

Out & About with Rachel Morin

The USM Lewiston Auburn Senior College fall semester comes to an end



The Great American Religious Debate Class with Instructor Rev. Stephen Carnahan, pictured l to r: Claire Small, Don Miville, Diane O'Donnell and Bob Bowyer in back. (Photo by Judy Hierstein)

By Rachel Morin

The USM Lewiston Auburn Senior College Fall Semester has come to an end in December—what a great and exciting semester it was.

Looking back, as we always do, at the ending of a semester, we remember the crispness in the autumn air as fall settled in, giving us energy and a renewed interest in getting back to school and into a regular routine. It's my favorite time of year as I recall the lines from Helen Hunt Jackson's "October's Bright Blue Weather"—"O suns and skies and clouds of June, and flowers of June together, Ye cannot rival for one hour, October's bright blue weather."

More than a cool nip in the air arrived in mid-November, as winter chill seemed to come earlier this year with cold winds and deep cold, lasting several days and nights in a row. And so, I took comfort in the verse from Oliver Herford's poem "I heard a bird sing in the dark of December. We are nearer to spring than we were in September!"

Our fall curriculum was diverse and very interesting. We were fortunate to

have new instructors come onboard. Our instructors volunteer for the love of teaching and our senior students are "forever learning" as our motto says. I always remember what artist/sculptor Michelangelo said at the age of 87, "I am still learning."

We are especially proud and pleased with our free ZOOM program benefitting students who are unable to attend classes at the college due to illness, mobility issues or lack of transportation in a rural area.

ZOOM has been a boon to these students. ZOOM is like Skype, only with more people. We look like we are on Hollywood Squares.

ZOOM started at LA Senior College a few years ago when an online class "Writing Your Memoirs" by Instructor/Author Elizabeth Peavey of Portland and ZOOM Facilitator Anne Cardale, MSCN Editor, was presented to see how it would work.

Cardale gave an extended tutorial on ZOOM to students who had signed up for the class, weeks before

Auburn seeks community events for winter festival



The Auburn Recreation Department is seeking community groups and organizations willing to host an event during Auburn's Winter Festival Weekend: January 24, 25, 26. This annual community event typically features various activities throughout the City, highlighting fun things to do during Winter in Auburn.

Several partnerships are already confirmed for Winterfest 2020. Lost Valley will be offering special "deals" all weekend long,

in addition to hosting Winterfest opening night festivities. The "Friends of Mount Apatite" group is teaming up with local snowmobile clubs and NEMBA for an open house at Mt. Apatite and a snowshoe hike. Baxter Outdoors will hold their annual "Packed Powder Series," featuring their Winter Duathlon.

To partner with the City on Winter Festival, call Recreation Director Sabrina Best at 333-6611 or e-mail sbest@auburnmaine.gov.

Freeport Shoppers get new Cheesy option



(l.) Freeport Subway Area Supervisor Tara Carignan, Sandwich Artist Linette Osborn and Ardatha Hodgdon

If you're hitting the Freeport outlets this holiday season you're bound to get hungry. The Freeport Subway is decorated and ready for you. Stop by and try the new Ultimate Garlic Cheesy Bread. They also have lots of great healthy

options for on the go meals. Freeport is a popular shopping destination in Maine and the Freeport Subway is just up the road from LL Bean. Remember to say "Hi" to the team when you stop by. They are located at 140 Main Street in Freeport.

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Tri-Town Optimist Club



Pictured l to r: 6th grade teacher, Autumn Theriault, student Leia Turcotte, and Principal Jessica Madsen.

The Mechanic Falls, Minot and Poland Tri-Town Optimist Club is proud to announce its December RSU 16 Student of the Month recipient, Leia Turcotte. A sixth grad-

er from Elm Street School, Leia was selected by her teachers for her amazing resilience and optimism—not only academically, but in life overall. Aspiring to be a teacher

one day, she consistently gives 110% of herself in all that she does and is a positive influence on her peers. Leia makes school a better place for those around her.

Rotary 2019 rotary youth fellowship reward

It is with great pleasure that the Lewiston Auburn Rotary Breakfast Club announces our 2019 Rotary Youth Fellowship Awards (RYLA) recipient, Chantel St. Laurent.

A RYLA recipient is between the ages of 18-35, is committed to their community, education, and is on track to become an asset for both the area and their family and friends. Chantel fits that bill and more.

She is a mother of two young children, works a full-time job and is on track to graduate with an associate's degree in Human Services in the Spring. Chantel is very active in the state and local community in addressing the issues surrounding addiction and suicide prevention. She was presented a Community Leader award from the Maine People's Alliance in June 2019 for her work in presenting ideas

to local and state leadership.

As part of the RYLA experience, Chantel will travel to Adventure Bound in Carratunk, Maine in September to join other recipients for team building exercises, as well as fun on a rope course and whitewater rafting. Rotary District 7790 incorporates part of Maine and Quebec, so dual-language adds to the team-building fun. Congratulations Chantel!

Maine Source Homes & Realty moves to new offices in Auburn

Maine Source Homes & Realty, which has helped customers in the Lewiston-Auburn area buy, sell, and build homes for more than 47 years, has moved to new offices at 259 Minot Avenue in Auburn.

Jon Mercier, Designated Broker/Realtor® at Maine Source Homes & Realty, said the move was designed to benefit customers in three ways.

“Customers will ben-

efit from greater ease of access, easier parking, and an easier location to find, which should particularly help those traveling, and those not as familiar with Auburn,” Mercier said. “The new location will be more easily accessible from both I-95 and US-Route 202.”

Mercier said Maine Source Homes & Realty invites everyone interested in its services to drop by

and say hello at their new location.

Based in the Lewiston-Auburn area, Maine Source Homes & Realty is dedicated to helping customers find the perfect home-ownership solution. Whether one wishes to buy, sell, or build a home, Maine Source Homes & Realty invites customers and prospects to benefit from its 47 years of trustworthy experience and expertise.

How Airbnb is working to protect hosts, guest and neighbors in Maine this Holiday Season

With an expected, record-setting 4.5 million guest stays on New Year's Eve, Airbnb today announced new features and policies to help our community stay safe, including new mechanisms to support hosts, guests and neighbors who have concerns about unauthorized parties or disturbances as we welcome 2020.

We will be rolling out a new initiative around neighborhood support, to make sure we can help resolve complaints about disturbances or nuisance in the communities our hosts call

home. We are launching an updated global Neighborhood Support Page at www.airbnb.com/neighbors, a feature on our website and app where neighbors and community members can submit their concerns about unauthorized parties, excessive noise, unsafe behavior, excessive trash, unallowed parking and other disturbances.

Starting this Monday in the US, we will also have an additional urgent communication channel for nuisances requiring real-time support, the Neighborhood Support Line. This number

is also available at www.airbnb.com/neighbors. You can read about our new tools and additional steps that we will be taking here.

This is in addition to our recent updates to our policies to ban “party houses” and “open invite” events, and increased enforcement against reckless behavior and nuisance from bad actors. Beginning this holiday season, we will also have dozens of specially trained agents supporting this enforcement and handling rapid response in our online and telephone channels for urgent neighborhood issues.

Winners announced for BDA's downtown holiday window decorating contest

The Brunswick Downtown Association (BDA) is pleased to announce the

winners of Brunswick's Holiday Window Decorating Contest. Nineteen businesses competed for top honors and cash prizes in three categories: Interpretation of the theme, Originality, Creative use of merchandise. This theme for this year's contest was Vintage Christmas.

The winners are Best Interpretation of Theme: Berrie's Hearing & Optical. Most Original: Timeless. Most Creative Use of Merchandise: Fiore Artisan Olive Oils & Vinegars. Honorable mentions: Pura Vida Day Spa (creative use of merchandise), Wilbur's Chocolates (Interpretation of Theme), Petit Jete (Originality).

Participating businesses include Lemongrass; Vessel + Vine; Pura Vida; Wyler's; Cool As A Moose; Petit Jete Dance Boutique; Nest; Hatch on Maine; Portland Pie Co.; Fiore; Berrie's Hearing & Optical Center; Starz Salon - Stripez Fashion; Maine Street Sweets; Timeless; Great Impasta; The Mix; Norway Savings Bank; Moderation Brewing; Wilbur's of Maine

Visitors are invited to stroll through town to admire the displays during daytime and nighttime hours. For more information about the Brunswick Downtown Association, visit www.brunswickdowntown.org or call 207-729-4439.

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Second Wiscasset holiday marketfest snow ball a huge success



Snow Ball revelers Deb Arter and Ernie Gallerani won 'Best Holiday Attire' during the event on Sunday, December 8, held in The Ledges in Wiscasset Village. Photo by Bob Bond.

By Michelle Peele

On Sunday night of Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest, December 8, the windows of The Ledges, the magnificent building on Route 1 as you enter the Village, were shaking with the dancing, clapping, and laughter as the Snow Ball hit a fevered pitch. The event has been in planning since last January when The Ledges' owner, George Freeman, generously gave the ok to use the landmark 1845 building for the 2019 Snow Ball. Ticket sales for the Snow Ball were brisk

and sold out within days of the offering. The Salty Dogs moved the crowd to dance the night away and the layout of the building allowed people to grab a table or seating in the front rooms, if conversation was more to their liking. The food and cash bar were catered by Sarah's Café, and Susan Robson, a manager with Sarah's, worked very hard to make each detail successful. The two fireplaces were donned with décor while the tables were enhanced by long white tablecloths and lan-

terns with seasonal greens and berries. The feature was the Christmas tree that looked majestic in the prominent bay window. Marketfest volunteers Terri Wells and Michelle Peele provided all the splendid décor. This vibrant event serves as a fitting end to the Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest weekend and as a means to bring all members of the community together with food, drink, dance, and laughter. It was a success. A giant thank you to all members of the community who attended and to the detailed attention from Sarah's Café. Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest, held on the first full weekend of December, is a joint project of Wiscasset Creative Alliance and the Wiscasset Area Chamber of Commerce. Major Sponsors for Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest 2019 are Carl M.P. Larrabee Agency, Carriage House Gardens, First National Bank, Midcoast Federal Credit Union, Red's Eats, Tim Dunham Realty, and Wiscasset Ford with additional support from BIRCH, Davison Construction, the Droby-Burns family, and Water St. Kitchen & Bar. FMI: www.wiscassetholidaymarketfest.com.



The Snow Ball on Sunday, Dec. 8, was the grand finale of the Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest weekend. A great evening was had by all! Photo by Bob Bond.

Win a Subway Platter for the holidays!

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St. Mary's Health System names advisory board for its Albert Lepage Center for Patient Experience



St. Mary's Health System, a member of Covenant Health, has named an Advisory Board for its Albert Lepage Center for Patient Experience. The Center reflects St. Mary's ongoing commitment to providing exceptional care and service as well as Mr. Lepage's desire to strengthen and advance healthcare for St. Mary's patients and the community. The Center focuses on promoting and advancing leading patient experience enhancements through research, best practice development and implementation, innovation grants and more. "Our advisory board members, who are also active members of the local community, have dedicated themselves to working in collaboration with St. Mary's team to ensure the care patients receive is ex-

emplary," said René Dumont, Chief Patient Experience Officer, St. Mary's Health System. "We're grateful for their service." Advisory Board Members, who are appointed, currently include Dr. Chris Bowe, the Chief Medical Officer of St. Mary's Health System. He is a champion of continuously improving employee engagement within the system; Jill Bruce, an Auburn resident. She recently retired from L.L. Bean where she was a Customer Experience Leader; Brad Coffey, President of St. Mary's Health System Foundation and Senior Vice President of Covenant Health; Peter Geiger, who served on the Board of Directors for St. Mary's Health System. He has been a long-time and strong supporter of the system; Lena-Jo Hartley, a financial consultant and

owner of Downeast Financial Group in Lewiston. She also serves on the St. Mary's Health System Board of Directors. Steve Jorgensen, President of St. Mary's Health System and Senior Vice President of Covenant Health; Regis Lepage, who served on the boards of both St. Mary's Health System and Covenant Health. He has been a dedicated and passionate supporter of St. Mary's for many years. Jason Levesque, who founded and recently sold Argo Contact Centers, which has been one of Maine's fastest growing companies. He currently serves as Auburn's Mayor; and Dr. Rosemarie Sheline, who owns and operates Maple Way Dentistry in Lewiston, which is known for fantastic patient experiences. She is also a strong supporter of St. Mary's.

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What's Going On

OTELCO announces transitions in leadership with employee promotions

David Allen has been named Vice President of Network Operations. Allen is responsible for ensuring the alignment of OTELCO's network-related operations to meet network build out and improvement objectives. Allen came to OTELCO two years ago with over 20 years of experience building and managing networks and running technical operations. During his time with OTELCO, he has focused on streamlining operations, improving reliability and modernizing the OTELCO network. He is a resident of Biddeford.

OTELCO General Counsel Trina Bragdon has been named Vice President of Human Resources and Regulatory Affairs. In this role, Bragdon will lead a renewed focus on human resources, including both managerial and employee development and training. Bragdon came to OTELCO from the Maine Public Utilities Commission where she was Director of Telecommunications Policy

and a Hearing Examiner. Prior to that, she practiced in the litigation department of Saul Ewing in Philadelphia, PA. Since joining OTELCO, Bragdon has filled a variety of roles, ranging from Director of Project Management, to Director of Legal and Regulatory Affairs, and ultimately to General Counsel in 2012. She is a resident of Brewer.

Carol Grover has been named Senior Director of Billing. Grover began her career at OTELCO 28 years ago as a CSR. Since that time, she has managed ILEC and CLEC Customer Service, Dispatch, Provisioning, Wholesale, and worked as a project manager.

OTELCO Inc. provides wireline telecommunications services in Alabama, Maine, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Hampshire, Vermont and West Virginia. The Company's services include local and long distance telephone, digital high-speed data lines, transport services, network access, cable television and

other related services. With approximately 99,000 voice and data access lines, which are collectively referred to as access line equivalents, OTELCO is among the top 25 largest local exchange carriers in the United States based on number of access lines. OTELCO operates eleven incumbent telephone companies serving rural markets, or rural local exchange carriers. It also provides competitive retail and wholesale communications services and technology consulting, managed services and private/hybrid cloud hosting services through several subsidiaries. For more information, visit the Company's website at www.otelco.com.

Send all items for **What's Going On** to **Editor@TwinCityTimes.com**.
Deadline is **Friday by five.**

UMF professor's first novel recognized as a Best Book of 2019 for Young Adults

Shana Youngdahl, University of Maine at Farmington assistant professor of English, feels both amazed and humbled at the news that her first young adult novel, "As Many Nows As I Can Get," (Dial Books, 2019) has been recognized by the New York Public Library as a Best Book of 2019 for Teens.

It has also been selected by Kirkus as a starred review—awarded to books of exceptional merit and chosen by both Kirkus and Seventeen magazine as one of the Best YA Books of 2019.

"This novel is a first for me," said Youngdahl. "Before this, I'd always written and published poetry, but I wanted to tell this story in a different genre."

Her first-person narrative tells the story of a graduating high school senior who grows up in a small town. Smart, ambitious and reeling from a spontaneous summer love, she goes on to a fictional Maine college to encounter grief, guilt and reconciling who you think you need to be with the person you've been all along.

Youngdahl is a poet and author who teaches

writing at the University of Maine at Farmington, directs the UMF Longfellow Young Writers' Workshop and teaches a "Coming of Age" seminar to first-year students. One of her greatest joys is helping people embrace the stories they need to tell.

"Interacting with first-year students, you quickly realize all the first-time experiences and challenges they face as they enter adulthood," said Youngdahl. "It was important to me with this first book to try to capture that sense of change and loss they face in a way that would speak to them."

"Aside from the positive reviews the book has received, I have been shocked at the wonderful responses from my readers. They generally reach out to me on social media and let me know how much the book means to them. For me, it becomes about the story you want to tell and who it's for."

In addition to occasional author signings, Youngdahl has scheduled a reading at Mt. Blue High School in Farmington where she will talk about her book, the process and take questions from the students. Her

upcoming appearances include signings at the Webster Library in Kingfield at 2 p.m. on January 26 and at the Portland Public Library at noon on February 20. She is currently working on her next young adult novel.

As the only Bachelor of Fine Arts in Creative Writing program in the state of Maine and one of only three in all of New England, the UMF program invites students to work with faculty, who are practicing writers, in workshop-style classes to discover and develop their writing strengths in the genres of poetry, fiction, and non-fiction. Small classes, an emphasis on individual conferencing, and the development of a writing portfolio allow students to see themselves as artists and refine their writing under the guidance of accomplished and published faculty mentors. Students can pursue internships to gain real-world writing and publishing experience by working on campus with The Beloit Poetry Journal, a distinguished poetry publication since 1950; or Alice James Books, an award-winning poetry publishing house.

Junior Achievement and Unum bring financial literacy programs to local elementary school

On December 10, over 20 volunteers from Unum will spend their day at Presumpscot School in Portland teaching each grade a different Junior Achievement lesson focused on financial literacy, entrepreneurship, and work readiness. Through hands-on games and activities, Unum volunteers will engage with over 200 students in pre-kindergarten through 5th grade. Presumpscot is the only elementary school in Maine to bring JA programs to all of their classrooms in a one day event.

Junior Achievement


of Maine President Michelle Anderson raved about the experience saying, "Collaboration creates prosperity. By connecting students with community volunteers, we are creating a bridge between the education and business worlds. This investment in Presumpscot's students will contribute to stronger and more knowledgeable citizens in our future. We value our partnership with the Presumpscot community and Unum's numerous volunteers." This is the fifth year in a row that Unum has provided volunteers for the day-long

event.

Since its founding in 1848, Unum has been known for breaking new ground in the business of benefits. Integrity, determination, innovation and leadership were at the core of the company at its founding, and they are equally committed today to educating consumers about the value of financial protection benefits. Junior Achievement of Maine thanks Unum for their support both financially and in the classroom.

Junior Achievement of Maine is a non-profit organization dedicated to educating students in grades K-12 about entrepreneurship, financial literacy, and work readiness through experiential, hands-on programs. JA empowers young people to own their economic success. In partnership with businesses and educators, JA brings the real world to Maine students, opening their minds to their potential and preparing them for the world of work. During the 2018-2019 school year, nearly 650 volunteers contributed their time in classrooms teaching almost 16,000 K-12 students in 174 schools. JA of Maine hopes to increase these numbers this academic year.

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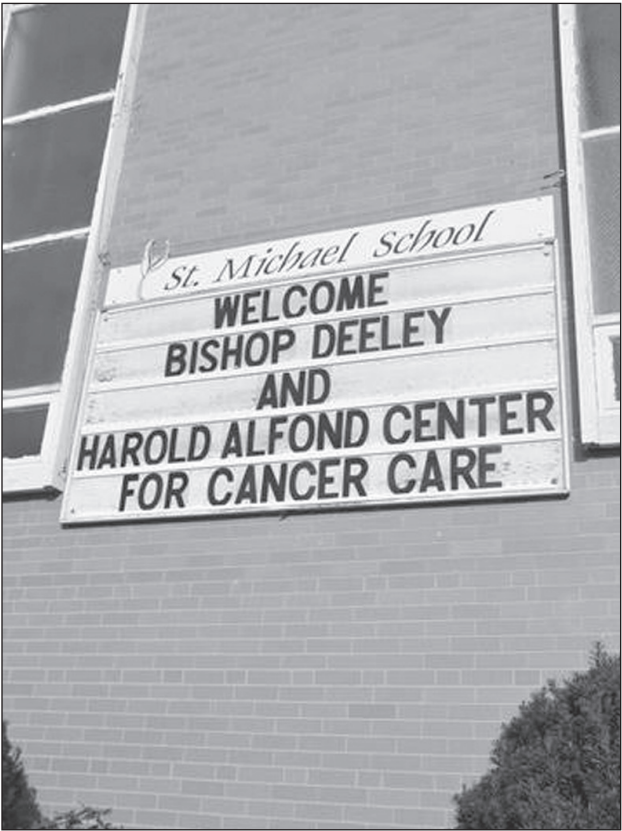
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Beloved Principal's Cancer Treatments Inspire St. Michael Students in Augusta to Drive "Change"



I'm so grateful. The Harold Alfond Center for Cancer Care is something else. I am thankful for it, because without the treatments I am still receiving, I wouldn't be here." The words of Kevin Cullen, principal of St. Michael School in Augusta, were met with applause from students and staff in the gym of the school on Friday afternoon, December 13.

It was an overwhelming yet expected response from a school community that is moved by a man who has given them so much.

The assembly, attended by Bishop Robert P. Deeley, featured a beautiful performance by the school choir and a check presentation by the students to the Harold Alfond Center for Cancer Care in Augusta, the very facility where Mr. Cullen currently undergoes cancer treatments.

"We told the kids that every single person in America is affected by cancer, either to a family member, a close friend, or they may have it themselves," said Denise Levesque, marketing director at St. Michael.

"Here at St. Michael, they are all affected because of Mr. Cullen."

The school held a "penny war" during the first week of December to raise money for the center, with many of silver coins and dollar bills joining the pennies among the donations. In addition, donation jars were placed at events like the school's annual Christmas concert on December 5. The change kept adding up.

"When it was decided that the school would be raising money for the center in my name, my goal was \$2,000," said Mr. Cullen.

When the large ceremonial check was flipped by Mr. Cullen and Bishop Deeley, the grand total of \$4,853.45 that appeared on it drew a round of thunderous applause.

"This is a fulfillment of part of our mission where we need to model strong faith through community outreach," Mr. Cullen said to the students. "This is a wonderful thing you've done."

"This is a wonderful way that you've shared yourself during the Christ-

mas season," added the bishop. "This will help sick people get more help. You've been very generous. God bless you all."

The bishop and Mr. Cullen presented the check to Paul Stein, the chief operating officer for Maine-General of which the center is a part.

"I'm in awe. You don't realize the difference this money can make for our center and the people in our community," Stein told the students. "More than that, you have set an example of community helping community!"

The classroom competition was won by the fifth graders, who donated over \$650 in change. The fifth graders will receive a pizza party and movie to celebrate their victory.

"Every day, all of the students brought in so much money because they knew it would help people," said Kamryn, a St. Michael student. "We knew the good it would do."



"It makes me feel very happy to help out like this," said Charlie, another student. "To be able to help Mr. Cullen, it makes me feel good."

Supporting charitable causes and holding service projects occurs on a daily and weekly basis at St. Michael, but this initiative was embraced in a different way. It hit home, both for the students and the man who inspires them.



"I love you all very much," said Mr. Cullen.

What's Going On

Soil health workshop



Soil Health Workshop



When:
Monday, December 30th @ 12:00pm

Where:

- 254 Goddard Road, Lewiston, Maine 04240
- 1st Floor Conference Room

What Will Be Covered:

- An Introduction to the idea of permaculture
- Creating fertile soil in the backyard using permaculture principles
- Design strategies to maximize land potential

For those interested in learning about how to increase the health and productivity of their soil for the purposes of home gardening or small-scale farming.

The Androscoggin Valley Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) will be presenting a workshop as part of our agreement with the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) centered on improving soil health with a focus on using permaculture principles as a guide to mimic nature.

The workshop will consist of a PowerPoint

presentation and will conclude with an interactive portion where the attendees get to ask questions specific to their property, as well as receive tips and suggestions to help with personal permaculture designs.

This event will be taking place on Monday, December 30 at 12 p.m. at 254 Goddard Road, Lewiston, in the first-floor conference room.

Please contact the District at 207-241-5377 or atinfo@androscogginswcd.org with any questions or to reserve a spot. Attendance

is free to all who wish to attend. We hope to see you all there!

Androscoggin Valley Soil and Water Conservation District is an equal opportunity employer and program provider and is prohibited from discriminating on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, ages, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

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What's Going On

Food for Thought



USM's senior college is glad to report that we will be continuing our monthly Food for Thought presentations in 2020 beginning Friday, January 10. Our speaker will start the year off with quite a story. Mike Brooks was a 33-year career firefighter for the Auburn Fire Department, but his passion after the age of fifty has been running marathons. Only, Mike doesn't just run a marathon once in a while, he set a goal for himself to complete a marathon in every state, which he had done by 2003. Then he went

on the tackle The Badwater. The Badwater Ultramarathon describes itself as "the world's toughest foot race". It is a 135-mile course starting at 282 feet below sea level in the Badwater Basin, in California's Death Valley, and ending at an elevation of 8360 feet at Mount Whitney, the highest mountain in the continental USA. Mike assisted as part of the crew for friends doing the race and then ran it himself! He raised money at this race and went on the raise even more to benefit Camp Sunshine. Mike will tell us about

his experiences including the Hatfield-McCoy Marathon (see photo) and he'll relate how he decided to write a book about his fascinating career. Food for Thought will begin promptly at noon in room 170 on the Lewiston/Auburn campus of USM, 51 Westminster Street, Lewiston. The lecture is free and open to the public, but we will no longer be offering the option of purchasing a meal. Everyone is invited and welcome to bring a bag lunch. The doors will open at 11:30.

Lewiston Mayor's inaugural and elected officials oath of office ceremony

The City of Lewiston announces the Mayoral Inaugural & Elected Officials Oath of Office Ceremony will take place on Monday, January 6. The evening ceremony will begin at 6:30 p.m. at The Gendron Franco Center (46 Cedar Street, Lewiston) and will be followed by a dessert reception at the Center. All members of the public are invited to attend this evening of celebration to acknowledge the newly elected and returning members of Lewiston City Government. The Inauguration is the first celebration for the City of Lewiston to mark the new year and all members of the public are welcome to attend. Elected Officials taking their oath of office during the ceremony include Mayor-elect Mark A. Cayer, members of the City Council and members of the School Committee. The 2020-2022 City Councilors

are Safiya S. Khalid., Ward One; Zachary T. Pettengill, Ward Two; Alicia M. Rea, Ward Three; Michel A. LaJoie, Ward Four; Luke D. Jensen, Ward Five; Kerryl Lee Clement, Ward Six and Stephanie J. Gelin, Ward Seven. The members of the 2020-2022 School Committee are Megan D. Parks, member At-Large; Bruce Damon, Ward One; Monique Roy, Ward Two, Kiernan I. Majerus-Collins, Ward Three; Tanya Marie Whitlow, Ward Four; Lynnea C. R. Hawkins, Ward Five; Ronald Potvin, Ward Six and Ryan M. Donovan, Ward Seven. During the ceremony, outgoing Mayor Kristen Cloutier will present her farewell remarks and incoming Mayor Mark Cayer will present his Inaugural Address highlighting his goals and objectives for the City for the next two years. The City Council will be

nominating and electing the City Council president for the 2020-2022 term. In addition, the School Committee will be nominating and electing the School Committee Chairperson for the 2020-2022 term. Both of these officials will also be presenting brief speeches as well. Additional details regarding the ceremony will be announced closer to the event date. The dessert reception immediately following the ceremony will be held at The Franco Center. Catering provided by the Lewiston Regional Technical Center Culinary Arts Program students. The Franco Center is handicapped accessible and parking is available across the street in the Continental Mill lot. For more information, please contact City Clerk Kathy Montejo at 513-3124.

Storywalk showcases "favorite holiday traditions"



The City of Auburn is pleased to unveil December's Storywalk theme, "Favorite Holiday Traditions." Each display case along the Riverwalk shares a personal holiday tradition,

from "Friends-mas" and cutting down a tree, to lighting the Menorah. Each memory is accompanied with a picture relating to the story. These entries were

provided anonymously. If you have an idea for a future Storywalk theme for 2020, please reach out to Sabrina Best, Auburn Recreation Director at sbest@auburnmaine.gov or 333-6611.



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Androscoggin Home Healthcare Hospice honors fundraising event volunteer



Pictured l to r, front to back: Angela Richards, Karen Flynn, Cathy McDonald, Kristin Melville, Cindy Letourneau, (back) Frederick Duah, Katy Sperl, Lisa Avery, RJ Gagnon, Steve Doyon, Leann Sebrey, Ken Albert

Androscoggin Home Healthcare Hospice (Androscoggin) honored fundraising volunteer, Cathy McDonald for her contributions as the chair of the organization’s annual dinner/auction event, Autumn Night Out. McDonald has served as the event’s auction co-chair since 2013, and most recently chaired the 2019 event held on October 18, in Auburn.

President and CEO, Ken Albert said, “We are grateful for Cathy’s volunteer leadership of one of

Androscoggin’s most successful fundraising events. In her tenure, she has helped raise over \$450,000 for Androscoggin’s hospice programs. That means we are able to care for more people who otherwise wouldn’t be able to afford health care services.”

Autumn Night Out is Androscoggin’s signature annual fundraising event which celebrated its sixteenth year. Proceeds from the event help to ensure end-of-life care is available to everyone, regardless of

their financial means.

Androscoggin Home Healthcare and Hospice is the largest, non-profit independent home health and hospice organization in the state. They focus on health—not illness—by making each individual’s quality of life the best it can be. To learn more about Androscoggin, including employment and volunteer opportunities, please visit www.androscoggin.org or call the Marketing and Development Office at 777.7740 ext. 1405

During the holidays, #GiveWithMeaning by supporting Red Cross services for people in need

As a year of disasters affecting thousands of people draws to a close, the American Red Cross of Maine asks the public to help provide hope and relief in future crises by donating atredcross.org/gift this Giving Tuesday and throughout the holiday season.

“Every eight minutes, someone affected by a disaster in our country turns to the Red Cross for support,” said Neela Mukherjee Lockel, interim CEO of the Maine Region of the American Red Cross. “When people’s lives are upended by home fires, flooding, severe storms and other crises, your support through our Holiday Campaign can provide necessities like emergency shelter, hot meals and blankets.”

Families face disasters every day. This year, Red Cross volunteers have been by the sides of families affected by large events like wildfires in California, Hurricane Dorian in the Southeast, tropical storm flooding in Texas, and tornadoes and floods in the Midwest. On average, the Red Cross responds to a new major disaster every 14 days in the United States. That’s in addition to the tens of thousands of Red Cross responses to smaller local disasters like home fires.

So far in 2019, Maine Red Crossers have deployed 67 times to major out-of-state disasters. Each year, they also respond to about 300 home fires, helping to meet people’s urgent needs like lodging, food and

clothing and providing emotional support and casework services.

People can #GiveWithMeaning and throughout the holiday season by donating at redcross.org/gift. Ways to help include Help disaster victims: A gift of \$50 can deliver hot meals for five people or provide blankets for 10 people after a disaster, or a larger donation of \$100 can provide a family of two with a full day’s worth of emergency shelter, including meals, snacks, blankets, cots and hygiene supplies; Help military members and veterans: A donation of \$50 can help connect veterans and their families to critical community services, such as food, housing, mental health support and rehabilitation. A larger gift of \$145 can provide hospital kits, filled with toiletries and other essentials, for 20 service members; Help save lives internationally: People can also help save lives through our work with the Measles & Rubella Initiative, which provides vaccinations for children and educates families about the dangers of measles and rubella. A gift of \$100 can help provide lifesaving vaccinations for 100 children facing an increased risk of measles and rubella around the world.

Give the gift of life. The holidays are a difficult time to collect blood because of busy schedules and inclement weather. Still, the need for blood is constant to help accident victims, cancer patients and others

who rely on lifesaving blood products every day. Make an appointment to donate blood or platelets by visiting redcrossblood.org.

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies about 40 percent of the nation’s blood; teaches skills that save lives; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a not-for-profit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visit MaineRedCross.org, on Facebook @MaineRedCross, Twitter @ARC_Maine and Instagram @maineredcross.

AARP Maine applauds the House for passing the Elijah E. Cummings lower drug costs now act

AARP Maine State Director, Lori Parham, released the following statement, applauding Congressman Jared Golden (D) and Congresswoman Chellie Pingree (D) of the U.S. House of Representatives for voting to pass H.R. 3, the Elijah E. Cummings Lower Drug Costs Now Act.

“AARP Maine commends Congressman Golden and Congresswoman Pingree for helping pass the Elijah E. Cummings Lower Drug Costs Now Act in the U.S. House of Representatives. This bipartisan legislation is a bold step toward lowering prescription drug prices and high out-of-pocket costs for millions of older Americans, including our

230,000 Maine members.

“H.R. 3 would allow Medicare to negotiate lower drug prices, set an annual out-of-pocket cap for seniors in Medicare Part D, and crack down on relentless drug price increases by pharmaceutical companies. In addition, the \$500 billion that the Congressional Budget Office estimates taxpayers will save over the next ten years would be reinvested back into the Medicare program to create important new dental, hearing, and vision benefits. These benefits would improve older adults’ health and well-being and reduce future health care costs.

“High drug prices disproportionately hurt old-

er Americans, particularly Medicare Part D enrollees, who take between four and five prescription medications each month and have an average annual income of just over \$26,000 a year. The average annual price of a specialty drug used on a chronic basis is now \$79,000. Medications cannot work if they are unaffordable.

“Now it’s time for the Senate to act. AARP Maine urges Senators Susan Collins and Angus King to pass the Prescription Drug Pricing Reduction Act. The President and Congress will need to work together to get this done. Americans are desperate for relief from high prescription drug prices.”

Androscoggin Receives USDA Rural Development Grant

Androscoggin Home Healthcare and Hospice (Androscoggin) received a grant award of \$254,000 from USDA Rural Development to further integrate telehealth services in Maine’s health care delivery system. As a result, Androscoggin will purchase and deploy 250 additional telehealth units for patients in Central and Western Maine with chronic and serious illnesses. Androscoggin has pioneered telehealth monitoring in Maine since 2000. The new units are anticipated to increase engagement of the patient, their support system and their care team by using video conferencing that links the patient, family and medical staff together for education, plans of care, and continued home support for patients and their caregivers.

President and CEO, Ken Albert said in his announcement today, “The grant will allow us to increase collaboration with referring providers to enhance care and decrease hospital readmissions for patients with chronic and serious illnesses. Telehealth monitoring will also allow us to be innovative in other types of care delivery like preeclampsia in pregnancy.”

In 2018, 1,759 patients received telemonitoring services from Androscoggin in collaboration with health care delivery partners like St. Mary’s Regional Medical Center, Central Maine Healthcare, Steven’s Memorial Hospital and Franklin Community Health Network. The majority of patients (75%) received services post-hospitaliza-

tion, while 25% of patients received services to support self-management of chronic illnesses. Albert stated, “The research is clear: telemonitoring is a proven strategy for managing chronic illness that benefits patients, families and the overall effectiveness of the healthcare delivery team.”

Androscoggin Home Healthcare and Hospice is the largest, non-profit independent home health and hospice organization in the state. They focus on health—not illness—by making each individual’s quality of life the best it can be. To learn more about Androscoggin, including employment and volunteer opportunities, please visit www.androscoggin.org or call the Marketing and Development Office at 777-7740 ext. 1405

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College
Continued from page 1

classes began. The pilot program was so successful, that plans began in earnest to develop a ZOOM program at LA Senior College.

This past year, Mary Jane Beardsley, Board

ber. In either case, please remember we are staffed by Volunteers so a response may take a week or so. Membership is \$25 for the academic year from September 1 through August 31. Classes are \$25 each.

The membership fee also includes receiving mailings and email notifi-

was held December 14, coordinated by Pat Vampatella and Cindy Boyd who can be contacted at ppvamp@maine.rr.com.

Online Book Club meets monthly via ZOOM to discuss books with a Maine connection. Mary Jane Beardsley atmjb4k9s@gmail.com

Members may also take advantage of the offerings of the 17 senior colleges in the State of Maine.

Food for Thought is a luncheon program featuring thought-provoking speakers on varied subjects on the second Friday at noon from September to May (excluding December) which is also open to the public. Many times, members of the public join our membership roster.

Senior College enjoys collaborations with Schooner Estates Retirement Community, Auburn Public Library, SeniorsPlus and St. Mary's Nutrition Center. We also have connections with Maine Association of Retirees and Lewiston Senior Citizens and other senior groups in the area offering trips and excursions throughout the year.

USM LAC houses one of the largest repositories of Franco-American archival material in the State of Maine. The Collection focuses on Lewiston-Auburn and other areas of Maine and is in Room 171 which we are privileged and allowed access. Members also enjoy beautiful exhibits in the Atrium Art Gallery. Photos show some of our classes in this article. Other classes included Cannabis Culture, Instructor, Joel S. Buckman; Maine Forest Trees, Instructor Pam Green; Doctors and Patients, Instructor Jean Potuchek; Eating Healthy, Instructor Paul Drowns; Happiness, Humor and Health, Instructor, Dr. Elcha Buckman; Tax Preparation, Instructor Rhoby Treadwell; Practical Ethics, Instructor Bill Frayer; and Tuesday Afternoons at The Movies, Instructors David Bernier and Pat Vampatella.

See you in the Spring!



An Introduction to the Origins of the Human Mind Class pictured l to r: (seated), Nancy Duplisea, Susi Warschauer, Sylvia Everett, Lorraine Higgins, Back, Allen Brackett, Dr. Charles Plummer, Instructor; and Richard Duplisea. (Photo by Rachel Morin)

Member/Memoir writer and ZOOM advocate, delved into learning as much as she could about the technology and did extensive research on ZOOM.

She held a ZOOM bootcamp training and taught two classes in preparation for two ZOOM online courses this fall semester: "Health Claims" with Instructor Martin Gagnon, Head of Adult Services at Auburn Public Library, and "The Great American Religious Debate" with Instructor Rev. Stephen Carnahan, Pastor at High Street Congregational Church, Auburn. The classes were successful, and students wanted more online ZOOM classes. Plans are already in progress for more online classes for this spring semester by Mary Jane Beardsley, and Judy Hierstein, curriculum chair. Our spring curriculum is shaping up nicely and the spring catalog will be out in a couple months!

New members are always welcome. If interested, call 753-6610 or email laseniorcollege@gmail.com and leave your name and telephone num-

cations, use of the campus library, free one day winter classes and free entrance to the special interest clubs including The Outsiders (hiking, mountain climbing, cross country skiing, kayaking and snowshoeing) run by Reine Mynahan who can be contacted at reinemynahan@gmail.com; The Monthly Dine Around (members eat out on the 4th Thursday evening at different restaurants chosen by members) run by Diane Higgins who can be contacted at godianego32@gmail.com; and the Outdoor Adventure Club (activities include canoeing, kayaking, snowshoeing, with activities and locations determined by members.) The club's time-honored Annual event is Wreaths Across America at the Togus National Cemetery for Veterans where Memorial Wreaths are laid at every Veteran's grave. A noontime Prayer and Remembrance Ceremony at the Flagpole with a three-gun salute for our departed Veterans was held at 12 noon simultaneously with ceremonies across the Nation. This year's event



Baseball and the Pursuit of Happiness Class pictured l to r: Michael Dunn, Phil Vampatella, Bethel Shields and Paul Gauvreau, Instructor. Baseball artifacts are on the table. (Photo by Cynthia Peters)



Creating Abstractions from Nature Class with Judy Hierstein Instructor. Pictured l to r: Susan Brown, Donna Kilkelly and Pat Casson enjoy gloved finger painting. (Photo by Judy Hierstein)



The Great American Religious Debate Class—Mary Jane Beardsley zooming in on Instructor Rev. Stephen Carnahan's presentation for students in class and to several students at home unable to be at class due to mobility issues, illness or in rural areas. (Photo by Judy Hierstein)



"Great Expectations" a perennial favorite author, Charles Dickens Class L to Right, Cindy Brakey, Mike Brakey, Joanne Sabourin and Laura Sturgis, Instructor. (Photo by Judy Hierstein)



A Historian in London, Berlin, Paris and St. Petersburg Class pictured l to r: Dr. Christine Holden, Instructor; Nikki Abbott, Jeanne Beliveau and Donna Hurd. (Cynthia Peters Photo)



The U.S. Supreme Court Class pictured l to r: Estelle Rubinstein, Crystal Ward, Instructor; and Barbara Shapiro. (Photo by Cynthia Peters)



Immigration, Ethnicity and Identity Class pictured l to r: Florrie Mileikis, Behzad Fakhery, Mark Silber, Instructor; and Bob Bowyer. (Photo by Judy Hierstein)



Religion and Violence Class pictured l to r: Thomas Hamilton, Dr. Steve Piker, Instructor; and Lucinda Brakey. (Photo by Cynthia Peters)



An Introduction to the Origins of the Human Mind Class pictured l to r: (seated), Nancy Duplisea, Susi Warschauer, Sylvia Everett, Lorraine Higgins, Back, Allen Brackett, Dr. Charles Plummer, Instructor; and Richard Duplisea. (Photo by Rachel Morin)



A Naturalist Sampler Class with Penny Jessop, Instructor. Pictured l to r: Jody Pierce Glover, Yvette Bouttenot, Erica Christensen and Presenter Sue Kistenmacher. Students are holding parts of the various birds discussed in class that day. (Photo by Cynthia Peters)



Local and County Government Class with Cynthia Peters, Facilitator. Pictured l to r: Seated, Lynn Derderian, Bonnie Ross, Jeanne Lessard; Back, Martha Bryant, Bob Bryant, Jeff Chute, Jail Administrator; and Eric Samson, Androscoggin County Sheriff. (Photo by Cynthia Peters)

TWIN CITY NIGHTS

Weekly Arts & Entertainment

Mitch Thomas and Friends return to Auburn UMC with 'Holiday in Lights'



Mitch Thomas will lead the Franco Center's Annual "Holiday in Lights" cast on Saturday, December 21 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10.

The annual "Holiday in Lights", with Mitch Thomas and Friends will take place on Saturday, December 21 at 7 p.m. at the United Methodist Church, 439 Park Avenue in Auburn. The doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Thomas, a local pianist/singer/songwriter who directs and performs at Community Little Theatre, will present several seasonal

favorites, including some of his own compositions and arrangements, including "Light a Candle for Peace" and "The Friendly Beasts".

The event features several other local artists, including Tony Morin, local guitarist and singer; Voclaists, Hayden Thomas, Kristen J. Thomas and Nakesha (Kay) Warren. Also appearing are Elias Thomas; Mia-Angelina Leslie; Caro-

line Young Coffin and Justin Reid; bassist, Scott Powers; guitarists, Neil James and Paul Kinney; organist, Jon Whitmore; and drummer, Jeff Mayerson.

The Auburn UMC is handicap accessible. All proceeds will benefit the Summer Youth Programs at Community Little Theatre. Tickets for the show are \$10 each and can be purchased at the door.

The Festival of Lessons and Carols

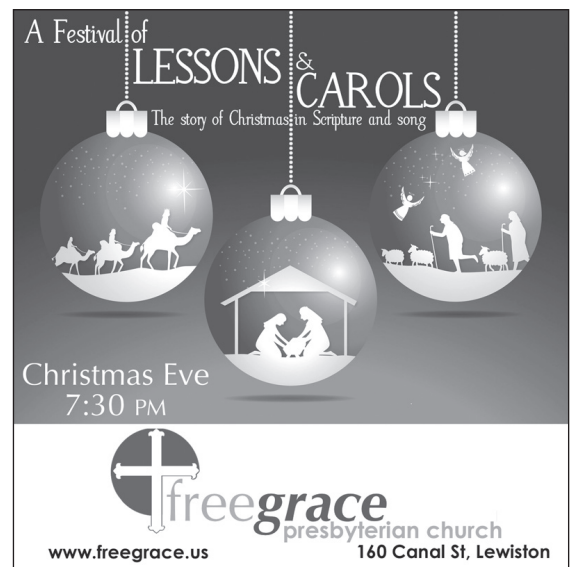
First used in England on Christmas Eve in 1880, the Festival of Lessons and Carols celebrates the birth of Jesus. The service consists of nine short readings from the Bible, the lessons, accompanied by the singing of carols that focus on that particular aspect of the Christmas story. The service moves from lesson to carol with little extra, to allow the story to flow unbroken and to wash over the participants. The interplay of the lessons and carols draws the participants in to the Christmas story to hear it afresh and to enter in to it.

The story of Christmas told by these lessons and carols is more than just the familiar words of Jesus' birth. Beginning with God's first promise of this child given to Adam and Eve in

Genesis, the Festival of Lessons and Carols follows the promise through the Bible to its fulfillment at the birth of Jesus that first Christmas morning.

This is the tenth year that Free Grace Presbyterian

Church has been celebrating Christmas Eve with a Festival of Lessons and Carols. Located in the old Carroll's Music Store on Canal Street in Lewiston, the service begins at 7:30 p.m. All are welcome.



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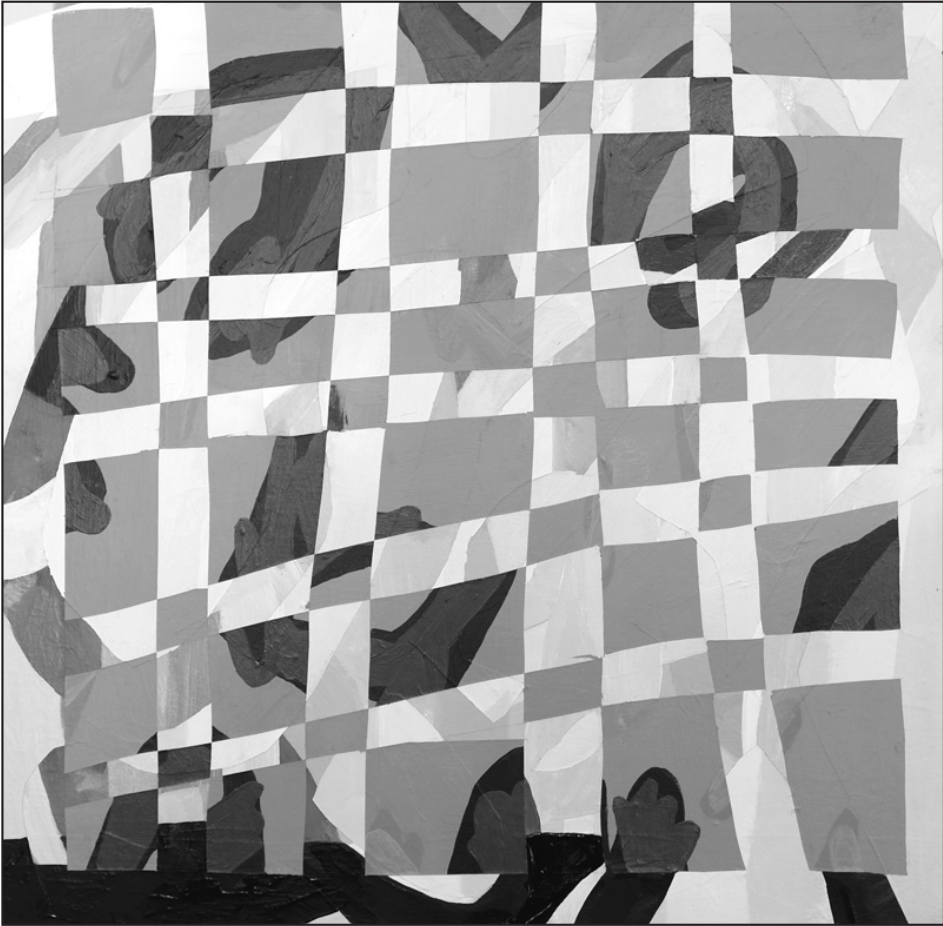
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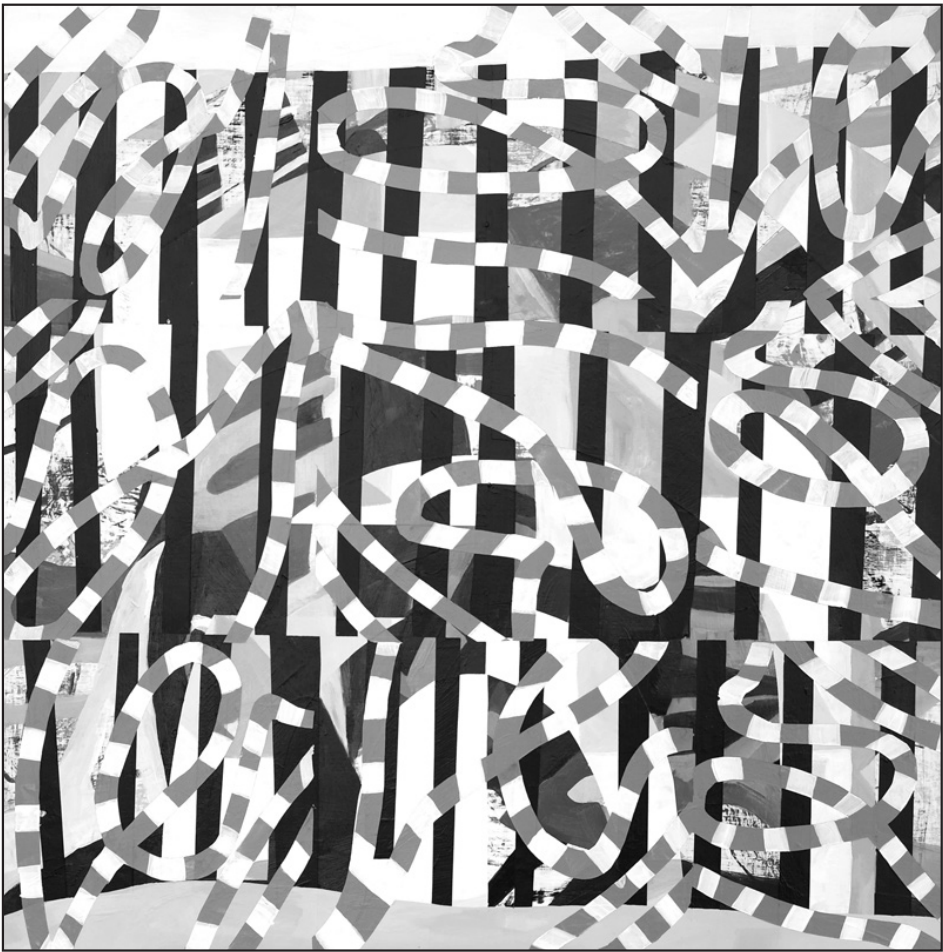
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The Harlow will kick off the 2020 season with exhibition featuring Keri Kimura and Jan Ter Weele



“Deer on The Move”, acrylic on board, Keri Kimura



“Main Break”, acrylic on board, Keri Kimura

The Harlow is excited to kick off 2020 with an exhibition of paintings by Keri Kimura of Southwest Harbor and Jan Ter Weele of Falmouth. The exhibit, showcasing a dynamic range rich textures and vibrant colors, is on view January 10 through February 8 at 100 Water Street in Hallowell. Join us and meet the artists at an opening reception on Friday, January 10, 5 to 7 p.m. Exhibitions are always free and open to the public. Hours are Wednesday through Saturday noon to 6 p.m.

Keri Kimura is a visual artist living in Southwest Harbor. She studied painting at Smith College, the Glasgow School of Art, and the New York Studio School. She moved to Maine in 2015 and set up a studio in her home where she paints full-time during the winter months. This spring she spent a month as a resident at The Golden Foundation for the Arts in upstate New York. This year Kimura’s work will also be shown at The Painting Center in New York City, Nahcotta Gallery in Portsmouth, NH, and Swallowfield in Southwest Harbor Maine. You can view her work on her website www.kerikimura.com.

“When I moved to Maine, I became interested in the way nature has a kind of handwriting that combines pattern and chaos. The way the veins of leaves are mirrors of one another and the anarchy with which they are carried and laid down in a breeze. The way it is obvious when this handwriting has been disturbed, when humans have changed the balance. Around the same time, I also began learning to sew. I have memories of my mother and grandmother making quilts when I was a small and I wanted to tap into that history of hand work. Painting for me has always been as much about process as anything else.

These paintings came out of both these worlds. The landscape here, the serenity and strangeness and patterns and magic of the natural world. And also playing with textiles and layering color and weavings and the way things are intertwined. These are paintings about connectedness and exploration and mysteries and trees.”

Jan ter Weele was born in The Netherlands. In 1940 his family escaped from Holland after it was invaded and occupied. He now lives in Falmouth, Maine, with a studio in Portland. Solo exhibits of his paintings have taken place at Aucocisco Gallery, Cooper Jackson Gallery, the Gallery at The Clown, and Urban Dwellings, all in Portland. Other solos were in the Maine Art Gallery vestibule in Wiscasset and the Cerulean Gallery. His paintings have been in many invitational shows including a four-person show at Gallery 415 in Chicago, three separate shows at the New O’Farrell Gallery in Brunswick, Maine (along with Neil Welliver and Lois Dodd, among others), a show at Gold/Smith Gallery in Boothbay Harbor, Maine, a show at the University of Maine at Lewiston-Auburn, and successive shows in 2010 and 2011 at George Marshall Store Gallery in York, Maine. In 2014 and again in 2018 his paintings were in three-person shows at the George Marshall Store Gallery. In 2014 he was selected for the Monhegan Island Art Residency where he spent a month from early September to mid-October. This was a productive period during which time he completed 24 abstract paintings, working in acrylic on 18 x 18 inch canvas supports. He studied at Maine College of Art, Massachusetts College of Art, Honolulu Academy of Art, and on two separate occasions at the Art Students League of New York with John Hultberg, Peter Golfino-

poulos, and Cornelia Foss. His paintings are in private collections throughout the United States, Europe, and Japan. www.janterweele.com

“Painting, for me, is about color, shape, and rhythm. My landscape paintings are about real places, mostly done on location. Over the years I have made many paintings about places which pre-occupy me. Some of these places show up in my “Bridge”, “Cumberland”, and “Freeport” paintings. In recent years I have been disassembling the imagery of these places. My abstract paintings reflect the colors and patterns of the landscape. The Maine landscape figures prominently. My paintings of the human figure are about figures embedded and immobilized in space. When I start a painting, I do not know where it will take me. When I finally resolve it, I discover what drove me to do it in the first place. I think the sources of painting, and of art generally, are unknown to us. They flow ultimately from the mystic law.”

The Harlow is a membership based 501(c)3 non-profit dedicated to connecting and celebrating art, artists and community in downtown historic Hallowell since 1963. For more information please visit harlowgallery.org or call 207-622-3813.

What do you think?

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.

Seagrass at Village Coffeehouse



Join neighbors, bring friends and settle in to an evening of entertainment and good company at the Village Coffeehouse of New Gloucester. The set-

ting in the vestry of the historic New Gloucester First Congregational Church is cozy, the acoustics are fabulous, the music is always lively, and the food and

company can’t be beat.

This performance takes place January 4 at 7:30 p.m. Village Coffeehouse is located at 19 Gloucester Hill Road, New Gloucester. Sea-

grass specializes in upbeat traditional, classic rock and contemporary music. Tickets are \$10 at the door. For more information Julie Fralich at 207-653-4823.

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Eileen Ivers to perform at the
Chocolate Church Arts Center



Eileen Ivers

The Chocolate Church Arts Center will present a special Christmas performance from the Grammy-awarded and Emmy-nominated fiddler Eileen Ivers and her ensemble of musicians on Sunday, December 22 at 7:30 p.m. The show, Eileen Ivers’ A Joyful Christmas, will mix traditional Irish songs, reinterpreted classical music and holiday tunes, and what Ivers affectionately calls “foot stomping and holler-ing roots music.”

Ivers, dubbed “the Jimi Hendrix of the violin” by The New York Times, is the daughter of Irish immi-grants, and grew up in the Bronx, where at the age of eight, she became active

in the Irish traditional mu-sic scene. She went on to win nine All-Ireland fiddle championships, and a tenth on tenor banjo. From there, Ivers hurtled to interna-tional stardom, performing as a founding member of the acclaimed Celtic group Cherish the Ladies, as well as with superstars like Sting, Hall and Oates, and Patti Smith. Her recording credits include over 80 contempo-rary and traditional albums, and numerous movie scores, including Martin Scors-ese’s Gangs of New York.

For over twenty years, Eileen Ivers and her ensemble have been cel-ebrating the holiday sea-son with A Joyful Christ-mas. The voices and over

twenty instruments of the ensemble weave together a Celtic tradition with a contemporary sensibility, as Ivers uses a loop pedal to create unique textures with sensational virtuosity. This will be a tuneful, soulful celebration capturing the Christmas spirit and re-joicing in the magic of the holiday season.

Tickets for Eileen Iv-ers’ A Joyful Christmas range from \$38-\$42 in advance or \$47 at the door and are available at www.chocolat-echurcharts.org or by calling 207-442-8455. Tickets can also be purchased at the box office of the Chocolate Church Arts Center, located at 804 Washington Street in Bath.

Chocolate Church Arts Center presents Christmas
concert with Maine songwriter Don Campbell



Acclaimed Maine songwriter Don Campbell and his band will play a special Christmas concert on Saturday, December 21 at the Chocolate Church Arts Center at 804 Washington Street in Bath.

Campbell, who grew up in Scarborough, spent his teen years idolizing and attending concerts by Maine

folk legends like Devon-square and Schooner Fare. With earnest songwriting and energetic performances, he has become the torch-bearer for that generation of Maine musician. As a performer of folk, pop, and crossover country, Campbell has opened for renowned musicians like Carrie Un-derwood and Jonathan

Edwards, and regularly performs concerts in appre-ciation of Maine’s veterans.

Campbell was de-clared Maine’s Best Sing-er-Songwriter in the Maine Sunday Telegram reader’s poll for six consecutive years and has also been named Male Artist of the Year by the Just Plain Folks Independent Music Awards.

He has released 12 albums, including his popular two-volume A Don Camp-bell Christmas. Campbell will perform tracks from this Christmas album, as well as a mix of his originals and cover songs at the perfor-mance on December 21.

A mainstay at con-certs, fairs, festivals, and cruises, the Don Campbell Band has played all over the United States, and brings dynamic, inspired perfor-mances to every stage they visit. The band features Don Campbell on acoustic guitar and vocals, Tom Yoder on fiddle, mandolin, and vo-cals, Thom Dyhrbeg on bass and vocals, Gino Grassi on drums, and John DeQuattro on electric guitar.

Tickets for A Don Campbell Christmas at the Chocolate Church Arts Cen-ter are \$21 in advance or \$25 at the door, and are available at www.chocolat-echurcharts.org, or by calling 207-442-8455. Tickets can also be purchased at the box office of the Chocolate Church Arts Center, located at 804 Washington Street in Bath.

Word Search - In a Galaxy far, far away...

The last episode of the Star Wars Franchise is about to hit the theaters.
Do you remember all the characters that are in in this week’s word search?

E	N	I	T	A	P	L	A	P	N	A	C	O	R
A	A	N	L	R	E	A	A	N	Y	D	R	A	E
D	E	A	G	W	E	O	O	B	K	W	A	N	Y
E	L	U	E	R	K	D	P	D	R	I	B	C	A
O	E	K	U	L	E	H	A	H	O	N	K	E	K
W	S	P	E	L	H	E	A	V	O	D	C	I	B
D	N	A	R	N	O	N	D	N	H	U	A	P	U
B	L	D	B	E	O	D	N	O	S	T	Y	U	K
A	K	M	L	D	L	B	A	E	E	O	R	E	O
B	P	E	P	E	C	H	I	D	R	N	L	A	O
C	T	T	W	R	B	Y	B	R	O	O	L	O	D
A	C	C	A	B	W	E	H	C	O	Y	L	A	O
E	L	A	N	D	O	B	O	A	E	S	W	Y	O
W	A	K	T	T	A	E	T	D	S	B	D	E	K

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YODA
KENOBI
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Send all items
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to [Editor@Twin
CityTimes.com](mailto:Editor@TwinCityTimes.com).
Deadline is
Friday by five.

Saturday, Dec. 21
Holiday Pop Up Extravaganza, Marco's Restaurant, 12 Mollison Way, Lewiston, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information contact Emma Dudley at (207) 330-5330 or emmadudley40@yahoo.com.

Maine Songwriter Don Campbell Christmas Concert at the Chocolate Church Arts Center, 804 Washington Street in Bath. Tickets for A Don Campbell Christmas at the Chocolate Church Arts Center are \$21 in advance or \$25 at the door, and are available at www.chocolatechurcharts.org, or by calling 207-442-8455. Tickets can also be purchased at the box office.

Mitch Thomas and Friends "Holiday Lights" event at the United Methodist Church, 439 Park Avenue, Auburn, 7 p.m. The Auburn UMC is handicap accessible. All proceeds will benefit the Summer Youth Programs at Community Little Theatre. Tickets for the show are \$10 each and can be purchased at the door.

Sunday, Dec. 22
Eileen Ivers to perform at the Chocolate Church Arts Center, 804 Washing-

Calendar

See more Calendar at www.TwinCityTimes.com

ton Street in Bath, 7:30 p.m. Tickets for Eileen Ivers' A Joyful Christmas range from \$38-\$42 in advance or \$47 at the door and are available at www.chocolatechurcharts.org or by calling 207-442-8455. Tickets can also be purchased at the box office of the Chocolate Church Arts Center, located at 804 Washington Street in Bath.

Christmas Pageant at West Auburn Congregational Church, 811 W Auburn Rd, Auburn, at 4 p.m.

Christmas show featuring Grammy-winning Celtic fiddler Eileen Ivers at Chocolate Church Arts Center. Tickets for Eileen Ivers' A Joyful Christmas range from \$38-\$42 in advance or \$47 at the door and are available at www.chocolatechurcharts.org or by calling 207-442-8455. Tickets can also be purchased at the box office of the Chocolate Church Arts Center, located at 804 Washington Street

in Bath.

Tuesday, Dec. 24
Lessons and Carols Christmas Eve service at Free Grace Presbyterian Church, 160 Canal Street, Lewiston, 7:30 p.m. This is the tenth year that Free Grace Presbyterian Church has been celebrating Christmas Eve with a Festival of Lessons and Carols. All are welcome. For more information, call 207-513-1355.

Christmas Eve Service at West Auburn Congregational Church, 811 W Auburn Rd, Auburn, at 4 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 20
Soil heath workshop presented by The Androscoggin Valley Soil and Water Conservation District, at 254 Goddard Road, Lewiston, in the first-floor conference room, 12 p.m. Please contact the District at 207-241-5377 or atinfo@androscogginswcd.org with any questions or to reserve a spot. Attendance is free to

all who wish to attend. We hope to see you all there!

Saturday, Jan. 4
Seagrass at Village Coffeehouse, 19 Gloucester Hill Road, New Gloucester, 7:30 p.m. Seagrass specializes in upbeat traditional, classic rock and contemporary music. Tickets are \$10 at the door. For more information Julie Fralich at 207-653-4823.

Monday, Jan. 6
Lewiston's Mayoral Inaugural & Elected Officials Oath of Office Ceremony at The Gendron Franco Center (46 Cedar Street, Lewiston), 6:30 p.m. The Franco Center is handicapped accessible and parking is available across the street in the Continental Mill lot. For more information, please contact City Clerk Kathy Montejo at 513-3124.

Friday, January 10
Food for Thought first meeting of 2020 at the Lewiston Auburn Campus of USM, 51 Westminster Street, Lewiston, 12 noon. The speaker will share the story of Mike Brooks, a 33-year career firefighter. The lecture is free and open to the public, but we will no

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Knives Out (PG-13)..... 12:45 ...3:45 ...6:50 ...9:40
Frozen 2 (PG)11:45 ...2:15 ...4:45 ...7:15
.....9:45
Jumanji: The Next Level (PG-13)..... 12:40 ...1:20 ...3:40 ...4:25
.....6:45 ...9:30
Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker (PG-13)..... 12:00 ...12:30 ...1:00 ...1:30
.....3:20 ...3:50 ...4:20 ...5:00
.....6:40 ...7:05 ...7:40 ...8:30
Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker 3D (PG-13)9:00
Cats (PG) 12:55 ...3:55 ...6:30 ...9:45
Black Christmas (PG-13).....7:20 ...9:35

longer be offering the option of purchasing a meal. Everyone is invited and welcome to bring a bag lunch. The doors will open at 11:30.

The Harlow exhibit opening reception and meet the artists (Keri Kimura and Jan Ter Weele), at The Harlow, 100 Water Street in Hallowell, 5 to 7 p.m. The Harlow is a membership based 501(c)3 nonprofit dedicated to connecting and celebrating art, artists and community in downtown historic Hallowell since 1963. For more information please visit harlowgallery.org or call 207-622-3813

Sunday, Jan. 26
Shana Youngdahl book signing at Webster Library in Kingfield at 2 p.m. Shana Youngdahl, University of Maine at Farmington assistant professor of English is author of "As Many Nows As I Can Get".

Thursday, Feb. 20
Shana Youngdahl book signing at Portland Public Library at noon. Shana Youngdahl, University of Maine at Farmington assistant professor of English is author of "As Many Nows As I Can Get".

Lifelong communities mini-grant program seeks applications

Grants of up to \$2,500 are available through the Maine Community Foundation to help communities be more supportive of older people's health, well-being, and ability to age in the community. The grants will support community planning, development and implementation of programs that increase opportunities for people over 60 to stay in their communities as they age.

"Any community that considers itself focused on helping older Mainers age in their communities may apply," said Laura Lee,

MaineCF director of grant-making. Communities that are a part of AARP's Network of Age Friendly Communities include the national Village to Village Network; Communities for All Ages; Livable Communities; and Dementia Friendly Community initiatives are also invited to apply.

The deadline for applications is January 15, 2020. Grant awards will be announced in mid-March; grant-funded activities must begin after April 1.

For complete guidelines and priorities, a list of 2019 grants, and to apply

online, visit www.mainecef.org. If you have questions about eligibility and/or fit of your project, please contact Laura Lee at llee@mainecf.org or (207) 412-0838.

Headquartered in Ellsworth, with additional personnel in Portland, Dover-Foxcroft, and Mars Hill, the Maine Community Foundation works with donors and other partners to provide strong investments, personalized service, local expertise, and strategic giving to improve the quality of life for all Maine people. To learn more about the foundation, visit www.mainecef.org.

Chocolate Church Arts Center presents affordable childcare and arts education program during concerts

The Chocolate Church Arts Center, at 804 Washington Street in Bath, will present a new program, Parents' Night Out, where parents attending select concerts will be able to drop off their children while they take in a show. The program, made possible by a grant from the Maine Community Foundation, will be presented in partnership with the children's educator and entertainer Amanda "Panda" Duquette, who will offer professional childcare with an emphasis on fun arts activities.

The first Parents' Night Out event will take place on Saturday, December 21, when the Chocolate Church Arts Center will present a special Christmas concert with acclaimed Maine songwriter Don Campbell and his band. Children ages five and up (or fully potty trained) are invited to spend the evening in the Chocolate Church Arts Center's Annex, adjacent to the main stage, where they will be cared for and entertained by Amanda "Panda" Duquette.

Duquette is the Early Childhood Music Education Director of Little Roots at 317 Main Community Music Center in Yarmouth, and is also the creator of Music and Magic Maine, which has provided musical instruments and creative opportunities to children in Maine since 2009. Amanda's music and movement lessons revolve around



Amanda "Panda" Duquette

themes of nature, friendship, and silliness, and promote healthy, peaceful living. Her engaging performances are fully participatory and fun for children of all ages, and animal noises and running wild are as important as sitting calmly and breathing.

The cost of the Parents' Night Out program at the Chocolate Church Arts Center is \$10 per child if purchased with a ticket to

the Don Campbell Band concert, or \$15 if purchased separately. More Parents Night Out events will be announced soon for concerts taking place at the Chocolate Church Arts Center in Spring 2020. Registration and more information for the Parents Night Out program on December 21 can be found at www.chocolatechurcharts.org or by calling 207-442-8455.

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ITALIAN VISTAS TOUR- MAY 16-28, 2020-Trip includes 13 days and 17 meals.

MACKINAC ISLAND - JUNE 13 - 21, 2020. Trip includes 8 nights lodging and 14 meals, visit to Mackinac Island with a guided Carriage Tour during their Tulip Celebration. Also includes boat ride through Soo Locks, Sault Saint Marie and Makinaw Crossings with a visit to "Michigan's Little Bavaria". A \$75.00 deposit is due when signing up. Price is \$859.00 pp double occupancy.

VIRGINIA BEACH, COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG & HISTORIC NORFOLK - SEPTEMBER 14 - 19, 2020. Trip includes 5 nights lodging, 8 meals, Colonial Williamsburg, free time on the Virginia Beach Boardwalk, dinner cruise with entertainment on the

Spirit of Norfolk, admission to Nauticus and Battleship Wisconsin, Virginia Beach Aquarium and Marine Science Center. A \$75.00 deposit is due when signing up. Price is \$775.00 pp double occupancy. For questions and detailed information on these trips, please call: Claire - 207-784-0302 or Cindy- 207- 345-9569.

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Fontaine team receives 2019 best of the best award



Fontaine Family – The Real Estate Leader was recently voted Greater Lewiston/Auburn’s Best Real Estate Company for the 6th year running. Best of the Best is an opinion poll conducted by Market Surveys of America to recognize the best area businesses. The Team is honored to receive this recognition and work harder for their clients to win it year after year.

Fontaine Team’s goal is to give their clients the ultimate home buying or

home selling experience by making it as stress free and hassle free as possible, by going above and beyond when the opportunity presents itself, being extremely responsive while preparing their clients for what should happen next, and educating their clients on the process by carefully listening their needs and concerns.

Fontaine Family – The Real Estate Leader is a highly skilled real estate team of licensed professionals dedicated to focusing on

the client. Fontaine was recently presented the 2019 Maine Family Business of the Year Award, voted Best Real Estate Company in the Greater Lewiston/Auburn and Greater Portland Area’s, recognized by Real Trends as a 2019 America’s Top 250 Real Estate Team and published in the Wall Street Journal in the Top 250 Real Estate Professionals ranking in the top ½ of 1% of Realtors outperforming 99.9% of the nation’s Realtors.

The Fontaine Family Team serves 8 counties—Androscoggin, Cumberland, York, Sagadahoc, Oxford, Kennebec, Franklin and Somerset— in three locations, 336 Center Street in Auburn, 432 US Route One in Scarborough and 43 Western Avenue in Fairfield. For more information visit brendafontaine.com or call (207)784-3800 or (207)289-3830.

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Community rallies to support 10-year-old suffering from traumatic brain injury

On December 12, members of the community including Geiger School staff and students, and several family friends hosted a benefit dinner for 10-year-old, Jamal Hussein at Raymond A. Geiger School. This benefit dinner was arranged to help his family prepare for Jamal’s transition home after spending months in the hospital working to heal from the life-changing traumatic brain injury he has as a result of the accident in August.

When asked about how the community has participated, family friend and event organizer, Heidi Sawyer said “the outpouring of support from the community has been nothing short of amazing. From businesses signing on as event sponsors, to donating over 50 items to the silent auction, and offers to help – this community once again shows its strength is in people helping people.”

The future is uncertain for how much functionality will be regained, but those who love Jamal are not giving up hope.

Hope is what everyone is clinging to. Hope for the best possible outcome. Hope for Jamal’s long-term comfort. That was the goal of the Pasta with a Purpose event—to spread hope. In addition to a full Spaghetti Dinner [prepared by the Green Ladle], there was be a silent auction, bake sale, and the children in Jamal’s 5th Grade class hosted a station for card making. There was also be a short presentation by close family friend, and Author Cynthia Anderson, whose new book Home Now features Jamal’s family and their journey from refugee camps to their home here in Lewiston—all proceeds from the event and any book purchases were given directly to the family.

A Message from the Family: “We are so fortunate

and blessed to live in such a caring and compassionate community. ‘Thank you’ will never be enough to describe our gratitude and appreciation.” Abdikadir praised, “Jamal’s transition home is exciting and daunting at the same time. So much learning and preparation needs to be done to help care for Jamal at home—including securing special equipment and remodeling portions of our home to accommodate his needs.”

A Thank You to Event Sponsors: Together a community can move mountains, and this has been proven time and time again in Lewiston. We want to thank our generous sponsors that have made it possible to ensure all proceeds raised in ticket sales and funds raised at the event go directly to the family. Event sponsors include Gateway Community Service, Maine Community Integration, NiTco & Northland JCB, Bangor Savings



Bank, St. Mary’s Foundation, Maine Immigrant & Refugee Services, Auburn Exchange Club, Davincis, 99 Restaurant, The Green Ladle, and Geiger Gators.

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