

Lewiston Auburn Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce



ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER



The LA Metro Chamber held it's Annual Awards dinner on December 20 at The Ramada in Lewiston. Award recipients pictured with (middle r.) Chamber President Shanna Cox are (back l.) Maureen Andrew of Androscoggin Home Healthcare + Hospice, Neil Keily of Androscoggin Bank, John Emerson of Emerson Chevrolet-Buick. (middle l.) Nicole Lajoie of Champoux Insurance, Robin Robbins of Androscoggin Bank, (front l.) Mark Samson of Dirigo Federal Credit Union, Sandy Buchanan of Western Maine Transportation and Terry Samson of Hudson Bus Lines. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine. Story continued on page 8.

Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine fills executive director position

Eric Venturini will begin as the new Executive Director for the Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine on Monday February 10, 2020. Venturini is an alumnus of the University of Maine, having earned both his undergraduate degree at the University in 2006 and his graduate degree, a Master of Science, in 2015. Most of Venturini's work for the past eight years has focused on wild blueberries and pollinators, as a student, Assistant Research Scientist at the University of Maine, and most recently as a Pollinator Conservationist with the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation and the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service. For his work in this field, last fall Eric was honored with the Abram W. Harris Award, presented by the University of Maine Foundation to celebrate his service and leadership.

The Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine was originally established



Eric Venturini

in 1945 and is a public instrumentality that was created by statute to help promote the ongoing prosperity of Maine's wild blueberry industry. It is comprised of 10 Commissioners representing the diverse interests of the state's 500 wild blueberry growers and processors. The Commission is not membership based but is funded by a state wild blueberry tax that is paid by growers and processors. The Commission

manages and oversees the use of the tax funds, primarily in the areas of promotion, research and development, and policy advocacy. The Executive Director is responsible for setting the strategic direction with the Commission, administering the wild blueberry tax fund, and overseeing the programs necessary to execute its goals. Contact Eric Venturini 207-478-7612 eric.venturini@gmail.com if you have any questions.

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News-makers, Names & Faces

Braden Clement becomes shareholder of Skelton Taintor & Abbott



Braden Clement

Effective January 1, attorney Braden Clement—who represents individual clients in a range of civil litigation matters, including plaintiff’s personal injury, professional malpractice, product liability, commercial disputes, family law, and immigration—has become shareholder (partner) in the firm. Clement joined Skelton Taintor & Abbott in 2017.

“Braden epitomizes the diverse talent at Skelton Taintor and Abbott. His thoughtful and skilled advocacy has gained the confidence of his clients and his practice continues to grow. We are fortunate to have Braden on our team and are excited to have him join the sharehold-

ers,” said Sarah Mitchell, President of Skelton Taintor & Abbott.

“I am grateful to be selected as a partner at Skelton, Taintor & Abbott. The team of professionals here is fully committed to this community and the State of Maine at large. I could not be happier to be a part of it,” Clement said.

Prior to joining Skelton, Taintor & Abbott, Clement practiced for several years at a firm in Portland, Maine, where he gained valuable experience in civil trial work. Clement has been listed as a Rising Star by New England Super Lawyers in the category of general litigation in 2016, and in the categories of general litigation

and personal injury in 2017, 2018, and 2019.

Clement received his law degree from the University of Maine School of Law (where he received the Charles A. Harvey, Jr. Trial Practice Immersion Fellowship), a master’s degree from Tufts University, and a bachelor’s degree from Bowdoin College. Clement also participated in the inaugural year of Maine’s Refugee and Human Rights Clinic, where he represented individuals seeking immigration status in the United States and advocated for women under the Violence against Women’s Act.

A native of Central Maine, Clement enjoys spending time outdoors with his wife and two children.

Skelton Taintor & Abbott is one of Maine’s leading law firms serving individuals and businesses in litigation and general representation throughout northern New England for more than 150 years. The firm has been named in U.S. News-Best Lawyers® “Best Law Firms” in America. For more information, visit www.STA-Law.com or call 207.784.3200.

Bangor Savings Bank celebrates and donates

Bangor Savings Bank recently marked the grand opening of the company’s newest branch in downtown Auburn with community leaders, business partners, and bank employees.

The full-service branch at 170 Turner Street is the 57th Bangor Savings location in Maine and New Hampshire. Auburn Mayor Jason Levesque was on hand for the grand opening event.

Bangor Savings President and CEO Bob Montgomery-Rice announced a donation of \$2,500 to the YMCA of Auburn-Lewiston.

“With this additional location in the Auburn and Lewiston area, we are proud to serve those who live and work in the area and support these communities even



more,” said Montgomery-Rice. “The YMCA has been an important part of the lives of children and adults in these communities for 150 years, and we’re honored to support their mission.”

Bangor Savings Bank has nearly 900 em-

ployees in Maine, and its customers have voted it New England’s top-rated bank four of the past five years in the J.D. Power and Associates Retail Banking Satisfaction StudySM. Learn more about the bank at www.bangor.com.

Letter to the Editor

Saving for retirement is one of the most important things you can do for your future.

As a college student about to enter the workforce, it is hard for me to even think of what all retirement involves. There is one thing I know for certain, retirement is expensive. More expensive than one can imagine. I’ve always been told by my grandparents, “Start saving for retirement early, you’ll be happy you did.” When talking with my grandparents about retirement, they said the easiest way to

save is by having a plan. It becomes second nature—you don’t even think about as time goes on.

When researching different plan options, I found proposed legislation LD594, A Retirement Savings Program for Maine. LD594 provides an easy pathway to start saving for retirement out of my regular paycheck, regardless if my employer offers a program or not. This program would give employees the option to put a percentage of their paycheck into a retirement savings account.

This program would be portable, meaning I can take it from job to job with me.

It makes sense that people are more likely to save when they can do so through their employer. Imagine what putting away just \$20 a paycheck will amount to in 10 years, let alone 40 plus years.

I’m hoping Maine will pass LD 594. I don’t think a lot of people my age realize how expensive retirement is. This bill will help Mainers of all ages get on the right track.

Harrison Quidort, Portland

MARCAL PAPER

Lung Cancer • Other Cancers

Special trusts have been set up by vendors and suppliers of the Marcal Paper mill to pay asbestos victims:

If you ever worked at the Marcal Paper mill before 1982 you may have been exposed to **asbestos** - and not even know it. You could be entitled to multiple cash settlements without going to court, filing a lawsuit, or even leaving your house.

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Governor's Address: I urge Maine people to vote No on 1

A little more than a month ago, the residents of a city in central China began getting terribly sick with a virus that no one had seen before. As that virus spread, one of the first things that public health officials did was begin to work on a vaccine because vaccines save lives.

They are one of the best tools to safeguard our health, protect the health of those around us, friends and loved ones and children.

You know a century ago, as Maine celebrated its 100th birthday, influenza – the flu – posed a serious threat to our people and took thousands of lives.

Globally, between 50 million and 100 million people (3 percent to 5 percent of the entire population) died from the flu between 1918 and 1920.

I don't want that to happen again.

A hundred years later, the flu is still a public health concern, but thanks to vaccines, we are much safer than we used to be – if you get vaccinated.

Decades of scientific research prove that vaccines not only work but that they are safe.

Unfortunately, our state has had a vaccination opt-out rate that is three times higher than the national average for kids entering kindergarten. Our state ranks seventh in the country for



Governor Janet Mills

the rate of non-medical opt-outs among school age children.

So last year alone, schools in Lincoln, York, and Cumberland counties experienced dangerous whooping cough outbreaks.

I supported Maine's vaccination laws and, like every other Main-er, I also highly value personal choice. But, as your Governor, I am charged with protecting

the health and safety of all Maine people, and amidst these outbreaks it has become painfully clear that Maine laws have not adequately protected the health of Maine people.

Last year I signed a bill to remove the non-medical exemptions from vaccination laws in order to better protect the health and welfare of people, especially young children, across our state – and this is something that four other states, including Mississippi, have done.

People opposed to this new law, however, have succeed in putting a referendum question on the ballot in March in the hopes of overturning the law.

Their campaign is masquerading itself as opposition to "Big Pharma," but, really, pharmaceutical companies hardly benefit at all from producing vaccines, as the Bangor Daily News recently reported. And in trying to target so-called Big Pharma, whom nobody really likes, their campaign is purposefully trying to conflate vaccinations with other issues like the opioid epidemic when these issues are distinctly different.

Don't buy it. Vaccines work, but to make them more effective, people need to be vaccinated, especially children.

As the American Academy of Pediatrics notes, ensuring that ev-

eryone who can get vaccinated does get vaccinated "is important because it uniquely protects the most vulnerable members of our communities, including infants, pregnant women and other individuals whose immune systems cannot combat certain harmful or deadly infections or who aren't eligible to receive certain vaccines."

Let's not go back to a time when viruses like pertussis, the measles, mumps, or rubella were commonplace.

Let's protect our children. Let's protect the future.

I urge Maine people to vote No on 1 March 3rd.

'MTA Database Fundamentals' certification course offered at CMCC

The Center for Workforce & Professional Development at Central Maine Community College (CMCC) will offer an MTA Database Fundamentals certification course on Fridays starting February 21, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. until March 20.

Do you work with or want to work with databases? Would you or coworkers benefit from understanding what is be-

hind the scenes of the database world? If so, this course may be for you. We will gain knowledge of core database concepts, learn how to create database objects and manipulate data, understand data storage and explore how to administer a database. Exposure to database concepts is helpful to those who work with data in an IT world, or who want to enter the world of IT.

Additional study time beyond the class will likely be necessary to ensure passing the associated 98-364 Microsoft Technical Associate exam, which results in a MTA Certification. The certification test for this course can be scheduled and proctored through the CMCC Testing Center. Upon successful completion of a MTA certification exam, CMCC students may receive prior

learning assessment credit. The cost of the class is \$1,000 and includes all instructional materials.

For more information or to register, please contact CMCC's Center for Workforce & Professional Development at 207-755-5280, email workforcedevelopment@cmcc.edu or visit www.cmcc.edu/professionaldevelopment. Registration deadline is February 14.

Bean supper

The Auburn United Methodist Church, 439 Park Avenue, will hold its monthly bean supper Saturday February 22, at 5 p.m. The menu consists of baked beans, casseroles, hot dogs, coleslaw, bread, beverages and pies. Entertainment will be provided by the Park Avenue Pickers, beginning at 4:30 p.m.

Admission is \$8 for adults; children, age 6 to 12, are \$4, and there is no charge for children under 5. For additional information, please call the church office at (207) 782-3972.

Check TCT every week for updated Calendar listings!

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What's Going On

Great Falls forum with Frances Eanes

The 2019-2020 season of the Great Falls Forum continues on Thursday, February 20, featuring Dr. Frances Eanes, Visiting Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies at Bates College, with a talk entitled "Conflict, Consensus, and Community in the Future of Auburn's Ag Zone." The program will take place from 12 noon to 1 p.m. in Callahan Hall at the Lewiston Public Library.

Productive, working landscapes that support farm and forest livelihoods have been steadily lost for decades throughout the United States, especially in New England. Although the driving forces behind this trend—e.g., globalization, urban sprawl, and demographic shifts—are talked about in distant and abstract terms, their effects are profoundly acute and personal, and impact how individuals

and communities see themselves and imagine a more durable future. In this talk, Professor Eanes will explore these challenges and potential solutions through the lens of his in-depth research on the City of Auburn's contentious process to modernize policies that govern the city's "Ag Zone," which covers more than 40% of the city's land base.

Professor Francis Eanes originally comes from the mountains of western Pennsylvania, but has lived in Idaho, Wisconsin, Indiana, and now calls Lewiston home. Having lived in so many different landscapes, his research and teaching interests revolve around urban and rural land use planning. He is especially interested in the social, cultural, and livelihood connections that people develop with land, and how these can help to form healthy

and more equitable communities. He and his students have worked with community partners in Lewiston-Auburn on a variety of local research projects, including some related to the future of Auburn's Ag Zone. Before coming to Bates, Professor Eanes earned his doctorate in environmental studies from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and was a postdoctoral researcher in natural resource social science at Purdue University.

Admission is free to all Forum events and no reservations are required. This program is a bring-your-own, brown-bag lunch event. Coffee, tea and bottled water will be available on site at the library.

The Great Falls Forum speaker series is co-sponsored by Bates College, Lewiston Public Library, and the Sun See Forum, page 13

Bill Staines at Chocolate Church Arts Center

The Chocolate Church Arts Center, at 804 Washington Street in Bath, will present folk singer and songwriter Bill Staines on Friday, February 7. A New England native, Staines has performed his particular brand of Americana folk for over 45 years and will take the stage in the annex at the Chocolate Church Arts Center for an intimate performance of some of his best-loved material.

Staines became involved in the Boston-Cambridge folk scene in the early 1960s, and quickly gained popularity in the Boston area. In 1971, after one of his shows, the Boston Phoenix proclaimed that Staines was "simply Boston's best performer." A decade later, the annual Reader's Poll of the Boston Globe named him one of Boston's favorite artists.

In the time since he burst onto the scene, Bill Staines has worked as the quintessential folk troubadour, singing his songs at the country's top festivals, concerts, clubs, and coffeehouses. The veteran songwriter still performs over 200 shows each year to bring his music to audiences all over the United

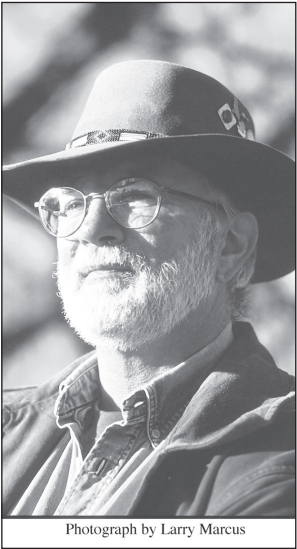
States.

Staines' melodies and lyrics recall with compassion and depth the landscapes and characters he's known, and in the words of The Austin American Statesman, his words have the "ability to translate the common details of common lives into songs of uncommon eloquence and beauty."

With his moving songs, his warm, smooth baritone, his prowess on guitar, and his gentle humor, Staines has also become a favorite of other folk singers and a significant influence on many. His songs have been recorded by noted musicians including Peter, Paul & Mary, Nanci Griffith, Makem & Clancy, Grandpa Jones, Priscilla Herdman, and Jerry Jeff Walker.

Staines' radio and television appearances have included A Prairie Home Companion, Mountain Stage, and The Good Evening Show, and he has hosted local programs on PBS and network television. Even with 26 albums under his belt, Staines continues to release new material, while also performing the classic songs that have won him praise.

Other upcoming



Bill Staines

winter concerts at the Chocolate Church Arts Center include a Valentine's Day Fundraiser Party featuring Island Beats Steel Drum Band on February 14, a comedy show with Johnny Ater and friends on February 15, and a production of Noel Coward's comic play Blithe Spirit, opening on February 28 and running through March 8.

Tickets for Bill Staines in the annex at the Chocolate Church Arts Center are \$15 advance or \$18 at the door. Tickets for this show, and all shows at the Chocolate Church Arts Center can be purchased at www.chocolatechurcharts.org or by calling 207-442-8455.

The Tri-Town Optimist Club



The Tri-Town Optimist Club (Poland, Minot, and Mechanic Falls) has adopted the promotion of literacy as a year-long theme. Reading is central to learning and the availability of books is important to reading success. During December and January, the Tri-Town Optimist Club sponsored

a book drive. They collected over 30 large boxes of gently used books. On January 21, during the RSU 16 staff workshop day, PreK-6 staff were able to shop for much needed books for their classroom libraries. Students will have an opportunity to shop to take books home.

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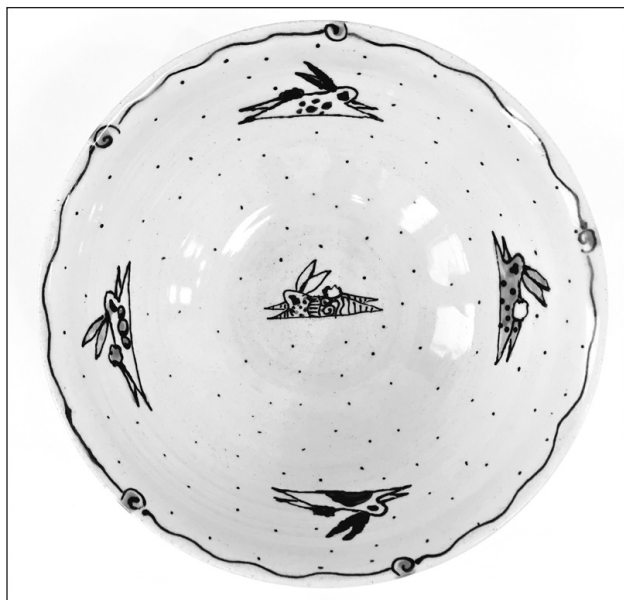


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Harlow's annual silent art auction



Ceramic rabbit serving bowl by Maple Lane Pottery

The Harlow's Annual Silent Art Auction returns February 12 through 22 with proceeds directly supporting 2020 programming at the Gallery.

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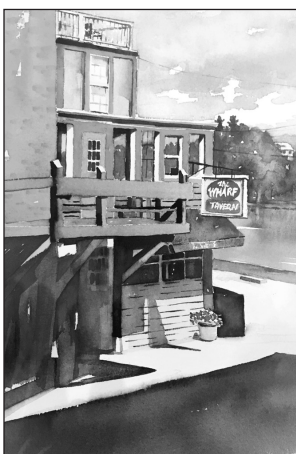
handmade fine art and craft that have been generously donated by local collectors, artists, and fine craftsmen. The items up for bids include work by local artists Barb Loken, Judith Schuppen, Kay Morris, Erin Seegers Jewelry, Maple Lane



Enamel earrings by Erin Seegers Jewelry

Pottery, Brookes Smith Knitting, and many more. Bidding is open February 12 through 22, Wednesday-Saturday 12 to 6 p.m. and closes Saturday, February 22 at 4 p.m. sharp. The Harlow is located at 100 Water street in Hallowell.

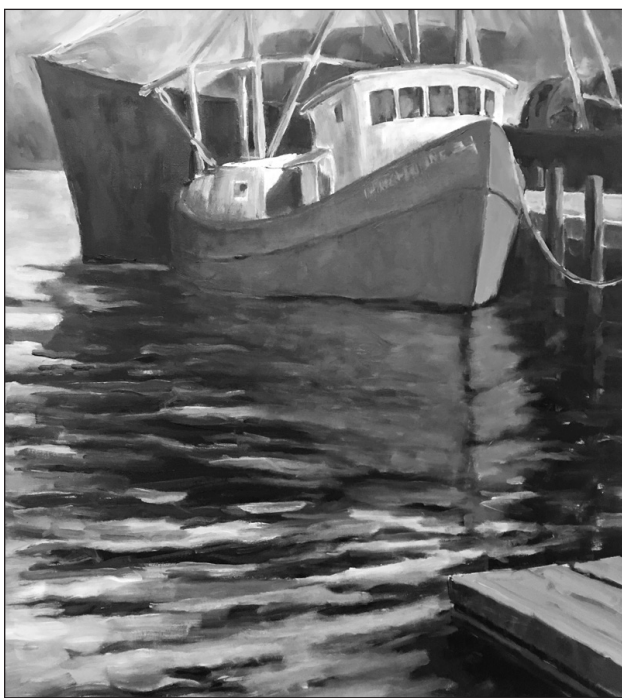
The Harlow is a membership based 501(c)3 nonprofit dedicated to connecting and celebrating art, artists and community in downtown historic Hallowell since 1963. For more information please visit harlowgallery.org or call 207-622-3813.



*Untitled watercolor painting
by Kay Morris*



Woodcut block print by Barb Loken



"Gloucester Harbor", oil painting by Judith Schuppien



Knit hat by Brookes Smith Knitting

What's Going On

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The logo for the Mariners Hockey team. It features the word "MARINERS" in a large, bold, dark blue serif font. A dark blue silhouette of the state of Washington is positioned between the "M" and "R". Below "MARINERS", the word "HOCKEY" is written in a smaller, green, sans-serif font, with wide letter spacing.

Arts & Entertainment

Seniors not acting their age: Seniors in paradise



A group of Maine seniors begin a ski at Mont Sainte Anne in Quebec

The end of 2019 was not good for Nordic skiing in Maine. Snowstorms were invariably followed by warm weather, rain, or mixed precipitation. Suffering from ski envy, a group of Maine seniors resolved to search for an alternative. Fortunately, a skiing paradise is located just a few hours north in Canada.

Eight of us decided on an attempt to replicate a skiing expedition we had shared two winters ago at Mont Sainte Anne Cross Country Ski Center in the Province of Quebec. Located in Sainte Ferreol-les-Neiges about thirty minutes east of Quebec City, the excursion would include the New Year's holiday.

Our first obstacle

was obtaining adequate lodging for four couples. My wife Nancy assumed the unenviable task; researching alternatives and negotiating with various rental businesses. After a protracted sometimes frustrating effort, she secured a condo reservation with four bedrooms in Saint Ferreol just a few miles from the ski area.

Snow was the remaining prerequisite. A returning alpine skier reported a scarcity of snowpack deflating expectations. Not mine. My many Quebec skiing experiences had all been positive and I was carefully studying the Weather Underground ten day forecast. Mont Sainte Anne had been receiving small quanti-

ties on a regular basis and much more was on the way. An ominous prospect was driving six hours in a snowstorm.

Intent on avoiding hazardous travel while taking advantage of fresh snow skiing, four of us left a day early spending a night across the border in Saint Georges, about two hours from our destination. Eluding perilous weather, we arrived in Saint Ferreol in time for several hours of outstanding skiing thanks to two inches of new accumulation.

Our condo was a gem. Roomy and convenient with an exceptional view of Mont Sainte Anne, Nancy had scored a coup. The remainder of Team Ski arrived for the first of several communal dinners. Enhancing our day, two Quebec friends Richard and Caroline joined us for the afternoon ski and the evening meal bringing a bottle of fine cognac as a gift.

The New Year's Eve snowstorm arrived as forecast. We awoke to several inches of fresh powder with additional volume predicted throughout the day and into the night. Our gang of eight with a median



A Maine skier finishes a long descent at Mont Sainte Anne in Quebec



Three Mainers Nordic ski during a snowstorm in Quebec

age of 66 youthfully navigated through inclement conditions to the ski area.

The loquacious gate attendant announced that 140 kilometers of trail had been groomed for classic and skate skiing. After assembling at the convenient main lodge, deliberation on the agenda began. The options were phenomenal; numerous long expeditions and short excursions varying from easy to difficult. We divided into smaller groups depending upon preference.

Four of us decided on a 13 kilometer loop called La Harvey. Easy to moderate in difficulty, we climbed steadily



Two Mainers begin a long ski trek at Mont Sainte Anne in Quebec

for several kilometers in what could conservatively be called driving snow. Characteristic of stormy weather in winter, it had a unique captivating allure. Once high elevation was achieved, the trail provided extremely entertaining rolling hills before reaching the warming hut Refuge de Ruisseau Rouge. Foregoing shelter from the elements, an invigorating almost continuous descent to the main lodge was savored. Some daylight remaining, we divided into two groups for shorter trips before retiring.

Celebrating New Year's Eve with eight weary old people in a warm condo is a less than rousing affair. Relaxing after a long day of skiing, we enjoyed dinner and sampled cognac while awaiting the

big event, Mont Sainte Anne fireworks. Alas, the colorful display was obscured by a tall stand of poorly situated spruce trees. As far as I know, no one made it to the official New Year. I pronounced ten to be mid-night for me.

Skiing on New Year's Day was again superlative. The additional snow emboldened four of us to attempt a long black diamond expedition. The short story is there was an abundance of thrills and several spills. The author set a ridiculously absurd standard with a dramatic face plant at the bottom of the first precipitous pitch. Undaunted, copycats followed.

Two more long-time Quebec friends joined us for dinner. Having shared scores of outdoor adventures with Pierre and Josee for almost 30 years, reminiscing about those escapades and planning new ones dominated a pleasurable evening of socializing. We had met when in our thirties and forties. It seems preposterous that most of us are now retired and those halcyon days are mere memories. But we're still skiing after all those years!

Author of "The Great Mars Hill Bank Robbery" and "Mountains for Mortals - New England," Ron Chase resides in Topsham. Visit his website at www.ronchase-outdoors.com or he can be reached at ronchaseoutdoors@comcast.net.

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Johnny Ater and Friends at Chocolate Church Arts Center



Johnny Ater

The Chocolate Church Arts Center, at 804 Washington Street in Bath, will present a comedy show featuring stand-up comic Johnny Ater and friends on Saturday, February 15 at 7:30 p.m. Ater, a life-long Mainer, offers up hilarious and honest stories about life, fami-

ly, relationships, and his colorful local friends, whom he brings to life on stage for all to meet. The comedian also offers light-hearted swipes and himself and his fellow Mainers, and is known for his “rubber face,” which he is able to contort into hilarious and surprising ways. A

vulnerable performer who embraces his “un-cool” persona, Ater has become one of Maine’s favorite standup comics since he began performing in 2003.

Ater will be joined by fellow Maine comedians Colby Bradshaw of Yarmouth and Julie Poulin of Monmouth. Other upcoming winter shows at the Chocolate Church Arts Center include a production of Noel Coward’s classic comic play Blithe Spirit, opening on February 28 and running through March 8, and a St. Patrick’s Day themed improv comedy show with the Doppelbloopers on March 13.

Tickets for Johnny Ater and Friends in the annex at the Chocolate Church Arts Center are \$15 advance or \$17 at the door. Tickets for this show, and all shows at the Chocolate Church Arts Center can be purchased at www.chocolatechurcharts.org or by calling 207-442-8455.

Scholarship available for agriculture education

Graduating seniors from Maine high schools who are National FFA (Future Farmers of America) Organization members and interested in pursuing a career in farming, agriculture, or natural resources are invited to apply for a Ronald P. Guerrette FFA Scholarship through the Maine Community Foundation.

The Guerrette FFA Scholarship Fund provides one \$1,000 scholarship per year. The application dead-

line is March 1. To learn more, visit the statewide scholarships section of MaineCF’s website, www.maineccf.org.

The fund was created in 1998 by friends and family of Ronald P. Guerrette of Caribou to honor his life and work.

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.maineccf.org.

Send all items for **What’s Going On** to [Editor@Twin City-Times.com](mailto:Editor@TwinCityTimes.com). Deadline is **Friday by five.**



Food pantry donation needs

The High Street Food Pantry has on-going needs for the following items: Peanut Butter, canned vegetables, soup, canned pasta (spaghetti, ravioli, spaghetti-o’s, etc.) canned

meats, canned fruit, dry cereal, baking items (mixes, sugar, flour, etc.), soup, crackers, toilet paper. Thank you for supporting this mission and helping local people meet

their most basic needs. Please drop off your donations at the Auburn United Methodist Church at 439 Park Avenue in Auburn or contact the Church Office at 782-3972.

Author Renee Decamillis to give reading at LPL

On Saturday, February 22 from 2 to 3:30 p.m., the Lewiston Public Library will host Maine author Renee Decamillis for a reading from her recent novella The Bone Cutters. This free, public program will take place in the Library’s Jeanne Couture Conference Room.

The Bone Cutters, published in 2019 through Eraserhead Press as part of their 2019 New Bizarro Authors Series, tells the story of Dory, a psychiatric patient who finds herself threatened by a group of fellow patients who harvest highly addictive bone dust from the living. Disbelieved and alone, Dory ends up on the run, fighting for her life, trying to avoid getting “dusted” by The Bone Cutters.

Renee Decamillis is a member of the Horror Writers Association, The New England Horror Writers, and the Horror Writers of Maine. She has her BA in psychology from the University of Southern Maine, earned her MFA in Popular Fiction Writing from the Stonecoast

Graduate Program, and attended Berklee College of Music as a music business major with guitar as her principle instrument. Renee is a former model, school rock band teacher, creative writing teacher, private guitar instructor, A&R rep for an indie record label, therapeutic mentor, psychological technician, and preschool teacher. She is also a former gravedigger; she can get rid of a body fast without leaving a trace, and she

is not afraid of getting her hands dirty. Renee lives in the woods of southern Maine with her husband, their son, and a house full of ghosts.

The event is free to the public and will conclude with book sales and signing. For more information, contact the library at lpreference@gmail.com or call Josh Gauthier at 513-3136.

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Pictured l to r: Neil Keily, Shanna Cox, Nicole Lajoie. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



Team Members from VIP Tires & Sevice. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



Fermata Nowhere, Edward Little Acappella Group Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



Mark Samson, (l) Rep. Bruce Bickford (r). Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.

A large portrait of Susan Collins, a woman with short brown hair, wearing a teal blazer and a gold necklace. She is smiling and has her arms crossed.

**Congratulations to
all award recipients.
I'm delighted to
celebrate the success
of Lewiston Auburn!**

Susan Collins

Paid for by Collins for Senator



Pictured l to r: Mark Anthoine, Glen Holmes, Steve Wallace.
Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



Pictured l to r: Shanna Cox, Terry Samson, Sandy Buchanan, Nicole Lajoie. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



Pictured l to r: Nicole Mailhot, Derek Fox, Kevin Joler, Mark Samson. photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



Pictured l to r: Nicole Mailhot, Amy Fox, Cara Hingey, Dawn Collins. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



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-Maya Angelou

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GingerSnap Photo Booth, Kait Gallagher with Community Credit Union Team. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine



Shanna Cox, Nicole Lajoie, and Robin Robbins. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



Ken Albert and Dr. Frederick Duah of Androscoggin Home Healthcare + Hospice. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



Sandy Buchanen, family and coworkers, Western Maine Transportation Systems. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



Steve Morin and Raymond DeBlois. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



Shanna Cox, Nicole Lajoie and Mark Samson. Photos by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



Cyndi Robbins of Cyndi's Dockside with Ben Rucker. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



Misty Parker, Sandy Goss and Nicole Witherbee, Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



The VIP Team. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.

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Paul Anderson of Androscoggin Bank. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



John Emerson's granddaughter, Shanna Cox and John Emerson of Emerson Chevrolet-Buick. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



Margaret Craven and Elizabeth Keene. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



Janice Delima middle. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



Maureen Andrew of Androscoggin Home Healthcare + Hospice. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



Kiely McCann, Amanda Santella, Mandi Stetson. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.

Congratulations to this year's Chamber award winners.

Including our very own Robin Robbins, who works tirelessly for her community.

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Doug Forester and Richard Griffin. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



Joan Gamache and Robbin Robbins. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



Fermata Nowhere. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



Heads or Tails finalists pictured l to r: Jessica Donovan, Nicole Lajoie, Kait Gallagher, Patti Gray, Mary LaFontaine, Chip Morrison. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



Jolene Lovejoy, Tracy Taylor, Hon. Peggy Rotundo. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



Pictured l to r: Shanna Cox, Ruby Beene, Nicole Lajoie. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.

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Friday, February 7

LA Arts presents The Color of the Wild exhibition artist talk and reception, at 221 Lisbon Street in Lewiston, 5 to 7 p.m. Exhibition on view January 18 through March 1. LA Arts hours Gallery hours are 12 to 4 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays and 11 to 3 p.m. Saturdays. Free to attend. Bill Staines to perform at The Chocolate Church Arts Center. Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$18 at the door and can be purchased at www.chocolatechurcharts.org or by calling 207-442-8455.

Saturday, Feb. 8

Androscoggin Historical Society presents Genealogy Program in the Androscoggin Community Room of the Auburn Public Library from 2 to 4p.m. For more information, please contact the Society at 784-0586 or info@androhist.org. Saturday, Feb. 8 Bean and casserole supper at Calvary United Methodist Church, 59, Sabattus Street, Lewiston. \$8 adults, \$4 children. Accessible and welcoming! Use the Bartlett St. entrance. Call for more information of if the weather is inclement, call 782-3221.

Swingin' Bears Square Dance Club monthly dance at Oxford Hills Middle School, 100 Pine Street, South Paris, from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Non-dancers are invited to come at no charge. Dancer admission is \$8.00 per person. There will be door prizes and a 50/50 drawing. For more information call our presidents Joan and Dick Deans, 207-966-2327 or 890-2972 or visit swinginbears.squaredanceme.us.

Bean and casserole supper at Minot United Methodist Church Corner of Rte 121 and Empire Road, Minot. from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Tickets at the door are \$7 for adults, \$5 for children 7 to 12 years and under 7 is free. Please come and join us.

Sunday, Feb. 9

Danny Breau kicks off "Music for Mavis" 2020 Cabin Fever Coffee House Concert Series at 98 Mathew's Way, off Rt. 117, Turner Center, downstairs under the Turner Library in the Community Room. Suggested donation \$10. For more information call 207-754-0954.

Monday, Feb. 10

Three session

Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

weaving workshop at the Auburn Public Library in the Community room, 6 to 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$60 fee and includes your own handheld tapestry loom, yarn, and warp to complete one or two projects, as well as instruction and hands on assistance. Class is limited to 10 people. To register please contact Mamie Ney at the Auburn Public Library at 207.333.6640 x 2020 or director@auburnpubliclibrary.org. Registration closes on January 17.

Wednesday, Feb. 12

Lisbon Historical Society meeting to feature Who, What, When, Where" quiz in the Society's meeting rooms at the MTM Center in Lisbon Falls at 7 p.m., doors open at 6:30 p.m. Further information at LisbonHistSoc@gmail.com or 353-8510.

Friday, Feb. 14

Food for Thought speaker Gloria Varney presenting "The Perception and Reality of our Food" in room 170

of USM/LA college, at 11:30 a.m. If you have questions, please call (207) 753-6610.

Saturday, Feb. 15

Stanton Bird club learn to identify tracks of animals. Meet at Staples, Lewiston at 8 a.m. Walk last till 11 a.m. Call Steve Reed, trip leader, at 207-319-6630 for more information.

Johnny Ater and Friends at Chocolate Church Arts Center at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15 advance or \$17 at the door and can be purchased online at www.chocolatechurcharts.org or by calling 207-442-8455.

Thursday, Feb. 20

Great Falls forum with Frances Eanes at the Lewiston Public Library in Callahan Hall from 12 noon to 1 p.m. Admission is free. Bring your own bag lunch. Coffee, tea and bottled water available. For more information contact the Lewiston Public Library at 513-3135 or LPLReference@gmail.com.

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".

Friday, Feb. 22

Bean supper at Auburn United Methodist Church, 439 Park Avenue at 5 p.m. Entertainment provided by Park Avenue Pickers starting at 4:30 p.m. Cost is \$8/ adults, children 6-12/\$4, children 5 and under free. For additional information, please call the church office at (207) 782-3972.

Saturday, Feb. 22

Author Renee Decamillis to give reading at Lewiston Public Library from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in the Jeanne Couture Conference Room. Event is free and open to the public and will conclude with book sales and signing. For more information, contact the library at lpreference@gmail.com or call Josh

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Bad Boys For Life (R)	12:50	3:50	6:45	9:50
Dolittle (PG)	1:05	4:05	7:05	9:25
1917 (R)	1:00	4:00	7:00	9:45
Jumanji: The Next Level (PG-13)	12:30	3:30	6:35	9:35
Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker (PG-13)	12:15	3:20	6:30	9:30
Birds Of Prey (R)	12:40	1:10	1:40	3:40
	4:10	6:40	7:10	7:30
	9:10	9:40		
The Rhythm Section (R)		4:15		9:55
Frozen 2 (PG)	1:20	4:20		
The Turning (PG-13)			7:20	9:50

Gauthier at 513-3136. The Androscoggin County GOP invites you to 2020 Lincoln Day Dinner/Dance at Ramada by Wyndham Lewiston Hotel & Conference Center, 490 Pleasant Street, Lewiston from 5 to 11 p.m. RSVP on Eventbrite required. Way, off Rt. 117, Turner Center, downstairs under the Turner Library in the Community Room, from 2 to 4 p.m. Suggested donation \$10. For more information call 207-754-0954.

Forum

Continued from page 4

Journal. The Lewiston Public Library is located downtown at 200 Lisbon Street at the corner of Pine Street. More information on Thursday's lecture is available by contacting the Lewiston Public Library at 513-3135 or LPLReference@gmail.com.

Word Search

Did you know that terriers were originally bred to hunt and fend off vermin? Over the years many different breeds have developed into the loyal companions we know today.

Terriers

E	R	I	I	R	D	I	B	T	A	T	D	H	B
R	R	S	R	A	T	F	O	X	T	H	R	T	U
I	E	U	R	X	J	N	A	S	H	Y	O	E	L
H	E	A	S	H	R	K	K	B	R	N	O	R	L
S	C	I	R	I	U	I	C	O	H	N	T	N	A
D	F	E	T	O	S	T	F	L	L	H	H	O	E
R	S	S	R	E	H	S	L	E	W	O	A	R	Y
O	N	T	S	T	J	I	R	L	S	J	K	W	K
F	J	A	C	K	R	U	S	S	E	L	L	I	S
F	R	O	B	O	S	T	O	N	C	E	L	C	Y
A	I	D	E	R	I	H	S	K	R	O	Y	H	C
T	I	J	S	N	S	N	I	T	R	L	K	S	U
S	S	C	O	B	N	E	T	O	D	S	R	R	I
L	R	H	Y	I	R	I	S	H	S	R	N	H	K

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The Auburn United Methodist Church is supporting the Center for Wisdom’s Women, by helping supply hygiene products for the women that they serve. Requested donations include shampoo, conditioner, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, body wash, disposable razors, lotion, chap-stick, and feminine hygiene products. Donations are greatly appreciated and can be dropped off at the church located at 439 Park Avenue in Auburn. For additional information please contact the Church at 782-3972.

Bean and Casserole Supper

Bean and Casserole Supper, Saturday, February 8 at 4:45 p.m. Calvary United Methodist Church, 59 Sabbatus Street, Lewiston. Homemade baked beans, biscuits, hot dogs, casseroles, salads, pies and more. Cost \$8 for adults and \$4 for children. Accessible and welcoming! Use the Bartlett Street entrance. Call for more information of if the weather is inclement, call 782-3221.

Winter Nature day camp



The Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed’s annual Winter Nature Day Camp will be held during February school vacation week at Camp Mechwana on Lower Narrows Pond in Winthrop. Two (2)-day camp sessions will be offered—February 17 and 18 and February 19 and 20—with an inclement weather make-up day scheduled for February 21 just in case. Both sessions, open to children in grades 3 through 5, will run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day and will include a mixture of indoor and outdoor activities, including snowshoeing, winter tracking, and indoor and outdoor games. Our culminating activity will be learning to ice fish with Ryan Burton of the Cobbossee Watershed District! Cost for each 2-day camp session is only \$90 per person and includes the use of all equipment along with afternoon cocoa and snack. Early registration is highly recommended as space is limited to 20 campers per session! Registration forms can be downloaded at www.watershedfriends.com. For more information, please contact Cami Wilbert, Education & Outreach Director at 395-5239 or camil@watershedfriends.com.

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