

FREE • Vol. XXIII, No. 25

Thursday, September 30, 2021 - FREE

# Tutu time again for Dempsey Challenge rider



Dennis Richardson of Turner presents a pink tutu to Twin City Times/Gorham Weekly Publisher Laurie Steele as he challenges her to join a team of "pink tutu riders" that he hopes to bring together for the 2022 Dempsey Challenge. (Tsukroff photo)

### By Nathan Tsukroff

LEWISTON – It was tutu time again for Dennis Richardson of Turner as he rode for the seventh time in the Dempsey Challenge.

He's been riding his bike in the annual Challenge since Patrick Dempsey, a childhood friend, challenged him to stop smoking in 2014.

Richardson participated last year wearing a pink tutu to signify the fight against breast cancer, and a purple tutu to represent the fight against pancreatic cancer.

This year, he wore just the pink tutu,

with a pink tiara perched atop his bicycle helmet, and added pink pom-poms on his shoes, another gift from a friend and supporting fundraiser in New Jersey.

Despite his claims to "hate wearing the tutu," Richardson rides with a smile as he acknowledges the waves and smiles of passers-by, and the honks of drivers.

Dempsey helped start the Patrick Dempsey Center at Central Maine Medical Center, Lewiston, in response to his mother's bouts with cancer. The first Dempsey Challenge took place in 2009. Dempsey's mother died in March, 2014.

The Dempsey Center "has always been a positive spin on such a negative family situation, with cancer," Richardson said. "You know, they help everybody in the family, they heal them . . . not just the patient."

Dempsey and Richardson grew up as best friends in Turner. "from the time we were little kids, like four years old. And then I worked for his father in the family business, with Patrick," Richardson said. "So we've always been very close."

"In 2014, he challenged me to quit smoking," Richardson said. "It was a challenge to quit smoking, get healthy, (and) ride with him in the Dempsey Challenge." Richardson started training in March of that year, riding some 2,000 practice miles and dropping 44 pounds. He finished his 50-mile ride in the Challenge in 3 hours and 16 minutes, and raised a combined \$7500 with his 8-person team that year

Dempsey has returned to Lewis-



# Dempsey Challenge 2021 Special Section pages 6-12



Dennis Richardson of Turner warms up for the Dempsey Challenge in a recent ride through downtown Lewiston, sporting the pink tutu and tiara he committed to wear if he met his fundraising goal for this year. Setting an initial goal of \$10,000, Richardson had raised over \$14,000 by Sunday, the day of the ride. (Tsukroff photo)

ton-Auburn every fall for the annual Dempsey Challenge. The Dempsey Center said his presence is felt throughout the weekend as he participates in one of the cycle rides, along with his friends and family, greets the crowds and personally thanks top fundraisers for their amazing efforts.

In 2016, Patrick took on an advisory role, and in 2018 he became a Dempsey Center board member so he can continue to help support those impacted by cancer, according to the Dempsey Center.

The Dempsey Challenge went virtual in 2020 with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, and returned as an in-person event this year, along with the first Global Dempsey Challenge.

Presented by Amgen Oncology, the Dempsey Challenge is the primary fundraising event for the Dempsey Center. Poland Spring is a Centurion sponsor of the event, with Central Maine Healthcare, *See* Dempsey, *page 8* 

Healing Community

### Photo caption correction



Patrick Dempsey greets runner Jennifer Bilodeau at a previous Dempsey Challenge event. The Twin City Times/ Gorham Weekly incorrectly identified Bilodeau in a previous edition. (Photo courtesy of Dempsey Center)

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# **Newsmakers, Names & Faces** Educator seeks election to Lewiston school board

#### **From Paul Beauparlant**

Page 2

LEWISTON - Paul Beauparlant, an area classroom teacher for six decades, is a candidate for the Ward 7 representative position to the Lewiston School Board.

He has been serving as the Ward 7 committeeman since January of this year, when he was appointed by Mayor Mark Cayer to fill a vacancy. He was confirmed by the City Council in a unanimous vote.

Beauparlant, recently retired from teaching at Edward Little High School in Auburn, feels his classroom experiences and over 20 years as a department chair will benefit him on his committee work. "I feel this provides me with an excellent background on educational and personnel issues. Sometimes great ideas that are theoretically sound don't work in practice. I know my 43 years in teaching has helped me to form a strong skill-set for committee work", he wrote in his announcement.

Beauparlant asserts the Committee's immediate focus should be in supporting the children of Lewiston in getting the best education possible. Beauparlant feels "the impetus needs to continue to be 'Kids First'. Attention must be given to those who were deprived, overlooked or neglected due to the struggles of COVID in the schools". He believes "This election should not be focused on a single is-



Paul Beauparlant was appointed by Lewiston Mayor Mark Cayer in January to the Lewiston School Board from Ward 7, and is now running for election to that office. (Photo courtesy of Paul Beauparlant)

sue; instead, it must be on how to make the second largest school district the best that it can be for all of its citizens. Education and educators must be supported by the school administration and the citizens of Lewiston".

Beauparlant and his wife, Marilyn, have been residents of Lewiston and Ward 7 for over forty years. They have two adult sons who went through the Lewiston Public Schools have transitioned and into successful careers. Long active in community affairs, Beauparlant has served as President of the Farwell School PTO as well as president/ member of the Lewiston football, basketball, soccer and swimming booster clubs. He has coached youth sports teams for elementary intramurals, the YMCA, LAYSA (soccer), FLY football and the South Lewiston Little League. As a registered and certified basketball (IAABO) and softball (Federation, USA) official for over four decades, Beauparlant "... has learned that diffusing conflicts on the court and the diamond can be applied to real life settings as well".

Beauparlant said he will strive to respond to concerns of the Lewiston citizenry, regardless of where they reside or their position on issues. "If someone takes the time to contact me, I feel an obligation to reply to them in a timely manner."

He is running against Heather Benson.

### **Claxton earns perfect voting score**

#### From Maine Senate

AUGUSTA – Sen. Ned Claxton (D-Androscoggin) earned a perfect score from Democracy Maine's 2021 Legislative Scorecard for his voting record to clean up state government, get money out of politics and safeguard democracy.

Sen. Claxton was one of 15 members of the Maine Senate to earn a perfect score.

"Throughout my time in the Senate, I have prioritized legislation to ensure we have accessible and secure elections throughout our state for generations to come," said Sen. Claxton. "In Maine, with our town clerks working hard to ensure accurate vote counts, we have one of the highest voter turnout rates in the nation, and we ought to build on that. I will continue working toward growing the number vote.

of voters who participate in our elections, reducing the influence outside money thas in our campaigns, and the protecting the fundamental right every American citizen has to the ballot box. It At the end of the day, the more folks who participate in our elections, the better off we all are."

This session, Sen. Claxton supported legislation that was sponsored by Sen. Louie Luchini, D-Ellsworth, to ban corporate contributions to political candidates running for state office.

Sen. Claxton also supported legislation to fully implement rankedchoice voting, to open up Maine's primary system to unenrolled voters, to include racial impact statements as part of the legislative process, and other measures protecting the rights of Maine people to

Democracy Maine is a collaboration between three nonpartisan organizations - the League of Women Voters of Maine, Maine Citizens for Clean Elections and Maine Students Vote - that work together to lead Maine in advocating for voter rights, campaign finance reform, modern and secure elections, government ethics, and voter education and engagement. The coalition scored

nine initiatives considered by the 130th Maine Legislature.

Democracy Maine's 2021 Legislative Scorecard can be viewed at democracymaine.org/2021scorecard.

Sen. Ned Claxton (D-Androscoggin) represents Maine Senate District 20, which includes Auburn, Mechanic Falls, Minot, New Gloucester, and Poland.

# Entertainment to surely make you smile!

### From L/A Sr. College

LEWISTON - On Oct. 17 at 5 PM on Zoom! L/A Senior College is excited to welcome a local Mainer whose fame has spread throughout the country and beyond.

Scott Moreau was born at the old Bath Memorial Hospital, raised in Litchfield on Sand Pond and graduated from Winthrop High School in 1997. He made his professional stage debut at Maine State Music Theatre in Brunswick in 1999 and received a Bachelor Of Fine Arts degree in Music Theatre from Illinois Wesleyan University in 2001. In a career spanning 22 years, Scott has performed in over 300 American cities in 47

states, as well as in Tokyo, Osaka, Quebec City, Toronto and Montreal. He is most known for his role as Johnny Cash on the 1st National Broadway tour of Million Dollar Quartet, a role that he has performed over 1,000 times including at Maine State, Merrill Auditorium, The Cross Insurance Center in Bangor and the Regional Premiere at the Ogunquit Playhouse in 2015.

Scott's original tributes to Johnny Cash have been performed to sold out audiences from Las Vegas to New York City. He is proud to have recorded his tribute album, Home Of The Blues, at Sun Studio in Memphis, TN, standing in the very same spot that Johnny, Elvis, Roy Orbison, Carl Perkins, Conway Twitty and Howlin' Wolf once stood. He lives in The Bronx with his new wife Sonia and their two cats Mo and Timmy. Each and every performance is dedicated to his parents Leonard and Donna. More information can be found at www. scottmoreau.com.

A perfect presentation for a Sunday evening cocktail hour - Scott will tell us about his career and treat us to some of his favorite musical numbers. Food for Thought is free and open to the public.

Email laseniorcollege@gmail.com to sign up by noon on Oct. 16. Don't forget to mention which FFT program you wish to see and you will receive a link the morning of the 17th.

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# **CCFC** celebrates 20 years of investment in Maine

### From CCFC

SOUTH PARIS/ **LEWISTON - Community** Concepts Finance Corporation (CCFC), a non-profit mission lender with offices in South Paris and Lewiston, celebrated its 20th anniversary of incorporation last week.

Over the past two decades, CCFC invested \$49,186,453 into the communities of Western and Central Maine and provided thousands of hours of technical assistance to hundreds of business owners, first-time homebuyers, and those seeking financial coaching during that time.

CCFC services are tailored to Maine's small businesses and prospective homebuyers, especially when they can't qualify for financing through traditional banks. Access to financing is paired with expert advice and counseling for businesses, homebuyers, individuals, and families. CCFC also provides a wide array of economic development services for the County of Oxford and Town of Thomaston.

"Many businesses exist today that wouldn't otherwise, because CCFC believed in them, and invested in them, before anyone else would," said Nate Libby, President of Community Concepts Finance Corporation. "That means more opportunity. economic more jobs, better incomes, and a higher quality of life for everyone. It's our hope that CCFC will continue to grow its impact over the next twenty years."

"Congratulations to Community Concepts Finance Corporation for 20 years of investing in the people of Maine. CCFC is an economic engine in western Maine that drives business and employment opportunities as well as homeownership opportunities with friendly and knowledgeable staff who are there every step of the way," said Shawn Yardley, Chief Executive Officer of Community Concepts.

"As a commercial lender, I've personally witnessed the vital role CCFC plays within our small business community here in Maine," said Travis Frautten, Board Chair of CCFC and VP-Commercial Loan Officer at Bank of New Hampshire. "Equally as important are the financial assistance programs CCFC provides to individuals and families that may otherwise not exist in the communities it serves. On behalf of our board, I wish the staff the very best on this special occasion.

CCFC clients and partners offered these comments in commemoration of the organization's 20th anniversary:

'We started our small business journey planning three years ago," said Tim and Bobbi Nugent, owners of Little Brick Pub in Mechanic Falls. "During that process and still today, CCFC has been there every step of the way to offer us their guidance, advice, assistance, and support."

"Our experience with Community Concepts Finance Corporation has been remarkable!" said Ethan & Teresa Houle. Owners of 207 Small Engine Repair

in Arundel. "Meeting with them was a game changer. We have grown out of 2 rental spaces and we are on track to buy our own space. CCFC has a terrific team of personable, knowledgeable people who genuinely want to help businesses thrive. We are grateful to be associated with such a dynamic group!'

"CCFC is a core partner for us on small business, entrepreneurship, and development," business said George O'Keefe, Economic Development Director for the Town of Rumford. "CCFC brings us the ability to provide high level technical expertise on the questions that entrepreneurs have. It is really important for us to have partners like CCFC in order to revitalize Maine's downtowns."

"I am so happy that CCFC was offering to help finance the renovation of our center, and that the Town of Rumford was proactive in helping the small downtown," businesses said Gary Dolloff. Executive Director of the Greater

Rumford Community Center. "It was very helpful to the GRCC and has allowed us to continue to strive for excellence. Thanks to Community Concepts for providing this opportunity."

"From our early work together on tourism business and workforce development to our current collaboration to expand broadband access and adoption in rural communities, CCFC staff have always stood out as reliable, insightful, and motivated partners, said Mike Wilson, Senior Program Director for the Northern Forest Center. Our organization works with scores of groups across a four-state region, and we recognize CCFC as a critical partner in serving businesses and communities in Oxford County. I know lot of others feel the same way."

A key to CCFC's success is pairing its lending products like business loans and residential mortgages with technical skills training for clients specifically catered to their individual needs. All business loan clients are matched with a Business Advisor who can draw on years of experience and local expertise to provide whatever technical assistance might be needed to see the venture succeed. Residential loan clients and the general public can access Homebuyer Education courses and pre-purchase counseling for first-time homebuyers, so that they are aware of all the options, and choose a housing situation that both fits their budget and help grow their household net worth over time. CCFC also provides financial capability counseling, eviction prevention and foreclosure prevention counseling.

**Community Concepts** Finance Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of Community Concepts, Inc., provides home and business loans along with financial coaching and homebuyer education to help people and businesses realize their financial goals. Learn more by visiting www.ccfcmaine.org or contacting (207) 333-6419.

# Auburn Art Club meets Oct. 4

Auburn - The Auburn Art Club will meet at 2 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 4, at the Park Avenue Methodist Church in Auburn.

The guest speaker will be Ulla Hansen, who lives in the town of Poland and is a member of the Western Maine Art Group. She was born in Denmark and came to the United States to attend college.

She graduated from Loma Linda University in California with a Master's Degree in public health

and spent many years working at the Poland Spring Health Institute.

Ulla grew up watching her father paint. She developed a love of painting later in life after having taken many classes from Barbara Traficonte of Norway and Sissy Ventrone of Auburn.

Her favorite paintings are from Acadia National Park which inspires her to paint bridges and outdoor landscapes.

All members are welcome to attend.

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



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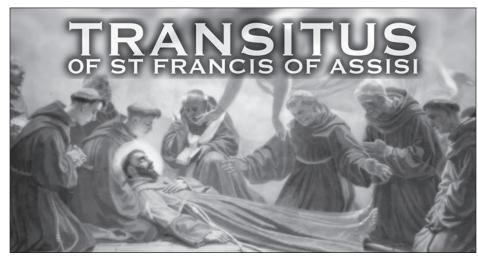
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# **Transitus Services Set for Belfast and Lewiston**



#### **From Portland Diocese**

Page 4

BELFAST - From the earliest days of the Franciscan Order, the followers of St. Francis of Assisi have gathered on the anniversa-

ry of his death to celebrate his Transitus (passage from earthly life into everlasting life).

Franciscans ritually remember the passing of St. Francis as a reminder to renew our own commitment to follow Christ in the way of the poor man of Assisi.

The Transitus service is a beautiful and inspiring commemoration of his death that was handed

down by one of his brother friars, Brother Bonaventure, who witnessed his death in 1226. To commemorate that anniversary and the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi, which is on October 4, St. Francis of Assisi Church in Belfast and Holy Family Church in Lewiston will hold special events during that week. Sunday, Oct. 3

Lewiston

Prince of Peace Parish will host a Transitus service following the 5 p.m. Mass at Holy Family Church, located on 607 Sabattus Street. The evening service will celebrate the light which St. Francis was to the world. It is not only a memorial, but a recognition

of his life and spirit that remains in our midst today and provides an opportunity for those gathered to consider how we, too, can be a light for our world and all creation. Attending the service will be members from the Franciscan family's First Order (priests and lay brothers) and Third Order (religious and lay men and women who try to emulate St. Francis' spirit by performing works of teaching, charity, and social service).

#### Saturday, Oct. 2, and Sunday, Oct. 3 Belfast

St. Francis of Assisi Church, located on 81 Court Street, will celebrate its patron saint with a weekend of activities. On Saturday, October 2, a Mass for St. Francis will be held at 4 p.m., followed by a Transitus service at 5 p.m. After the service, all are welcome to stay and watch a short movie on the life and impact of St. Francis of Assisi and his special guidance in today's world. Pizza and beverages will be provided at 5:30 p.m. On Sunday, October 3, in addition to a morning Mass at 8:30 a.m., Fr. Divine Fossoh will host a Blessing of the Animals service outside of the church at 2:30 p.m. in honor of St. Francis' love of all of God's creatures. All pets are welcome to be blessed and gently sprinkled with holy water.

# Shelter hosts pet portrait fundraiser

### From GAHS

LEWISTON, MAINE - The Greater Androscoggin Humane Society is hosting a "Practically Purrfect Pet Portraits" fundraiser.

funds All raised during this whimsical fundraiser will go towards the purchase of a new industrial washing machine, dryer and generator for the precious companion. shelter.

For \$25 per pet, a pet's photo will be randomly assigned one of more than 100 volunteer artists. Ranging from professional artists to local students (or maybe even a GAHS staff member or volunteer!); pet owners will have their very own practically purrfect artistic rendering of your

To sign up for the fundraiser, submit payment at http://bitly.ws/gwIF

Once payment has been made, post a pet photo to the event's Facebook page at http://bitly.ws/ gwIH.

If someone doesn't have access to Facebook, a photo can be emailed to giving@gahumane.org.

The event formally kicked off on Monday.

Once the picture has been posted to the event's Facebook page, per owners can expect a digital copy of the portrait to be posted within 2 weeks. Depending on the artist, physical copies may also be available for pick-up at the shelter. The Greater Andro-

scoggin Humane Society

provides a safe haven for over 3,000 sick, homeless. needy and abused animals in the greater Androscoggin area per year. The primary support for the Shelter comes from fundraising events and donations of caring citizens.

The Humane Society is located at 55 Strawberry Avenue in Lewiston.

interest-Anyone

ed in volunteering as an artist, please call the shelter at 783-2311 or email giving@gahumane. org

Anyone interested in adopting an animal should visit available pets on their website at www.Saving-PetsInMaine.org.

Pet lovers can also join them on www.facebook/GAHumane.

# **'Race to the Stage 5K' rescheduled**

#### From CLT

Auburn - The Lewiston/Auburn Community Little Theatre (CLT) has decided to postpone their inaugural "Race to the Stage 5K" until Saturday, April 30, 2022. The event had been originally scheduled for October 2, 2021.

Organizers believe rescheduling that the

event will give community partners more time to plan and give friends, family, and followers more time to prepare and register.

Registration for the event is open now through April 28, 2022 and available at www.laclt.com. Registration starts at \$10 for kids and \$15 for adults. 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.

## Letter to the Editor **The Moment is Now**

Nationwide we finally have an opportunity to reduce greenhouse gas emissions significantly. Congress is considering a Clean Electricity Payment Program (CEPP) to help ensure that 80 percent of the electricity that's produced in the US by 2030 comes from clean sources, this is key to meeting the commitment we made under the Paris Climate

ment would be our fair share toward helping the world avoid the worst effects of climate change. A CEPP would also have public health benefits since ME is the tailpipe of the nation. Other states would be emitting less particulate matter that ends up in our state and is a major cause of medical problems affecting our citizens.

Congress must enact Agreement. This commit- a clean energy incentive program this fall. A shift to clean energy would create jobs right here in ME. Representative Jared Golden and the rest of ME's congressional delegation will play a pivotal role in determining our climate future, and they should support a CEPP and fund the climate provisions in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Plan and the reconciliation package.

Thank you, Nancy L Gilbert **Durham**, ME

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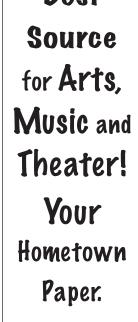




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# MCP returns to the graveyard with 'Continuing Tales from Spoon River'

#### From MCP

AUBURN - The Monmouth Community Players (MCP) presents its second annual socially-distanced Fall production, 'Continuing Tales From Spoon River', in October.

The script for the show is adapted from the Spoon River Anthology by Edgar Lee Masters.

In his anthology, Masters imagines what the dead of Spoon River might say, if only they could speak. MCP's adaptation of Master's anthology pieces together some of these tales from beyond in an intriguing stroll through the cemetery of Spoon River.

The show is directed by Danny Gay, assisted by Ginger Smith, and publicity is being handled by Josie French.

This year's cast of spectres includes Tim Wooten, Adam Dawes, Aleah Sebrey, Amy Griswold, Andy Tolman, Charlotte Morin, Debby Mansur, Ken Mansur, Emily Carlton, Jane Mitchell, Jeff Fairfield, Jocelyn Curtis, Melissa Record, Nancy Keneally, Ray Fletcher and Tony Morin.

Music for the event will be performed by Neil James and Shane Stevens.

Performances will be Oct. 15-17 in Auburn along the historic Riverwalk behind Gritty's, and October 22-24 in the Monmouth Cemetery next to Cumston Hall. Show times are 6:308:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and 5:30-7:30 p.m. both Sundays.

Tickets will be by donation only.

Thdespite its ghostly nature, the show is appropriate for all ages, though some content is a bit dark.

Due to COVID 19, the shows be presented outdoors for the safety of all involved.

For more information on this show and other upcoming auditions and performances, please visit our website at www.monmouthcommunityplayers. org. FMI, please contact our box office by email at mcpboxoffice@gmail.com or leave a message at 207-370-9566. We hope that you will join us for this unique experience!

Melissa Record is one of the spirit guides in the upcoming production of "Continuing Tales From Spoon River" by the Monmouth Community Players. (Photo courtesy of MCP)



## **Pop-in to the Lewiston Library**

### From LPL

LEWISTON - The Lewiston Public Library will be offering a free popcorn-making demonstration to anyone who drops in from 4-6 p.m. on Oct. 19, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. on Nov. 17, and 4- p.m. on Dec. 16.

There is no set time to join and it takes less than 15 minutes from start to finish. Any popcorn made can be taken home by those who participate. Learn a little about the science of popcorn while combining two ingredients over heat to make a delicious treat which saves money over time and offers more control over the calories and even flavors to suit individual preferences.

The library will also have take and make kits for those would like to try it at home. Between Oct. 18 and Dec. 18, community members may stop by the Library to pick-up a take and make popcorn kit. Written instructions will be provided as well as a link to an online video tutorial.

Admission is free and no reservations are required. The Lewiston Public Library is located downtown at 200 Lisbon Street at the corner of Pine Street. More information on this program is available by contacting the Lewiston Public Library at 513-3135 or LPLReference@lewistonmaine.gov.

> Send all items for Names and Faces to the Editor. Deadline is Friday by five.

# Program on living a life less wasteful

### From LPL

LEWISTON - The Lewiston Public Library is hosting Zero Waste Maine for a virtual program on living a life less wasteful, on Monday, Oct. 25.

This free, public program will start at 5:30 p.m. over Zoom and be simultaneously livestreamed to the Library's Facebook page.

Julie Olson, co-founder of Zero Waste Maine, will give a virtual presentation about how she reduced her household's trash by more than 85%, along with a variety of practical skills and strategies viewers can use to reduce their own waste.

Julie Olson is a librarian and lifelong learner who shares her suburban home with her husband, son, and beloved rescue pets. A dedicated maker and a supporter of eating and shopping locally, Julie loves finding strategies and resources that support zero waste and spreading the word to others. Admission is free. Registration is required for those participating through Zoom.

Living a Life Less Wasteful is a virtual program co-sponsored by the Lewiston Public Library and Zero Waste Maine.

The Lewiston Public Library is located downtown at 200 Lisbon Street at the corner of Pine Street.

More information on this program is available by contacting the Lewiston Public Library at LPLReference@lewistonmaine.gov or 513-3135.



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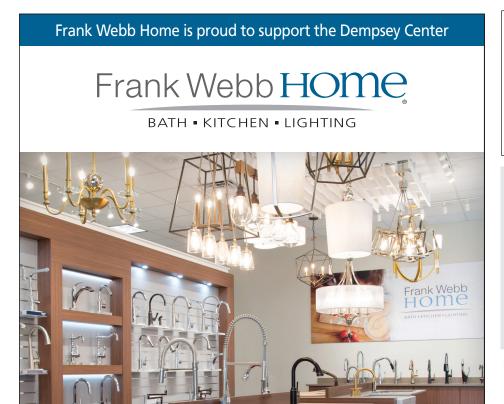
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Runners and walkers helped raise money for the Dempsey Centers in Lewiston and South Portland in the Dempsey Challenge 2021 last weekend in Lewiston. Other walkers and runners around the world participated in the first Global Dempsey Challenge fundraiser for the Dempsey Center. The Dempsey Center provides support for cancer survivors and their families. (Roxann McDonough photographs)



Send all items for Names & Faces to the Editor. Deadline is Friday by five.



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Patrick Dempsey speaks to the crowd at the Dempsey Challenge awards ceremony on Saturday, after the morning walking and running events at Simard-Payne Park in Lewiston. The Dempsey Centers in Lewiston and South Portland provide support for cancer survivors and their families. (Roxann McDonough photographs)



Send all items for Names and Faces to the Editor. Deadline is Friday by five.



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### Page 8

#### Dempsey Continued from page 1

Specialized, IDEXX, 107.5 Frank FM, Zwift, and 99.9 The Wolf as Champion sponsors.

Registration for the Dempsey Challenge 2021 opened in April and offered a local in-person

event in Lewiston - with an emphasis on implementing industry-leading COVID-19 safety protocols – and a global option, allowing participants to complete the Challenge, wherever they are in the world.

Richardson and his



Dennis Richardson of Turner warms up for the Dempsey Challenge in a recent ride through downtown Lewiston, sporting the pink tutu and tiara he committed to wear if he met his fundraising goal for this year. Setting an initial goal of \$10,000, Richardson had raised over \$14,000 by Sunday, the day of the ride. (Tsukroff photo)

wife, Lori, reached their 2020 fundraising goal with a final donation from Twin City Times/Gorham Weekly publisher Laurie Steele, and this year he presented Steele with a pink tutu of her own, challenging her to ride with him next year as part of a group of "pink tutu riders".

Steele said she hasn't ridden a bicycle since childhood, as she accepted the challenge.

The pandemic dampened the fundraising abilities for Richardson this year, so he set an original goal of just \$10,000 for this year's Challenge. He surpassed that goal and was over \$14,000 in his fundraising efforts just days before riding in the Challenge on Sunday.

After raising about \$1.2M each year the past couple of years, the Dempsey Challenge set a lofty goal of \$1.5 Million for this year. "We learned so much over the course of the last year," Deneka Deletetsky, Event Manager, said. "And what stands out most is that the power of a community of passionate, dedicated, fearless folks who work tirelessly to help ease someone's cancer journey is unstoppable.'

Participants from 45 different countries took part in the 2020 Dempsey Challenge, "So, we really, really are a new, refreshed Dempsey Challenge!" she said. "We're going with it as the Global Dempsey Challenge."

"For the first time there's no barrier to participate. People can choose to participate however they feel comfortable whether they want to be with us here, locally, in our local Challenge right here in Lewiston/Auburn, or if they want to be a global participant. They can participant virtually from wherever they are in the world," Deletetsky said.

By the Challenge weekend, fundraising was at \$1,351,201 for 2021.

The top fundraisers as of Sunday were Fran Stanhope at \$23,658, "Top Dollar" Dave Gervais at \$18,681, Serena Panzeri at \$18,180, Ethan Helie at \$17,255, Sheena Wenz at \$16,900. Shawn Cox at \$16,415, Kathy Dettmann at \$16,393, Richardson at \$14,150, Carmella Petitt at \$12,380 and Don Oakes at \$11,650. The Concentra team

had raised \$100,192, followed by the Fran's Army team at \$83,418.

The presenting sponsor of the Dempsey Challenge/Global Dempsey



**Dennis Richardson of Turn**er added pink pom-poms to his Dempsey Challenge garb, a gift from a fundraising friend in New Jersey, for this year's ride. (Tsukroff photo)

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Laurie Steele (right), Publisher of the Twin City Times and Gorham Weekly, presents a donation to Dennis Richardson of Turner to help him in raising more than \$14,000 to benefit the Dempsey Centers in Lewiston and South Portland (Tsukroff photo)

of the Dempsey Challenge, You rock!





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Congratulations to all of the participants of the Dempsey Challenge 2021!







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Thursday, September 30, 2021







Patrick Dempsey speaks to the crowd at the Dempsey Challenge awards ceremony on Saturday, after the morning walking and running events at Simard-Payne Park in Lewiston. The Dempsey Centers in Lewiston and South Portland provide support for cancer survivors and their families. (Roxann McDonough photographs)













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Runners and walkers helped raise money for the Dempsey Centers in Lewiston and South Portland in the Dempsey Challenge 2021 last weekend in Lewiston. Other walkers and runners around the world participated in the first Global Dempsey Challenge fundraiser for the Dempsey Center. The Dempsey Center provides support for cancer survivors and their families. (Roxann McDonough photographs)













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### Thursday, September 30, 2021

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Patrick Dempsey speaks to the crowd at the Dempsey Challenge awards ceremony on Saturday, after the morning walking and running events at Simard-Payne Park in Lewiston. The Dempsey Centers in Lewiston and South Portland provide support for cancer survivors and their families. (Roxann McDonough photographs)



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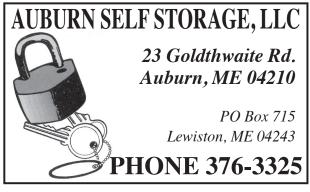
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# **CONTACT US TODAY FOR POSSIBLE OPENINGS** FOR YOUR AD IN OUR BUSINESS DIRECTORY!

### 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.

### WEDNESDAYS **Through December** 3:45-5:15 p.m.

LEWISTON - Make Art with ArtVan! Every Wednesday, Sept. 15-Dec.22, 3:45-5:15 p.m. This program is in Kennedy Park (near the playground). ArtVan will be providing a creative art project for kids ages 5-14 (ages 5-8 must be accompanied by an adult). No sign up needed and all materials provided. This program is weather permitting. Questions? Call 207-513-3133 or email LPLKids@LeiwstonMaine.gov.



Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

### **MONDAY thru** THURSDAY While school is in session

2-6 p.m. LEWISTON - From Lewiston Public Library - virtual Homework Help in the Teen Room. Students in grades 7-12 can meet virtually with Bates tutors via Zoom from Monday-Thursday while school is in session. Library Chromebooks are available for use in the Teen Room and library staff are there to help students connect.

### THURSDAY Sept. 30 10-11 a.m.

GORHAM - Baxter Memorial Library - Book "The Vanishing Club: Half". Join us at 10 a.m. to discuss The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett on the lawn in good weather, in poor weather in our meeting rooms if COVID restrictions allow, or via Zoom - email Nissa at nflanagan@gorham.me.us to receive the link.

### 1-6 p.m.

GORHAM - Q Memorial Blood Drive at Cressey United Methodist Church 1-6 p.m, as part of the Q Memorial Scholarship fundraising events. 5-8 p.m.

casset Art Walk.

**Oct.** 1 9 a.m.

GORHAM - Q Memorial Golf Tournament at Gorham Country Club; 9 a.m. Shotgun Start, as part of the Q Memorial Scholarship fundraising events.

#### SATURDAY **Oct. 2**

9 a.m.-2 p.m. AUBURN - West Auburn Church - 10th Annual Fall Vendor Craft Fair.



Noon-6 p.m. GORHAM - Q Memorial Block Party at Junction Bowl on Railroad Ave. in Gorham, as part of the Q Memorial Scholarship fundraising events.

### FRIDAY/SATUR-DAY Oct. 1 & 2

NEW GLOUCES-TER - SAVE THE DATE for the upcoming book sales at the New Gloucester Library - First Dibs for Kids on Friday Oct. 1, and 2nd Book Sale on Saturday, Oct. 2, sponsored by the Friends of the New Gloucester Library.

### SUNDAY **Oct. 3**

BRUNSWICK - Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bath/Brunswick is conducting a Run for Kids 5k Race/Walk. The race will start at 10 a.m. at Flight Deck Brewing, 11 Atlantic Ave, Brunswick, and walkers are welcome. Registra-

vidually timed.

5 p.m. LEWISTON - Prince of Peace Parish will host a Transitus service following the 5 p.m. Mass at Holy Family Church, located on 607 Sabattus Street.

#### MONDAY Oct. 4

6-7 p.m. GORHAM - Planning Board Ordinance Committee Workshop in Conference Room A.

7 p.m. GORHAM - Planning Board meeting in council chambers.

TUESDAY Oct. 5 10-10:30 a.m. GORHAM - at Baxter Memorial Library - Oc-



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In the event of inclement weather program will be cancelled.

### 10-11 a.m.

GORHAM - at Baxter Memorial Library Book Club: The Vanishing Half

Join us at 10:00am to discuss The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett on the lawn in good weather, in poor weather in our meeting rooms if COVID restrictions allow, or via Zoom - email Nissa to receive the link.

We will us these first meetings to help decide what the next books should be!

> Open to the public 5:30 p.m. **AUBURN**

Age-Friendly Committee meeting.

6 p.m. LEWISTON - City Council meeting at City Hall 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 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.

### 6:30 p.m.

GORHAM - Regular Town Council meeting in council chambers.

#### WEDNESDAY Oct. 6 9:30-10 a.m.

GORHAM - at Baxter Memorial Library - October Story Adventures (birth-3yrs)

Join Ms. Dani for a socially-distanced story adventure on the lawn. She will present books, finger-plays, movement activities, and songs. Bring a blanket to sit on in case the lawn is damp. Masks recommended when social distancing isn't possible. Ages birth-3yrs

In the event of inclement weather program will be cancelled.

6 p.m.

AUBURN - School Committee meeting.



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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.

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

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# VOTE NO ON QUESTION 1

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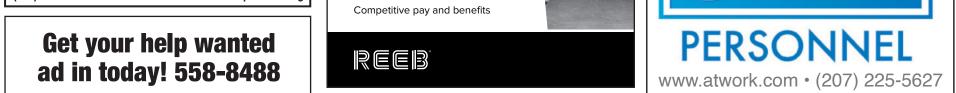
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