

2021 Blue Mass featured heroes, dignitaries Governors Mills and LePage and Senator Collins in attendance



Ladder trucks from local fire departments displayed an American flag outside the Basilica of Saints Peter & Paul in Lewiston during the Blue Mass on Sunday, Sept. 19. (Photo courtesy of Portland Diocese)

From Portland Diocese

LEWISTON - A day of gratitude on Sunday, Sept. 19, honoring the fallen, and praying for the safety of heroes among us began with the sound of marching heels walking down the main aisle of the Basilica of Saints Peter & Paul.

Visible on the Bartlett Street side of the basilica were ladder trucks from the Lisbon and Lewiston Fire Departments displaying a massive American flag high

in the air as a multi-jurisdictional honor guard comprised of members of four different public safety departments solemnly posted the colors in front of the sanctuary.

An assembly of hundreds stood in silence, with the pews full of either first responders or those wishing to thank them.

Moments later, Bishop Robert Deeley, priests, and deacons processed in, starting the 2021 Blue Mass venerable tradition in the Diocese of Portland that never loses its luster or lacks in meaning.

The Blue Mass is named for the blue uniforms that firefighters, law enforcement and other first responders wear. It dates back to 1934 and recognizes the dedication and self-sacrifice of all first responders.

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

"It is a good thing that brings us together this morning. We are here to perform an act of duty. We are here to remember," the bishop told the large assembly. "We gather in thanks for the generosity of those who were the first responders, those who rushed into falling buildings to try to save those who were trying to get out, those who struggled to get the wounded to hospitals despite the difficulties, those who protected the citizens of the country when no one was sure what was happening. We must always remember that gratitude."

The Blue Mass promotes a greater awareness of the lives of those who serve us so faithfully. It acknowledges that our lives are a gift from God, given to us that we might in turn give our lives in service to Him and to others. This truth is one virtually ingrained into the lives of police, fire, and rescue personnel who, day in and day out, put their lives on the line for the common good.

"Our first responders, police, firefighters, disaster personnel, game war-

See Blue Mass, page 9

Senior Center Open House on Oct. 18

From LRSC

LITTLE FALLS – Lakes Region Senior Center at 40 Acorn Street, Little Falls, is hosting an Open House on Monday, Oct. 18, from 10 a.m.-noon.

At 10 a.m., visitors are invited to stop by and enjoy some goodies and meet some of the Board and members.

At 11 a.m., Red Gallagher, who is well known in this area, will perform "oldies".

There will be a free raffle and door prizes.

The Senior Center is open from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. every day for coffee/tea and socialization and there are usually activities. Longer hours can be arranged.

The center is looking for Cribbage players, Mahjong players, card players, craft participants, Memoir group participants and much more.

The Senior Center has speakers and occasional field trips.

There is a calendar available with all the monthly events.

Little Falls is a census-designated district that straddles the Presumpscot River, the townline between Gorham and Windham. It was originally a mill community with businesses and shops on Route 202, but has now become mostly housing.

Maine Collecting Unwanted Pesticides

From ME DACF

AUGUSTA - The Obsolete Pesticide Collection Program protects Maine's natural resources and prevents agriculture pollution by promoting the safe and proper disposal of outdated, unused, or unwanted pesticides.

The program is made possible by the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry's Board of Pesticides Control (BPC) and the Maine Department of Environmental Protection.

The program is open to homeowners and family-owned farms, who are

encouraged to bring unwanted pesticides - including herbicides, insecticides, rodenticides, fungicides, and similar products used in agricultural production or around the home, to collection sites in Presque Isle, Bangor, Augusta, and Portland.

Pre-registration is required by October 8 to participate. Drop-ins are not permitted.

Drop-off locations will be announced soon.

Details including registering and supplying the obsolete pesticides inventory form, a list of banned and unusable products, storage and transportation guide-

lines, other disposal options are found on the BPC website at www.thinkfirstspray-last.org.

Removal of obsolete and unwanted pesticides is important for protecting the public, wildlife, and environmental health. Improper pesticide handling and disposal, such as placing it in the trash or pouring it down the drain, can contaminate land and water resources.

The Maine Obsolete Pesticide Collection Program ensures that they are handled properly. Since 1982, the program has prevented more than 250,000 lbs. of pesticides from entering the waste stream.

Collected pesticides are taken to licensed, out-of-state disposal facilities by the federal Environmental Protection Agency.

Learn more on www.thinkfirstspray-last.org or by visiting <http://bitly.ws/gWHO>

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Sheriff's Deputy Hit and Killed by Driver in Trenton

From BCM

TRENTON - Deputy Luke Gross, an 18-year veteran of the Hancock County Sheriff's Department, died after being struck by a driver while responding to a call in Trenton Thursday morning last week.

Deputy Gross was assisting with a vehicle that went off the road on Route 3 when he was hit around 4:00 a.m. Maine has a "Move Over Law" that requires motorists to move over or slow down when approaching stopped emergency and public service vehicles on the side of the road.

"We are very troubled by this loss of a human life and saddened by the number of people being killed and harmed by unsafe passes this year," said Lauri Boxer-Macomber, a board member for the Bicycle Coalition of Maine and an attorney at Kelly, Rimmel & Zimmerman who practices bicycle and pedestrian law. "There is a significant correlation between this type of crash and many crashes in Maine involving pedestrians and bicyclists. This is why it is so important that all road users recognize the importance of following all of Maine's safe passing

laws."

The BCM—which testified in 2019 in favor of LD 546, the bill that led to the strengthening of Maine's Move Over Passing Law—mourns alongside Deputy Gross' family and community, and encourages law enforcement to carefully investigate and examine the roadway conditions, history of crashes at this location, driver behavior, and any additional contributing factors while they continue to investigate the incident.

Hundreds of officers participated in a procession from Ellsworth to the State Medical Examiner's

Office, and eventually a funeral home in Bucksport, in honor of Deputy Gross. Gov. Janet Mills directed flags across the state to be lowered to half-staff, and expressed her sympathies in a public statement.

"Today, we mourn the loss of Deputy Gross, a member of Maine's law enforcement community killed in the line of duty," Gov. Mills said. "My heart goes out to his friends, family, and fellow officers."

Deputy Gross will be remembered for his dedicated commitment to his duties—including his work at local schools as

a DARE officer and advocate against drunk and distracted driving—and his willingness to always help those in need, friends say. He was also a husband of 15 years and a father of two.

According to the BCM, this is the fifteenth pedestrian fatality in Maine this year, the second in less than a week, and the fourth in the last month. Another pedestrian was also critically injured after being hit by a motorcycle driver in Auburn Thursday evening. Twelve pedestrians were killed on Maine roadways in all of 2020.

Deputy Gross is the

87th law enforcement officer killed in the line of duty since the early 1800s, and the first since April 2019.

The Bicycle Coalition of Maine is the statewide voice of cyclists and pedestrians. Since 1992, the BCM has led the effort to make Maine better for bicycling and walking by protecting the rights and safety of cyclists and pedestrians through education, advocacy, legislation, and encouragement. We support biking and walking for health, transportation, and recreation. For more information, visit bike-maine.org.

Guest Essay

The future of home ownership



Bruce Bickford (R-Auburn) represents the City of Auburn in the Maine House of Representatives. (Photo courtesy of Bruce Bickford)

From Rep. Bickford

The concept of home ownership has long been synonymous with prosperity and the achievement of the American Dream. Owning

a home represents financial success, economic stability, as well as the opportunity to contribute to the community.

However, this sought-after milestone could be moved just out of reach

for the average American, if politicians and other Washington insiders pass an unnecessary tax hike.

Congress is now considering two bills (H.R. 1068 & S.1598) to create a new small business investment tax, an idea supported by progressive Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio Cortez (D-NY) and Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT). This tax targets carried interest, which is a return on the investments used to fund residential and commercial real estate construction. These burdensome tax increases would drive up the costs of doing business for small real estate developers and construction firms seeking to build new homes and properties in Maine and across the country.

As the member of the Maine House of Representatives and having served many years on the Taxation Committee. I have watched what happened when we instituted the largest reduction

of the income tax in Maine's history. It reduced the burden on many residents while seeing growth in revenue. The simple message to me was, if you leave money in the hands of those who earned it, they will put it to work.

The pandemic causes many ripple effects in our economy, I positive seems to be in real estate. People couldn't travel or go out to eat, so they invited in their homes by upgrading or doing renovations and improvements. First-time homebuyers, also started to realize the dream of home ownership as they shifted from smaller rentals into their own places.

There is another side to this coin, in a time when the nation's housing availability and affordability crisis is already expected to worsen significantly following the COVID-19 pandemic, leaders in Washington should be focused on creating jobs and

rebuilding our economy, not pushing investment-killing tax hikes that will only put homeownership even more out of the reach of the average Mainer.

Affordable housing is also an important factor to consider. Here in southern Maine we have welcomed many immigrants, a nationwide study conducted earlier this year by the National Association of Realtors, found that minority homeownership already lags behind the rate for whites with Black home buyers even less prevalent here than in most other parts of the country. Taxing investments that fund housing construction will unquestionably and disproportionately affect minority and underserved communities, that often struggle to build affordable housing for all their residents.

Our state's workers have felt the continued financial burden and strain of the pandemic, with looming

uncertain as to when we will emerge from this situation entirely. This is why it is so disappointing to see national elected officials support a tax that would only further exacerbate this problem.

In addition, a recent report conducted by U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Center for Capital Markets Competitiveness's (CCMC), concluded that this proposed tax increase could result in the loss of up to 4.9 million jobs nationwide, with tax revenues potentially dropping by up to \$96 billion annually, in the long run.

Our own Congressman Jared Golden (D-ME) has served as vocal proponents of policies and programs that invest in our state's communities through housing construction and affordable living for their constituents. That is why it is imperative that he work alongside his fellow lawmakers in Congress to ensure that such a reckless and short-sighted business investment tax proposal is not included as part of the upcoming \$3.5 billion budget proposal.

I had the honor of serving with then state representative, now Congressman Golden. I found him to be a good colleague known for his common-sense and bipartisan approach, something he exhibits still on Capitol Hill. So, when it comes to preserving the future of homeownership for the next generation of Mainers, I urge him to and his colleagues to put partisan politics aside and focus on rebuilding our economy by opposing this new small business investment tax.

Bruce Bickford
(R-Auburn), Maine House of Representatives

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces Film Series at Railroad Square Cinema

From MFC

WATERVILLE, Maine - The Maine Film Center launched a film series this week called "(some of) The Best of Wes (so far)".

The series is featuring films directed by Wes Anderson, in anticipation of his upcoming feature release, "The French Dispatch."

The screenings take place every Monday at 7 p.m. through Nov. 1. Tickets are available at the Railroad Square Cinema box office or at Maine-FilmCenter.org.

The series began this week with "Bottle Rocket" (1996). Wes Anderson's feature debut stars Luke and Owen Wilson as two best friends who have gone on the lam after robbing a small bookstore.

Monday, Oct. 11

7 p.m. | "The Royal Tenenbaums" (2001). The aging and absent patriarch of the Tenenbaums (played by Gene Hackman), a

wealthy, eccentric family in upper class New York City, returns to the family faking an illness with the intent of getting closer to his now-adult children. Starring Ben Stiller, Gwyneth Paltrow, Billy Murray, Danny Glover, Angelica Huston, Owen Wilson, and Luke Wilson.

Monday, Oct. 18

7 p.m. | "The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou" (2004)

Wes Anderson's fourth feature stars Bill Murray as an eccentric oceanographer who sets out to exact revenge on the elusive "jaguar shark" that ate a member of his crew. Team Zissou, as the crew is called, is star-studded with Anderson's favorite collaborators Angelica Huston and Owen Wilson, as well as Jeff Goldblum, Willem Dafoe, Cate Blanchett. This nautical adventure, co-written with Noah Baumbach, showcases the best of Anderson's filmmaking.

Monday, Oct. 25

7 p.m. | "Moonrise Kingdom" (2012). The year is 1965, and the residents of New Penzance, an island off the coast of New England, inhabit a community that seems untouched by some of the bad things going on in the rest of the world. Twelve-year-olds Sam and Suzy have fallen in love and decide to run away. But a violent storm is approaching the island, forcing a group of quirky adults (Bruce Willis, Edward Norton, Bill Murray) to mobilize a search party and find the youths before calamity strikes.

Monday, Nov. 1

7 p.m. | "The Grand Budapest Hotel" (2014). In the 1930s, the Grand Budapest Hotel is a popular European ski resort, presided over by concierge Gustave H. (Ralph Fiennes), who prides himself on providing first-class service to the hotel's guests, including satisfying the needs of the many elderly women who stay there. Zero, a junior lobby boy, becomes Gus-

tave's friend and protégé. When one of Gustave's lovers dies mysteriously, Gustave finds himself the recipient of a priceless painting and the chief suspect in her murder.

Proof of vaccination (or a negative COVID-19 test) and masking at all indoor events is required. More information at WatervilleCreates.org/covid-policy.

The Maine Film Center (MFC) brings world-class independent film to Central Maine through Railroad Square Cinema, the only Sundance Art House Project cinema in Maine, and the annual Maine International Film Festival, a 10-day celebration that attracts filmmakers and film aficionados from around the world. MFC delivers impactful, accessible film exhibition and education programs. MFC firmly believes that art and culture have the power to enrich lives, strengthen community bonds, and serve as an eco-

nomic engine.

MFC is a division of Waterville Creates.

For more information, visit MaineFilmCenter.org.

Day's Jewelers named "Best Places to Work"

From Day's Jewelers

WATERVILLE – For the seventh year, Day's Jewelers has been named one of the Best Places to Work in Maine.

Best Places to Work is a prestigious and excep-

tional award that recognizes 100 excellent businesses each year who go above and beyond to give their employees the best possible work environment and experience.

Started in 2006, the Best Places to Work in

Maine program pays special attention to companies' workplace policies, practices, demographics, and overall workplace environment. With 75% of the program's evaluation process coming from the direct input from active

employees, it is clear that Day's Jewelers truly does stand out as an exceptional workplace.

Since 1914, Day's Jewelers has held the important core principle of value. Not only does this family-owned business un-

derstand that the value of a piece of jewelry goes so much further than just the market price of the item, but they understand what it means to value their employees. With the opinions of the employees at the forefront of every decision

made at Day's, employees are able to feel understood and heard in their concerns and needs.

Day's Jewelers said that from the company's earliest years, employees remarked on its wonderful
See Days, page 11

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Weekly Republican Radio Address

From ME House Republicans

AUGUSTA, Oct. 1

This is Representative Kathy Downes with the Weekly Republican Radio Address.

I want to first begin by taking a moment to reflect on the memory and legacy of Hancock County Sheriff's Deputy Luke Gross, who was struck by an oncoming vehicle, and killed, while responding to a call in the early morning a week ago. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and his fellow deputies.

Earlier this week, the legislature convened to vote on the newly drawn state house, state senate, county commissioner, and congressional districts. This process is based off the census, and conducted

every ten years, as outlined in the Maine Constitution.

Members of the Apportionment Commission are from both parties and in equal numbers. Representative Morris, Rep. Kryzak, and Rep. Parry, served the House Republicans in this process.

I am proud that we were able to reach a bipartisan agreement on the 151 house districts, 35 senate districts, county commissioner and congressional districts. Starting in the June primaries in 2022, you will be voting in your new district. To find out how your district changed, and what your new district number is, you can call your local municipality or visit: legislature.maine.gov/apportionment.

At the beginning of next year, the legislature

will start the second regular session. With that in mind, I wanted to share with you some of the successes Republicans had in the first session:

To help address known shortages, Republicans advocated MaineCare wage rates for home and community-based services be increased to 125 percent of the minimum wage, and emergency rate increases for nursing and senior living facilities continue. Additionally, Republicans and Democrats expanded the use of telehealth services to provide better healthcare access for Mainers.

We are particularly proud of the direct tax relief Mainers will receive after we successfully negotiated more than \$300 million dollars to go back to Maine tax filers. Our priorities provided over \$150

million in direct relief payments, up to \$300, for over half a million Maine tax filers. It was the end result of a Republican attempt to provide the same \$10,200 state income tax exemption, provided to unemployed Mainers, to those who worked during the pandemic.

Republicans restored revenue sharing to 5% in the second year, which corrected Governor Mills' 33% reduction (LD 715-Part F) in distributions to municipalities and provided them the funds to help stabilize or reduce property taxes.

Increased reimbursement to municipalities for tax property tax revenue lost as a result of the Homestead Exemption. This State program exempts the first \$25,000 from property taxes, but

only 70% of the lost revenue for the municipality is only reimbursed by the state. That reimbursement will now increase over the next ten years until it reaches 100%. This is a win-win for property owners and municipalities.

Proposed biennial budget spending was reduced by close to \$300 million, along with reductions in unnecessary new state government positions. Maine has seen an influx of more than \$14 billion in federal money since the start of the pandemic, and it is vital that we plan for when that federal money can no longer be relied upon.

Additionally, Republicans voted against several bills to decriminalize various type of drug processing, including fentanyl. These bills passed along

party lines but ultimately were vetoed by the Governor.

Republican sponsored LD 467 ensured that dispatchers and correction officers were included as first responders to ensure proper mental health treatments are available following traumatic work related events.

The last several months have certainly been an extraordinary time in our state. I hope everyone in your family has been able to stay safe and healthy, and continues to do so as we head into autumn.

This has been Representative Kathy Downes with the Weekly Republican Radio Address.

Thank you for listening, subscribing, and following us on Instagram and Facebook.

Bill would protect children from e-cigarettes

From Sen. Collins

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Susan Collins (R-ME) recently co-sponsored bipartisan legislation to protect children from the dangers of e-cigarettes.

The Resources to Prevent Youth Vaping Act would require that e-cigarette manufacturers pay user fees to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to help fund more activity at the FDA to conduct stronger oversight of

the e-cigarette industry and increase awareness of the danger of e-cigarettes.

"The use of e-cigarettes by our young people threatens the progress we have made to reduce overall tobacco use. I have heard from teach-

ers across Maine about the issue of vaping in our high schools and middle schools," said Senator Collins. "Although we have taken important steps that are already making a difference in reducing the rate of youth vaping, more work remains to be done. This legislation would impose fees on e-cigarette manufacturers similar to fees for other tobacco products, which could be used to support youth education and prevention initiatives."

In recent years, the use of e-cigarettes and other electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) products has skyrocketed, particularly among teens. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently reported that:

E-cigarette use among high school students rose from 1.5 percent of students in 2011 to 27.5

percent of students in 2019.

E-cigarette use among middle school students also grew, from 0.6 percent of students in 2011 to 10.5 percent of students in 2019.

Flavored and easily-concealable vaping products have made e-cigarettes more popular among youth.

The Resources to Prevent Youth Vaping Act increases the total amount that will be collected in tobacco user fees by \$100 million in Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 and indexes that amount to inflation for future years. Critically, the bill also authorizes FDA to collect user fees from all manufacturers of products that have been deemed as tobacco products by FDA, including e-cigarettes. Currently, manufacturers of traditional combustible tobacco products pay into FDA user fees, but e-ciga-

rette companies are exempt due to a loophole in the law. The amount collected from individual e-cigarette manufacturers will be proportional to their share of the overall tobacco market, as determined by FDA. FDA would be able to use this additional revenue from e-cigarette user fees to conduct safety review of vaping products, prevent sales of e-cigarettes to minors, help support efforts to educate youth on the dangers of e-cigarettes and increase the agency's oversight and enforcement capabilities.

In addition to Senator Collins, the legislation is co-sponsored by Senators Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH), Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), Dick Durbin (D-IL), Tammy Baldwin (D-WI), and Mitt Romney (R-UT).

The full text of the bill can be found at <http://bitly.ws/gwK6>

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Out and About

Carol Bailey String Band serenades Schooner Estates



Director Pat Bailey of the Carol Bailey String Band delivers a final word to the musicians before opening the concert at the Schooner Estates Retirement Community in Auburn. (Rachel Morin photo)

By Rachel Morin

AUBURN - The residents at Schooner Estates Retirement Community in Auburn were treated to a special concert by the Carol Bailey String Band in mid-September.

When the Band members stood to greet us in the Courtyard before their first number, the surprised members of the audience said, "Oh my goodness, they all have white hair! They look just like us!"

Well, we were so pleased and shared a good-natured laugh with the band members. Indeed, everyone appeared to have white hair, but on closer inspection, maybe one or two band members had dark hair.

It was then that I saw Pauline Smith, a former co-worker at General Electric in Auburn coming towards me with her in-

strument. We hadn't seen each other in the decades since we retired, so we were happy to exchange a few words.

Pauline told me her instrument was a concert soprano ukulele. "Great", I replied, smiling and hoping I sounded like I knew what I was talking about. Pauline hurried off to rejoin the Band about to start.

Schooner residents all settled in to enjoy Country Favorites and sing along when we recognized the songs from times gone by. We had a great time in the Courtyard as a refreshing breeze made for a pleasant afternoon and the threat of rain never happened.

Pat Bailey and Jon Bailey are the Directors. Midway through the concert, Pat announced she would name each of the instruments in the Band and each musician would play a

few notes for the audience, so we could hear what it sounded like. The instruments included guitars, an upright bass, mandolins, soprano ukuleles, a baritone ukulele, spoons and a percussionist gourd. We really appreciated hearing each instrument alone as it increased our knowledge and pleasure as well.

Many country favorites in the Band's repertoire were played. Two songs written by Pat were "Give Me a Chance" describing the plight of small farmers and "Making Music with Friends" who were going through the Pandemic, were also played.

Hank Williams song "Jambalaya" about the Cajuns in Louisiana was especially enjoyed, as was the French song "Quand Le Soleil dit Bonjour aux Montagnes."

Singing along in the audience with the Band

in French was tenant Monique Dozois Dutil who told us her mother was born in Canada and she taught the song to Monique and her siblings.

Another audience member who sang was Don Vachon, a loyal and dedicated follower of the String Band as his wife, Dot Vachon, plays the mandolin in the Band. Don is at every concert. The couple has a special Ann Murray song "Could I Have This Dance?" as they had sung and danced to it all during their courtship years.

A touching moment came when Don in his beautiful tenor voice, sang directly to Dot from his chair in the audience, look-

ing directly at her, "Could I Have This Dance....for the rest of my life" when the Band played the song. Many in the audience brushed away a tear or two.

In talking with Band Director Pat Bailey following the concert, I learned about some of the Band's history. Carol Bailey was the first paid Senior Director of the Litchfield Senior Center, open to those 55 and older. The Center would be providing events and projects for the Senior citizens of Litchfield.

Pat Bailey was interested in forming a choral group and discussed this with Director Carol Bailey. Carol thought it was a good idea and suggested musical instruments should be

included and have a band and a choral group blended together. And that was the start of the Carol Bailey String Band some 10 years ago. When Carol Bailey died shortly thereafter, Pat thought it fitting to keep the name as it was in the beginning, the Carol Bailey String Band some 10 years ago.

Members of the Carol Bailey String Band are volunteer musicians who enjoy playing at events and locations and are always looking to see where they might go next. They enjoy many repeat performances and are available to play for your location or event by calling The Litchfield Senior Center at 207-215-4595.



The side porch next to The Courtyard attracts many residents to sit there for the musical events. L to R, Carolyn Gage, Doris Ham, Mary Ellen Lesko, Joyce Poulin and Maja Ault. (Rachel Morin photo)

MSMT Costume Sale

From MSMT

BRUNSWICK - Just in time for Halloween, Maine State Music Theatre will host its popular costume sale on Oct. 15 and 16.

From 3-8 p.m. on Oct. 15 and from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. on Oct. 16, at 22 Elm Street, Brunswick, the sale will benefit MSMT while offering genuine theatrical

costumes from its stock at incredible prices.

Items include ball gowns, shoes, hats, fabrics, modern clothing, historical replicas, masks, accessories, men's wear, vintage clothing, furs, wigs... and more.

Tickets are required to attend the costume sale this year.

Ticket sales are limited to 20 people per hour in

an effort to provide the safest possible experience.

Masks are required.

The Oct. 15 entry fee is a \$25 donation to MSMT.

The Oct. 16 entry fee is \$10, which will be applied towards any purchases.

Ticket prices will not be returned if no purchase is made.

Tickets are on sale now at www.msmt.org.

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Arts & Entertainment

Fall league starts rolling at Junction Bowl

From Junction Bowl

GORHAM – The fall season of league play kicked off on Monday, Sept. 20, at Junction Bowl on Railroad Avenue in Gorham, followed by a full slate of teams on Tuesday and Thursday.

Scores include the player handicap.

Week 1

Monday Night

Scores for the Monday night league this first week are not available, due to a computer error.

Tuesday Night

The first night of Fall action for the Tuesday night league saw teams evenly matched, with all but one of them scoring around 2200 points for the night.

Dolls With Balls took two games and the weekly team series to sneak past The Gutter Rats, 2205-2192.

Dolls with Balls

Jessica Merrill
184-158-213—555
Melissa Dubois
190-184-192—425
Deb Stanton
178-189-165—532
Amanda Heatley
168-178-206—552

The Gutter Rats

Gary LaPierre
175-198-183—556
Ben Smith
189-173-180—542
Amy Pompeo
194-183-180—557
Shawna LaPierre
157-162-218—537

Shiny Balls took two games and the weekly team series against Gutter Dwellers, 2238-2216.

Shiny Balls

Shaun Sullivan
191-197-175—563
Nate Esty
191-165-215—571
Erik Clark
228-180-151—559
Ben McDonald
206-162-177—545

Gutter Dwellers

Tyler Graves
166-244-149—559
John Gardner
176-204-164—544
Cory Abbott
196-201-165—562
Nicholas Paul
170-210-171—551

Spare Balls took the first and last games, along with the weekly team series, for a 2-1 win in competition with 3 Men & A Lady, 2269-2213.

Spare Balls

Todd Walker
196-177-190—563
Scott Stevens
188-176-199—565
Dean Walker
220-147-217—584
Matt Nelson
194-190-173—557

3 Men & A Lady

Jonathan Ruppel
198-176-169—543
Tom Morneau
485-213-168—566
Amanda Morneau
182-189-177—548
Ryan Morneau
200-151-205—556

Bumper Babes bumped off Team 8, winning two games and taking the weekly team series by a mere two points, 2180-2178.

Bumper Babes

Terri Whyte
187-176-179—542
Sue Marston
171-170-201—542
Amy Sullivan
155-208-188—551
Brenda Williams
189-180-176—545

Team 8

Tiffany Chapman
164-177-196—537
Terry Leonhardt
194-213-161—568
Martina Smith-Notz
144-205-199—548
Vacant
175-175-175—525

Ball Breakerz bounced back from a loss in the second game to beat Miss Splits with two games and the weekly team series, 2232-2138.

Ball Breakerz

Casey Richardson
176-170-207—565
Kari Vance
201-179-176—556
Kyle Gosselin
193-200-171—564
Joseph Lamb
174-176-207—557

Miss Splits

Barbara Gagnon
182-206-164—552
Bethany Morse
152-193-176—521
Tammie Perez
170-1173-181—524
Wendy Koons

183-181-177—541

Thursday Night

The Thursday night league sports 11 teams, and the opening night featured 6 match-ups.

Crows & Turkeys grabbed two games, but Up Your Alley held on for the weekly team series, 2210-2185.

Crow & Turkeys

Peter Luciano
168-182-187—537
Jake Ouellette
186-150-223—559
Terry Moore
183-183-186—552
Fred Murphy
186-192-159—537

Up Your Alley

Zip Weeman
163-196-204—563
Shawn McDermott
191-180-163—534
Lisa McDermott
187-195-206—588
Vacant
175-175-175—525

Pin Pals rolled for wins in two games, but Split Happens edged them out by six points for the weekly team series, 2212-2206

Pin Pals

Amanda McDermott
169-220-163—552
Allie Kinslow
173-213-175—561
Nikki Pratt
174-223-171—568
Vacant
175-175-175—525

Split Happens

Denise Williams
177-206-173—556

Chris Lee

178-202-176—556
Duayne Frank
236-171-159—566
Substitute
175-187-172—534

Emotional Bowler Coaster lost the first game, then came back to take the second and third games, while Babes & Buds managed to squeak out enough points from the first game to retain the weekly team series.

Emotional Bowler

Kevin Kassa
188-200-171—559
Tonya Kassa
152-181-198—531
Mike Tobin
172-229-171—572
Jenn Leanhart
166-166-176—508

Babes & Buds

Marc Litif
186-191-177—554
Jacqui Litif
185-188-176—549
John Kirk
217-163-176—556
Linda Kirk
152-217-183—552

Team 7 had a strong night, grabbing all three games and the weekly team series from Team 8, 2234-2150.

Team 7

Derek Racine
183-180-190—553
David Racine
184-193-185—562
Darcy Racine
196-177-185—558
Sean Fitzgerald

176-210-175—561

Team 8

Torie Lavoie
167-160-213—540
Leon Lavoie
167-221-167—555
Rhonda Girard
169-190-169—528
Craig Girard
171-181-175—527

The High Rollers overcame Gutter Gang by two games and took the weekly team series, 2165-2151.

The High Rollers

Ben Smith
165-187-208—560
Anthony Dugan
198-184-163—545
Substitute
174-194-166—534
Substitute
171-166-189-526

Gutter Gang

Jeremy Lowell
164-194-189—547
Connie Grovo
170-195-183—548
Boomer Simmons
172-186-165—523
Erin DePhillippo
190-172-171—533

Minds In The Gutter played unopposed, rolling for 2264-2100.

Minds In The Gutter

Matt Ferrante
187-159-201—547
Jay Sutton
215-193-166—574
Doug Mercier
191-161-219—571
Scott Verrill
224-164-184—572
(Vacancy)
2100

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Dempsey Challenge bicyclists braved rainy weather



Bicyclists in the 2021 edition of the Dempsey Challenge braved bouts of rain during the Sunday events on the second day of the Challenge a week ago. (Roxann McDonough photos)



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Blue Mass

Continued from page 1

dens, EMTs, and others keep us safe each day,” the bishop said during his homily. “We have certainly seen that during this year as we live through this pandemic. The strain on these first responders has been great as they themselves cope with an illness that has challenged all of us.”

Police and fire departments across the state are facing a depletion in personnel, forcing first responders to work more shifts and longer hours, a reality that makes their remarkable commitment that much more commanding of respect.

“In making arrangements for the Mass today, for example, I was told that it might be difficult to see a large number of first responders attend because they are stretched thin in keeping sufficient people on duty to maintain the safety of their communities,” said the bishop. “In remembering the heroism of September 11th and its aftermath, we need also to express our gratitude for the continuing service of the same groups of people. There have been challenges this year when some of our first responders might have wondered about that support. Some of our first responders have even been subject to attack. All the more does that make a gathering such as this necessary. It is a reminder of the good that is done by those who help to keep order in our society. That is the act of duty we live out together this morning.”

First responders from

as far as southern York County and Penobscot County were at the Mass, as were elected representatives from the local, state, and federal level, including Senator Susan Collins, Governor Janet Mills, and former governor Paul LePage. Also in attendance were Lewiston Mayor Mark Cayer, Androscoggin County commissioners, city councilors, state representatives and senators, State Fire Marshal Joe Thomas, Commissioner Judy Camuso of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife, Public Safety Commissioner Michael Sauschuck, Commander Mark Neeland of the U.S. Coast Guard, and several local police and fire chiefs.

Many of the Mass’ participants are also connected to the public safety community, including two of the deacons. Deacon Kevin Jacques has served as the chaplain for the Biddeford Fire and Police Departments and the Saco Fire Department for two decades. Deacon Jeffrey Lewis, who is currently the chaplain for the Gardiner Fire Department, was an EMS provider for over 38 years and has served as a firefighter. Representatives from different public safety agencies served as gift bearers, while Auburn Police Chief Jason Moen and Detective Joe Philippon of the Lewiston Police Department served as readers.

Bishop Deeley commended them all during the Mass, saying that the task of those who want to follow Christ is the same task that Jesus shows in his own life: serving others.



Policemen stand at attention as priests from the Portland Diocese start the Blue Mass at the Basilica of Saints Peter & Paul in Lewiston on Sunday, Sept. 19. (Photo courtesy of Portland Diocese).

“It is giving of self, not getting for self. In sum, it is what we pause to honor today as we give thanks for the service of those who have chosen in their careers to serve the common good by watching over the safety of the public in the communities of our state. We give thanks for their service as we pray that we might all hear the call of the Gospel today and challenge ourselves to follow the Lord in service to one another.”

The Mass ended with Scott Vaillancourt, the director of music for the basilica, performing a stirring organ rendition of “America the Beautiful” along with trumpeters Alan Kaschub and Dan Laciano.

Pownal, Cumberland support rail trail study

From CBTA

CUMBERLAND - The towns of Pownal and Cumberland last week became the eighth and ninth communities in the region calling for a study of the St. Lawrence and Atlantic rail corridor as a potential rail trail.

Resolutions had already been adopted by the governing bodies in Portland, Falmouth, Yarmouth, North Yarmouth, Lewiston, Lisbon, and Freeport.

According to Sue Ellen Bordwell, President of the Casco Bay Trail Alliance which is advocating for the project, “a rail trail on this corridor would anchor an even larger regionally connected trail system. It is not just this rail trail but also the connectivity of the larger trail network

that has inspired so many communities both on and near the St. Lawrence and Atlantic corridor to get involved.”

All nine resolutions petition the Maine Department of Transportation to convene a Rail Corridor Advisory Council for the St. Lawrence and Atlantic corridor. The Advisory Council process was established by the Maine legislature earlier this year to facilitate discussion, gather information and provide advice to Maine DOT about future uses of state-owned rail corridors.

The envisioned rail trail would repurpose the 26-mile state-owned segment of the St. Lawrence and Atlantic line, which is no longer used by trains, thereby creating a multi-

See Rail, page 14

The Blue Mass is planned and organized by the diocese along with representatives from local, state, and federal public safety departments and agencies.

Following the Mass, a reception was hosted by the Knights of Columbus and Prince of Peace Parish, offering community members and dignitaries with the opportunity to thank the heroes in person.

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Guest Column

Paper headlines obscure writer's views

By Grammar Guy

Have you caught the Crash Blossoms' reunion tour this summer?

If you missed it, it's because the Crash Blossoms aren't a real band. They sound like a mid-to-late-90s one-hit-wonder group, whose number one song was called something like "Hey Monica" or "We Met in the Chat Room."

In fact, a crash blossom is something I find

equally entertaining, although I would have definitely rolled the windows down and turned the radio up for "Hey Monica."

A crash blossom is a news headline whose unclear wording can lead to confusing meanings. The term got its name back in 2009 when an American editor in Japan came across a headline that read "Violinist Linked to JAL Crash Blossoms." The editor, after reading the headline,

wondered what a "crash blossom" was. In fact, it had to do with the violinist — whose father died in an airline crash in 1985 — advancing her musical career. The headline was misleading.

Let's look at a few examples. A 2012 New York Times opinion column featured a headline that read "Israel Ducks on Human Rights." It wasn't about ducks from Israel and their thoughts about human

rights (as opposed to duck rights). In fact, the essay lamented that the Israeli government had shown a pattern of avoiding getting involved in cases where foreign governments were allegedly committing human rights violations.

A 2012 BBC news story confused many when it led with the headline "Girl found alive in France murders car." To help you understand what actually happened here, let's look

at a CNN headline about the same story: "France shootings: Girl hid under bodies in car." What happened here is that a woman was found alive among deceased bodies inside a car that was connected to a string of murders in France.

Ambiguous news headlines make me snort-laugh, but what would you expect from a former English major? "Police Can't Stop Gambling." "Blind Bishop Appointed To See." "Kids Make Nutritious Snacks." "Milk Drinkers Turn to Powder." "Child's Stool Great for Use in Garden." "Squad Helps Dog Bite Victim." You can't make this stuff up, and I can't wait to see how my editor changes the title I originally wrote for this

column.

With limited column widths and space on a physical page, copyeditors are forced to truncate article titles. Of course, that assumes that editors still plan titles and word count limits based on a physical newspaper, which, for the most part, is still the case. That's why we're puzzled when we read a headline that says "Gator Attacks Puzzle Experts." I'd recommend reading beyond the headlines so you get the full story.

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.

Guest Column

Home Country

By Slim Randles

Mrs. Doc brought them some ice cream, but Doc and Charles weren't that interested.

Charles is Doc's six-year-old grandson, and both Doc and Mrs. Doc have found it fascinating to view the world, after having been around so many years, through the fresh eyes and wonderment of a youngster.

But turning down ice cream? Doc had to chuckle, because he didn't even know that was possible. But the remote-controlled toy wouldn't be denied. As Doc watched, Charles turned switches and pushed buttons and the mysterious machine changed form. It became a monster instead of a race car and walked over to scare the sleeping cat.

When the laughter finally died down, they both agreed it was worth it.

Then the monster became a race car once again and shot across the floor and had a head-on collision with the leg of the couch. Charles expertly backed it away.

"You want to drive it a while, Grandpa?"

"No thanks," Doc said. "I couldn't drive it as good as you can."

And Doc knew that was true, even though Doc had been driving a car since the invention of stop signs, and Charles couldn't do that yet. But Charles, a coming first grader, held power in his hands. Someday he'd be driving a car, and Doc hoped the remote car's lessons for safety and fun would carry on through the years to come.

A guy needs to be in charge every now and then.

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AARP Maine seeks new volunteer state president

From AARP Maine

PORTLAND - AARP Maine is looking for a new state president, a lead volunteer position that works closely with AARP staff and volunteers on a range of key issues that impact Mainers 50-plus.

Applications for the position will be accepted through Oct. 15 on the AARP website at <http://bitly.ws/gWIX>

"The central pillar of AARP Maine's mission is to help Mainers 50-plus and their families age with dignity and respect," said Noël Bonam, AARP Maine State Director. "The role of the Volunteer State President is an integral part our work to advance AARP's social change agenda in

Maine. We seek a passionate, strategic thinker with outstanding leadership qualities and the ability to collaborate, motivate and inspire others as we work together towards this mission."

The State President works closely with hundreds of AARP Maine volunteers supporting important advocacy issues at the state and federal level. Advocacy activities include testifying on bills at the state legislature, bringing concerns and issues to Maine's Congressional Delegation, representing AARP Maine in local media, hosting and speaking at local events, and providing inspiration and guidance to a growing body of volunteer advocates in the Pine Tree State.

Responsibilities of this volunteer role also include the sharing of information and resources on topics such as caregiving, fraud prevention, Social Security and Medicare. The Volunteer State President will lead events, and work with local officials to bolster efforts to make Maine communities more age-friendly.

"This leadership volunteer position offers a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to utilize one's skills and experiences to make a positive difference in the lives of all older Mainers and their families," Bonam says. "The successful candidate will serve as a pivotal member of the AARP Maine team and our work on behalf of our more than 200,000

members in the state."

The Volunteer Maine State President will:

- Serve as Chair of the Executive Council, an all-volunteer panel made up of leaders from across the state, and the AARP State Director.
- Support the work of the State Director, staff and volunteers to help achieve AARP's vision, mission and strategic priorities within Maine.
- Act as the primary volunteer spokesperson for AARP Maine, communicating AARP's messages statewide.

- Have the opportunity to build networks and partnerships with organizations and key Maine decision-makers that will endure long after their term in office.

Applicants must be AARP members, and have a commitment to the goals and priorities of AARP, a strictly non-partisan organization. An applicant should have an ability to lead in a collaborative manner, and a proven track-record in strategic thinking and planning abilities. The successful applicant will be an in-

spiring team player with strong interpersonal skills, particularly in understanding group dynamics and facilitation, as well as being an excellent public speaker with strong oral and written communication skills.

To see a full list of responsibilities and qualifications or to apply by Oct. 15, visit <http://bitly.ws/gWIX>.

To learn more about AARP and its work in Maine, visit www.aarp.org/me and follow AARP on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @aarpmaine.

Days

Continued from page 3

workplace environment. In fact, in the mid-1900s, the father Day's Jeweler's current owner, Jeff Corey, was just a young worker himself. Corey said, "Dad always talked about how much fun they [employees] had. He was just a stock boy at first, but he always had fun at work."

Now, over a century after the first Day's was opened, this goal of a fun,

rewarding workplace experience remains one of the fundamental principles of the Day's Jeweler's business model. Joseph Corey, recently hired as President of Day's, represents the 3rd generation of Corey leadership.

Day's Jeweler's will be recognized in the Oct. 18 edition of MaineBiz where the rankings will be revealed for the first time, following a planned awards event.

For more information on the Best Places to Work in Maine program, visit www.BestPlaces-toWorkME.com or contact Jackie Miller at 717-323-5237.

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

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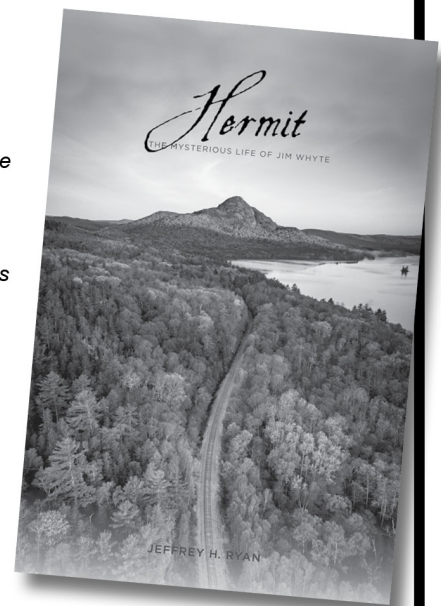
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— George Smith, *Bangor Daily News*

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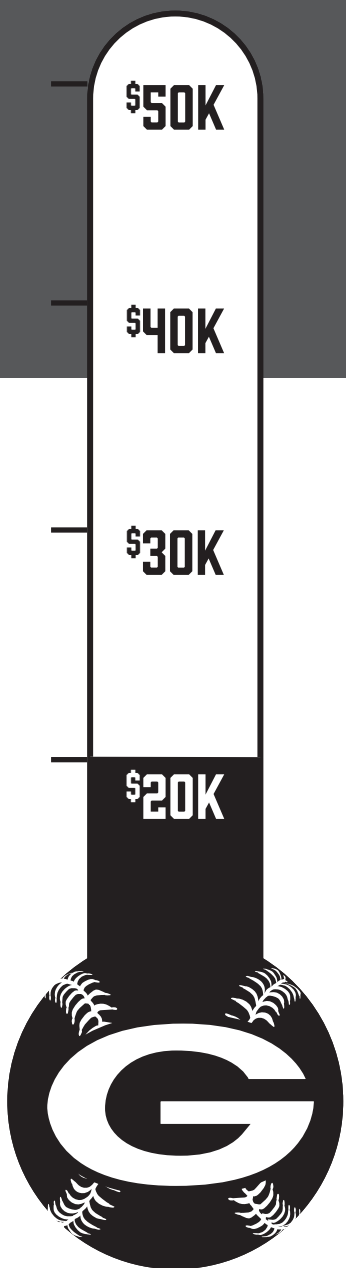
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Seniors Not Acting Their Age

Rehabbing on Down East Hiking Trails



The author rests his weary hip on Petit Manan Point (Photo courtesy of Ron Chase)

By Ronhase

Most of us older folks have some kind of protracted health problem.

The bane of my twilight years has been wag-

ing an ongoing battle with arthritis. My knees, hips, and hands are all being treated for the chronic disorder.

A few years ago, the affliction resulted in a knee replacement and I

recently received an artificial hip.

One advantage of a new hip is the recovery is much less painful than a knee replacement. However, it still doesn't qualify as a fun process. Each day consists of a monotonous regimen of physical therapy, icing, and short boring walks. After wearing out neighborhood routes and local walking trails, I decided to expand my horizons. More precisely, my wife, Nancy, suggested a collection of relatively easy hiking trails in Down East Maine as a possible antidote for my persistent grumpiness.

Lodging was scarce in Washington County due to a bicycle event.

However, we were able to reserve the last room in a motel in Milbridge for the weekend. Our research indicated there were two appealing trails in nearby Steuben: Pigeon Hill and Hollingsworth.

Plodding along ever so gradually, especially on steep ledges that required precise footing, Pigeon Hill became the first peak conquered with my new fake hip. The open 313 foot summit provided exceptional views of Pigeon Hill and Dyer Bays and the surroundings islands and peninsulas.

The Hollingsworth Trail was a gentle 1.5 mile loop trek through the Petit Manan National Wildlife Refuge. Mostly an easy walk, we traveled



Ron Chase arrives at the summit of Pigeon Hill in Steuben. (Photo courtesy of Ron Chase)

over some ledges and along rocky beaches that were a little more difficult. The highlight of the outing was our arrival at the rugged shoreline of Petit Manan Point where a comfortable bench afforded me the opportunity to rest my weary hip. Petit Manan Lighthouse and Island were visible in the distance. While relaxing, I attempted to dazzle Nancy by relating exciting details of my sea kayak traverse of the treacherous Petit Manan Bar a few years ago. Actually, that probably wasn't the first time she'd heard me recite the same yarn, but it gets better with each telling.

Ever since our recent experience biking the superb Penobscot River Trails in Grindstone, we've been intrigued with prospect of visiting the Cobscook Shores Park System which was constructed by the same philanthropist, Gilbert Butler. Located on the rockbound shores of spectacular Cobscook Bay in Lubec, we weren't disappointed. This creation is another triumph for Mr. Butler. Consisting of multiple recreation parks situated around the irregular shoreline that has a dramatic range of tides sometimes exceeding 26 feet, they offer great opportunities for hiking, biking, and kayaking.

Limited to hiking on this trip, we began with trails in Red Point Preserve. They were exceptional. An easy ramble on Salt Bay Trail led to a screened picnic pavilion on Red Point where there were outstanding views of Salt Bay. On our return, a route on the left provided us with access to picturesque Red Point Island. Hiking the island trail was more challenging. The narrow twisting passage began with a stepping stone crossing to the lofty atoll. Since this

area is flooded at high tide, we chose low tide for our traverse.

I found the hilly footpath on Red Point Island to be a formidable rehab hike. Using two hiking poles and cautiously creeping along, I negotiated without discomfort the network that consists of two loop hikes. An attenuated causeway connected to an appendage of the island where the second loop rounded Little Point. The panoramic vista from cliffs on the promontory was phenomenal. During our trek, we encountered two pavilions, several picnic tables, and multiple overlooks scattered about the island.

Trails at Huckins Island Park were our final destination. Our first selection was Young's Beach Trail, a rolling narrow path that guided us to a delightful isolated pebble beach. We finished the day with an easy walk along the shore of South Bay on the Bay to Bay Trail.

We departed Cobscook Shores with the realization that there was much more to explore. A return for more hiking is a definite. Kayaking and biking will also be part of our future Cobscook Shores endeavors.

My Down East trails experiment was a success. The more difficult walks increased the strength and flexibility of my hip and thigh. And, I'm back to my former gregarious self. Just ask Nancy.

The author of "The Great Mars Hill Bank Robbery" and "Mountains for Mortals - New England," Ron Chase lives in Topsham. His latest book, "The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine" will soon be released by North Country Press. Visit his website at www.ronchaseoutdoors.com or he can be reached at ronchaseoutdoors@comcast.net.

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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@LewistonMaine.gov.

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

Oct. 7

3:30-4:30 p.m.

GORHAM – At Baxter Memorial Library - Dance w/ Dance Studio of Maine
Join Dance Studio of

Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

Maine to learn some cool new moves on the library lawn. Ages 4-8yrs

4 p.m.

AUBURN – Cable TV Advisory Board meeting.

5:30 p.m.

AUBURN – Auburn-Lewiston Airport Board meeting.

7 p.m.

AUBURN - Underground Improv, a troupe of some of Maine's funniest comedians, will perform a night of improv comedy on Friday, October 1st at 7pm at Craft Brew Underground, 34 Court Street, Auburn.

This month's show features Dawn Hartill, Nate White, Leonard Kimble, Amanda Kinsey, and Greg Lambert.

No two shows are ever alike. The show content is made up completely on the spot and is based entirely on suggestions from the audience. Each show promises a night of unpredictable laughs and great craft beer.

Admission is \$8 and tickets can be purchased at <http://bitly.ws/g12j>

FRIDAY

Oct. 8

9 a.m.-6 p.m.

GORHAM – At Baxter Memorial Library - Book Sale!

The Friends of Baxter Memorial Library Book Sale will be located in Shaw Gym in the Gorham Municipal Center.

10 a.m.

LEWISTON – From Lewiston Public Library - **Pumpkins in the Park:** in Kennedy Park. Kids can decorate pumpkins to take home, play harvest games, listen to pumpkin story time, and earn prizes! Lew-

iston Parks and Rec will supply all the materials, the games and pumpkins. No sign up needed and all materials provided.

SATURDAY

Oct. 9

9 a.m.-3 p.m.

STANDISH – Quilt and craft fair at the Old Red Church at 55 Oak Hill Rd, Standish. Rain date is Sunday, Oct. 10.

9 a.m.-1 p.m.

GORHAM – At Baxter Memorial Library - Book Sale!

The Friends of Baxter Memorial Library Book Sale will be located in Shaw Gym in the Gorham Municipal Center.

SUNDAY

Oct. 10

10 a.m.-4 p.m.

FREEPORT - Mind Body Spirit Festival at Hilton Garden Inn, 5 Park Street, Freeport. Crystals, Psychics, Reiki, Holistic Health and more. \$5.00 admission. www.mindbodyspiritfestivals.org

MONDAY

Oct. 11

GORHAM - Municipal Center, Administrative Offices and Library closed in observance of Indigenous Peoples' Day.

AUBURN – Town offices closed in observance of Indigenous Peoples' Day.

LEWISTON - Outdoor public theatrical performance for all ages, in Kennedy Park. University of Southern Maine is performing the "Marvelous Meep Island Adventure," a free theatre event for audiences of all ages. Bring a blanket, chairs, a picnic; tell your friends and join

the fun! This one-hour theatrical adventure is meant for everyone! No sign up needed.

TUESDAY

Oct. 12

10-10:30 a.m.

GORHAM – at Baxter Memorial Library - October Story Adventures (3yrs-5yrs)

Join Ms. Heidi and Mr. Jeff for a socially-distanced musical story adventure on the lawn. We will present books, songs, movement activities and rhythm instruments. Masks recommended when social distancing isn't possible. (Ages 3yrs-5yrs)

3-8 p.m.

LEWISTON - The City of Lewiston's youth council is hosting a fair at the Lewiston Armory. They hope to assist numerous Lewiston businesses who are facing staffing shortages and want this to be a very upbeat experience for employers and attendees, to include the LHS Jazz Band playing at 4 p.m. Businesses will also have space to do on-the-spot interviews if they'd like. To participate (table/chairs provided) please register/learn more details here ASAP. There is no fee to participate: www.lewistonmaine.gov/jazzupyourfuture

6 p.m.

AUBURN – Planning Board meeting.

WEDNESDAY

Oct. 13

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

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recommended when social distancing isn't possible. Ages birth-3yrs

In the event of inclement weather program will be cancelled.

4:30 p.m.

AUBURN – Lewiston-Auburn Transit Committee (LATC) meeting.

6:30 p.m.

AUBURN – Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting.

7 p.m.

GORHAM – School Committee meeting in council chambers.

THURSDAY

Oct. 14

10-11 a.m.

GORHAM – Baxter Memorial Library - Book Club: "Waiting for the Night Song"

Join us at 10:00am to discuss Waiting for the Night Song by Julie Carrick Dalton 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.

4:30-6:30 p.m.

LEWISTON - *Pumpkin Craft Palooza* at Lewiston Public Library. See the event webpage at <http://bitly.ws/gwhl>

SUNDAY

Oct. 17

5 p.m.

LEWISTON – L/A Senior College presents singer Scott Moreau, via Zoom. Email laseniorcollege@gmail.com to sign up by noon on Oct. 16. Mention which FFT program you wish to see and you will receive a link the morning of the 17th.

MONDAY

Oct. 18

5:30 p.m.

AUBURN – City Council workshop and meeting.

Rail

Continued from page 9

use trail through eight communities between Portland and Auburn.

"One of the really exciting things about this is how it connects our neighborhoods, our communities with other communities," said resident Jonathan Labaree in his testimony to the Cumberland Town Council on Monday night. Referring to his safety concerns with on-road biking, he continued: "I've had way too many close calls, it actually just takes one close call to be too many, to be just too nervous about biking into Portland."

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Outdoor Craft & Vendor Fair - Sat. Oct 16, 2021 9am-1pm - Bates Mill #5 Parking Lot, 65 Main St, Lewiston. - Multiple Crafters/Vendors, Wide Variety of products for sale as well as a Silent Auction & Bake Sale. Hosted by Girl

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

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More than \$600,000 for Maine snowmobile clubs

From Sen. Collins

Washington, D.C. – Three organizations in Maine have received a total of \$607,253 to help repair and maintain snowmobile trails for the upcoming winter season.

This funding was awarded through the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Rural Business Development Grants, according to an announcement from U.S. Senators Susan Collins (R-ME) and Angus King (I-ME).

“Maine’s snowmobile industry is a powerful economic engine for our state, contributing more than \$600 million

to Maine’s economy and supporting small businesses and rural communities along the trail routes,” said Senators Collins and King in a joint statement. “This funding will help to ensure that our trails in Maine are ready for snowmobilers to enjoy this winter.”

The City of Caribou received \$254,253 to purchase snowmobile trail grooming equipment, which will replace an old trail groomer. This equipment is vital to the winter economy and will ensure continued access to businesses during the winter months. This funding will assist 21 businesses and save a total of 15 full-time

jobs. Arnold Trail Snowmobile Network in Stratton-Eustis received \$275,000 to purchase snowmobile trail grooming equipment, which will replace an old trail groomer. This funding will assist 13 businesses and save a total of 20 full-time jobs.

Black Mountain of Maine, a ski area in Rumford, received \$78,000 to purchase alpine trail grooming equipment that will replace an old trail groomer. Black Mountain of Maine is vital to Rumford’s winter economy and plays a major role in its economic development. The moun-

tain’s historic reputation and skier events are vital

to Rumford being able to attract a new hotel to the

area. This funding will assist 9 businesses.



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