



# TWIN CITY TIMES

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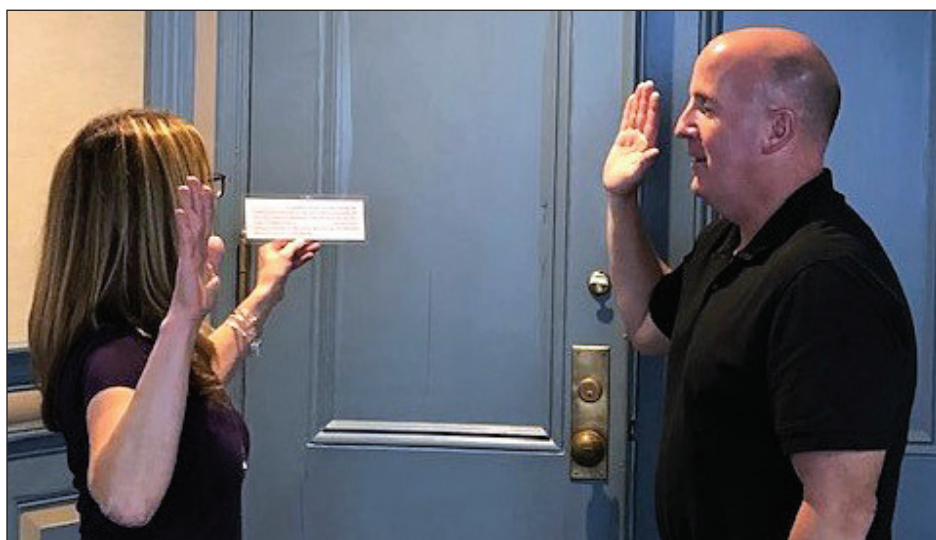
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## New Lewiston Deputy City Administrator



Former Lewiston Police Chief Brian O'Malley is sworn in as the new Deputy City Administrator for the City of Lewiston at a ceremony last week. (Photo courtesy of City of Lewiston)

### From City of Lewiston

Brian O'Malley, former Lewiston Police Chief, has been appointed as the City's Deputy City Administrator.

Serving as the Interim Deputy since July 2021, he was sworn into his new role by Deputy City Clerk Kelly Brooks last week.

O'Malley has served with the Lewiston Police Department for over 31 years, beginning as a patrol officer and progressing to Detective, Sergeant, Deputy Chief,

and then Chief in 2017.

In his new role, O'Malley will work closely with the Mayor, City Council, and City Administrator; serve as the City's Freedom of Information Officer; work with the Human Resources Director; serve as Chief Labor Relations Negotiator; oversee the City's special events process; and directly supervise the City's Director of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion.

City Administrator Heather Hunter said, "Brian brings an in-depth public safety background, union experience, and

strategic leadership qualities to the Administration team."

In his tenure at the police department, O'Malley introduced several ongoing initiatives. He implemented a crisis support team and related policies; expanded training on the use of force, equity, and diversity. He helped launch the City Spirit Program in 2018, a Department of Justice Program that brings together diverse community leaders, city and county officials, law enforcement, ministerial figures, and other community leadership to identify and analyze issues impacting the community and to work together towards solutions.

He has also been involved with the negotiation of labor contracts as both a union member and as a department head.

O'Malley said he looks forward to "serving the City of Lewiston and its residents in this new capacity as Lewiston moves forward with vision and opportunities for all."

O'Malley thanked members of the police department for their "dedication and hard work for the City. I leave the department with the knowledge that the officers and civilian employees of the Lewiston Police Department are an outstanding staff and provide the highest quality of service. It has been a privilege to serve as your chief."

## Lewiston early voting opens today

From City of Lewiston

LEWISTON – The City's Early Voting Polling Place opens today to allow voters to cast an in-person absentee ballot for the November election.

Voters are welcome to come to the City Council Chambers on the first floor of Lewiston City Hall to cast their ballots in advance of election day.

The city traditionally operates the Early Voting location a few weeks prior to every November election.

The location is open Monday-Friday through Oct. 28 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

The city will offer extended evening hours until 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 28, to accommodate voters.

All voters will receive two ballots – the state referendum ballot and a city ward ballot with races for Mayor, School Committee and City Council, as well as nine city charter amendments.

Residents who would like to obtain an absentee ballot but are unable to go to City Hall should call the City Clerk's Office at 513-3124 to have a ballot mailed to them. The statewide deadline to request an absentee ballot is 4 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 28.

The City's election 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/Elections>

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

## New dock system at Simard-Payne Park

### From City of Lewiston

LEWISTON - Rowing will continue on the Androscoggin River!

Lewiston Rowing has secured \$15,000 from two grant funders towards the purchase of a \$25,850 dock system at Simard-Payne Park.

Earlier this year, the first-ever Riverfest Regatta, with use of a free loaner dock from EZ Dock of Maine, drew 250 people for rowing activities, with 40 boats and more than 200 athletes and coaches from

10 rowing clubs in New England.

Tree Street Youth teens also spent three weeks in Lewiston Rowing's first training educational program. And City of Lewiston employees participated in a wellness adult learn-to-row program.

The Brookfield Renewables Safety Grant Program, which promotes water safety and recreational use of the river, has awarded Lewiston Rowing a \$10,000 grant.

The Head of the Charles, Gold Cup Foundation awarded them a \$20,000 grant

with \$5,000 set aside for the dock purchase.

Viewing the development of the riverfront for recreational activities as an integral part of the City's Riverfront Island Master Plan for Simard-Payne Park, the Lewiston City Council voted on Oct. 5 to pay for the balance of the dock system cost. A total of \$10,850 will be utilized from the City's Riverfront Implementation account.

The remainder of the Head of the Charles grant will go toward additional

equipment, program design, and training delivery, in an effort to remove traditional rowing barriers by making the sport accessible to all youth and adults who wish to try the sport.

The new dock system will be expanded from the configuration that was enjoyed this summer. Amy Smith, Program Director of Lewiston Rowing, said, "The loaner from EZ Dock of Brunswick, Maine, worked well for singles, doubles, and fours but was not long enough to accom-

See Park, page 8

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# Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Guest Column

## What's really on the menu?

By Grammar Guy

Restaurant menus have gone through a rapid evolution over the past few years.

Gone are the door-stop-thick novels at places like The Cheesecake Factory; they've been replaced with QR codes so we can scroll through appetizers and entrees on our smartphones.

Although many paper menus have been replaced with digital devices, ridiculous restaurant terms — or what is known as

“restaurantese” — abides. It's time to unpack some of these nonsensical terms.

Whether you have a physical menu or a smartphone selection, you're bound to find some French phrases that make your food sound fancier. In truth, it's a way for a restaurant to charge an extra five bucks for a dish. Have you ever seen an entree list a side of “pommes puree”? That's mashed potatoes. Don't let them fool you; they're just adding some parsley or chives on top to jack up the price.

Or perhaps you've seen something with “au jus” at the end. That's meat juice, my friend, or, as some would call it, gravy. Mashed potatoes and gravy sound much fancier “en français.”

Is a menu item listed as “artisan” or “artisanal”? That's code for “needlessly artistic” combined with “we're going to charge you more.” Don't fall for it.

If a server goes out of her way to describe an item as “fresh,” doesn't that make you question all of the other ingredients?

She certainly doesn't call the avocados “months-old avocados.” “Fresh” is a filler word meant to impress you.

Of course, I can't discuss restaurantese terms without bringing up “farm-to-table.” While I appreciate a movement toward sourcing items from local suppliers, the term can mean something as simple as “Chef Reggie gets our meat from the butcher shop down the street.” When the ribeyes start coming with detailed biographies of the animal I'm eating, I'll be

impressed.

Restaurateurs have gotten creative with sizes. You've probably heard of “tapas,” which just means “small appetizer.” “Tapas” is a Spanish term that translates roughly into “give us more of your money.” Then there's “family size” or “sharing” plates. These are larger portions that chefs expect for you to sample and share with the other people at your table. I think all the different-sized plate approaches are more ways to increase the price of your

dinner out.

Maybe I'm a culinary cynic, or feel free to call me anti-epicurean, but I think the menu writers are leaning too heavily on restaurantese marketing ploys in order to bring home the locally sourced, grass-fed, cleverly curated, slow-cured bacon.

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](http://curtishoneycutt.com).

## Hike prepared this Fall

From Me Dept of IFW

AUGUSTA - As the leaves turn and Maine's forests light up with color, hiking enthusiasts near and far seek our hiking trails.

The unmatched views and cooler days present ideal hiking conditions, but hikers need to be prepared for fall's unique conditions: shorter days mean hikes may need to start ear-

lier in the day to be done by dark. Additional layers of clothing should be packed, especially for higher elevations, and an icy mountain top is possible.

The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife provided these safe hiking reminders:

Tell someone who is not hiking with you where you are going and when you plan to return. Should something happen, this will be key to helping the Maine Warden Service and other search and rescue personnel help find you.

There are fewer daylight hours in the fall - plan your hike accordingly. Rushing can lead to slipping or falling, and hiking in the dark is challenging. Know how long the hike may take, and plan accordingly. Pack a flashlight just in case.

Know that conditions will vary significantly across the state and at different elevations. Maine is

a large state, 35,385 square miles to be exact, and conditions will vary significantly from one area to the next. Winter conditions come much earlier in the northern parts and at higher elevations.

Respect private landowners. More than 94% of Maine's forest land is privately owned. The trail you may be hiking could be owned by a private individual, help keep this privilege by being a good land user. Keep it clean and stay on the trail. Be sure to not block paths, gates, or roads when you park.

Dress for the weather and in layers. Pack layers to prepare for changing weather conditions. Stick to wicking base layers that dry fast (no cotton) and top them with warmer layers such as fleece and a wind and rain resistant outer shell.

Know what shoes are needed. For many trails, hiking shoes with strong ankle support and tread are needed. It is best to avoid icy conditions altogether, but just in case, pack a pair of crampons or ice creep-



ers.

Be prepared for no cell phone service. Know your route without the help of your cell phone.

Pack essential items. You should always be prepared to spend a night in the woods should anything happen. Always pack water, high-protein snacks, and a fire starter. Learn more in the You Alone in the Maine Woods booklet at <http://bitly.ws/h9VD>.

Keep it clean. Always leave the land as you found it, if not better. If you see trash that someone else left, pick it up.

Stick to established trails and roads.

Be prepared for no restrooms. When nature calls, pick a spot at least 100 feet off the trail or

away from a body of water, and bury your poop at least six inches deep.

Share the woods. Maine is an outdoor playground for anglers, hikers, hunters, trappers, photographers, wildlife watchers, leaf peepers, and more... Give each other space and be courteous. With millions of acres of land, there is plenty of room for everyone to enjoy.

Have a plan B. If the trailhead is full, head to your next option. Consider adventuring during the week, and for shorter hikes, avoid peak hours.

When parking, always make sure other vehicles can continue to drive through the road. Never block roads, paths, or gates.

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# Newsmakers, Names & Faces

## Geiger associates certified as Advertising Specialists

**From Geiger**

LEWISTON – Geiger associates who have earned PPAI Certification demonstrate a commitment to both business excellence and continual professional growth.

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tions and are known as the industry’s innovators and leaders.

Miranda Persaud and Melissa Santiago were named as Certified Advertising Specialists (CAS). This certification requires 50 hours from a structured industry-approved curriculum.

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est family owned and managed promotional merchandise distributor worldwide. We are the greenest promotional company, with 100% of headquarters electricity solar generated and 100% of product shipments carbon neutral. Operating from 16 division offices across the US and in the

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try’s most recognized and awarded firm. Among the company’s most recent awards are the Best Places to Work in Maine, Counselor Magazine’s Best Places to Work Award, and PPB Magazine’s Greatest Companies to Work. Geiger has won more Promotional Products Association Inter-

national (PPAI) Pyramid Awards for creativity than any other firm. More Geiger people have earned PPAI MAS+, MAS, and CAS professional certifications than any other firm. More Geiger people have been recognized by PPAI for their contributions to the industry than any other firm.

## Annual Harvest Dinner adapts to pandemic

**From MCHPP**

BRUNSWICK - Mid Coast Hunger Prevention Program (MCHPP) will partner with The School House 1913 and Chef Amy Aloe for it’s 7th annual Harvest Dinner in October.

The event will feature three-course seasonal meals offered on Oct. 15.

Proceeds will benefit MCHPP’s continued efforts to provide all members of our community with access to healthy food.

“Our Harvest Dinners have historically brought community members to-

gether to celebrate the growing season’s success, while also raising funds to support services for our neighbors experiencing food insecurity,” explains MCHPP Executive Director Karen Parker. “Due to the statewide increase in COVID-19 case numbers, this year’s event will continue the take-home model established last fall. We received positive feedback and are excited to be offering donors delicious restaurant-quality meals to enjoy in the safest way possible again this year.”

Both evenings of the Harvest Dinner will offer a

menu of a crisp apple and kohlrabi salad with charred chili chimichurri dressing followed by a choice of eggplant ratatouille with smoked mozzarella polenta or roasted stuffed porchetta served over smoky farro risotto prepared by Chef Joseph Arena of The School House 1913 restaurant in Harpswell. An optional dessert of salted caramel chocolate layer cake will be prepared by local chef Amy Aloe. Attendees will pick up their orders from MCHPP to enjoy safely with family or friends.

“We are grateful for

the help of our amazing chef and farm partners; along with strong donor support, it’s what makes this possible year after year,” shares MCHPP Development Manager Alysia Schoppee. “The willingness of the community to enthusiastically support the event’s different style has been great to see. Folks are planning date nights, dinner parties, and picnics around the Dinners. Sharing a celebratory meal is what this event has always been about so we’re very glad that aspect has remained despite the necessary COVID-19

precautions.”

Tickets are limited. Learn more and reserve tickets at [mchpp.org/events](http://mchpp.org/events).

Mid Coast Hunger Prevention Program offers dignity and empowerment by providing all members of the community with access to healthy food. Services include prepared meals, grocery distribution on-site, at local schools, and satellite locations in Harpswell, Bowdoin and Lisbon Falls.

The MCHPP food pantry is located at 12 Tenney Way in Brunswick and is open to the public

on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Friday from 11 am–2 pm; Tuesday evenings 4-6 pm; and Saturdays from noon–3 pm; the Soup Kitchen serves freshly made to go meals on Mondays–Fridays from 11 am–12:30 pm and Saturdays noon–1:30 pm. MCHPP continues working diligently to maintain the health and safety of our community and are committed to ensuring that our services remain reliably open and available to any and all in need.

For more information please visit: [www.mchpp.org](http://www.mchpp.org).

## Auburn Art Club meets Nov. 1

AUBURN - The Auburn Art Club will meet at 2 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 1, at the Park Avenue Methodist Church in Auburn.

This meeting is the annual scholarship auction.

Funds raised at the auction will be used to offer a scholarship to a young person wishing to pursue a degree in the arts. All members are urged to attend and bring an item for

the auction table.

Members are also urged to bring a friend.

Tables will be set up to accommodate social distancing. Masks are recommended but not required.





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 <b>Laurie A. Steele</b> Publisher/CEO <a href="mailto:Laurie@TwinCityTimes.com">Laurie@TwinCityTimes.com</a>	 <b>Lillian Baker</b> Office Manager <a href="mailto:Lillian@TwinCityTimes.com">Lillian@TwinCityTimes.com</a>	 <b>Nathan Tsukroff</b> Managing Editor <a href="mailto:Editor@TwinCityTimes.com">Editor@TwinCityTimes.com</a>	 <b>Lacey Rollins</b> Outside Rep <a href="mailto:Info@TwinCityTimes.com">Info@TwinCityTimes.com</a>
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## Guest Essay

# Why suicide is not the answer to your situation

By Stan Popovich

You are at the end of your rope and you can't take it any much longer. You are in pain and you feel there is no hope.

The first step you need to do is to seek treatment for your mental health issues. Do not make the decision to end your life when you are in these kinds of fearful situations.

With this in mind, here are seven reasons why suicide is not an option regarding your problems.

**1. Things change over time:** Regardless of your circumstances, events

do not stay the same. Everything changes over time. Knowing that your situation will improve will help give you the confidence that things are not as bad as they seem. In addition, your loneliness will not last.

**2. There are always other options:** You may feel lost and confused, but the answers to your specific problems are out there. The key is that you have to find the answers; the answers to your anxieties and depression will not come to you. As mentioned before, the first step in finding the solution to your problem is

to seek help from a qualified professional.

**3. You can't predict the future:** Remember that no one can predict the future with one hundred percent certainty. Even if the thing that you are afraid of does happen, there are circumstances and factors that you can't predict which can be used to your advantage. For instance, you miss the deadline for a project you have been working on. Everything you feared is coming true. Suddenly, your boss tells you that the deadline is extended and that he forgot to tell you the day be-

fore. This unknown factor changes everything.

**4. Focus on the facts of your situation and not your thoughts:** When people are depressed, they rely on their fearful and depressing thoughts. Your fearful thoughts are exaggerated and are not based on reality. When you are depressed, focus on the facts of your current situation and not on what you think. Do not assume anything regarding your current situation.

**5. Worrying makes things worse:** A lot of times, our worrying can make the problem even

worse. All the worrying in the world will not change anything. All you can do is to do your best each day, hope for the best, and when something does happen, take it in stride. The key is not to get upset and learn how to manage your negative thoughts.

**6. Go to the hospital when it is that bad:** If things are so bad that you are unable to function, drop everything and go to your local hospital or crisis center immediately. The people at the hospital or crisis center will take care of you right away.

**7. No situation is**

**hopeless:** There are many people and organizations that are willing to help you, but you must be willing to take advantage of this help. Regardless of your situation, take advantage of the assistance that is around you. Every problem has a solution. You just have to find it.

*Stan Popovich is the author of the popular managing fear book, "A Layman's Guide to Managing Fear". For more information about Stan's book and to get some free mental health advice, please visit Stan's website at <http://www.managingfear.com>*

## Legislature could take legal action to support lobstermen

From Maine Legislature

AUGUSTA — Late last week, the Maine Legislature overwhelmingly approved a joint order from Senate President Troy Jackson, D-Allagash, that would allow the Legislative Council to take legal action in support of Maine lobstermen impacted by the harmful new federal regulations.

"Maine lobstermen are a vital part of our com-

munities and economy. For years, they've adapted the way they make a living to meet new rules and regulations to protect our natural resources and wildlife. However, the latest rules imposed by the federal government will do nothing to help the endangered species they were designed to protect while having damning consequences on hardworking Mainer and their families," said President Jackson. "Today,

lawmakers all across the ideological spectrum made it very clear that the Maine Legislature will not sit idly by while this iconic industry is under threat. We are ready to take legal action to right this wrong and support the hardworking men and women in the lobstering industry."

The joint order comes on the heels of a lawsuit filed by 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.

"I fully support the Legislature taking every possible action to support the Maine lobster fishery and protect the fleet from unfair and arbitrary federal restrictions," said Rep. Genevieve McDonald, D-Stonington, a lobster boat captain. "We should not be basing regulations on outdated science, especially when the livelihoods of so many people hang in the balance."

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Adminis-

tration released new federal regulations in August as part of a plan to protect Right Whales despite a lack of data and evidence linking current lobstering practices to the decline in this endangered species. An estimated 34 whales have died since 2017, with only 12 deaths occurring in U.S. waters. None of these deaths can be linked to the Maine lobstermen.

New regulations regarding fishing gear will take effect in May. The more controversial changes will take effect October 18. These changes are expected to cost lobstermen millions in new gear and

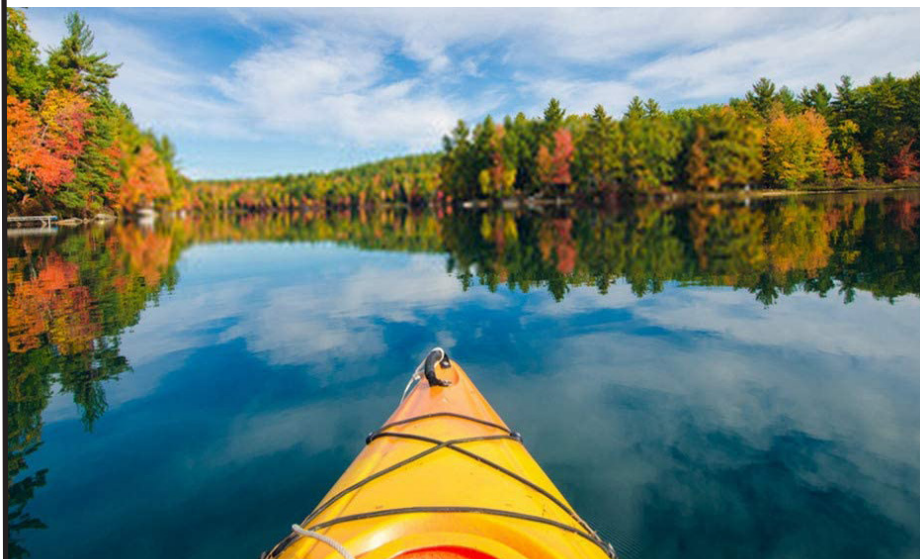
5-10 percent of their annual revenue according to the Portland Press Herald.

The Maine Lobstermen Association has filed their own lawsuit against the Secretary of Commerce and National Marine Fisheries Service in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia challenging the federal government's 10-year right whale protection plan.

The Legislative Council is a bipartisan committee that includes members of House and Senate leadership and is responsible for the overall management of the entire Legislature.

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# Call for proposals for Land for Maine's Future

**From Maine DACF**

AUGUSTA - The Mills Administration last week announced a call for proposals for conservation and recreation projects through the Lands for Maine's Future Program (LMF).

This LMF funding opportunity is the first since 2017 and is the direct result of Governor Mills' proposing and lawmakers approving \$40 million over four years to replenish the program in the most recent biennial budget.

LMF is the State's primary funding vehicle for conserving land for its natural and recreational value

The call for proposals was announced by the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.

"As we push full speed ahead on our economic recovery, now is the time to conserve in perpetuity the natural resources that form the backbone of our rural

economy," said Governor Janet Mills. "To sustain our heritage — our farms, forests and working waterfronts, saving them from development and making sure they are forever available to fishermen, families and farmers of Maine — I am excited to issue the first call for proposals since 2017 for the Land for Maine's Future Program. Preserving and protecting our cherished lands is one of our highest callings, and I encourage all who are interested to consider the program."

"The LMF Program has a lengthy history of protecting Maine's natural resources, and with this new infusion of funding, will continue advancing its important work on behalf of the people of Maine," commented DACF Commissioner Beal. "This call for proposals will bring forth the next generation of land conservation, including supporting our state climate objectives."

"The LMF board and program staff are

committed to making funds available to our applicant community as quickly as possible while maintaining a fair and equitable process that focuses on targeted conservation priorities," LMF Director Sarah Demers.

"This opportunity to invest 40 million dollars in Maine's special lands and waters and to work with our amazing conservation partners is a welcome and exciting challenge. Maine people have a long-standing record of supporting the LMF Program, and we all appreciate the leadership of both Governor Mills and the Legislature for making the protection of our state's natural resources a top priority," LMF Board Member Barbara Trafton said.

"Maine has made considerable progress in conserving land but there is much more to do. Land for Maine's Future assures that we continue to make progress conserving what we all know and love for future genera-

tions," LMF Board Member Don Kleiner said.

LMF project awards include the conservation of working forests, farms, and commercial waterfronts, public access to our woods and waters, and the protection and management of wildlife.

Several program priorities and practices were formalized through the budget bill, including establishing a Community Conservation funding category to replace the local and regional significance categories. Projects addressing climate change and deer habitat will have priority. Additionally, it is now a statutory requirement that, except for working farms and working waterfronts, lands acquired with LMF funds may not prohibit public access, hunting, fishing, and trapping, which has been the practice since the program started more than 30 years ago.

LMF is the State of Maine's primary funding vehicle for conserving land for its natural and

recreational value. The program was established in 1987 when Maine citizens approved a bond to fund \$35 million for the purchase of lands, and the program's priority is to conserve Maine landscape, recognizing that working lands and public access to these lands is critical to preserving Maine's quality of life.

Since then, LMF has conserved nearly 604,000 acres of land, more than half of which — 333,425 acres — has been working lands. This includes 41 farms and 9,755 acres of farmlands and 26 commercial working waterfront properties, along with 1,272 miles of shorelines of rivers, lakes and ponds, 58 miles of coastline, and 158 miles of former railroad corridors for recreational trails.

Prior to this \$40 million infusion, the fund was nearly depleted. Now that it is replenished, LMF can continue its robust conservation efforts, leveraging Federal funding enacted last year

through The Great American Outdoors Act, which is expected to send tens of millions of dollars to the state for protection and conservation efforts.

Full details about the types of projects supported, who is eligible to apply, the application process, and the 2021 LMF Proposal Workbook are available now on the LMF website at <http://bit.ly.ws/h9TB>

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## Safe Voices seeks donors for holiday outreach

AUBURN - Safe Voices, the domestic violence and sex trafficking resource center based in Lewiston, invites businesses and community members to participate in its annual holiday programs Feed-a-Family and Adopt-a-Family.

Individuals, businesses and community organizations are welcome and may choose to support one or both programs.

This annual program serves more than 100 families across Androscoggin, Oxford and Franklin counties each year. Similar to 2020, advocates anticipate greater

need as survivors continue to struggle with increased risk and instability brought on by COVID-19 and social distancing. For parents and children who are struggling with isolation brought on by abuse, or who have had to flee a dangerous situation at home, donors can help provide a happy holiday in difficult times.

The Feed-a-Family program matches donors with a family to provide a complete Thanksgiving dinner. Donors purchase the supplies for a traditional dinner of turkey, sides and dessert and deliver them to Safe Voices,

who will then get them to the family in need. The Adopt-a-Family program also matches donors with families to provide gifts in celebration of the December holidays.

If you would like to participate as a donor, please call or email Emily Mitchell at 207-795-6744 x222 or [emitchell@safemothers.org](mailto:emitchell@safemothers.org). Donors may also complete a participation form online at [www.safemothers.org](http://www.safemothers.org).

If you or someone you know is in a domestic violence situation, please call Safe Voices' 24-hour helpline at 1-800-559-2927.

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# Arts & Entertainment

## ‘Middletown’ opens at The Public Theatre



Craig Bockhorn, Joyce Cohen, Allison Briner Dardenne, Douglas Rees appear in the show, “Middletown”, that starts play on Saturday at The Public Theatre on Maple Street in Lewiston. This will be the first play since the theater closed some 18 months ago due to the COVID-19 pandemic. (Photo courtesy of The Public Theatre)

### From The Public Theatre

LEWISTON – After being closed due to COVID-19 for over 18 months, The Public Theatre reopens its doors with the uplifting and heartfelt new play “Middletown”, playing Oct 15-24.

A wonderful combination of comedy and drama, “Middletown” celebrates life through the eyes of two couples who’ve been friends for 33 years. Starting with their children’s first day of kindergarten, and continuing through shared dinners, vacations, heartbreaks and celebrations, these engaging couples reminisce and re-live the highs, lows and

in-betweens of their shared experiences.

“Middletown is the perfect play for this moment in time, and a delightful antidote to the feeling of isolation that so many people have experienced during COVID-19,” Director Janet Mitchko said. “This play celebrates the connections we have with our friends and spouses and reminds us how the relationships we have with each other make the good times better and the hard times easier. Friends are the family we choose and this is the perfect play to see with your friends.”

The Public Theatre will be the first regional theatre to produce “Mid-

dletown”, which until now has been touring the country with former television stars in the roles. “When we first read this play we knew it would be the perfect fit for our audience”, said Mitchko, “and we are grateful to be the first theatre to get the rights to produce it”.

“We are also grateful to have assembled a fabulous group of actors, mostly Broadway veterans, who will bring this powerful story to life”, Mitchko said. “Middletown was originally scheduled to appear in our 2019-20 season, and we’re happy to have managed to hang onto our cast and finally share

this funny, moving and uplifting production with our audience”.

Taking place in Middletown, New Jersey, the couple of Peg and Tom will be played by Joyce Cohen and Craig Bockhorn. Joyce last appeared at The Public Theatre in The Midvale High School 50th Reunion, and Humble Boy and just finished shooting a Lifetime movie for the Christmas season. Aside from her extensive experience in regional theatres and on Broadway, you might recognize her from the television movie High School Musical. Craig has appeared on Broadway in On Golden Pond, The Lonesome West and Prelude to a Kiss as well as in The NY Public Theatre’s Shakespeare in the Park production of The Seagull. The couple of Dotty and Don will be played by Allison Briner Dardenne and Douglas Rees. Alison appeared on Broadway in both Bright Star and Mamma Mia! as well as in several National Tours including Follies, Titanic and Les Miserables. Douglas previously appeared at The Public Theatre in Under the Skin. His extensive experience also includes roles in multiple Off-Broadway productions, regional theatres as well on 30 Rock

and FBI.

The set for Middletown will be designed by Amber Callahan, lights by Michael Reidy, costumes by Debra Susi and sound by John Morrison.

NEW THIS SEASON, The Public Theatre will also be offering tickets to a Video-On-Demand option to a performance of Middletown recorded in front of a live audience that you can watch from home beginning on Oct 19th.

The Public Theatre has taken its decision to resume live performances very seriously. The safety of everyone is our top priority, and we have recently upgraded our HVAC system with MERV filters for improved air-handling throughout the theatre that meets or exceeds all CDC guidelines for air circulation and filtration.

For everyone’s protection we are REQUIRING: Proof of Vaccination OR a negative COVID-19 test within 48 hours of performance and masks must be worn while in the building.

“Middletown” is playing at The Public Theatre, Lewiston/Auburn’s Professional Theatre, Oct 15- 24. Thurs-Sat at 7:30pm, Sun at 2pm with a Sat matinee on Oct 23 at 3pm. Tickets: \$25 Adults,

\$22 groups. Tickets as well as Video on Demand tickets can be purchased online at [thepublictheatre.org](http://thepublictheatre.org) or by calling 782-3200.

The Theatre is located at 31 Maple St. Lewiston.

For more information on any of the shows, visit [thepublictheatre.org](http://thepublictheatre.org) or call (207) 782-3200.

The Public Theatre began its first season in 1991, producing two plays in a borrowed space at the Auburn Mall. Today, The Public Theatre is one of the most remarkable success stories in the state of Maine and a cornerstone in the cultural life of Lewiston/Auburn. Each season The Public Theatre produces six to eight productions, playing to an audience of over 17,000 people.

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# 'Readers Theater' with Maine Authors at CCAC

## From CCAC

BATH - The Chocolate Church Arts Center (CCAC) will present a "Readers Theater" event on Friday Oct. 22, in which professional actors will perform short stories by acclaimed Maine Authors Morgan Talty and Monica Wood.

A book signing and chance to meet the authors will follow the performance.

Readers Theater is a style of performance that blends the reading aloud of a book with theatrical elements before a live audience. The cast of actors simultaneously narrates the story and brings added life to the characters through voice, expression, and movement. In "Food for the Common Cold" by Morgan Talty, a native boy in Eastern Maine uncovers the losses of the past that keep resurfacing in his family's present. In "Shuffle, Step" by Monica Wood, a widower unexpectedly finds himself taking dance lessons with his 13-year-old neighbor after he wins a free class in a raffle.

The majority of the proceeds from the event will go toward supporting Midcoast Literacy, a non-profit organization based in Bath that has been providing free literacy programs to people of all ages in Lincoln, Sagadahoc and northern Cumberland Counties for nearly 50 years.

Morgan Talty is a citizen of the Penobscot Indian Nation, where he grew up. He received his BA in Native American Studies from Dartmouth College and his MFA in fiction from Stonecoast's low-residency program. His story collection, *Night of the Living Rez*, is forthcoming from Tin House Books (2022), and his work has

appeared in *The Georgia Review*, *Shenandoah*, in *The TriQuarterly*, and *Narrative Magazine*. Talty teaches courses in both English and Native American Studies, and he is on the faculty at the Stonecoast MFA in creative writing.

Monica Wood is a novelist, memoirist, and playwright; the 2019 recipient of the Maine Humanities Council Carlson Prize for contributions to the public humanities; and a recipient of the Maine Writers and Publishers Alliance Distinguished Achievement Award for contributions to the literary arts. Her most recent novel, *The One-in-a-Million Boy*, has been translated into 20 languages in over 30 countries. She is also the author of *When We Were the Kennedys*, a New England bestseller, Oprah magazine summer-reading pick, and winner of the May Sarton Memoir Award and the Maine Literary Award.

CCAC is requiring that all attendees show proof of vaccination or proof of a negative COVID test (within 48 hours prior to a performance) at the door. For this show, face coverings are strongly rec-



Authors Monica Wood and Morgan Talty will be the featured artists in a "Readers Theater" at Chocolate Church Art Center in Bath on Oct. 22. (Photo courtesy of CCAC)

ommended while seated, and required while purchasing concessions and merchandise, or while otherwise interacting with any event personnel.

The Chocolate Church Arts Center is located at 804 Washington Street in Bath. Tickets for Readers Theater are \$15 in advance or \$20 day of show, and are available at [chocolatechurcharts.org](http://chocolatechurcharts.org) or by calling 207-442-8455.

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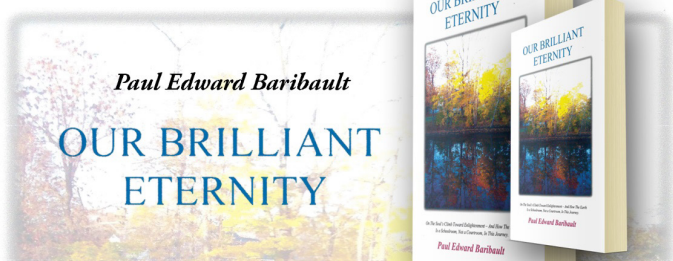
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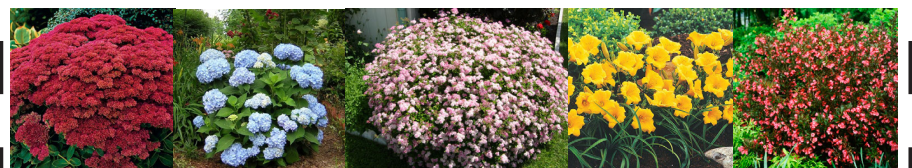
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**Park**  
*Continued from page 1*  
modate our eight-person shell. Our goal is to keep the current dock and to lengthen it by two sections;

this is the baseline for a robust rowing program. In addition, due to the consistent community use of the dock this summer for fishing and launching smaller

paddle-powered boats, we would like to add a kayak launch.”

Lewiston Recreation and Lewiston Public Works are enthusiastically on board with this opportunity. Lewiston Rec will be working with Lewiston Rowing to create community rowing programming for campers, students, and residents. Public Works will update the path down to the dock next spring, as well as have continued involvement with the installation and storage of the dock.

Public Works Direc-

tor Mary Ann Brenchick said, “We feel this is just the beginning in developing an inclusive, athlete-focused program for both youth and adults while promoting family education on water safety. We strongly support this new program and floating dock system. In addition to the rowing events, we observed several residents enjoying fishing and simply relaxing on the dock.”

“We want to build on the success of the 2021 Riverfest Regatta, making it an annual event that showcases our beautiful community and area businesses; the second annual Riverfest Regatta is already scheduled for June 18, 2022. We are so privileged and grateful to have such outstanding community partners as we bring this healthy, safe, lifelong sport to our youth and adults,” Brenchick said.

## Christmas By The Lake Church Fair Nov. 20

AUBURN - St. Philips Church at 2365 Turner Road in Auburn is hosting their Christmas By The Lake Church Fair on Saturday, Nov. 20.

The church is looking for donations of items for the Hidden Treasures Booth.

Drop off dates for donations will be from 9 a.m.-noon on Saturdays, October 16, 23, and 30 and Nov, 6 and 13. Drop offs can also be made after mass on Sunday from 10:30 a.m.-noon. These are the only drop-off dates for items.

To help ensure cleanliness and protect the health of our volunteers, please do not donate used fabric/remnants, blinds, shades, curtains, cloth-

ing, electronics, broken or soiled items, mildewed books, tapes, records, used or partially burned candles, bedding, soiled or stained table cloths, dusty or dirty glassware/dinnerware, broken or soiled toys, used medical equipment, tires, items stored or packed in damp or mildewed boxes, outdated or unsafe cribs or car seats, large, bulky furniture.

For more information or questions please call the chairperson of the fair Leo at 207-577-7424.

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# BIG OIL AND GAS LOVE QUESTION 1

Follow the money and you'll find Big Oil and Gas companies have paid millions to put Question 1 on the ballot in November. By giving retroactive power to the legislature, Big Oil and Gas will be able to block renewable energy projects for generations — ensuring their profits are safe from competition — allowing them to make billions generating dirty energy.

# VOTE NO ON QUESTION 1

Paid for and authorized by the Hydro-Québec Maine Partnership, 225 Asylum Street, 27th Floor, Hartford, CT 06103, Jean Lapointe, Treasurer. This material is distributed by Blaze Partners LLC, on behalf of H.Q. Energy Services (U.S.) Inc., the sole contributor to the Hydro-Québec Maine Partnership. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.



# Takeout Bean Supper in Gray

**By First Cong. Church** Bean Supper on Saturday, Oct. 23. Carol at (207) 650-9093. baked pea beans, two red hot dogs, coleslaw, biscuit, and assorted pies. Park at the parish house at 5 Brown Street in Gray, then enter the parish house by the front door. Meals are sin-

GRAY – The First Congregational Church of Gray is hosting a takeout Please preorder by Wednesday, Oct. 20. To order meals, call Face masks and social distancing are required inside the parish house.

The menu includes 4-5:30 p.m. on Saturday. Meals are sin-

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# USDA helping rural Maine businesses lower energy costs

## From USDA

WASHINGTON, D.C. - U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack recently announced the Department is investing \$464 million to build or improve renewable energy infrastructure to help rural communities, agricultural producers and businesses lower energy costs in 48 states and Puerto Rico.

"USDA continues to prioritize climate-smart infrastructure to help rural America build back better, stronger and more equitably than ever before," Vilsack said. "We recognize that lowering energy costs for small businesses and agricultural producers helps to expand economic development and employment opportunities for people in America's rural towns and communities. The investments we are announcing today demonstrate how the Biden-Harris Administration has put rural communities at the heart of climate action and climate-smart solutions."

USDA Rural Development Acting Maine State Director Tommy R. Higgins said, "I am pleased that USDA Rural

Development can assist these forward thinking businesses to help them install renewable energy systems that will lower operating costs over time. Investing through the Rural Energy for America Program helps the Maine economy and contributes to a cleaner and more sustainable future for Maine communities."

USDA is financing \$129 million of these investments through the Rural Energy for America Program. This program provides funding to help agricultural producers and rural small businesses purchase and install renewable energy systems and make energy efficiency improvements. These climate-smart investments will conserve and generate more than 379 million kilowatt-hours (kWh) in rural America, which equates to enough electricity to power 35,677 homes per year.

USDA is financing \$335 million of these investments through the Electric Loan Program. The loans will help build or improve 1,432 miles of line to strengthen reliability in rural areas. The loans include \$102 million for

investments in smart grid technology, which uses digital communications to detect and react to local changes in electricity usage.

In Maine, eight businesses have been selected to receive REAP Loans and Grants for a total of \$7,464,060:

**Wohelo Incorporated**, located in Raymond, has received a grant in the amount of \$9,967. This Rural Development funding will be used to assist the business to install a solar photovoltaic system. This project will save \$2,467 per year and will generate 16,790 kilowatt hours annually, which is enough to power one home. Wohelo, Incorporated, dba Wohelo Camps, is a set of girls' residential camps in Raymond, Maine.

**Wilbur's of Maine Chocolate Confections**, in Freeport, has received a grant in the amount of \$20,000. This USDA Rural Development funding will be used to install a new solar photovoltaic system. This project is expected to save \$4,551 per year. It will generate 37,050 kilowatt hours per year, which is enough to power three homes. Wilbur's of Maine

is a chocolate and candy store located in Freeport, Maine.

**Dooryard Farm, LLC.**, in Camden, has received a grant in the amount of \$14,400. This Rural Development funding will be used to install a new solar photovoltaic system. This project is expected to save \$1,603 per year. It will generate 28,718 kilowatt hours per year, which is enough to power two homes. Dooryard Farm, LLC., is a certified organic farm that grows vegetables and pasture-raised animals in and around Camden, Maine.

**Littlefield Retreat, LLC.**, in Springvale, has received a grant in the amount of \$13,000. This Rural Development investment will be used to help install a solar photovoltaic system. This company owns and operates Purposely Lost, Maine's first and only eco-friendly, carbon neutral, luxury-meets-camp retreat in Springvale, Maine. This project is expected to save \$1,284 per year and will generate 89,370 kilowatt hours per year, which is enough to power eight homes.

**Poor Richard's In-**

**corporated**, in Springvale, has received a grant in the amount of \$3,197. This Rural Development investment will be used to help install a solar photovoltaic system in Springvale, Maine. This project is expected to save \$1,018 per year. It will generate 7,100 kilowatt hours per year. Poor Richard's Incorporated, dba Ferment Farm, specializes in heritage produce used to produce premium micro-batch foods including ice cream, fermented foods, and cider.

**Sheepscot Valley Brewing Company LLC**, in Whitefield, has received a grant in the amount of \$6,231. This Rural Development investment will be used to install a new solar photovoltaic system that is expected to save \$2,200 per year and replace 16,542 kilowatt hours (100 percent of the company's energy use) annually. This is enough energy to power one home. Sheepscot Valley Brewing Company LLC is a micro-brewery and tasting room.

**Morning Dew Farm LLC.**, in Damariscotta, has received a grant in the amount of \$12,265. This Rural Development investment will be used to install

a new solar photovoltaic system. This project is expected to save \$3,100 per year and will generate 28,626 kilowatt hours per year, which is enough energy to power two homes. Morning Dew Farm LLC is a grower of organic vegetables and seedlings.

## REAP Loan Recipient

Augusta Road Bowdoin Solar LLC., in Bowdoin, has received a REAP Guaranteed Loan in the amount of \$7,385,000 in partnership with lender Crestmark, a division of MetaBank. This Rural Development investment will be used to provide permanent financing to build a 5.415 MWdc ground-mounted solar project located in rural Bowdoin, ME. The project has interconnection and net energy billing agreements in place with Central Maine Power Company and is expected to produce 6,787,000 kilowatt hours of electricity in the first full year of operation.

For more information on the REAP Program, contact Brian Wilson, Business & Cooperative Programs Director, at (207) 990-9125 or brian.wilson@usda.gov.

## Photographer returns to 1970s Portland in 'Take it Easy'

### Book of street photography spotlights a city on the cusp of change

#### From IslandPort Press

YARMOUTH - During the 1970s, a young John Duncan was a free spirit, cab driver, dishwasher, and budding photographer whose daily visits to the streets of Portland with his camera produced a remarkable body of work—capturing a city on the cusp of change.

In 1979, Duncan stored away his film and negatives and the pictures remained largely forgotten for roughly forty years while he traveled, worked, and raised a family.

Now, more than 130 of those long-forgotten black-and-white images have been collected into his first book, "Take it Easy: Portland in the 1970s" published by Maine-based Islandport Press. Take it Easy showcases not only a personal journey, but reveals the everyday beauty and truth of a city in the midst of radical change. Centered largely on the decline and transformation of Congress Street and the adjacent downtown area, this collection captures friends and strangers of all ages as they

navigate their day-to-day lives—in what became an iconic era—through the intuitive and empathetic lens of Duncan's camera.

"The sheer volume of photographs, their personal nature, the compressed timeline, and the unusually concentrated location—essentially Congress Street in the midst of its epic fall from grace in the 1970s—combine to create a remarkable collection of images and text that paint a rare close-up view of a living, breathing city buffeted by change and uncertainty," said Dean L. Lunt, Editor-in-Chief of Islandport Press. "Duncan was working and living downtown at the time and his daily access, natural curiosity, and informal style captured the joy and melancholy of a city as it played out in real time during what proved to be an iconic era in general and a transformative era for Portland specifically."

The book is scheduled for release on Nov. 9. Duncan will celebrate the book's launch at the St. Lawrence Arts Center, 76 Congress Street, Portland at

5:30 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 8 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. Other events to be announced.

Duncan, who was born and raised in Falmouth, graduated from high school and moved to Portland in 1969. After attending Woodstock, which changed his life, he worked at a series of jobs over the ensuing decade—including cab driver, dishwasher, oil rig roughneck, deckhand at Casco Bay Lines, and truck stop attendant.

As much as possible, he pursued his love of photography through it all. He married his wife, Susanne, while travelling and working in Europe in the 1980s and returned to Maine to raise his family in Portland. Now retired, Duncan has been looking back over his rediscovered photographs and reminiscing about an almost-unbelievable past.

Islandport Press is a dynamic, award-winning publisher dedicated to stories rooted in the essence and sensibilities of New England. For more information, please visit [www.islandportpress.com](http://www.islandportpress.com).

## US takes part in food systems summit

### From USDA

ROME, Italy - In the leadup to the United Nations Food Systems Summit in September, U.S. government officials took part in the Pre-Summit Ministerial meeting in Rome July 26-28.

The summit will advance proposals, build coalitions, and seek solutions to end hunger and poverty and build more sustainable, equitable and resilient food systems.

U.S. Department of Agriculture Deputy Secretary Dr. Jewel Bronaugh, the head of the U.S. delegation, said, "The United States is invested in the success of the Food Systems Summit and has prioritized ending hunger and malnutrition, addressing climate change, and building more sustainable, equitable and resilient food systems."

Bronaugh emphasized that the United States is the largest provider of international agricultural, economic development, and humanitarian food assistance - including assistance for school meals. In video remarks, U.S. Agency for International Development

Administrator Samantha Power underscored the United States' commitment to Zero Hunger and highlighted the U.S. government's Feed the Future initiative, which aims to reduce hunger, malnutrition and poverty through long-term, sustainable solutions. Power also noted the strong set of commitments the United States is preparing to make at the Summit to empower millions more to feed themselves and their communities.

The United States announced support for new initiatives at the Pre-Summit. Recognizing that school feeding programs are key to reducing hunger, increasing educational opportunities, and promoting gender equity worldwide, the United States promoted participation in the Global School Meals Coalition, which will expand school feeding programs and make nutritious meals available for all children by 2030. As part of the U.S. focus on climate, the United States continued building support for the Agriculture Innovation Mission for Climate, which was announced at President Biden's Leaders' Summit on Climate in April, with the addition of

10 new partners: Burkina Faso, Colombia, Ghana, Honduras, Hungary, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Philippines, Ukraine and Vietnam. Recognizing that food loss and waste are a major contributor to the climate crisis, the United States also supported the creation of a global Coalition on Food Loss and Waste to reduce food loss and waste domestically and internationally.

The United States supports a Food Systems Summit that reflects and serves the needs of diverse stakeholders around the world, from producers to consumers and particularly those in marginalized communities, including women, youth, and indigenous people. In the leadup to the Pre-Summit, the United States hosted three National Food Systems Dialogues, allowing diverse stakeholders to discuss challenges, opportunities, and pathways forward. Bronaugh shared some of the results of these dialogues at the Pre-Summit and emphasized that realizing the goals of the Summit will require strengthening the capacity of all participants in food and agriculture systems.

# Anonymous \$10K Donation to Hawthorne House



Members of the Hawthorne Community Association accept a \$10,000 donation from an anonymous donor. (Photo courtesy of the Hawthorne Community Association)

## From Hawthorne Assoc.

RAYMOND – The passionate, three-year-long “Save the Hawthorne House!” fundraising campaign launched by the Hawthorne Community Association to repair serious structural damage to Nathaniel Hawthorne’s Boyhood Home in Raymond has received a \$10,000 anonymous donation.

The donor - a resident of California wishing to be identified only as a descendent of Ichabod Roberts Kelsey and Martha Ann Bartlett Kelsey (Daughters of the American Revolution 1907

compilation no. 64087) and of George F. Murch and Mary Jane Nutting Murch - has asked that the donation be identified as a special gift in honor of Clyde Stanley Murch and Edna Pearl Ames Murch.

Clyde Murch was also a descendant of George F. Murch and Mary Jane Nutting Murch. Clyde Murch was a founding officer of the Hawthorne Community Association upon its formation in 1921. He was instrumental in revitalizing the Association in 1956, and in securing federal tax-exempt status for it in 1963.

While offering his

donation to the Hawthorne Community Association, the anonymous donor said, “I wish to convey my congratulations to the residents of the Casco/Raymond area for support for this project, and I hope that others with ties to the region generally and to the Hawthorne House specifically—including seasonal residents like myself—will consider donating to the fund. This will allow the Association to successfully complete this urgently-needed renovation project.”

In addition to smaller donations from a wide array of Mainers,

the “Save the Hawthorne House!” fundraising effort previously received a greatly-appreciated \$11,000 donation from William and Anne Harrison of Raymond and a \$5,000 donation from David Flanagan of Manchester.

To help save Nathaniel Hawthorne’s Boyhood Home, please consider a check or online donation.

Please make checks payable to “Hawthorne Community Association” / PO Box 185 / South Casco, ME 04077.

PayPal donations may be made online at: <https://www.hawthorne-assoc.com>.

## Graveyard walk on Oct. 23

### From AHS

AUBURN – The Androscoggin Historical Society will host a graveyard walk at Riverside Cemetery in Lewiston at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 23.

Meet at the entrance gate at 192 Summer St.

Participants will be limited to 15 so pre-registration will be necessary. Please call 207-784-0586 or email [info@androhist.org](mailto:info@androhist.org)

### Leeds tour

Androscoggin Historical Society will sponsor a tour of the Leeds Historical Society located in front of the Leeds Town office on Sunday, Nov. 14, at 1 p.m.

There will be an optional walk up “Monument Hill” following the tour, for those who relish a fall walk.

This event also requires pre-registration, and masks are necessary inside the building.

To register for these

activities, contact Androscoggin Historical Society at 207-784-0586 or email [info@androhist.org](mailto:info@androhist.org)

AHS was founded by the DAR in 1923 and its purpose is to promote the study of the history of Androscoggin County and its citizens, and preserve archives, records, relics and mementoes of that history.

AHS is located on the third floor of the Androscoggin Court House at 2 Turner St in Auburn.

## ‘Introduction to Credit’ on Tuesday

### From APL

AUBURN - The world of credit scores and knowing how to build your credit can be truly confusing.

A workshop in the Auburn Public Library Conference Room from 3-4 p.m. next Tuesday will give attendees the basics of a credit score, how to use credit properly, and how to increase their own credit score.

This workshop is perfect for anyone who needs to improve their credit, is

trying to prepare to buy a home, or who is just starting out.

Join Kendra Wheeler, Branch Manager for Bangor Savings Bank, for this helpful introduction to credit. Kendra has a passion for financial literacy; as she describes it, a “really nerdy, has date-night-’financial committee’-meetings-with-her-husband” passion! Kendra takes a kind and honest approach when coaching and is committed to showing people how to successfully reach their money goals.

For planning purposes, registration is required. To register, visit the Events page of the library website - [www.auburnpubliclibrary.org](http://www.auburnpubliclibrary.org)), contact the Reference Desk at 207-333-6640, ext. 4, or email [dwallace@auburnpubliclibrary.org](mailto:dwallace@auburnpubliclibrary.org).

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

## Storytime in Kennedy Park on Tuesdays

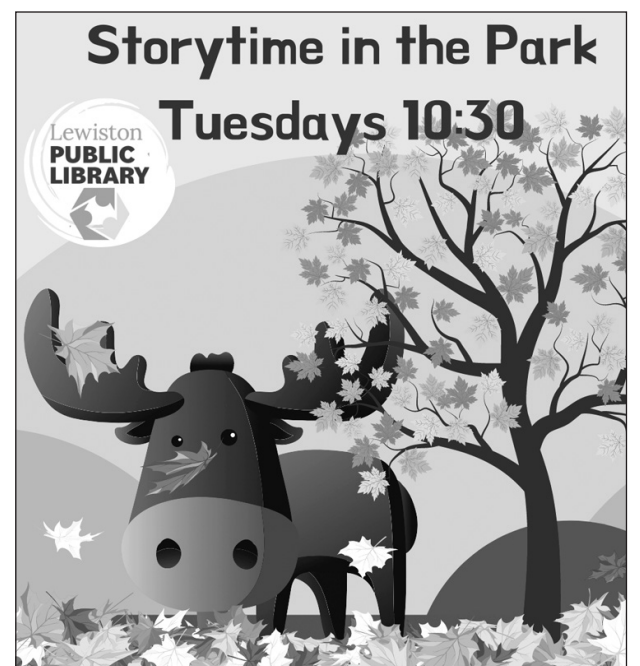
### From Lewiston Library

LEWISTON - Join the Lewiston Public Library for Storytime in Kennedy Park on Tuesdays from Oct. 19 through Dec. 7.

The event will take place from 10:30-11:15 a.m. for children up to five years old, weather permitting.

Storytime is a fun and interactive activity for children and their caregivers that helps introduce children to the world of books, learning, and the library. Early literacy concepts such as print awareness and phonics will be introduced to parents and children. Come and enjoy stories, songs, fingerplay, and more. Siblings are always welcome.

This program is free,



open to the public, and no registration is required.

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

More information on Storytime programs is available by contacting the Lewiston Public Library at 513-3133 or [LPLKids@lewistonmaine.gov](mailto:LPLKids@lewistonmaine.gov).

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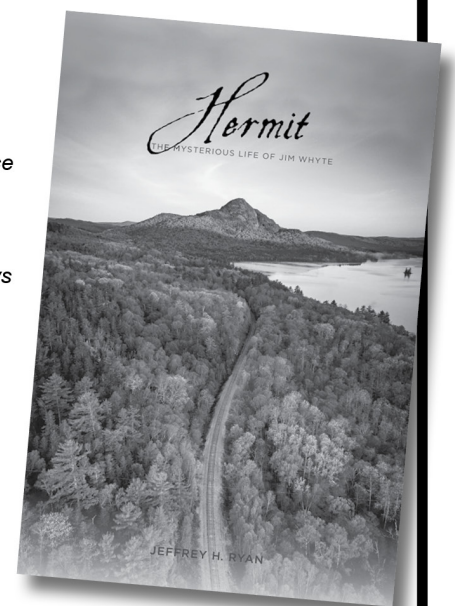
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— Bill Bushnell, *Bushnell on Books*

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— George Smith, *Bangor Daily News*

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# NASA Seeks Student Tech Ideas for Suborbital Launch

**From NASA**

WASHINGTON, D.C. - NASA is calling on all sixth through 12th-grade educators and students to submit experiments for possible suborbital flights as a way of gaining firsthand experience with the design and testing process used by NASA researchers.

The NASA TechRise Student Challenge invites students to design, build, and launch experiments on suborbital rockets and high-altitude balloons. The challenge aims to inspire a deeper understanding of Earth's atmosphere, space exploration, coding, electronics, and the value of test data.

Guided by an educator, student teams affiliated with U.S. public, private, and charter schools can develop and submit creative experiment ideas.

The entry period is open until Nov. 3.

"Central to NASA's mission is inspiring and educating the workforce of the future. The research areas students can explore through TechRise are endless, from technology to better understand our planet to innovative systems for deep space exploration," said NASA Administrator Bill Nelson. "We hope to see entries from students across the country, showcasing the diverse talent and ideas of the next generation."

Each winning team will receive \$1,500 to build their experiment and an assigned spot to test it on a NASA-sponsored suborbital flight operated by Blue Origin, UP Aerospace, or Raven Aerostar.

Flying experiments on suborbital rockets and high-altitude balloons takes technologies from ground-based laboratories into relevant testing environments. The flights replicate microgravity, solar exposure, radiation, extreme temperatures, vacuum, and intense vibrations. Understanding how payloads respond to these conditions allows researchers to validate their designs and adjust or make improvements as needed.

To enter the competition, teams should submit their experiment ideas online using the TechRise proposal framework. NASA plans to announce the competition winners in January 2022. The selected student teams will build their experiments and watch them take flight in early 2023.

**Virtual Field Trip**

NASA and Future Engineers, the challenge administrator, will host a TechRise virtual field trip Friday, Sept. 24, to share more information about the challenge and inspire research questions and experiment ideas

Educators and students can tune in to hear from NASA experts and

special guest Dr. Raven Baxter, also known as Dr. Raven the Science Maven, and explore on-demand educational content at their own pace. Interested participants can register online. In addition, various resources on the challenge website aim to help students choose a vehicle and plan experiments on topics ranging from climate to remote sensing to microgravity research.

"It's an honor to be part of the virtual field trip, and I can't wait to work directly with students who will build and test designs that will explore microgravity," said Baxter. "Our goal is to inspire them, and I'm sure their ideas will inspire

us."

**Volunteer to Judge**

NASA is also seeking volunteers to help judge the entries.

U.S. residents with expertise in engineering, space, and/or atmospheric research who are interested in reviewing NASA TechRise submissions can apply to be a judge at <http://bitly.ws/giBr>

For challenge details, visit <http://bitly.ws/giBm>

NASA's Flight Opportunities program, based at the agency's Armstrong Flight Research Center in Edwards, California, manages the challenge. The program is part of NASA's Space Technology Mission Directorate.

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## Grant to fund 14 Maine bridge decks

**From Sen. Collins**

WASHINGTON, D.C.— At the end of June, the Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT) was awarded a total of \$45.2 million in grants for the replacement of 14 bridge decks.

U.S. Senators Susan Collins (R-ME), the Ranking Member of the Transportation Appropriations Subcommittee, and Angus King (I-ME) and Representatives Chellie Pingree (D-ME 1st District) and Jared Golden (D-ME 2nd District) announced the grants.

The bridges—which are located in Benedicta, Medway, Howland, Bangor, Hampden, and Pittsfield—are critical to local residents as well as for freight being transported throughout the state.

The funding was awarded through the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) Program, which leverages federal grants to help communities invest in high-priority projects to fix crumbling infrastructure.

U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg had called Senator Collins to notify her of the approval of this grant, for which Senator Collins strongly advocated.

"The people of Maine rely heavily on the routes these bridges serve to get to work, go to school, and access health care and other essential services. These bridges are also essential to our freight network, providing access to the northernmost parts of Maine and to Canada," said Senators Collins and King and Representatives Pingree and Golden in a joint statement. "This project to rehabilitate these bridges will improve the efficiency of Maine's transportation system, preserve and create jobs, enhance

Maine's ability to compete in national and international markets, and deliver direct benefits to families and businesses across the state."

"These bridges are part of Maine's National Highway System and represent programmed 'must-do' work to assure the safety and economic prosperity of Maine people," said Maine Department of Transportation Commissioner Bruce A. Van Note. "We are grateful to Senator Collins for her continued advocacy for infrastructure needs in Maine because, without this grant, MaineDOT would have had to scale back other work to get these bridge projects done."

The selected bridges have deteriorated to the end of their useful lives and are considered structurally deficient. If these bridge decks are left in their current state, it is likely that detours will be needed for freight transportation in excess of 100 miles in some areas. The aging bridge decks will be replaced with new, safe, and modern bridge decks, meeting current traffic safety standards.

Senator Collins has championed funding for INFRA through her leadership role on the Transportation Appropriations Subcommittee. Senator Collins secured \$36 million toward the replacement of the Madawaska Bridge and \$38 million for the replacement of seven deteriorated bridges in previous rounds of INFRA funding.

Since 2009, when Senator Collins became a member of the Appropriations Committee, she has secured more than \$800 million in competitive transportation grants for the State of Maine. Federal competitive grants are a critical component of funding for Maine's transportation needs.

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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. 14  
10-11 a.m.**

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

# Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

**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/gwhI>

**SATURDAY  
Oct. 16  
7-9:30 p.m.**

**LEWISTON** - A free screening of the Lewiston-based documentary film, *The Intersection / Le Carrefour*, a project which received the first ever Maine Heritage Film Grant by TV5 Monde/CIFF. The screening will include a lively Q&A featuring the filmmakers, primary characters of the film and community leaders. The film will be followed by a reception in the Heritage Hall. Beverages will be available for sale at the bar. Performance Hall, Gendron Franco Center, 46 Cedar Street, Lewiston.

**SATURDAY/SUNDAY  
Oct. 16/17  
11 a.m.-4 p.m.**

**LIVERMORE** – "Story Trails at Norlands". Groups will have an hour to look for clues and solve puzzles throughout the grounds and historical buildings, all while following a story filled with real information about the impressive Maine family who

lived there.

**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.

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

**LEWISTON** – Finance Committee meeting at City Hall Administrator's Conference Room.

**7 p.m.**

**GORHAM** – Optional Planning Board Meeting in council chambers.

**TUESDAY  
Oct. 19  
7:30 a.m.**

**AUBURN** – Auburn Public Library Board of Trustees meeting.

**8 a.m.**

**GORHAM** – Ordinance Committee Meeting in Conference Room A.

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

**LEWISTON** - Storytime in the Park. Join the Lewiston Public Library for Storytime in Kennedy Park for children ages 0-5, weather permitting. Storytime is a fun and interactive activity for children and their caregivers that helps introduce children to the world of books, learning, and the library. Come

and enjoy stories, songs, fingerplay, and more. Siblings are always welcome. Free. 513-3133; www.LPLonline.org

**4 p.m.**

**AUBURN** – Auburn Sewer District Trustees meeting.

**4-6 p.m.**

**LEWISTON** – Pop-in to the Lewiston Public Library for a demonstration on making popcorn. Any popcorn made can be taken home, and it takes about 15 minutes for the demonstration.

**6 p.m.**

**LEWISTON** – City Council meeting at City Hall in the City Council Chambers. This Meeting and Workshop will be broadcast LIVE over Spectrum Cable TV Government Access Channel 7, streamed LIVE through the Great Falls Television web site, and streamed LIVE through the city's YouTube channel <http://www.lewistonmaine.gov/YouTube>. Archived copies of this meeting will be available immediately after broadcast on the City YouTube Channel and within a day or two after broadcast, for viewing for up to 60 days, at the Great Falls Television web site.

**6:30 p.m.**

**GORHAM** – Tentative recurring Town Council Workshop in council chambers.

**WEDNESDAY  
Oct. 20  
8 a.m.**

**GORHAM** – Gorham Economic Development Corporation meeting in Conference Room A.

**4 p.m.**

**AUBURN** – Auburn Water District Trustees meeting.

**6 p.m.**

**AUBURN** – School Committee meeting.

**THURSDAY**

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**Oct. 21**

**8 a.m.**

**AUBURN** – 9-1-1 Committee meeting.

**6:30 p.m.**

**GORHAM** – Tentative Board of Appeals meeting in council chambers.

**7 p.m.**

**AUBURN** – Community Forest Subcommittee meeting.

**FRIDAY  
Oct. 22**

**BATH** – Chocolate Church Arts Center, 804 Washington Street, Bath - "Readers Theater" with Maine authors.

**SATURDAY/SUNDAY  
Oct. 23/24**

**11 a.m.-4 p.m.**

**LIVERMORE** – "Story Trails at Norlands". Groups will have an hour to look for clues and solve puzzles throughout the grounds and historical buildings, all while following a story filled with real information about the impressive Maine family who lived there.

**SATURDAY  
Oct. 23**

**7:30-9:30 p.m.**

**BATH** – Chocolate Church Arts Center, 804 Washington Street, Bath - **Love By Numb3rs** (Alt country/Folk/Rock) is

the collaboration of Anna Lombard, Dan Connor & Jon Roods. Lombard and Connor, multi-instrumentalists and co vocalists, were bandmates in the hugely popular roots and Americana act Gypsy Tailwind. Roods is a multi-instrumentalist best known as a member of Rustic Overtones.

Opening the show is the guitar powered indie rock of Xander Nelson. Fearlessly fusing the joyous intensity of pop-punk with the soulful swagger of blues, this Portland, Maine based quartet has been turning heads since their debut in the New England music circuit in 2017. Lead by frontman and namesake Xander Nelson, the group features Manny Urgiles on guitar, Chuck Martin on drums, and Conor McGroary on bass

Main Stage with Special Opening Guest Xander Nelson. \$15ADV / \$18 DOS

**MONDAY  
Oct. 25**

**5:30 p.m.**

**LEWISTON** – Planning Board meeting. The Planning Board Agenda and information for this meeting will be available on the website on the Friday before the meeting date.

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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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