

### **Q** Memorial events at end of September | BJ's donates



David Quintal at home with one of his daughters. The Q Memorial Scholarship was created in his honor after his sudden death in September, 2020. Fundraising events will take place in Gorham from Sept. 20-Oct. 2. (Photo courtesy of the Quintal family)

#### From Q Memorial

GORHAM - The inaugural Q Memorial Events are fast approaching!

Proceeds from all Q Memorial fundraising events in 2021 will be used to award scholarships to Gorham High School students in memory of David Michael Quintal "Q" and his contributions to the Gorham community, especially with softball.

The events are being coordinated by the Q Memorial Scholarship Team.

Ouintal died unexpectedly from a massive heart attack at the age of 42 in on Sept. 27, 2020.

The 2022 inaugural memorial scholarship will be awarded to a GHS senior who plays softball or baseball.

"Starting with the homerun Dave promised he would hit for me the day after we met, to the travel tournament Makayla (our daughter) played in the day Dave died and everything in between, baseball and softball were always a huge part of our family's life," said his wife, Sunny.

Originally from Massachusetts, Quintal followed his brother's footsteps and attended Saint Joseph's College of Maine

When St. Joe's initiated their Hall of Fame, Ouintal was an inaugural inductee for his performance on the baseball field, especially at bat.

He is remembered fondly as being highly competitive and for his ability to pass on his passion and love for baseball and softball to Makayla and her teammates, whom he coached through the years. "He got a great deal of joy from coaching young ladies and teaching them sport," said Keith Cloutier, a close family friend.

Ouintal coached softball and basketball for six years and was a successful coach. His All-Star Softball team won a State title in Cal Ripken at the U10 level. The following year, Gorham's softball program switched to Little League and his team won the District 6 Championship and finished third in the State Championship. He had a great deal of patience, which made him a great coach. The girls loved to play for him.

Additionally, Quintal was a dedicated employee of Olympia Sports for nearly 20 years, a backyard cornhole legend, and a loyal friend. He always had a smile on his face and was always positive.

The biggest role Quintal dedicated himself to, however, was as a husband and dad. He loved "his girls" more than anything. He was an extremely proud dad and tremendously devoted husband. His loss is felt every day among his family, friends, and in the Gorham community.



David Quintal, a former softball coach in Gorham, shares a moment with his family after a game. Quintal died suddenly in September, 2020, and the first fundraiser for the O Memorial Scholarship in his honor will take place at the end of September. (Photo courtesy of the Quintal family)

In honor of Quintal and the first anniversary of his passing the events to benefit The Q Memorial Scholarship are:

\* Thursday, Sept. 30: Q Memorial Blood Drive at Cressey United Methodist Church 1-6 p.m.

\* Friday, Oct. 1: Q Memorial Golf Tournament at Gorham Country Club; 9 a.m. Shotgun Start

\* Saturday, Oct 2: Q Memorial Block Party at Junction Bowl 12-6 p.m.

Sponsorships for these events are available at various levels. Other ways to contribute include providing items for the silent auction that is part of the events.

Contact qmemorialsponsors@gmail. com, or Sunny Quintal at 207-615-5626.

hausting, he said. Back-to-back 24-hour

"It's tough to stay two days in a row. Because you're like, if you've been up all night, I don't want to be here another day. It wrecks your body. It wrecks your body and trying to do it all over again the next day, you're like, 'Here we go.'

Lately, Aberle and the other firefighters at the Biddeford Fire Department have worked extra shifts, which are first assigned on a volunteer basis. If no one volunteers, the fire chief informs the person at the top of the "force list" that they must take the shift.

See Shortage, page 8

## **\$1 Million**

#### From BJ's

WESTBOROUGH, MA - BJ's Wholesale Club, a leading operator of membership warehouse clubs in the Eastern United States, donated \$1 million from the BJ's Charitable Foundation to Feeding America®, in August.

Feeding America is the nation's largest domestic hunger-relief organization. BJ's donation is part of the retailer's efforts to help fight hunger by awarding grants to 50 Feeding America member food banks in the Eastern United States to support child and family food assistance programs.

"BJ's is committed to nourishing our communities by providing families with access to basic essentials including fresh, nutritious food. We're grateful for our longtime partnership with Feeding America as we work together to help provide meals to families in need," said Bill Werner, executive director, BJ's Charitable Foundation. "We're proud to donate \$1 million to Feeding America member food banks to help fight hunger in the local communities we serve."

Feeding America estimates that 42 million people may experience food insecurity, including 13 million children, due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2021. Moreover, households with children are more likely to experience food insecurity.

"Feeding America is grateful for BJ's continued investment, which helps food banks expand access to more nutritious food for families who need it most," said Casey Marsh, Chief Development Officer at Feeding America. "The need for food assistance increased during the COVID-19 pandemic and every community in the country is home to neighbors who face hunger. Our partnership with BJ's will continue to provide member food banks with essential resources to help families thrive and build a path to a more food-secure future."

BJ's Charitable Foundation grant marks the fourth \$1 million donation to Feeding America member food banks located in BJ's footprint. Since 2011, BJ's has provided ongoing support to food banks through the BJ's Charitable Foundation and BJ's Feeding Communities program, helping local food banks expand their programs for children and families within their communities.

BJ's Feeding Communities program is a food rescue partnership, where the com-See Donation, page 11

### Lack of data stymies efforts to address firefighter shortage

By Vanessa Paolella of the Maine Monitor

BIDDEFORD - Even when he works two consecutive 24-hour shifts, Chris Aberle rarely sleeps at the fire station.

Sometimes he tries. If he is lucky, he might pick up a couple hours of rest. But lately his shift has been getting calls at night.

"No one ever sleeps, you know, even if we had no calls from midnight to 8 a.m.", he said. "No one really sleeps because you're just waiting for that bell to go off.'

Twenty-four hour shifts can be ex-



Due to small rosters of firefighters in many Maine fire departments, multiple departments must respond to a call. At least eight departments responded to this fire in Knox County. (Photo courtesy of Whitefield Fire **Department**)

shifts are worse.

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### **Newsmakers, Names & Faces Blue Mass in Lewiston Sept. 19**

#### **From Portland Diocese**

LEWISTON---Hundreds of local, state, and federal law enforcement officers, firefighters, and emergency personnel will be recognized for their faithful commitment and self-sacrifice at the Blue Mass on Sunday, Sept. 19

The mass will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m., at the Basilica of Saints Peter & Paul on 122 Ash Street in Lewiston.

People of all faiths are invited to attend and join in showing gratitude to these dedicated heroes. All active and retired members of the public safety community are encouraged to come with their families and in uniform

National, state, and local dignitaries and elect-



A Blue Mass will be celebrated on Sept. 19 in the Basilica of Saints Peter & Paul in Lewiston. The mass honors law enforcement officers, firefighters, and emergency personnel. (Photo courtesy of Portland Diocese)

ed representatives will also attend the Mass, including Senator Susan Collins (R-ME).

The Blue Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Robert Deeley.

"We are well-served by those who protect us

and serve us. We need to pause to give them thanks," said Bishop Deeley. "We do not need to wait until a disaster strikes to be grateful for the dedication of all of those whose life work is the protection of the public. At the Blue Mass, our purpose is not only to thank them for their service to society, but also to thank God for that service, and to ask God's blessing on each of them."

Deeley will bestow blessings on all who contribute to the public health and safety of Maine, and prayers will be offered for those who have given their lives in the line of duty.

Members of the public safety community will fulfill several roles at the Mass, including as readers and gift bearers, and color

Married to Lewiston

guards and a multi-jurisdictional honor guard will be on hand.

Ladder trucks from Lewiston Fire Dethe partment and Auburn Fire Department will display the American flag across Bartlett Street prior to the Mass.

The Blue Mass (referring to the blue uniforms that firefighters, law enforcement and other first responders wear) dates to 1934 and is a venerable tradition in many dioceses.

The events of Sept. 11, 2001, served as the impetus for the Diocese of Portland to institute the Blue Mass locally.

For more information about the Blue Mass, including its history in the Diocese of Portland, visit www.portlanddiocese.org/ BlueMass.

### **Clement running for Ward 6 re-election**

#### **From Lee Clement**

LEWISTON - Lee Clement, the incumbent councilor in Ward 6 has announced his candidacy for re-election to a second term representing Lewiston's largest ward.

A retired law enforcement and public safety executive with over 50 years' experience in municipal and county government, Clement is running on a record of transparency, integrity and strong constituent representation, a trademark

of his elected service thus far.

Believing Lewiston is poised for positive development and will be the next "big thing" for Maine, he wants to continue the work started by the current council before the pandemic hit and forward movement slowed to a crawl.

As Chairman of the Finance Committee, a general assembly member of the Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments and member of the city loan qualification commit-

tee, he believes Lewiston needs to continue strong and common-sense fiscal management in order to provide needed services in a cost-effective manner.

In addition to his civil service, he has been active in the Masons, holding various offices including Master of Augusta Lodge No. 141, District Deputy Grand Master of the 11th Masonic District of the Grand Lodge of Masons in Maine as well as Kora Temple Shriners in Lewiston where he is currently Senior Chief Provost Emeritus.

A sportsman and a Patron Life Member of the NRA, he was Vice President and Director of the Major Waldron Sportsman's Association in NH and is currently a member of the Androscoggin County Fish & Game Association and a volunteer range safety officer for the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife. In his neighborhood, he is a Director and Secretary of the Apple Valley Estates Homeowners' Association.

native Lucille Leclair for just shy of 50 years, he is the father of two grown children and grandfather of four with a strong desire to maintain law and order and safe neighborhoods, improve local infrastructure, establish fiscal responsibility and transparent local government all while making Lewiston a great city and part of an even greater USA. He looks forward to meeting with his constituents and discussing how to move this agenda forward.



Ward 6 Councilor Lee Clement has announced he is running for re-election for the seat. (Photo courtesy of Lee Clement)

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### WHY PEOPLE CHOOSE

### **Auburn Art Club** meeting on Monday

AUBURN - The Au- meeting to allow members burn Art Club will have its first meeting of the year at 2 p.m. on Monday at the Park a long hiatus due to the Avenue Methodist Church COVID-19 virus. Masks

and guests a chance to visit and "catch-up" after such cream treat for everyone.

In order to plan how much ice cream to have on hand please R.S.V.P. Kathy at 784-8998.

### **CHAMPOUX INSURANCE**

on Park Avenue in Auburn. are optional. All members and This will be social There will be an ice- guests are welcome.



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### **Newsmakers, Names & Faces EXIT Oceanside Realty opens new location in Wells**



Rick and Pam Coyne recently moved their Wells office of EXIT Oceanside Realty to a new location at 913 Post Road, Unit E, in Wells.

**From EXIT Realty** 

WELLS - Michael

Wohl, Regional Owner the new Wells location of of EXIT Realty New England recently announced ty, under the direction of

EXIT Oceanside Real-

Rick and Pam Coyne, as an EXIT Realty franchisee

"Rick and Pam have not only recognized the value of everything EXIT Realty has to offer but they have instilled these values in all of their real estate agents; the EXIT Formula, state-of-theart technology, in-depth training, and more. They wanted a location that would allow each agent a more comfortable workspace allowing them to thrive," said Wohl.

In making the decision to relocate EXIT Oceanside Realty to 913 Post Road, Unit E, in Wells, the Covnes realized that most real estate companies focus on the numbers and not the

individual. "At EXIT Realty, we believe that working first to strengthen each agent makes the team more productive and successful. We don't believe more is better, we believe better is better. EXIT Realty has the best real estate business model to support this philosophy," he said. Coyne is a passionate leader, teacher and coach. He will place much of his focus on mentoring and training his team.

"We are very excited to contribute even more to our community and assist residents with their real estate needs," said Pam Coyne. "At EXIT Realty we are committed to our customers' satisfaction." Rick and Pam Coyne, and EXIT Oceanside Realty, continue to donate their time and resources to various organizations in the Wells community, along with serving twice as President of the Wells Rotary Club.

Oceanside EXIT Realty also sponsored the EXIT Realty Little League team this year and is looking forward to expanding their contributions within the greater Wells community.

EXIT Oceanside Realty is part of EXIT Realty New England's growing family of independently owned and operated franchise brokerages. For more information about this brokerage, please visit www. exitoceansiderealty.com.

New director for communications team at MBH



Marc Glass took on the role of director of communications and public affairs at Maine Behavioral Health on Aug. 30. (Photo courtesy of MBH)

#### From MBH

PORTLAND-Maine Behavioral Healthcare re-

cently appointed an experienced communications professional from the University of Maine System to the newly created role of director of communications and public affairs.

Marc Glass, who for the past several years has worked in communications leadership roles in the University of Maine System, will be joined MBH on Aug. 30.

Most recently, Glass served as director of public affairs and strategic messaging at the University of Southern Maine, a role he assumed in March of 2020. He has also served as the assistant vice president of advancement and communications as well as director of advancement at the University of Maine at Farmington. Prior to that he held various communications roles in higher education, primarily with Bates College in Lewiston. "We were all very im-

pressed with Marc, and we found his experience and insights from the world of higher education to translate well to the communications work we must undertake here at MBH," said Kelly Barton, president of MBH. "I am confident he will be an effective spokesperson for MBH as we pursue our vision and mission on behalf of the communities we serve."

In his new role, Glass will be responsible for external and internal communications, making sure MBH's patients, care team members and the broader community are aware of the incredible work done at Maine's leading behavioral health provider.

"Serving the commu-

nications needs of Maine Behavioral Healthcare's patients and care team members is a tremendous privilege," Glass said. "I look forward to joining the Maine Behavioral Healthcare leadership team and raising awareness about the impact the entire MBH community is making for the people of Maine."

In his new role, Glass will be responsible for MBH's external and internal communications, making sure its patients, care team members and the broader community are aware of the high quality work done every day at MBH. He will sit as a member of MBH's senior executive team and also be a part of the MaineHealth marketing and communications team spanning the larger health system.

> Send all items for What's Going On to the Editor. Deadline is Friday by five.





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### Page 4 **Guest Column**

### Words to avoid using around grandma

### By Grammar Guy

Have you ever worked with someone or made a friend who spoke a different language?

In high school and college, I worked in a few different restaurant kitchens. Almost immediately, I asked some of my Spanish-speaking co-workers to teach me the most inappropriate words and phrases in their mother tongue.

What is it about the words we're not supposed to say that make them irre-

sistible to not only learn but to repeat? While I've previously focused on expletives, today I want to zoom out and discuss "taboo" language in general.

I'm sure you've played the party game called Taboo. In it, you're trying to get your team to guess a word, but you can't describe that word using any of the words on the list that are commonly associated with that word. And, of course, someone on the other team is hovering over your shoulder with that ter-

rible pink and turquoise buzzer, eager to press the button as soon as you utter a forbidden word.

Taboo language refers to words we shouldn't say or write in polite society. Taboo words include expletives, obscenities, unmentionable body parts and the stuff that comes out of those unmentionable body parts. Taboo language also includes blatant misuse of religious terms (i.e., "hell," "damn" and others). Finally, we can chalk up inappropriate name-calling, often associated with animal names (i.e., "cow" and the female word for dog) to taboo language.

We can probably fathom more types of taboo language, and it's difficult to round them up into the same linguistic penalty box. Just imagine anything you wouldn't say to your grandma without blushing — that's taboo language. I suppose you could have one of those wild card grandmas who lost her filter years ago and cusses like a sailor, but let's picture a

saintly, proper grandmother in this situation.

You probably have friends with whom you can let down your phonetic hair, so to speak. You can let down your guard, drop your walls and simply let loose with this type of friend. We all need this type of friend ... the type of person who won't judge us for stringing together a colorful combination of cuss words. This type of person is usually not your grandma.

In polite society, whether it is at work, a place of worship, a funeral or during a Miss America pageant interview, certain language is just plain off-limits. Would you say the word or phrase in front of grandma? If you answered "no," you're likely dealing with taboo language.

Curtis Honeycutt is a syndicated humor columnist. He is the author of "Good Grammar is the Life of the Party: Tips for a Wildly Successful Life". Find more at curtishoneycutt.com.

### Law to help new mothers access health care

#### **From Maine Senate**

AUGUSTA - A bill from Sen. Anne Carney (D-Cape Elizabeth) to help more Maine mothers access postpartum health care became law in mid-June.

LD 265, "An Act To Provide Women Access to Affordable Postpartum Care," became law without the governor's signature.

"By expanding fam-

ilies' access to postpartum care, we can make sure they have the support they need when they often need it the most. Both mother and child face unique medical challenges during the first year after birth. Making sure there's continued affordable access to health care means better outcomes for Maine families," said Sen. Carney.

As amended, LD 265 would extend the period of

time after giving birth that a mother may be eligible for services under MaineCare from 60 days to 12 months. This legislation allows Maine families to benefit from federal funds included in the recently enacted American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, providing a full year of postpartum care for those receiving MaineCare benefits during pregnancy.

Additionally, the bill

would require the Maine Department of Health and Human Services to report to the committee on the efficacy of the program.

"The postpartum period is a medically vulnerable period for many women," said Rita Furlow, Senior Policy Analyst at the Maine Children's Alliance, in testimony supporting LD 265. "A 2020 report from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control

and Prevention found that one-quarter of all pregnancy related deaths of women occurred between 43 days and one year following child birth. These deaths are highly preventable if women are receiving regular access to care. Providing high-quality care for mothers up to one year after birth can identify potential issues and ensure women are aware of the warning signs so they

can connect to prompt follow-up care."

The law will go into effect 90 days after the Legislature adjourns for the year.

Send all items for What's Going On to the Editor. Deadline is Friday by five.



### Why native plants?

### From UMO

ORONO - The University of Maine Cooperative Extension has a new program to help support our pollinators which are in decline.

Please join our Master Gardener Volunteers, via Zoom, for a 2-part presentation, entitled "Why Native Plants?"

Part 1: Why Natives?

Thursday, Sept. 9 -12-1 p.m.

In part 1 of this series, Allan Amioka, a coordinator of the Native Garden at the Wells Reserve at Laudholm Farm, in Wells, Maine, will cover the ba-

landscapes. Allan will use content from his work with the Yardscaping program as well. He will be joined by his fellow Master Gardener Volunteer Allison Tunick. In this informative talk, they will outline why native plants are so important to pollinators.

#### Part 2: Creating a Pollinator-Friendly Garden

Thursday, Sept, 23 -12-1 p.m.

Did you know that you can certify your garden as Pollinator-Friendly?

Allan Amioka and Allison Tunick will continue the conversation on why native plants are so important to pollinators and share

Both of these programs will take place via Zoom.

To register, visit the Events page of our website, www.auburnpubliclibrary, org, email dwallace@ auburnpubliclibrary.org, or contact the Reference Desk at 207-333-6640, ext. 4.

Participants may register for one or both programs and will be sent a Zoom link on the day of the program for which they are registered.

For more information on this or other upcoming programs offered by the Auburn Public Library, visit our website, our Facebook page (Auburn Public Library Advocates), or contact the Reference Desk (as above) via phone or email



### Directed by Jackie McDonald September 16, 17, 18, 23, 24 and 25 at 7:30 p.m. September 18, 19, 25 and 26 at 2 p.m.

Love Letters is a show for adults. Some language and situations may be sensitive or reflect views of an earlier time.

### Tickets: \$20 - Adults, \$17 - Seniors, \$12 - Students boxoffice@laclt.com ~ 207-783-0958 ~ Laclt.com General Admission Only



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Masks will be required to enter the building.



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### **Run for Kids is Oct. 3**

### From BBBS

BRUNSWICK Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bath/Brunswick is conducting a Run for Kids 5k Race/Walk on Oct. 3 to raise money to match more youth facing adversity with trained and supported volunteer Bigs.

The race will start at 10 a.m. at Flight Deck Brewing, 11 Atlantic Ave,

Brunswick, and walkers are welcome. Registration open at 8 a.m.

A one-mile Kid's Fun Run will start at 9:30 a.m.. No registration is needed, since this race is not individually timed.

To learn more and to register visit http:// bitly.ws/giij or call (207) 729-7736.

The event is hosted by Flight Deck Brewing and Wild Oats Bakery

and Café.

The event is sponsored by Bangor Savings Bank, RE/MAX Riverside, Bar Harbor Bank and Trust, and The Times Record.

BBBS of Bath/ Brunswick receives no state or federal funding. Fundraising events encompass a large amount of the organization's operating budget and ability to deliver its mission.

### Page 5 **Auburn PAL center receives grant**

#### From Auburn Rec.

AUBURN - The Auburn Police Activities League has been selected as one of three Maine communities to receive a national grant designed to implement a mentor program for youth impacted by the opioid epidemic.

The generous Youth Mentoring grant is sponsored by the National Recreation and Parks Association and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Only 10 communities were selected from the Appalachian and New England regions. The grant, which totals \$62,500 over a three-year timeframe, was awarded to the Auburn

Recreation Department, and will be implemented at the Auburn PAL Center at 24 Chestnut Street. The City of Lewiston and Town of Berwick were the two other Maine recipients.

The program at PAL will focus on pairing 25 youth from the PAL/Chestnut Street neighborhood with 25 adults for a oneon-one mentorship experience. The mentoring program will begin in January of 2022, when the students return from winter break.

"While this program will focus on our youth, it will also require family engagement activities and wide community support," said Recreation Director Sabrina Best. "We will put together various ac-

tivities and programs for the mentor/mentee teams, such as basketball, hiking, job shadowing, homework help, arts, and crafts and much more."

"One of the greatest opportunities with this grant is the ability to provide youth with resources and support," said Rita Beaudry, a founding member of the PAL Board of Directors and the City of Auburn's Grant Manager. "Basic items such as shoes, winter clothes, school supplies, and hygiene products will be available to each of the kids participating in the program." The program will also offer services such as a grief counseling, transportation, guest speakers and substance

**Chef training from Green** Ladle in September

#### **From Lewiston Schools**

LEWISTON - Aspiring chefs have an opportunity to gain kitchen skills and experience thanks to a class offered by the Green Ladle, a culinary arts training program at the Lewiston Regional Technical Center.

The free adult work program is scheduled to begin on Sept. 28. Classes will run two days a week, from 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Students who successfully complete the four-week class will receive ServSafe certification and learn basic food math, knife skills, cooking terms, sauté cooking, grill cooking, fry cooking, and baking and breakfast cookery. The Green Ladle's Community Serving Community Food Truck Project is paying for the training, said Justine Burns, hospitality instructor at the Green Ladle.

The 30-hour program would normally cost between \$600 and \$700, Chef Dan Caron said. Caron is the director of the Green Ladle. Planning for the class began after Caron, LRTC Director Rob Callahan and Green Ladle instructors met with members of the local restaurant and foodservice community on Aug. 16. The listening session featured many



Sous Chef Kyle Bedell makes pasta for a meal at the Green Ladle. The Lewiston Regional Technical Center culinary program is offering a free adult work program in September for people interested in working in restaurants and the foodservice industry. (Photo courtesy of LRTC)

industry professionals pandemic, Burns said. talking about job open-The food program ran ings and the need for from March 2020 to May training. 2020.

abuse professionals.

With Lewiston Recreation also receiving this grant, there will be opportunities for the two programs to collaborate, said PAL Coordinator Shawn Boyd. "There are kids who end up

bouncing back and forth over the bridge throughout the school year for various reasons. Having a similar program in both communities will provide a sense of consistency and 'home' for many of these kids," he added.

Auburn Recreation and the PAL Center are

seeking adult volunteers (age 18+) to mentor a child in the program. If you are interested, please reach out to Sabrina Best, Auburn Recreation Director at sbest@auburnmaine.gov or 333-6611.

The Auburn Police Department looked at four years of crime data and found that twenty three percent of all crimes committed by youth offenders in Auburn took place within an area of less than half a square mile. Twenty five percent of all police calls for service and twenty eight percent of all youth

victims were victimized in this same area.

In an effort to transform these statistics and provide positive, horizon-broadening experiences for at-risk youth in our city, the Auburn Police Department established the Auburn Police Activities League (PAL).

Auburn's City Council turned over a vacant city property at 24 Chestnut Street, and in the spring of 2013, the Auburn PAL Center opened, right at the heart of the half-square mile area identified by crime data.

### **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Rural Development**

### NextGrid Peppertree, LLC: Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact

AGENCY: Rural-Business Service (RBS), USDA

ACTION: Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact.

SUMMARY: The RBS has made a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) with respect to a request for possible financing assistance to NextGrid Peppertree, LLC for the construction of the Lewiston Junction Road Solar Project in Androscoggin County, Main

FURTHER INFORMATION: To obtain copies of the EA and FONSI, or for further information, contact: Brian Wilson, P.E., Business & Cooperative Programs Director, USDA Rural Development, 967 Illinois Avenue, Suite 4, Bangor, Maine 04401-2767, 207-990-9125, brian.wilson@usda.gov. The EA and FONSI are also available for public review at 967 Illinois Avenue. Suite 4, Bangor, Maine 04401-2767, 207-990-9125.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NextGrid Peppertree, LLC proposes to construct a 5.665-MW solar farm on an approximately 20-acre site which contains agricultural land and forestland. Approximately 20 acres of the project site would be disturbed as a result of the construction activities associated with this project. The Proposed Project Area would be located north of Lewiston Junction Road, near the intersection of Torrey Road and Lewiston Junction Road in the town of Poland, Androscoggin County, Maine. The Proposed Project would interconnect to the Central Maine Power (CMP) pre-existing electrical distribution system. The power generated from the facility would be sold to CMP through a long-term Power Purchase Agreement (PPA). The Proposed Project would be accessed from Lewiston Junction Road. An interior road would be constructed inside the perimeter and is anticipated to be flat and would match existing grades to minimize earth work. The Proposed Project Area would be secured by a security fence with standard gates for emergency and maintenance vehicle access

The availability of the EA for public review was announced via notice in the following newspaper(s): The Twin City Times. Androscoggin County, Maine on August 5, 2021, and August 12, 2021. A 14-day comment period was announced in the newspaper notice(s). The EA was also available for public review at the USDA Rural Development office as well as NextGrid Peppertree, LLC offices. No comments were received.

Based on its EA, commitments made by NextGrid Peppertree, LLC, and public comments received, RBS has concluded that the project would have no significant impact (or no impacts) to water quality, floodplains, land use, aesthetics, transportation, or human health and safety

RBS has assessed the environmental impacts of this proposal and determined that the Lewiston Junction Road Solar Project will result in approximately 1,930 ft2 of wetland fill from the construction of an access road, resulting in permanent los Additionally, there will be approximately 5,590 ft2 of welland vegetation (i.e., conversion of scrub-shrub wetland vegetation to emergent wetland vegetation with no grubbing required).

It has been determined that there is no practicable alternative to avoiding this conversion of effect and that there is a significant need for the project. The basis of this determination is the lack of suitable alternative project areas, the mitigation efforted determined by the landowner as well as NextGrid Peppertree, LLC, and the regional need for an affordable, reliable, and consistent supply of renewable electric power at competitive rates. No public comments were received regarding the conversion of wetlands

The proposed project will have no adverse effect on resources listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The Agency has also concluded that the proposed project is not likely to affect federally listed threatened and endangered species or designated critical habitat thereof. The proposed project would not disproportionately affect minority and/ or low-income populations

No other potential significant impacts resulting from the proposed project have been identified. Therefore, RBS has determined that this FONSI fulfills its obligations under the National Environmental Policy Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR §§ 1500- 1508), and USDA Rural Development's Environmental Policies and Procedures (7 CFR Part 1970) for its action related to the project.

RBS is satisfied that the environmental impacts of the proposed project have been adequately addressed. RBS's federal action would not result in significant impacts to the quality of the human environment, and as such it will not prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for its action related to the proposed project.

Dated: September 9, 2021

"We are proud to offer this program to our community partners at a critical time like this," Callahan said.

The class came about as a way to tion about the training support the businesses that made food donations to the Green Ladle's food program at the start of the COVID-19

"That's our way of giving back to the community, partnering with our many food establishments," she said.

For more informaprogram class, call the Green Ladle at 207-777-3199 or send an email to gladle@lewistonpublicschools.org

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### **Guild Fine Craft Show in Scarborough Sept. 18-19**

**From Maine Crafts** 

SCARBOROUGH the Guild Fine Craft Show in Scarborough returns for its eleventh season with a fully outdoor show on the expansive grounds of Ketcha Outdoors at 336 Black Point Road in Scarborough.

The show will take place Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 18-19.

The show was found-

ed and produced by the Maine Crafts Guild for the past decade. In 2020, the Guild became part of the Maine Crafts Association, continuing the programs, events and initiatives previously offered by the separate organizations.

The intent of the shows, as it was under Maine Crafts Guild management, is to present a professional craft show where the public is invited to engage with exhibitors to collect and learn about the highest quality crafts made by Maine's dedicated, talented and experienced artists, each who have creatine beautiful objects for everyday use and special occasions.

Ketcha Outdoors offers 107 acres of beautiful fields and forest that features an extensive collection of trails that are open to the public and eventually connect to the abutting 90 acre Scarborough Land Trust Libby Farm trail.

Show Director Lizz Berry of the Maine Crafts Association said, "This outdoor show at Ketcha Outdoors is special in that one can make a whole day of exploring nature and shopping for fine craft handmade in Maine; with many designs inspired by its natural beauty."

Attendees will collect, learn and gather with fellow craft collectors, supporters and artists. The show features 25 fine craft artists exhibiting handmade jewelry, ceramics, glass, fiber, paper, stone and more.

Admission is \$5 and those under 18 may attend free of charge.

The show is open Saturday, Sept. 18n from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sunday. Sept. 19, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

More information about Maine Crafts Association can be found at mainecrafts.org.

The Maine Crafts Association is a non-profit with a mission to support craft artists by providing educational, marketing and retail opportunities and a vision to strengthen individual craft artists, Maine communities, local economies, and the visitor experience by making Maine a national crafts destination.

Send all items for What's Going On to the Editor. Deadline is Friday by five.

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### Junction Bowl ends summer season

### From Junction Bowl

GORHAM – The summer bowling league at Junction Bowl on Railroad Avenue in Gorham finished out the season a couple of weeks ago with a quiet night as Pocket Pounders led the way with a team total of 2334. Scores include the player handicap. **Week 9** Pocket Pounders finished the regular season with all 3 games and the

weekly team series against

God Squad, 2334-2122.

Myles Petrin 200-182-229 - 611 Nathan Hopkins 170-196-228 - 594 Robbie Plummer 185-217-190 - 592 Blind 537 **God Squad** Tony Valley 170-151-175-496 Blind 537 Blind 555 Blind 534 The Empire Strikes

**Pocket Pounders** 

Back took the night with all 3 games and the weekly team series against an absent Ice Trae, 2116-2106.

> The Empire Strikes Back
>
>
>  Alex Benner
>
>
>  170-229-148 – 547
>
>
>  Aidan Underwood
>
>
>  172-169-186 – 527
>
>
>  Sebastian Pettitt
>
>
>  183-169-165 – 517
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>
>
>  Blind
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>
>  2106
>
>
>  JB
>  House

took 2 games and the weekly team series from a short-handed Pin Me

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Facebook /Gorham White Rock Grange #380 Web/ mainestategrange.org The White Rock is called Subordinate grange. Use right column to locate.

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**JB House Team** Jonathan Ruppel 174 - 161 - 189 - 524Ryan Morneau 228-219-225-672 Tom Morneau 155-154-173 - 462 Substitute 181-190-208 - 579 Pin Me Please Heather Lavallee 162-193-167 - 522 Substitute 179-194-187 - 560 Blind 177-177-177 - 531 Blind 179-179-179 - 537

### **Community theatre receives \$100k grant**

#### From CLT

AUBURN - The L/A Community Little Theatre (CLT) has been awarded a federal grant of almost \$100,000 from the U.S. Small Business Administration.

CLT applied for this Shuttered Venue Operating Grant (SVOG) through a competitive application process. The SVOG program, designed to support arts organizations that had to close due to the Covid pandemic, is part of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 passed by Congress and signed by the president.

"Community Little Theatre is very grateful for the grant funds provided by the SVOG program," said CLT President John Blanchette. "After more than a year without any operating income due to the pandemic shutdown, this grant is critical to CLT being able to start a new season of live theater performances for the greater L-A community," he added.

The grant amount totals approximately 45 percent of CLT's operating expenses during the last full season and must be used within one year of the award. While these funds



CLT members and supporters who were instrumental in securing a federal grant for the theatre of almost \$100,000 include Eileen Messina, Chip Morrison, Bob Gardner, John Cleveland, John Blanchette, and Jen Groover. (Photo courtesy of CLT)

are vital in enabling CLT to resume productions this fall, the theatre will still need additional revenue from ticket sales, donors, and sponsors to pay for any capital improvements and the balance of the operating expenses for the coming year.

John Cleveland, president of Community Dynamics Corporation of Auburn, submitted the grant on behalf of CLT. "It was a pleasure to help the theatre prepare this successful SVOG grant application to acquire operating funds for the coming season. Performing arts are an important and essential part of making the Lewiston-Auburn area a wonderful place to live and work," Cleveland noted.

While in March 2020 Although the pandemic that was declared in March 2020 forced the cancellation of the remainder of CLT's 80th season and the loss of significant revenue, the theatre managed to remain solvent and to produce two highly regarded online productions during its curtailed 81st season and to resume youth theater camps this summer.

CLT will present it's

first in-person production since the start of the pandemic with A. R. Gurney's "Love Letters," which will open Thursday, September 16. The remainder of the 2020-21 season – CLT's 82nd - will be announced at its annual meeting on September 21 at 6:30 p.m. Anyone interested is welcome to attend.

Please visit the CLT website at www.laclt.com for general information or

first in-person production to purchase tickets for Love since the start of the pan- Letters.

L/A Community Little Theatre, located at 30 Academy Street in Auburn, has been producing live theatre since 1940. A volunteer , non-profit organization, our goal is to provide affordable and quality entertainment in the performing arts as well as education, training, and experience in theatre for area youth. www.laclt.com.

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### Shortage

#### Continued from page 1

During a staffing shortage as severe as Biddeford's, firefighters may show up for one shift and find out the department needs them to work two. Eleven of the department's 44 full-time firefighting positions are vacant and, with an average of 16 calls each day, the station can't afford to be understaffed. Lives could be at risk.

This leaves Biddeford's firefighters to pick up the slack.

Aberle has only so much he can give. He has two daughters, a fiancé and two "bonus boys," his fiancé's sons. He volunteers to coach his kids' sports teams and referees hockey in the winter.

And like many other firefighters in the state, he also is a member of a second fire department.

Between his full-time job in Biddeford and his part-time/on-call duties as Arundel's fire captain, Aberle estimates he works 100 hours per week.

He does it to make extra money. But if he didn't pick up shifts at Arundel, it is likely they would go unfilled. Competition for per diem firefighters can be fierce, and there aren't enough to meet the demand.

Lack of data a criti-

#### cal issue

Aberle is one of an unknown number of firefighters in the state. Unlike emergency medical technicians (EMTs) and law enforcement officers who are licensed by the state, there is no Maine entity that tracks the number of firefighters.

Firefighting personnel across the state say fire departments are struggling to recruit and retain career, per diem and volunteer firefighters, leaving the dwindling numbers to handle a growing number of calls. In some cases, fire departments have merged or even closed.

Joe Thomas, the Maine state fire marshal, described the shortage as a "critical" issue. Yet little evidence of a shortage exists beyond anecdotal accounts. The state doesn't track the number of active firefighters, nor does the Maine Fire Institute.

Without reliable data, the true severity of the shortage is anyone's guess.

"Our problem is we don't know the numbers, and now we're in crisis mode," said Lt. Gerry Gay, the 1st district vice president of the Professional Fire Fighters of Maine. "Had we known the number of firefighters (in the state), we could have been on this a long time ago."

Many veteran fire-

fighters say volunteer fire department rosters have been shrinking for years, possibly even decades. This is particularly problematic for Maine, where <u>95% of</u> <u>fire departments</u> are fully or mostly staffed by volunteers.

Volunteer, also referred to as "on-call," firefighters are usually paid. Some departments pay hourly, while others disburse a set amount of funding each year to members of their call list based on their activity. Trainings and meetings are usually unpaid.

Maine's firefighter shortage mirrors a national trend. According to the National Fire Prevention Agency, the U.S. had <u>more</u> volunteer firefighters in <u>1986 than 2018</u>, despite significant population growth. The number of career firefighters rose during that time period, but not enough to make up for the decline in volunteers.

Faced with declining numbers, Maine fire departments have increasingly banded together to form mutual aid agreements. Mutual aid partners automatically receive notice when there is an emergency, even if it isn't in their town.

According to Farmington Fire Chief Terry Bell, it takes 25-30 fire-



fighters to adequately respond to a structure fire. Yet many departments in the state have trouble gathering 10 firefighters on their own, let alone triple that amount.

It is becoming increasingly common for multiple departments to be needed to combat a single structure fire.

Three years ago, fire and EMS services on and near Mount Desert Island created a formal mutual aid agreement. Bar Harbor Fire Chief Matt Bartlett explained that when a fire breaks out in Bar Harbor, he directs dispatch to request assistance from the department's mutual aid partners: the Ellsworth, Trenton, Southwest Harbor, Tremont and town of Mount Desert departments.

All together, six departments and an additional EMS service are involved in fire-related emergencies on Mount Desert. Sometimes the fire is too big, and further aid from Lamoine and the town of Hancock is requested.

"And that's for just a typical house fire," Bartlett said. "Bigger, then we're probably reaching way across (Hancock) county (for help)."

#### Logistical perils

A collective response has its faults. Relying on faraway fire departments has a "domino effect," he explained. The farther firefighters travel to assist, the farther they have to drive in case they need to respond to an emergency in their home community.

"If you have (an emergency) near your community, your fire department could be at a fire that's a half-hour, 45 minutes away. So we're spreading everybody very thin," Bartlett said.

"When I first started (in 1990), if we had a house fire, the only people there were just Bar Harbor because we had the people to take care of it. But over time we were losing — everybody's losing firefighters. So we've had to come together and figure out a plan to help each other out."

In barely more than a year, an aggressive recruitment campaign boosted the number of firefighters in Liberty from from seven to 18. "I feel right now we're fortunate, (but) we never have enough," said Bill Gillespie, the Liberty Fire Department chief and chair of the Length of Service Awards Program committee. Photo by Vanessa Paolella.

In Waldo County, Liberty Fire Chief Bill Gillespie said that 10 years ago, it took personnel from three departments to put out a fire. Now it might take seven. "It's certainly not uncommon for a big fire in Waldo County to strip the entire county," he said.

On July 10, at least eight departments responded to a large <u>multi-structure</u> <u>blaze</u> in the town of Washington, in Knox County. According to Gillespie, who was at the scene with eight other Liberty firefighters, some departments were only able to gather three or four firefighters. Two departments, he said, could only provide drivers and tanker trucks.

Volunteers are usually more available for night fires like the one in Washington, Gillespie said. Yet "we struggle to get people. It doesn't matter what time it is."

Even as fire departments have grown smaller, many chiefs say the number of calls has increased.

Before he was the chief fire & EMS administrator of York County, Roger Hooper was a firefighter for Goodwins Mills Fire-Rescue for 40 years. In 1978, the department received 60 calls, he said. When he stepped down as fire chief in 2018, the number had grown to over 700.

According to Gillespie, the Liberty Fire Department received 164 calls last year, about triple the amount from 30 years ago. Other fire chiefs cited similar rises.

A 'mystery number'

Nearly every fire official interviewed confirmed the increasing shortage of firefighters in Maine.

Yet no one knows exactly how many firefighters are active in the state today, let alone 10 or 20 years ago. The only available numbers are rough estimates rounded to the nearest thousand.

Without this information, the only evidence for the shortage is anecdotal.

Jim Graves, the director of fire training at the Maine Fire Institute, said a statewide firefighter count is a "mystery number" that no one can pinpoint.

Of the 14 county EMAs that responded to the Maine Monitor's information request, just five were able to provide personnel counts based on recent surveys. Three EMA representatives gave their best guess, and six counties had no information on fire department members to share.

In 2010, Oxford County began compiling a resource manual that includes fire department personnel counts every other year. That year, the county counted 708 fire department members. By 2020, the number had <u>dropped</u> to 607, a 14% decrease in a decade.

Even so, experts say personnel counts do not accurately represent the number of active firefighters.

Non-firefighting members such as support staff and members who are strictly EMTs may be included. If departments simply report the number of people on their call lists, they are also likely including members who are no longer active. Furthermore, it is routine for firefighters to work at more than one department, leading to unintentionally double- or triple-counting a person.

Teresa Glick, the deputy director of the Oxford County EMA, confirmed that its data "likely" includes support positions and does not account for people who are with multi-

Happy Hour 2-5 pm

Continued on next page

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### *Continued from previous page* ple departments.

Earlier this year, the Knox County EMA conducted a multi-agency roster survey. Its director, Ray Sisk, said they counted 336 people who were affiliated with fire departments in the county, adding that "likely the number is lower, but this should get you within 20% or so."

Sagadahoc County EMA may be the only county to detail personnel names and positions, preventing duplicate counting and making it possible to separate firefighting members from other staff. Sarah Bennett, the director, said its survey was conducted last year as part of the county's COVID-19 response.

Part of the problem, State Fire Marshal Joe Thomas said, is that fire departments have always been locally focused.

"Law enforcement has always used things like the criminal database ... to track their types of activity. That demand was never really pushed on the fire service," he said. "Consequently, most of the data that existed about fire departments existed with the fire department and no place else."

The Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center (MC-SPC) at the University of Maine began investigating the issue two years ago. In partnership with the Hancock County Firefighters Association (HCFA), the MCSPC received funding from the Maine Community Foundation to study the fire service in Hancock County.

According to Tommy Morris, president of the HCFA, the initial exploratory study, conducted in 2019-20, found an "urgent need for further policy research and intervention."

#### Again, 'Domino effect'

As volunteer fire departments in Hancock County and across the state edge toward closure, firefighters from neighboring departments are forced to bear the burden of increased time demands and operational costs, creating a "domino effect," Morris wrote in an email to the Maine Monitor. "The burden this poses to emergency responders and emergency response infrastructure across the state would put countless Mainers at risk in the years ahead if left unattended."

The two-part initiative in Hancock County will first seek to evaluate the number and capabilities of fire service personnel, later investigating potential solutions to improve recruitment and retention of paid, per diem and volunteer personnel. The second phase also will include an

economic analysis of current trends and proposed solutions.

This study will be used as a model by the State Fire Marshal's office and implemented statewide. Thomas said this will be the first time the state has tried to survey each Maine fire department.

Although there is little data on firefighters, Thomas said he sees evidence of the shortage in other ways.

In the most recent five-year loss analysis conducted by the Bureau of Insurance, he noted that fire damages in Maine increased by an average of \$10 million per year from the previous five-year analysis. While he notes there could be many reasons for the increase, he suspects the firefighter shortage played a part.

"I'm hoping that the statewide study confirms what my senses are telling me," Thomas said.

### No easy answer

Traditionally, fire departments have more or less been left on their own to address problems.

Some have run successful recruitment drives and are exceptions to the statewide shortage. For many others, a solution hasn't been as forthcoming.

Recently the fire service had some success lobbying the Maine Legis-

lature for programs to help improve firefighter retention.

In 2015, the Maine legislature passed a bill to create the Length of Service Awards Program (LOSAP), which aims to establish a pension-like program for both volunteer and career firefighters.

Although the bill was passed, it wasn't funded. It took two years to push then-Gov. Paul LePage to appoint the board that Gillespie chairs.

It was only this year that the program received funding from the legislature. The board requested \$2.5 million, but received \$500,000, just enough to hire a third-party administrator to get the program off the ground.

Since the state only provided partial funding, it will be up to local municipalities to contribute to the program.

"We're trying to keep the members that we have because we know the numbers are really going down," Gillespie said.

Fire officials say LOSAP is only part of the solution. As the traditional, municipal-level volunteer department becomes harder to sustain, some are looking to the state to lead more radical changes.

Regionalizing the fire service would streamline response and provide more



Maine State Fire Instructor Phil Meunier (left) evaluates Jason Joler (center) and Owen Corrigan (right) of the Oakland Fire and Rescue Department execute the mayday drill station at the firefighter I & II skills exam. (Photo by Vanessa Paolella of The Maine Monitor)

consistent coverage, several officials said. School districts, which often transcend town lines, are one example of regionalization in Maine.

Chief Darren Woods of North Lakes Fire and Rescue, who is also the director of Aroostook County's EMA, said his department operates on a regional model. They have three stations that provide coverage for four unorganized territories and one town.

The regionalized model works well for their purposes, Woods said. His firefighters are geographically spread out, but having three stations in different locations allows his department to adequately cover the region.

Hooper, who wrote an <u>editorial for the Ban-</u> <u>gor Daily News</u> in 2015 on the firefighter shortage, described mutual aid agreements as "regionalizing by accident." Response from regionalized departments is more consistent and organized, he said.

While a regionalized model may work for some, many acknowledged that different regions will likely require different solutions.

"There's no one silver bullet that will fit everybody's needs because of simple differences in each and every community within the state," Thomas said.

This story was originally published by The Maine Monitor, a local journalism product published by The Maine Center for Public Interest Reporting, a nonpartisan and nonprofit civic news organization. https://www. themainemonitor.org/







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### Page 10 Thursday, September 9, 2021 **Ribbon cutting for Gallant Therapy Services**

#### From LA Metro Chamber

LEWISTON - A ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Gallant Therapy Services location at 20 East Ave. in Lewiston took place at the end of May.

City of Lewiston Representative, Councilor Alicia Rae, was joined by the LA Metro Chamber President + CEO, Shanna Cox,

vices provides pediatric Occupational Therapy and Feeding Therapy in their new spacious, fun, playbased clinic. Its team of therapists helps children with developmental disabilities and delays, behavior challenges, anxiety, feeding difficulties, Autism, and more.

"I love working for

The ribbon is cut to officially open the new Gallant Therapy Services location on East Avenue in Lewiston, at the end of May. (Photo courtesy of LA Metro Chamber)

GTS. Nothing is better than seeing the happiness my kids feel when they are so proud of themselves for reaching a goal. I get to use play as the tool to help them and cheer them on as they become more successful in school, at home, and in their community," said Mary Miller, Occupational

Therapy Assistant.

"It is so great to see a business continuing to invest and expand in Lewiston, and to provide these specialized services to our youth. Having this therapy space so close and accessible is very important for the kids who need that extra support," said Councilor Alicia Rae.

The new space has allowed GTS to hire more therapists, giving them the opportunity to provide their services to more kids in the region. Anyone who knows of a child who might be in need is asked to reach out to the team at Gallant Therapy Services for more information.

"Chambers are an important piece of the business community, and the only reason I can say that is because of the businesses like Gallant Therapy Services that contribute to the wellbeing and betterment of our community. GTS therapists are making a positive difference by serving our youth in their new, bright, and cheerful space. We can't have the workforce that we need a generation from now without people like the GTS team doing this type of work and being a part of this community," said LA Metro Chamber President + CEO, Shanna Cox

An organization of community-minded businesses that serves Lewiston. Auburn, and surrounding communities, the Lewiston Auburn Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce is an engine for economic vitality and enhanced quality of life. Through issues advocacy, workforce development, and professional networking, the LA Metro Chamber helps business and community build, lead, and thrive. Visit www. lametrochamber.com

### **Maine Public News Connect launched**

#### **From Maine Public**

LEWISTON - Maine Public recently launched Maine Public News Connect, a new news service translating news stories into different languages.

The project takes stories aired on Maine Public Radio and appearing online and has them pro-

fessionally translated and delivered in various languages. The project initially will focused on the creation of French, Spanish, and Portuguese translated news pods and added news translated into Somali in early May.

Maine Public News Connect is part of a larger Connecting Communities

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initiative at Maine Public with the overarching goal to make Maine more inclusive, stronger, and more cohesive.

"With Connecting Communities, and specifically here with Maine Public News Connect, we're really hoping to extend the reach of our public service journalism," stated Mark Simpson, Maine Public's Director of News & Public Affairs. "We want to help more Maine people access credible, reliably reported news and information. This is especially important in an age of both information and source overload, but also at a time when misinformation is common. Maine Public is a trusted space for news, and we want to make sure we able reach the broadest number of people with this new pilot initiative."

Anyone can access these translated news videos for free every Friday afternoon by:

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Public's Facebook page at

facebook.com/mainepublic

• Viewing the news pods on Maine Public's website

• By following Maine Public on Twitter and Instagram

This project would not have been launched without the help of the Maine Immigrants' Rights Coalition, Presente Maine, Gateway Community Services Maine, Congolese, and Angolan communities of Maine. A special thanks to the Stephen and Tabitha King Foundation, cPort Credit Union, Lee Auto Malls, St. Joseph Healthcare, and the Maine Health Access Foundation for their generous support of this project.

Maine Public is also

#### partnering on this project with Amjambo Africa, the official Media Partner of Maine Public News Connect.

Maine Public is Maine's premier, independent media resource, dedicated to creating exceptional opportunities for the communities it serves to engage with critical issues, compelling stories and quality entertainment. Maine Public airs content from PBS, NPR, and other independent producers.

Formed in 1992, Maine Public is an independently owned and operated nonprofit organization with office and studio locations in Bangor, Lewiston, and Portland.

For more information, visit mainepublic.org.

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### Maine CF awards grants to animal welfare organizations

#### From Maine CF

PORTLAND/ELLS-WORTH - The Maine Community Foundation recently awarded \$282,500 in grants to 21 Maine organizations to support animal welfare.

Grantees include the Humane Society Waterville Area, for the Angel Foster program; Waldo County Pet Food Pantry, to aid in the spay/neuter program, rabies clinic and pet food purchases; and SPCA of Hancock County, to establish spay/neuter clinics in the community and increase the Mickey Duffy Fund which provides financial assistance to low-income pet owners for unexpected veterinary expenses.

The fund supports organizations dedicated to advancing animal welfare in Maine. Priority is given to organizations that help low-income or disadvantaged populations maintain ownership of their pets and prevent animal surrender/ abandonment.

An anonymous donor established the Animal Welfare fund in 2007. It is further supported by the Doree Taylor Charitable Foundation, Bank of America, N.A., and the George F. Lyman and Ernestine Lyman Trust.

For more information, visit www.mainecf. org or contact Program Officer John Ochira at 1-877-700-6800 or jochira@ mainecf.org.

The next deadline for proposals to the Animal Welfare Fund is June 1, 2022.

For application, guidelines and a complete list of 2021 grants, go to www.mainecf.org.

Headquartered in Ellsworth, with additional personnel in Portland, Dover-Foxcroft, Mars Hill and Rockport, 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.mainecf.org.

### 2021 Animal

Welfare Grants Animal Refuge League of Greater Portland, to provide access to life-saving resources:

\$20,000

Animal Welfare Society, to support increased capacity in the Stay@ Home program and maintain state-wide spay/neuter efforts: \$20,000

Another Chance Animal Rescue, to support 100 cats spay/neutered, 25+ low-income families assisted with veterinary bills, and flea mitigation: \$10,000

Ark Animal Shelter, for the Ark Alley Cats Program to TNR community cats and/or house feral cats: \$10,000

Bangor Humane Society, to provide spay/neuter assistance to low-income pet owners: \$20,000

Franklin County Animal Shelter, for the shelter's spay/neuter voucher program: \$10,000

Friends of Feral Felines, to provide TNR (trap-neuter-return) and socialization services for feral and unwanted cats and kittens across southern and central Maine: \$7,500

Greater Androscoggin Humane Society, to support medical care for shelter and privately owned pets as well as community outreach vaccination clinics: \$20,000

Halfway Home Pet Rescue, Inc., to continue the free spay/neuter clinics: \$10,000

Harvest Hills Animal Shelter, Inc., to expand the spay/neuter voucher program and supplies for the in-house spay/ neuter clinic: \$10,000

Humane Society Waterville Area, for the Angel Foster program: \$20,000

Midcoast Humane, to support the Community Cats voucher program, which provides financial assistance to income-qualified rural cat owners and cat colony caretakers: \$20,000

P.A.W.S. Animal Adoption Center, for the shelter's in-house medical clinic, which provides lowcost vaccination and spay/ neuter clinics to the community: \$20,000

The Pixel Fund, to support the Maine spay/ neuter program for stray and abandoned animals: \$10,000

Pope Memorial Humane Society of Knox County, for the spay neuter voucher program in order to provide 350 spay/neuter vouchers for cats, dogs and rabbits: \$20,000

Responsible Pet Care of Oxford Hills Inc., to serve felines in overpopulation situations and fund grants to assist with cost of spay/neuter for low-income/elderly pet owners: \$10,000

Somerset Humane Society, for the low-cost voucher program to assist the public with spaying and neutering cats, \$10,000

SPCA of Hancock County, to establish spay/ neuter clinics in the community and increase the Mickey Duffy Fund which provides financial assistance to low-income pet owners for unexpected veterinary expenses: \$10,000

Spirits Place, to support the spay/neuter and medical care program: \$10,000

Waldo County Humane Society, Inc., to increase community awareness of spay/neuter vouchers, rabies vaccination clinics, and financial assistance programs: \$10,000

Waldo County Pet Food Pantry, to aid in the spay/neuter program, rabies clinic and pet food purchases: \$5,000. **Donation** *Continued from page 1* 

pany donates all unsold perishable food to Feeding America member food banks in its footprint, helping to get wholesome food onto the plates of families. To date, BJ's has donated more than 120 million pounds of food including meat, produce, dairy and bakery items to Feeding America member food banks.

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Visit www.feedingamerica.org.



- Develop 2 fields at White Rock
- Purchase seasonal fence for Shaw Park



- Repair dugouts and fencing, build storage centers
- Add infield mix and relevel current fields
- Acquire tarps and field maintenance equipment
- Add scoreboards

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### **CONTACT US TODAY FOR POSSIBLE OPENINGS** FOR YOUR AD IN OUR BUSINESS DIRECTORY!

### **EVERY TUESDAY** 10:30-11:15 a.m.

LEWISTON - Lewiston Public Library - Virtual Preschool Babytime & Storytime. Children 0-5 are welcome to join the fun on Zoom as Ms. Jackie uses interactive songs and stories to introduce children to the world of books, learning, and the library. Call 207-513-3133 for details and registration.

### **1ST AND 3RD TUES-**DAYS

### 11:30 a.m.

LEWISTON - Lewiston Public Library - Virtual Book Chat. Join LPL staff via Facebook Live for a conversation about what we're reading. Make suggestions, share your thoughts, find resources, and get personalized recommendations from our librarians!

### THURSDAY Sept. 9

5:30-6:30 p.m.

LEWISTON - (Virtual) Take Me to the **Moon: A Virtual Evening** with NASA, on Zoom and livestreamed to Facebook Join Lewiston Public Library for a virtual evening with NASA communication strategist and museum liaison, Patricia Moore, as she shares about the Artemis Project, the first project of its kind to establish sustainable exploration and prepare for missions to Mars. This program is suitable for all ages!

For more information or to register for the Zoom link, please contact the Reference Desk at 207-513-3135 or at LPLReference@LewistonMaine.gov

#### SATURDAY Sept. 11 11 a.m.-6 p.m. LEWISTON-Greek



Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

Festival To-Go at Holv Trinity Orthodox Church, 155 Hogan Rd. Drive-thru menu of Gyros, Spanakopita, Greek fries and pastries. FMI: lagreekfestival.com

### MONDAY Sept. 13 5:30 p.m.

LEWISTON - Planning Board meeting, at City Hall Council chambers. The Planning Board Agenda and information for this meeting will be available on the website on the Friday before the meeting date.

AUBURN - City Council workshop and meeting.

### 5:30-6:30 p.m.

LEWISTON - Finance Committee meeting, in City Hall Administrator's Conference Room.

### 7 p.m.

GORHAM - Planning Board Meeting in council chambers.

#### TUESDAY Sept. 14 6 p.m.

LEWISTON - City Council Workshop, at City Hall, 27 Pine Street, Lewiston 1st Floor in the City Council chambers. This Workshop will be broadcast LIVE over Spectrum Cable TV Government Access Channel 7, streamed LIVE through the Great Falls Television web site, and streamed LIVE through the city's YouTube channel http:// www.lewistonmaine.gov/ YouTube. Archived copies of this meeting will be available immediately after broadcast on the City YouTube Channel and within a day or two after broadcast, for viewing for up to 60 days, at the Great Falls Television web site. AUBURN - Planning Board meeting.

7 p.m. GORHAM - Conservation Commission meeting.

#### WEDNESDAY Sept. 15

8 a.m. GORHAM - Eco-

nomic Development Corporation meeting in conference room A.

### THURSDAY Sept. 16

8 a.m. AUBURN – 9-1-1 Committee meeting.

6:30 p.m. GORHAM - ten-

tative Board of Appeals meeting om council chambers.

GORHAM - tentative Recurring Capital Improvement Projects/ Economic Development Committee meeting in council chambers.

7 p.m.

AUBURN - Community Forest Subcommittee meeting.

### FRIDAY

Sept. 17

7:30 a.m. AUBURN - Auburn Public Library Board of Trustees meeting.

7:30-9:30 p.m.

BATH - Chocolate Church Arts Center, 804 Washington Street, Bath - Schooner Fare. Folk, Maritime.

And 1 more makes 44! We are thrilled to welcome back to the CCAC stage, Steve and Chuck Romanoff together as Schooner Fare, the premier performing group of original and traditional maritime songs. Their energetic concerts are laced with a Maine brand of universal humor. They also write and perform topical songs, country ballads and maritime masterpieces that have made their name synonymous with the 'Down East' style. Combining their talents on six-string guitars, twelve-string guitars and banjos, Schooner Fare's distinctive vocal and instrumental arrangements have been hailed by such folk music icons as the Kingston Trio, the Limeliters, the Chad Mitchell Trio, the Clancy Brothers, Tommy Makem and Tom Paxton.

Main stage. \$24 adv /\$26 DOS

#### SATURDAY Sept. 18 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

LEWISTON - Rally for Recovery, at Kennedy Park, Lewiston. For those struggling with addiction, and their families. For More Information - (207) 513-3018.

### MONDAY Sept. 20

5:30 p.m. AUBURN - City Council workshop and

meeting. GORHAM - Finance Committee meeting in council chambers.

7 p.m. GORHAM - option-

date.

al Planning Board meeting

TUESDAY Sept. 21 8 a.m. GORHAM - Ordinance Committee meeting in conference room A.

4 p.m. AUBURN - Auburn Sewer District Trustees meeting.

6 p.m.



### FOR SHOWTIMES

LEWISTON - City Council meeting, at City Hall, 27 Pine Street, Lewiston 1st Floor in the City Council Chambers. This Meeting and Workshop will be broadcast LIVE over Spectrum Cable TV Government Access Channel 7, streamed LIVE through the Great Falls Television web site, and streamed LIVE through the city's YouTube chanhttp://www.lewisnel tonmaine.gov/YouTube. Archived copies of this meeting will be available immediately after broadcast on the City YouTube Channel and within a day or two after broadcast, for viewing for up to 60 days, at the Great Falls Television web site.

6:30 p.m.

GORHAM - tentative recurring Town Council workshop in council chambers.

#### WEDNESDAY **Sept. 22**

4 p.m. AUBURN - Auburn Water District Trustees meeting 6 p.m. AUBURN - Com-

plete Streets Committee meeting.

SATURDAY Sept. 25 7:30-9:30 p.m. BATH - Chocolate Church Arts Center, 804

Washington Street, Bath -**Oshima Brothers** (Folk, Acoustic Pop, Americana). Oshima Brothers' Magnetic Sibling Sound And Contagious Joy Result From A Lifetime Of Making Music Together.

Raised in a musical family in rural Maine, the brothers have honed a harmony-rich blend of contemporary folk and acoustic pop. On stage, Sean and Jamie create a surprisingly full sound with dynamic vocals, electric and acoustic guitars, octave bass, loops, and percussion. The brothers live in Maine but are often on the road performing, producing music videos, and dancing.

https://www.oshimabrothers.com/

Main stage: tickets \$18 adv/ \$23 DOS

http://bitly.ws/g4bv

#### MONDAY Sept. 27

### 5:30 p.m.

LEWISTON - Planning Board meeting, at City Hall Council chambers. The Planning Board Agenda and information for this meeting will be available on the website on the Friday before the meeting date.

5:30-6:30 p.m.

LEWISTON - Finance Committee meeting, in City Hall Administrator's Conference Room.





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Trip includes 9 days -14 meals - San Jose, Monteverde Cloud Forest, Lake Arsenal Cruise, Hanging Bride Walking Tour, Guided riverboat trip in a covered canoe in Arsenal, Arsenal Volcano, Guanacaste, coffee plantation and more.

WASHINGTON, D. C. - APRIL 7 - 13, 2022 Trip includes 6 nights -10 meals - Two guided tours of Washington D.C. memorials. Evening guided tour of Memorials and Monuments, Admission to New Bible Museum,

Tram ride through Arlington National Cemetery, Admission to George Washington's Mount Vernon and more.

#### **MACKINAC ISLAND** SEPTEMBER 10-18, 2022

Trip includes 8 nights - 14 meals - Guided tour of Mackinaw City, Guided Carriage Tour of Mackinac Island, Boat ride through Soo Locks and Sault Sainte Marie, Admission to Colonial Michillmackinac and so much more.

questions and For detailed information on any of these trips, please call Claire - 207-784-0302 H - 207-576-8604 C or Cindy - 207-345-9569

### **YARD SALE**

Saturday, August 28, 1297 Roosevelt Trail, Raymond. 9-3. Antique tins, postcards; bureau, room divider, speakers, office-style

desks; highchair, beach cabana, wooden truck, rocking horse; convection heater, electric plug-in heat panels, heavy duty jacks; walker; brickoven door.

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