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Lewiston litter pick-up day Oct. 16

From City of Lewiston

LEWISTON - Lewiston Public Works is welcoming individuals and teams to again join them for a "Lewiston Citywide Litter Pick Up Day."

The fall pick up event will take place Saturday, Oct. 16, from 8 a.m.-noon, and participants may pick up litter in their own neighborhood or anywhere in the city that they see a need.

Church or community groups are also encouraged to adopt an area. There is no fee to participate. Participants may register/agree to the event waiver online and identify the location they will clean at www.lewistonmaine.gov/litterevent

Lewiston Public Works staff will be on site at Kennedy Park on event day to distribute supplies: bags, gloves, pickers, and buckets.

A safety procedure flyer will be given out with supplies outlining safe practices for participation, as well as available online at www.lewistonmaine.gov/litter-safety

In addition, a safety station pop-up tent will be on site at Kennedy Park. Items deemed unsafe for pick up should be "called into" Public Works Dispatch for same-day pick up by trained personnel (207) 513-3000, X3450. An event flyer and safety guidelines are attached.

Participants will also have disposal options for what they pick up.

Bags of collected litter may be returned to Kennedy Park for disposal at a drop-off site near park gazebo.

Public Works will pick up bags of litter at a specified location if previously stated on online registration/waiver form OR called into Public Works Dispatch the morning of the event (207) 513-3000, X3450.

Residents may put collected bags of litter at curbside with their regular weekly curbside pick-up.

Participating teams will be eligible to win a prize by posting pics of their team picking up litter and using a #nolitter tag! Prize categories are Biggest Team, Most Creative, Most Colorful!

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

Just-In-Time Recreation opens its doors

From LA Metro Chamber

LEWISTON - Just-In-Time Recreation at 24 Mollison Way in Lewiston officially opened its doors with a ribbon-cutting ceremony last week.

City of Lewiston Economic + Community Development Director Lincoln Jeffers was joined by the President + CEO of the LA Metro Chamber Shanna Cox, LA Metro Board Chair and CEO of Lucro Management Jessica Donovan, Karen Staples of Senator Susan Collins' Office, and

members of the public.

"Our goal at Just-In-Time is to provide a comfortable, relaxed, and welcome atmosphere for people to visit and spend time with one another while having a good time. It's a joy to see people smile and feel that they got what they paid for - and maybe a little more, whether it's for a birthday party or a night out. We are thrilled to support the LA area by partnering with local businesses including Blackies, Grants

Bakery, Roopers Beverage, DeBlois Electric, and Nadeau's Refrigeration for their products and services. We see a bright future for the family-friendly game of bowling, as well as the region," said owner Justin Juray.

The owners and avid bowlers, Justin and Samantha Juray, have recently remodeled the Lewiston staple, keeping bowling alive in the twin cities.

See Recreation, page 9

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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

Guest Essay

Maine leads the way in protecting right to vote



Sen. Nate Libby (D-Lewiston), Maine District 21, the City of Lewiston. (Photo courtesy of Sen. Libby)

By Sen. Libby

Dear Friend,
Tuesday of last week was National Voter Registration Day.

Maine has long been a leader in voter participation, with 78 percent of voters casting their ballots in the 2020 election. We also have some of the strongest voting laws in the nation, and I'm proud of the work we did this year to make sure Maine continues to lead the way in strengthening our democracy and protecting your right to vote.

This year, my colleagues and I voted to make permanent many of the innovative measures the state put in place to make voting accessible and safe during the COVID-19 pandemic.

We also passed a law to join 40 other states in allowing online voter registration, which is set to go into effect in 2023.

If you've moved recently, now is a good time to register to vote at your new address. And as a reminder, Maine also has same-day voter registration, which means you can register to vote at your polling place the day of an election.

Our democracy only works when everyday people can make their voices heard and hold their elected leaders accountable. I'm proud of the work we've done this year, and I vote to continue to protect Maine voters' rights.

If you have questions, concerns or ideas, please don't hesitate to reach out

to me. You can always reach me at nathan.libby@legislature.maine.gov or by phone at (207) 287-1515.

Bates to enroll more immigrant, low-income students

The Schuler Access Initiative is offering to match up to \$50 million for a new Bates College program to enroll more students from our nation's immigrants and low-income families.

If fully matched, the challenge grant will create a \$100 million financial aid expansion to help enroll students who qualify.

Bates said it has already raised \$30 million in matching gifts and pledges from its donors, so it needs \$20 million more during the next five years to maximize the funding.

Bates is one of only four colleges and one university selected for the program. I am so excited about this news and look forward to the positive change it will bring with it.

Apportionment map becomes law

Earlier this year I was appointed to the Apportionment Committee by Senate President Troy Jackson where our team was tasked with the drawing of new maps in light of new census data.

This week, the Maine Legislature voted to approve these new district

maps during a special session. This makes Maine the second state in the nation, after Oregon, to approve new Congressional and Legislative district maps.

Ahead of the 2020 census data being released to states, the Maine Supreme Judicial Court issued a Court Order outlining a compressed timeline, giving Maine's Apportionment Commission 45 days after the census data was released to produce maps and then a window of 10 days for the Legislature to approve the maps.

Despite the short window we had to work with, Maine lawmakers came together and accomplished our goal: drawing new, equitable maps that accurately reflected the new census data we had to work with. I am grateful to have served on the committee and am proud of the work we did.

Standing up for lobstering industry

Last week, my colleagues and I in the Legislature overwhelmingly approved a joint order to allow the bipartisan Legislative Council to take legal action in support of Maine lobstermen impacted by harmful new federal regulations.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration released new federal regulations this summer as part of a plan to protect Right Whales, despite a lack

of evidence linking current lobstering practices to the decline in this endangered species. An estimated 34 whales have died since 2017. But only 12 of those deaths happened in U.S. waters, and none of them are linked to Maine lobstering.

This joint order comes on the heels of a lawsuit filed from the Maine Lobstering Union in the United States District Court for the District of Maine, seeking emergency relief related to the impending closure of Lobster Management Area 1.

NOAA's new, unfair regulations are expected to cost lobstermen millions of dollars in new gear and 5% - 10% of their annual revenue, according to the Portland Press Herald.

Deadline for food producer grants

The U.S. Department of Agriculture updated the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program 2 (CFAP 2) for contract producers of eligible livestock and poultry, and producers of specialty crops and other sales-based commodities. All new and modified CFAP 2 applications are due by Tuesday, October 12.

Newly eligible producers who need to submit a CFAP 2 application, or producers who need to modify an existing one, can do so by contacting

their local FSA office located at 254 Goddard Rd Lewiston, ME 04240 or by phone at (207) 947-3555 Ext. 2. Producers can find their local FSA office by visiting www.farmers.gov/service-locator. Producers can also obtain one-on-one support with applications by calling 877-508-8364.

Banned books week!

Since it was founded in 1982, Banned Books Week has helped people recognize and navigate censorship, and the battle for free expression is unending.

Reading brings people together, but censorship drives us apart. The freedom to read — or not read — the books we want is fundamental to the American Experience.

Over the years, books that challenge our notion of the status quo have been pulled off library shelves, banned from being sold or even burned — including books we now consider to be classics, such as *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *The Color Purple*, *Gone with the Wind*, and *The Grapes of Wrath*.

If you're interested in checking some of these books out visit our local library at 200 Lisbon St, Lewiston, ME 04240 or online at <https://lplonline.org/>.

Sen. Nate Libby (D-Lewiston) represents Maine Senate District 21, which comprises the City of Lewiston.

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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 procession, 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.

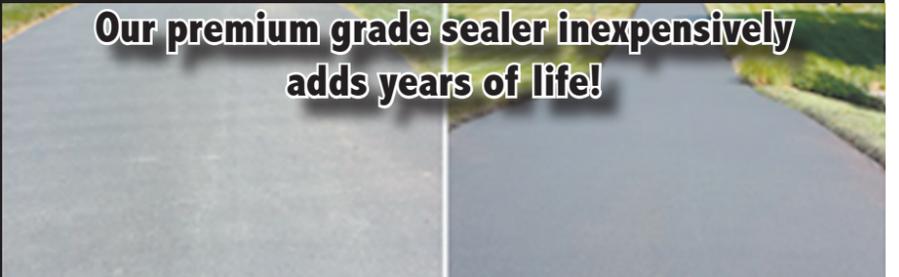
The Oct. 16 entry fee is \$10, which will be applied towards any purchases.

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

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Arts & Entertainment

YMCA celebrates autumn on Friday



Celtic fiddle champions Seán Heely and Owen Kennedy are the featured musicians at the “Fiddlers-in-the-Forest” event taking place on Friday at the YMCA’s Outdoor Learning & Education Center in Auburn. (Photo courtesy of Auburn YMCA)

From Auburn YMCA

AUBURN - The YMCA’s Outdoor Learning & Education Center in Auburn will celebrate autumn this Friday with a special family-friendly event billed as Fiddlers-in-the-Forest.

Scheduled to run from 4 to 7 p.m. in the

wooded sanctuary which is located just off Center Street at 151 Stetson Road, the event features two dynamic young musicians who have both won the title of U.S. National Scottish Fiddle Champion: Owen Kennedy from Maine and Seán Heely from Virginia.

The program, which is open to the public free

of charge, will begin with a concert of spirited reels, jaunty strathspeys and haunting slow airs as well as heartwarming Gaelic songs. Those who bring musical instruments will then have a chance to learn a Scottish tune or two and also can join in on a jam session with Heely and Kennedy. Everyone is invited to linger around the campfire and indulge in hot chocolate, coffee and cookies while listening to the music.

Attendees should provide their own camp chairs for seating, and are invited to also bring picnic suppers to dine on at the picnic tables provided on site.

Owen Kennedy, age 16, first met Seán Heely two years ago at the Acadia Traditional School of Music in Bar Harbor, where he had a chance to participate in a fiddle workshop with Heely, an expert in Celtic musical traditions who

in 2016 was named U.S. National Scottish Fiddle Champion. Kennedy became inspired to learn more about the music of his own Scottish/Irish ancestry and asked if Heely would serve as his mentor. Heely agreed and for the past year has tutored Kennedy through weekly fiddle lessons online. Impressed with his ability and passion for the music, Heely encouraged his young protege to audition for the 2021 U.S. National Scottish Fiddle Competition, and last month Kennedy was selected as this year’s Junior Level Champion. Heely’s upcoming visit to Maine will provide an opportunity for the two champions to join their talents on stage for the first time.

Seán Heely, who himself is only 28 years old, has been widely lauded as “one powerhouse of a fiddler.” He holds a degree in classical violin

performance but since college has devoted himself to traditional music. In addition to his renown as a Scottish fiddler, he is also an award-winning Irish fiddler and a folksinger specializing in the Gaelic traditions of both Scotland and Ireland. He has performed in each of those countries, and his appearances in the U.S. include such notable venues as the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.

Owen Kennedy started playing violin at the age of four with the Pineland Suzuki School, and before long was invited to join the Pineland Fiddlers with whom he had the opportunity to travel to the Shetland Islands in 2019. He also is active with the Maine Folque Cop and the Vermont-based Young Tradition Touring Group. He recently won the Glenn Jenks “Future in Music” Prize from Bay Chamber Music School

and placed third in the highly competitive Young Tradition Festival Contest.

Steve Wallace, CEO of the local YMCA, said “Ever since the Y started developing our Outdoor Learning and Education Center, we’ve envisioned having outdoor concerts. To have Owen and Sean play at this inaugural event is more than we could ever have hoped for.”

While admission to the Fiddlers-in-the-Forest event is free, donations to the musicians’ “tip jar” will be gratefully accepted. Due to the event’s outdoor setting, masks are optional for attendees. Space for parking is limited so carpooling is encouraged, and to ensure admittance, people can pre-register by calling (207) 795-4095. More information – including inclement weather contingencies – is available through that number or via the YMCA’s Facebook page.

Laughs this weekend at Craft Brew

From Craft Brew

AUBURN - Ready for some laughs?

This Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m., join The River Comics Comedy

Productions at Craft Brew Underground, 34 Court Street in Auburn, as they present live stand-up comedy.

On Friday evening see local comedians ply

their craft ten minutes at a time. Crystal Bernard hosts the likes of Josh Bilodeau, Bryan Muenzer, Josh Marquis, Leland Newton, and Sara Poulin. You won’t want to miss

this free (pay what you can tip basket) show featuring the area’s best new talent.

For Saturday night Craft Brew Underground welcomes Davey Getch-

ell, Joe Flynn, and headliner Mike Gray to the stage. This is a must see event and well worth the price of admission as all three are veterans of the scene and are sure to bring

down the house with their insights and jokes.

Tickets are available through therivercomics.com via eventbrite.com and are \$8 per person for these 21+ shows.

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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,



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).

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.

“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.

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.

Recreation

Continued from page 1



Justin Juray cuts the ribbon to celebrate the opening of the recently-renovated Just-In-Time Recreation, in a ceremony last week at the facility at 24 Mollison Way in Lewiston. (Photo courtesy of LA Metro Chamber)

“Justin and Samantha stepped up to the challenge of improving and restoring this space, and literally put their blood, sweat, and tears into making it look as gorgeous as you see today. We have seen an outpouring of support from our community - and I’d like to think that is the definition of what business in this region is all about,” Cox said.

From 10 pin lanes and candlepin lanes, to a newly renovated bar with a great selection of local draft beers, and a sit down restaurant offering an expanded menu, you can count on a fun night out at Just-In-Time Recreation!

“It really is a community institution. It needed new energy, it needed a new vision and you certainly brought both of those qualities with you to your new business venture. We are delighted that you saved this Lewiston landmark and really brought it back to its original, and

now updated, glory,” said Jeffers.

An organization of community-minded businesses that serves Lewiston, Auburn, and surrounding communities, the Lewiston Auburn Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce is an engine for economic vitality and enhanced quality of life.

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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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Guest Essay

Working to strengthen our democracy

By Sen. Claxton

Voting is at the core of everything we believe in this country.

The ability to make our own individual choices, decide who represents us in government, and choose the direction we go in as a nation is what makes America so great.

Unfortunately, in recent months across the nation, we have witnessed a revamped and organized efforts to restrict American's access to the ballot box without evidence of significant fraud. These efforts are an attack on our most fundamental right as Americans. In Maine, my colleagues and I have worked to do the opposite. I recently received a 100 percent score from Democracy Maine, a nonpartisan organization, on my votes to strengthen our democracy and voting rights, so I wanted to use this space to share some of the changes that we made over the past year.

Firstly, I supported a bill to ban corporate contributions in legislative and gubernatorial elections.

In 2020, we saw non-stop political ads that were powered by millions in outside spending. Mainers knew this was a problem, and they said loud and clear that they don't want corporations and big money to influence our local elections. My colleagues and I listened. This new law will help us in our fight to keep big money from overwhelming voters and swaying elections.

This past election, Maine voters benefited from several voting innovations, including an online absentee ballot tracking tool and secure ballot drop boxes. This year, we made these changes permanent, so voters can continue to have this easy, safe access to the ballot box. I know many folks who enjoyed being able to track their ballot through the process, from being accepted, to being processed

by their local clerk. It also gave folks peace of mind knowing that if there was an issue, they would know about it and get the opportunity to fix it. The ballot drop boxes also allowed Mainers to securely deliver their ballot right to town hall without having to stick it in the mail. This reassured voters who could know for sure that their ballot was in the right place by the right time, and allowed more flexibility as to when it could be dropped off.

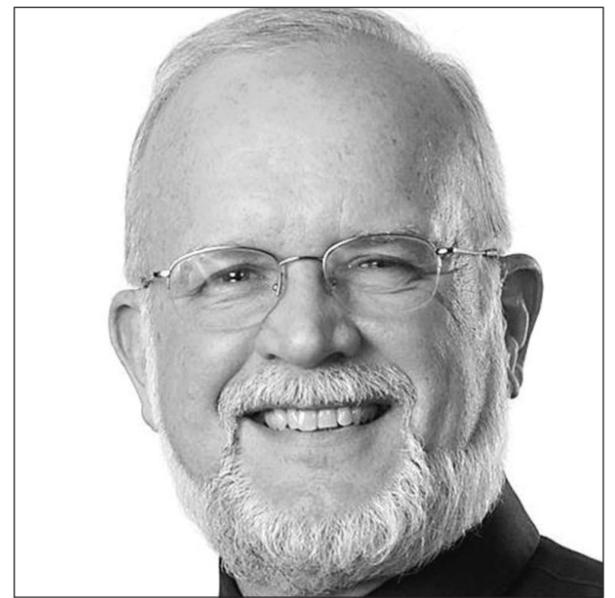
I'm proud to share that a new law we passed will ensure that Maine voters will continue to have access to both of these options, and will also give more guidance to clerks across the state to ensure secure, safe operation. We also passed a new law that will allow Mainers to register to vote online. This is a commonsense change that modernizes the process while also freeing up our clerks and staff for more pressing tasks. Together, these changes will help en-

sure that seniors and folks with hectic schedules who may have struggled to find the time to vote will get an opportunity to do so.

Last but not least, we rejected bills that would have made it harder for Mainers to vote. Just like in other states across the country, there were a range of bills here in Maine that would have made it more difficult for folks to vote. Maine is at the top of the list when it comes to well-run, secure elections in this country, and there is no reason why we should make it more difficult for citizens to cast their vote. I'm glad my colleagues and I came together to oppose these measures.

We have a proud voting tradition in Maine. With one of the highest turnout levels in the entire country, we take pride in making our voices heard.

This year, my colleagues and I strengthened the laws surrounding our elections, made sure that no one misses out on their



Sen. Ned Claxton (D-Androscoggin), Maine District 20, Auburn, Mechanic Falls, Minot, New Gloucester, and Poland (Photo courtesy of Sen. Claxton)

chance to vote because of unnecessary restrictions, and fought back against corporate money in campaigns.

I'm extremely proud of the work we did to protect our most fundamental right we have as Americans.

You can always send

me an email at Ned.Claxton@legislature.maine.gov or call my office at 287-1515.

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

Auburn Mall vaccination site offering COVID boosters

Clinics offered Tuesday through Friday

From CMH

LEWISTON - Central Maine Healthcare continues to offer COVID-19 vaccines to the community through its high-volume clinic at the Auburn Mall.

The site is offering the recently approved booster dose for certain populations; the additional dose for select immunocompromised individuals; and the primary vaccine series.

"We are committed to providing vaccine to our communities and are excited to offer these options. Powered by volunteers, partners and our team members, our site has been in continuous operation since March 17," said Amy Lee, MBA, MBHA, MJ, FACMPE, vice president and chief operating officer of Central Maine Medical Group. "Our site is able to easily scale up and down to meet changing demand and has done so for nearly seven months."

The site is open Tuesday-Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Please be aware that depending on the category an individual falls into, an appointment may be required.

No other groups and no other vaccines other than those above have been approved for use. Please continue to check cmhc.org for updates on when vaccines - both primary

series and booster doses - become available for additional populations.

On Sept. 24, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention approved a booster shot of the Pfizer-BioNTech (brand name Comirnaty) vaccine for certain populations and also for those in high-risk occupational and institutional settings.

Eligible individuals who have received their primary vaccine series at a Central Maine Healthcare location (Auburn Mall, Central Maine Medical Center, Rumford Hospital or Bridgton Hospital) may either make an appointment or receive the booster dose on a walk-in basis as we do not need to collect documentation from you.

Central Maine Healthcare's site at the Auburn Mall is now accepting appointments for eligible individuals who have not received their primary vaccine series at a Central Maine Healthcare location (Auburn Mall, Central Maine Medical Center, Rumford Hospital or Bridgton Hospital).

To make an appointment, visit www.cmhc.org/get-covid-vaccine or call our COVID-19 Vaccine Call Center at 207-520-2917.

Booster doses of Pfizer-BioNTech are available to individuals who have completed their pri-

mary Pfizer series at least six months ago and fall into one of the groups outlined by the CDC:

People 65 years and older and residents in Long-term care settings should receive a booster shot of Pfizer-BioNTech,

People aged 50-64 years with underlying medical conditions should receive a booster shot of Pfizer-BioNTech,

People aged 18-49 years with underlying medical conditions may receive a booster shot of Pfizer-BioNTech, based on their individual benefits and risks, and

People aged 18-64 years who are at increased risk for COVID-19 exposure and transmission because of occupational or institutional setting may receive a booster shot of Pfizer-BioNTech, based on their individual benefits and risks.

Those wishing to get the booster shot must bring their COVID-19 vaccination card so the clinic can document the booster dose of Pfizer-BioNTech.

Pfizer booster doses will not be administered to individuals whose primary series was for another vaccine.

Immunocompromised individuals

Select immunocompromised individuals are eligible for a third dose of either Pfizer-BioNTech/

brand name Comirnaty (for individuals 12 and older) or Moderna (for individuals 18 and older) either by appointment or on a walk-in basis.

To make an appointment, visit www.cmhc.org/get-covid-vaccine or call our COVID-19 Vaccine Call Center at 207-520-2917.

Those wishing to get the booster shot must bring their COVID-19 vaccination card so the clinic can document the third dose of Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna.

Primary vaccine series

All individuals 12

and older are eligible to receive their primary COVID-19 vaccine series either by appointment or on a walk-in basis. Youths between 12-17 years old must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

To make an appointment, visit www.cmhc.org/get-covid-vaccine or call our COVID-19 Vaccine Call Center at 207-520-2917.

The site has Pfizer-BioNTech (brand name Comirnaty) and Moderna - mRNA vaccines that have two doses in the primary series - and Johnson & Johnson/Janssen - a single-dose viral vector vac-

cine.

Note that youth between 12-15 years old are eligible only for the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine.

Those wishing to get the booster shot must bring their COVID-19 vaccination card so the clinic can document the second dose of Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna.

Central Maine Healthcare is an integrated healthcare delivery system serving 400,000 people living in central, western and Midcoast Maine. CMH's hospital facilities include Central Maine Medical Center in Lewiston, Bridg-

See **Boosters**, page 14

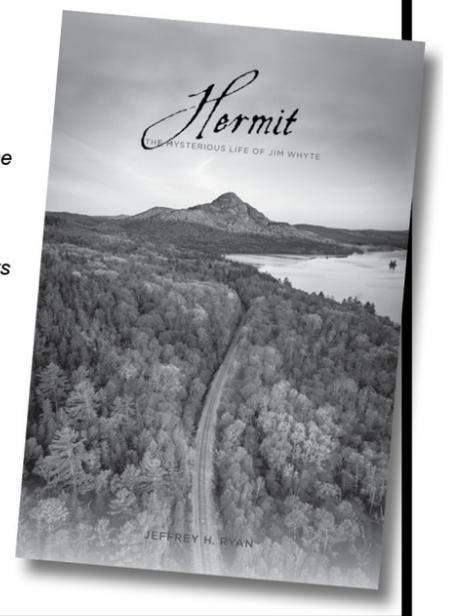
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— George Smith, *Bangor Daily News*

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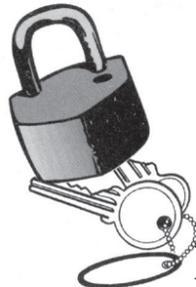
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**EVERY TUESDAY
10:30-11:15 a.m.**

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! Lewiston 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.**

FREEMPORT - 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

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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.

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.

**Boosters
Continued from page 11**

ton Hospital and Rumford Hospital.

CMH also supports Central Maine Medical Group, a primary and specialty care practice organization.

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Absentee ballots now available

From City of Lewiston

LEWISTON – The state referendum and municipal candidate and referendum elections will take place on Tuesday, Nov. 2.

Absentee ballots for this election are currently available for Lewiston voters from the City Clerk's Office. Registered voters wishing to obtain an absentee ballot may order one via four methods:

1) Calling the City

Clerk's Office at 513-3124

2) Submitting an application form via the mail or red City Hall drop box; application can be downloaded from the City's website

3) In person at the City Clerk's Office, located on the second floor of City Hall; office hours are Monday - Friday, 8:30am - 4:00pm.

4) Online from the City's election website

The statewide dead-

line to request an absentee ballot is 4 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 28.

The City's website contains sample ballots, directions to the polling places and other information that voters may find useful. The website address is: <https://www.lewistonmaine.gov/117/Elections>

Voters are encouraged to contact the City Clerk's Office at 513-3124 with any questions they may have.



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