Musical." 7:30 p.m. Theater at Monmouth, 796 Main St., Monmouth. Presented by the Monmouth Community Players. Again 4/27-28, 5/3-5 (Sats. at 2 and 7:30 p.m.; Suns. at 2 p.m.). For ticket info, see www.monmouthcommunityplayers.org.

Saturday, Apr. 27

Bird Club Field Trip: Riverwalk. Meet at 8:30

Calendar

See more Calendar at www.TwinCityTimes.com

a.m. in front of Staples on Lisbon St. in Lewiston for carpooling; group returns by 11 a.m. Led by Stanton Bird Club; all welcome. Free. 513-8213; www.StantonBirdClub.org.

Public Office Hours. 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Couture Room, Lewiston Public Library. Lewiston's delegates to the Maine Legislature answer questions and provide an update of the current legislative session. To RSVP, see <http://bit.ly/lewistonofficehours>.

Dance Performance. 4 p.m. Schaeffer Theatre, 329 College St., Bates College, Lewiston. This informal performance by dance alumni and current students marks the 50th anniversary of the Bates Dance Program. Free. 786-6161.

Auction for Action. 4:30 p.m. Boofy Quimby Memorial Center, Rte. 219, No. Turner. This annual fundraiser for Rural Community Action Ministry features a silent auction with live entertainment and concessions at 4:30, followed by a live auction at 6 p.m.

Bean Supper. 4:30 to 6 p.m. Sixth St. Congregational Church, 109 Sixth St., Auburn. Two kinds of beans, red and brown hot dogs, American chop suey, brown bread, coleslaw, assorted desserts and beverages. \$6/3 (ages 4- free). Take-out available.

Bean Supper. 5 p.m. United Methodist Church, 439 Park Ave., Auburn. Baked beans, casseroles, hot dogs, coleslaw, bread, beverages and pies; entertainment by the Park Avenue Pickers at 4:30 p.m. \$8/4 (kids ages 4- free). 782-3972.

Bean Supper. 5 p.m. First Congregational Church, Rte. 115, Gray. Baked beans, casseroles, salads, homemade breads and desserts, beverages. \$8/4. Wheelchair accessible. 657-4279 (day of supper 657-3279).

Café Shalom Musical Variety Show. 7 p.m. Temple Shalom, 74 Bradman St., Auburn. Live performances in various musical styles music, plus some magic and a special surprise; pre-show wine and cheese reception at 6 p.m. \$10. www.templeshalomauburn.org.

Sunday, Apr. 28

Strutt Your Mutt-Dash for Dogs 5K. 9 a.m. Greater Androscoggin Humane Society, 55 Strawberry Ave., Lewiston. Come walk or run to raise funds for GAHS; dogs welcome, but not required. \$30 (\$25 in adv.). Register at www.SavingPetsInMaine.org.

Induction & Awards

Banquet. Noon. Ramada Conference Center, Lewiston. After a social hour and dinner, the Auburn-Lewiston Sports Hall of Fame presents its annual awards. Reservations required. \$35. 783-2249; www.LAMetroChamber.com.

Amphibian Walk. 1 p.m. Thorncrag Sanctuary, Montello St., Lewiston. Meet in the parking lot; led by Stanton Bird Club; all welcome. Free. 782-5467; www.StantonBirdClub.org.

Workers' Memorial Day Dinner. 4:30 p.m. Gendron Franco Center, 46 Cedar St., Lewiston. Social hour at 4:30, dinner and program at 5:30. Benefits Western Maine Labor Council. \$20. RSVP in advance to 784-5726.

Monday, Apr. 29

Power Lunch Seminar. Noon to 1 p.m. Chamber of Commerce, 415 Lisbon St., Lewiston. Chamber Ambassadors Nicole Lajoie and Betsy Sibley present "Chamber Membership, What's In It For Me?" Free, but pls. register at www.LAMetroChamber.com.

Discover Girl Scouts. 6 p.m. Walton Elementary School, 92 Mary Carroll St., Auburn. Girls in Grades K-3 and their caregivers are invited to come learn about Girl Scouts. 888-922-4763; girlscoutsofmaine.org.

Film Screening. 6:30 p.m. Franco Center, 46 Cedar St., Lewiston. This month's film is the 2017 Cannes Festival-winning drama "Petit Paysan"; in French, w. English subtitles. Free; donations accepted. www.francocenter.org.

Tuesday, Apr. 30

Lewiston-Bates College Bird Walk. 6 a.m. Walk starts in front of Hathorn Hall on the Bates College campus and returns by 8:30 a.m. Led by Stanton Bird Club; all welcome. Free. 319-6630; www.StantonBirdClub.org.

Curious Minds Series. 2 p.m. Auburn Public Library. Senior College instructor Alan Elze discusses the life of L. Frank Baum, creator of the Wizard of Oz. Free. Pres. with L-A Senior College. <https://usm.maine.edu/seniorcollege>.

Author Visit. 6:30 p.m. Bailey Public Library, 38 Bowdoin St., Winthrop. Former Maine poet laureate Wesley McNair reads from his work and discusses the publishing process. Free. 377-8673; www.baileylibrary.org.

Wednesday, May 1

Rotary Breakfast Club Meeting. 7 a.m. United Methodist Church, 439 Park Ave., Auburn. The guest

speaker is Katie Lisnik, new Executive Director of the Greater Androscoggin Humane Society. All welcome; breakfast \$15.

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. 10 a.m. 1567 Lisbon St., Lewiston. Join the L-A Metro Chamber in welcoming Angel's Wing, which collects and resells donated goods to fund substance abuse recovery programs. anangelswing.com.

Discover Girl Scouts. 6 p.m. Libby-Tozier School, 466 Academy Rd., Litchfield. Girls in Grades K-3 and their caregivers are invited to come learn about Girl Scouts. 888-922-4763; girlscoutsofmaine.org.

Thursday, May 2

"Planning Your Garden." 1 p.m. Andro. Community Room, Auburn Public Library. Master Gardener Fern Lake provides tips for planning, designing, and creating your dream vegetable or flower garden. Free.

Discover Girl Scouts. 6 p.m. Buker Community Center, 22 Armory St., Augusta. Girls in Grades K-3 and their caregivers are invited to come learn about Girl Scouts. 888-922-4763; girlscoutsofmaine.org.

Friday, May 3

Theater: "Fireflies." 7:30 p.m. The Public Theatre 31 Maple St., Lewiston. This humorous and heartwarming love story is directed by two-time Tony Award-winner Judith Ivey. Again 5/4-5, 9-12 (Suns. at 2 p.m.). 782-3200; thepublictheatre.org.

Theater: "Annie: The Musical." 7:30 p.m. Theater at Monmouth, 796 Main St., Monmouth. Presented by the Monmouth Community Players. Again 5/4-5 (Sat. at 2 and 7:30 p.m.; Sun. at 2 p.m.). For ticket info, see www.monmouthcommunityplayers.org.

Concert: Cherish the Ladies. 7:30 p.m. Chocolate Church Arts Center, 804 Washington St., Bath. The Irish-American supergroup makes the only New England appearance of their current world tour. \$40 (\$35 in adv.); students \$15. 442-8455; www.chocolatechurch.org.

Saturday, May 4

Spring Fling Craft & Vendor Fair. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mixers Nightclub & Lounge, 136 Sabattus Rd, Sabattus. Contact Emma Dudley at 330-5330 or emadudley40@gmail.com.

Everything Kitchen Sale. 9 a.m. to noon. Parish House, First Congregational Church, 5 Brown St. (behind McDonald's), Gray. RADA Cutlery, aprons, dishcloths, table runners; Second Time Around Area, free coffee. Pres. by Women's Fellowship.

Franco-American Genealogical Society Meeting. 11 a.m. Auburn Public Library. Following the

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Dumbo (PG)	12:50	3:50	6:45	9:15
Avengers: Endgame (PG-13)	11:45	12:15	12:40	1:40
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Avengers: Endgame 3D (PG-13)		4:30		
Penguins (G)	12:30	2:30	4:40	
Pet Sematary (R)			6:50	
Little (PG-13)				9:20

business meeting at 10:00, MFAGS Treasurer Lucille Langelier (maiden name Doucette) presents an illustrated program on the Acadians. Free.

Sunday, May 5

Empty Bowls Supper. 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. First Universalist Church, 169 Pleasant St., Auburn. This fundraiser for Trinity Jubilee Center features a free supper provided by area restaurants with the purchase of pottery crafted by local artisans; early admission passes avail. at www.trinityjubileecenter.org.

Tuesday, May 7

Spring Dinner. 6 p.m. Green Ladle Café, 156 East Ave., Lewiston. Join the Ladies of St. Anne of Prince

of Peace Parish for a meal of pork tenderloin and entertainment by Present Company. \$18. Buy tix until 4/30 at 782-4516.

Thursday, May 9

Theater: "Fireflies." 7:30 p.m. The Public Theatre 31 Maple St., Lewiston. This humorous and heartwarming love story is directed by two-time Tony Award-winner Judith Ivey. Again 5/10-12 (Sun. at 2 p.m.). 782-3200; thepublictheatre.org.

Monday, May 13

Discover Girl Scouts. 6 p.m. Ricker Memorial Library, 1211 Maine St., Poland. Girls in Grades K-3 and their caregivers are invited to come learn about Girl Scouts. 888-922-4763; girlscoutsofmaine.org.

Bird Club offers "Thorncrag Nature Days"



The sessions will include hiking, nature activities, and crafts, with a focus on the four elements.

Stanton Bird Club will offer "Thorncrag Nature Days" for children ages 6-12 from July 15 through 19. Meeting each day from 9 a.m. to noon, the sessions will include hiking, nature activities, and crafts, with a focus on the four elements of fire (sun), air, water, and

earth. Space is limited to the first 15 students who register. The fee is \$25 per child and limited scholarships are available. For more information and registration forms, contact Penny Jessop at 782-5467 or see www.stantonbirdclub.org.

Tax

Continued from page 4

mentioned and others.

Republicans will continue to keep the promise of Maine's future for our children and those wanting

to come to Maine. Republican Leader Kathleen Dillingham represents District 72 (Oxford, Mechanic Falls, and Otisfield) in the Maine House of Representatives.

Fireflies

Continued from page 10

fun "audience extras" with a pre-show beer tasting courtesy of Baxter Brewing on opening night and a pre-show wine tasting sponsored by Rooper's on Thursday, May 9. Their 26th annual Silent Auction will also be happening in the lobby during the run of

Fireflies. The Public Theatre is located at 31 Maple Street in Lewiston. The show will run May 3 through 12, Thursdays through Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m., with an added matinee on Saturday, May 11 at 3 p.m. For more information or to buy tickets, call 782-3200 or see thepublictheatre.org.

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