



# TWIN CITY TIMES

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FREE • Vol. XXIII, No. 35

Your Hometown Newspaper Since 1999

Thursday, December 9, 2021 • FREE

## Guest Column: Shop Small and Shop Local

By Ned Claxton

It's hard to believe the year is winding down to a close. After all we've been through with the pandemic and its related challenges, time has both flown by and felt like it was standing still at times. Despite all this, I hope you are able to enjoy a healthy, peaceful holiday season with family, friends and loved ones.

Though much has changed in our lives over the last couple of years, one constant that remains is doing some shopping this time of year, whether you're looking for gifts for others or yourself. Before you head out and about, there's something I would ask you to keep in mind: When possible, shop small and shop local.

Spending your hard-earned money at our local, small businesses is the smart thing to do for many reasons. For starters, our neighbors and community members are the people who own and work at these businesses. Buying the items they sell means helping out folks here at home, unlike big box stores where profits are spent and invested elsewhere. Shopping local also helps keep our communities unique. I know I love the variety of places we have close to home; from buying a growler of locally brewed beer to buying Maine-made gifts and getting a bite to eat, these businesses are a big part of what makes living in our community such a pleasure.

Another benefit to shopping local is that money stays circulating in our community. You don't just have to take my word for it though; the proof is in the data. Studies have shown that for every \$100 spent at a locally owned business, \$68 of that stays in our local community. That's compared with just \$43 that stays in our community when the money is spent at a national retailer. Owners and employees who benefit from your business return the favor by going out and frequenting other local shops. This cycle continues, and helps all sorts of stores and restaurants thrive.

See Local, page 16

## Photography of Nancy Preble and Peter Elias on Display at Central Maine Medical Center

LEWISTON -- The Woman's Hospital Association (WHA) Rotating Art Gallery at Central Maine Medical Center in Lewiston is now displaying the photographs of Nancy Preble and Peter Elias.

A lifelong resident of the Twin Cities, Preble is a self-taught photographer who has enjoyed this art form as a hobby for many years. She has exhibited at numerous venues in Maine including the University of Southern Maine, L/A College area artist show in 2011, 2013 and 2015, the Fryeburg Fair from 2003-2016, the Cumberland County Fair exhibit from 2004-2016, and the Sportsmen of Maine show from 2011-2016. She has won much recognition and several awards for her work including a 2nd place award for her image "Winter Wonderland" in 2002 on



'Sunflower' photograph by Nancy Preble

the maine.gov website.

Dr. Elias has lived in Auburn since 1977, raising a family, practicing medicine, and enjoying the very best of Maine. Since retiring after four decades as a family physician, he has had more time to pursue some of his other passions, including hiking, Nordic skiing, woodworking, and photography. This exhibit clearly reflects how he likes to spend his time.

The works on display may be purchased through the WHA Gift Shop located adjacent to the main lobby at Central Maine Medical Center. As a result of the hospital safety precautions due to the pandemic, the art gallery is only available for viewing for staff, patients, and their designated visitors at this time. A percentage of sale proceeds benefits patients of CMMC.

## Culinary Class Set to Sharpen Skills



Pastry Instructor Rebecca Levesque shows off dinner rolls before getting them ready for a Green Ladle meal.

LEWISTON -- A hands-on culinary training program can provide the recipe for adults looking for a successful transition to restaurant careers. The Culinary Training with Kitchen Manager ServSafe Training is scheduled to begin on January 17<sup>th</sup> at the Green Ladle in Lewiston. Chef Dan Caron of the Green Ladle said it is the second one offered to help restaurants and food service establishments in need of skilled workers. It will be free for eligible participants.

The program is being funded through federal job training funds as well as the Green Ladle's "Community Serving Community" food truck. The Green Ladle is the culinary arts program for Lewiston Regional Technical Center.

During the previous training that ended on November 17<sup>th</sup>, representatives of seven local restaurants met with students to recruit them.

Caron said, "It was really quite amazing." He said of the 11 students in that session, seven had already been hired for jobs before the end of the training.

Students in the new session will learn about basic kitchen safety, knife skills and baking in the five-week class. The class

will run Monday and Wednesday afternoons.

"It's a win-win situation for the student. This is a good way to get into the culinary field and to support our local restaurants and other food service establishments," Caron said.

In order to enroll, interested students must sign up to attend an informational session that is scheduled for December 16<sup>th</sup>. CASAS testing is also required. At the end of the training, students will receive a certificate of completion, take the ServSafe manager exam, and have the opportunity to meet with local employers.

The class is a partnership between the Green Ladle, Lewiston Adult Education, and Eastern Maine Development Corporation/Community Concepts, Inc., with the support of the Lewiston-Auburn culinary community, including Bates College, DaVinci's Italian Eatery, Fish Bones Grill, Gippers Sports Grill and Campus Cuisine. Additional partners may join the program before the January start, Caron said.

To register for the informational session and to schedule testing, contact Lewiston Adult Education at 207-795-4141.

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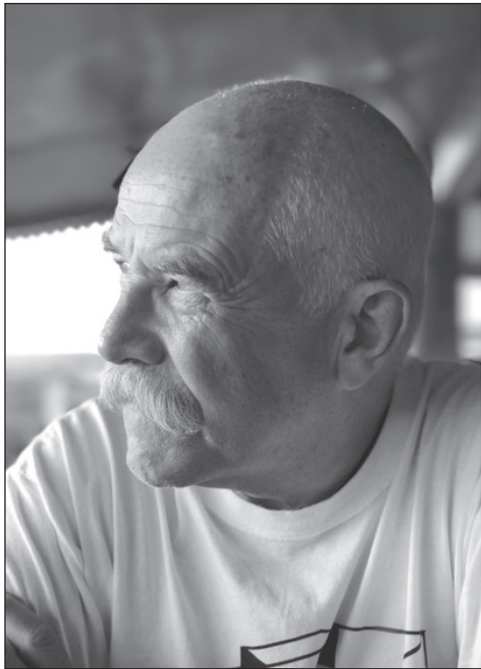
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# Newsmakers, Names & Faces

## McCreight receives Maine Craft Artist Award



MAINE  
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AWARD  
2021 RECIPIENT  
TIM  
McCREIGHT

The Maine Crafts Association (MCA), a statewide nonprofit organization that builds upon Maine's rich craft traditions by nurturing a vibrant, supportive, inclusive craft community and strong individual craft artist practices, has named artist, author, and educator, Tim McCreight of Harpswell, Maine as a 2021 recipient of the MCA Maine Craft Artist Award.

The award recognizes McCreight's commitment and dedicated career of service to the craft field, as well as his high proficiency in the technical understanding of many aspects of fine craft.

In 2009, the Maine Crafts Association began to annually honor individual Maine craft artists in recognition of their exceptional bodies of work and contributions to the field.

The award bestows prestige and acknowledgment, conferring upon the artist's work a distinguishing mark of excellence.

The award juror is guided by these benchmarks: excellence in craftsmanship, inspired design, a singular voice or style, and a career of service to the field. The 2021 awards were selected from many deserving peer nominations by MCA

Founder, Carolyn Hecker. Carolyn served as Executive Director for more than a decade, establishing the MCA as a statewide organization and network of craft artists. Since founding the MCA in 1983, Carolyn has remained involved and supportive of the organization and craft artists throughout Maine.

Perhaps most widely known as a leader in craft publishing, McCreight has produced over twenty highly respected texts dedicated to the technique and design of metalsmithing and jewelry making. His works are known for their comprehensibility and clarity, including *The Complete Metalsmith*, known as a staple text in most metals' education programs. The text is widely revered by developing students and accomplished craft artists alike. His publishing company Brynmorgen Press, founded in 1985, produces texts on a wide variety of craft media, written by renowned makers within the field. Additionally, McCreight has created several videos dedi-

cated to teaching techniques and has developed apps for mobile devices to connect with the modern maker.

Dedicated to furthering the education of younger generations of metalsmiths and designers, McCreight has taught full-time for over 25 years at institutions including Maine College of Art & Design. He has taught hundreds of workshops throughout the United States, as well as internationally, including Canada, Japan, Mexico, and the United Kingdom.

McCreight has served on several leading boards of directors including Haystack Mountain School of Crafts, the American Craft Council, and our own Maine Crafts Association. He has also served as the presiding member of the board of the Society of North American Goldsmiths.

In addition to his long-standing career as an author, craft educator, and board member, McCreight is the co-founder of the Toolbox Initiative, a nonprofit program to correct the imbalance of resources

affecting the jewelers and craftspeople in West Africa. The program accepts and distributes donated tools and uses funding to purchase harder to acquire tools for distribution to makers.

In a conversation about the award recipient, Hecker voiced her deep appreciation for McCreight and his career, stating, "Tim McCreight is a legend in craft, in Maine of course, but far beyond. His work, creative voice, and craftsmanship are only outshone by his own expansive career in education, leadership in developing precious metal clay as a craft medium, and his admirable Toolbox Initiative. His deep dedication to the field, the artists, and the medium is seemingly endless and generously shared through his books, his initiatives and as an educator. I'm grateful to have the opportunity to honor his legacy in this way, through the Maine Crafts Association, where I witnessed the beginnings of his incredible career as a peer and friend."

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## Healthcare Access Reduced as Result of Vaccine Mandate



By Nathan Wadsworth  
Four weeks ago, Central Maine Health Care approached a bipartisan group of legislators

to sound the alarm. Unless something was done to change the Governor's healthcare worker vaccination mandate, Mainers would see a reduction in healthcare access.

In the weeks that followed, we have continued to see other healthcare systems come forward and announce reductions in services or, in the case of some nursing homes, outright closure.

This week, we have moved past the deadline and the full consequences from Governor Mills forcing healthcare systems to fire providers, rather than allowing them to get tested, are only beginning to be felt.

Maine General Health announced they have lost just under 200 employees.

The President and CEO of the Maine Health Care Association, which represents nursing homes, said that five nursing homes and one assisted-living facility have closed. This means fewer beds available in our hospitals since hospitals have no place to discharge patients. The association anticipates that Maine nursing homes will ultimately lose up to 10 percent of their workforce.

According to the non-partisan Maine Policy Institute, since July, Maine has lost an esti-

mated 10 percent of all healthcare workers.

In May, according to the CDC Healthcare Worker COVID-19 Vaccination Dashboard, there was a total of 73,593 healthcare staff both vaccinated and unvaccinated. By September, that same dashboard reported 64,470 healthcare staff both vaccinated and unvaccinated which is a difference of 9,123 healthcare staff.

As the CDC reports data from October, we will begin to learn more about the impact this policy is going having on Mainers' access to healthcare.

See Mandate, page 12

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# Newsmakers, Names & Faces

## Hometown Careers - Opportunity Lives Here



Nick Richard, newly promoted as a Building and Plumbing Inspector.



Recently promoted to Building and Plumbing Inspector, Steve LeBrun.



Travis Tardif, recently hired as a Code Enforcement Officer.

LEWISTON -- Recently promoted to Building and Plumbing Inspector, Steve LeBrun previously served as a Code Enforcement Officer for the City of Lewiston since 2018. He is a Lewiston native with 28 years' experience in building construction and inspections. He is nationally certified as a Building Inspector through the International Code Council and has a

construction tech degree from Hudson Valley Community College.

Also recently promoted to Building and Plumbing Inspector, Nick Richard previously served as a Code Enforcement Officer for the City since 2016. He is a Lewiston native with 10 years' experience as a code enforcement officer. He's nationally certified as a Building Inspector through the Inter-

national Code Council and a graduate of University of Maine Orono.

Travis Tardif has been hired as a Code Enforcement Officer; Tardif is State certified in five disciplines, with three years' experience working for a small community. He attended University of Maine Orono and was a team leader at a large manufacturing facility for 14 years.

## Optimist Club Announces Student of the Month



Leksi Langevin, Student of the Month, with her teacher, Holly Patenaude.

MINOT -- The Mechanic Falls, Minot and Poland Tri-Town Optimist Club is proud to announce its RSU 16 Student of the Month recipient for December, Leksi Langevin. Leksi,

a sixth grader from Minot Consolidated School, is described by her teacher as a student who consistently holds herself to a high standard. She always comes to school with a smile and

helps to support others, both inside and outside of class. She is a positive role model who brings out the best in everyone with whom she comes in contact. Congratulations Leksi!

## SERVPRO Offers Fire Safety Tips as Holidays Approach

From 2014 to 2018, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) reports that U.S. fire departments were called to an estimated average of 172,900 home structure fires related to cooking each year. During the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays, the number of home fires caused by cooking peaked to an average of 470 fires each day.

"These fires are tragic because they result in property damage, displacement of families, injury, and even death," said Rick Isaacson, CEO of Servpro Industries, LLC. "The thing that compounds the tragedy, though, is that there are some simple steps everyone can take to reduce the chance of a cooking fire."

The fire and water damage clean-up specialists at SERVPRO in the

Auburn area urge homeowners to consider these basic guidelines for cooking safety: Never leave food unattended on a range or cooktop; that is where 61 percent of home cooking fires start. Next, never cook on the stove top when you are sleepy or intoxicated. Also, use a timer to remind yourself that you are cooking. Further, keep anything flammable—potholders, wooden utensils, towels, curtains, food wrapping—away from the stovetop. Finally, if you must leave the kitchen for any period of time, turn off the stove.

Holiday parties and large family gatherings that were postponed last year because of COVID concerns are great to look forward to but may add distraction in the kitchen, Isaacson warned.

"Cooking is such a

routine part of our days that it is easy to become complacent about these basic safety steps," said Isaacson, "but the statistics show that unattended cooking is the number one cause of home cooking fires and casualties. Whether you are cooking for the holidays or simply preparing an everyday meal, it is important to stay alert and focused on what's happening on and around your stovetop."

SERVPRO is an industry leader and provider of fire and water cleanup and restoration services. For more fire prevention and fire safety tips and information about fire and water damage restoration services, please visit [www.servpro.com](http://www.servpro.com).

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

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Gorham Weekly • 28 State Street • Gorham, ME 04038

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Seniors Not Acting Their Age

# Attean Pond Surf & Turf



**By Ron Chase**

A surf and turf is one of my favorite fall escapades. It combines three of my preferred activities: kayaking, mountain hiking, and camping. This year was exceptional because I was doing it with my son, Adam.

After considering various options, I decided to return to Attean Pond near Jackman. The intent was to kayak around the pond and climb Attean and Sally Mountains over a two day period. I had attempted to accomplish the same goal with two friends six years earlier with only partial success. Stormy weather prevented an ascent of Sally Mountain on

the second day.

Adam and I began planning the expedition in early October. Uncooperative weather and his work schedule prevented us from realizing our objective until November. By then, the days were shorter and temperatures much colder. That probably explained why no one else wanted to join us. Veterans of many two-person outdoor adventures in all four seasons, we were undeterred.

The weather forecast for our two-day excursion was cool and sunny, but strong headwinds were predicted on day one. Our plan was to be at the Attean Boat Landing on the

eastern end of the pond just after sunrise in hopes of avoiding the most intense gales. When we arrived, the westerly wind velocity already approximated 10 miles per hour, and contrary to the forecast, showers were in the area. A brilliant rainbow was a good omen.

An old-timer who was probably a few years my junior was securing boats at the dock. After doubtfully looking us over, he observed, "There's going to be a big blow out there today, hope you boys know what you're doing." Assuring him that we had a strategy for dealing with the wind, we hurriedly loaded our kayaks.

We did, in fact, have a game plan to minimize the impact of the wind. Instead of heading directly into the westerly gusts, we were going to paddle southwest for a long mile through a congregation of islands assuming they would provide some protection. From there, we would proceed directly to the south shore. We calculated that the northwest angle of the shoreline would allow us to continue to our western destination relatively unimpeded by the anticipated "big blow." We were right and so was the old-timer. While we encountered minimal resistance, substantial breaking waves were observed in the middle of the pond that would have been impossible to navigate.

Our campsite at sandy Hodgman Beach was idyllic. The trailhead for the path to one of the two Attean Mountain summits was a short distance to the left. The Attean Mountain Trail can only be accessed by water. After setting up camp, Adam and I began the trek. While the narrow, seldom-used trail is well-marked, blowdowns and rugged terrain provided a very challenging climb, particularly the steep boulder strewn summit cone. Our reward was glorious views of the pond and surrounding mountains. A bushwhack to the second summit was very unappealing so we decided to forego what appeared to be a substantial ordeal.

We returned to the campsite with sufficient time to gather firewood and prepare for dinner while there was still daylight. The chilly evening ended with a colorful sunset and the following morning



began with an even more spectacular sunrise. After a quick breakfast, we packed our kayaks and navigated northerly towards Sally Mountain in calm waters.

Prior research indicated the trailhead for Sally Mountain began at Sally Beach Campsite on the northeast shore of the pond. An alternative access entails hiking west for about two miles from the Attean Road in Jackman along the Canadian Pacific Railway tracks. We easily located the campsite which was situated on a sandy beach.

A prominent sign identified the beginning of our hike. Another well-marked trail, this one was in excellent condition. The path began with a gentle incline and then climbed more steadily to the start of a rocky west leading partially exposed ridge. We enjoyed period-

ic views while negotiating ledges on the elongated escarpment before arriving at the open summit. There were wonderful vistas of the island-congested Attean Pond and the lakes and mountains of western Maine and southern Quebec.

We returned to Sally Beach Campsite to discover a welcome tailwind for our paddle to Attean Pond Boat Landing. The old-timer wasn't around to witness our safe arrival.

The author of "The Great Mars Hill Bank Robbery" and "Mountains for Mortals - New England," Ron Chase resides in Topsham. His latest book, "MAINE AL FRESCO: The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine" will soon be released by North Country Press. Visit his website at [www.ronchase-outdoors.com](http://www.ronchase-outdoors.com) or he can be reached at [ronchaseoutdoors@comcast.net](mailto:ronchaseoutdoors@comcast.net).

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# Cancer Resource Center forced to cancel signature fundraiser



Photo from Cancer Resource Center of Western Maine of previous years' Turkey Trot 4 Hope 4K Run/Walk.

The Board of the Cancer Resource Center of Western Maine (CRCofWM) announced that it has cancelled the 2021 Turkey Trot 4 Hope 4K Run/Walk, their annual signature fundraiser, due to the recent COVID-19 variant surge and precautionary measures needed to keep cancer patients, adults, and children safe. "Funds

raised from this signature event are critical to our mission of providing programs, resources, and support to cancer patients in western Maine," said Judy Stone, Board

President. "Last year, this event raised nearly \$20,000 to help cancer patients in Oxford county and its surrounding towns. Cancelling this event was necessary; however this lack of income will place a significant impact on our budget. We can't depend solely on grant funding to stay open."

The center has expanded services and programs from its initial beginnings as a place where patients and caregivers could drop in to chat with a volunteer, get information from the lending library, participate in creative art projects or obtain comfort items and wigs. "Because of grant funding, we now have a part-time, on-site, oncology social worker who meets with patients and families to identify and

solve any barriers they face," said Diane Madden, executive director of the CRCofWM. So far in 2021, we have assisted over 100 cancer patients and caregivers from all over western Maine. Because of generous grant funding from the Maine Cancer Foundation over the past two years, we have been able to provide gas cards and Hannaford food cards to help patients get to their cancer treatments in Portland, Lewiston and Boston, and so they can afford healthy foods and vegetables to supplement the essential foods they receive at local food pantries. We have also been able to offer emergency financial assistance for specific needs as well as free weekly virtual and in-person wellness programs, support groups,

and complementary therapies." Gene Benner, CRCofWM Board Member and Chair of the Turkey Trot 4 Hope is hopeful that local communities will still make a donation to the Center to help them get through this tough year. "We have sent letters and donation envelopes to former sponsors and participants from past Turkey Trot 4 Hope to share how the Center has been supporting cancer patients and families in western Maine and how their continued support at this difficult time is crucial."

Tax deductible donations to the Cancer Resource Center can be made via credit card on their website at [www.crcofwm.org](http://www.crcofwm.org) or sent via mail to: CRCofWM, PO Box 263, Norway, Maine.

## Collins moves for National Homeless Children Month

U.S. Senators Susan Collins (R-ME) and Joe Manchin (D-WV) led 12 of their colleagues in introducing a bipartisan resolution recognizing November as National Homeless Children and Youth Awareness Month to bring attention to the children and youth experiencing homelessness across the country. In the United States, more than 1.4 million students experienced homelessness during the 2018-2019 school year. In Maine, approximately 2,500 students experience homelessness each year.

"Growing up is challenging enough without young people having to worry about where they will sleep each night. Without the proper support, these children are at risk of dropping out of school and

are in greater danger of exploitation. We must make sure our nation's homeless youth have the same opportunity to succeed as their peers," said Senator Collins, Ranking Member of the Housing Appropriations Subcommittee. "Our bipartisan resolution raises awareness for this critical issue and recognizes the hard work being done by businesses, organizations, schools, and volunteers to prevent youth homelessness."

"Every child deserves to have a roof over their head and a warm place to sleep at night. Unfortunately, that is not the case for more than 9,500 children in West Virginia and over a million children across the country. We must address this heartbreaking issue," said Senator Man-

chin. "In February, I introduced the bipartisan Emergency Family Stabilization Act to create an emergency funding stream to address children, youth and families experiencing homelessness. In March, I successfully fought to include \$800 million in the American Rescue Plan for school systems to identify and assist homeless students in their schools. I'm proud to join my bipartisan colleagues in designating November as National Homeless Children and Youth Awareness Month to bring awareness to this dire issue and work to address homelessness among children and youth."

"Youth and child homelessness is a national crisis requiring a new approach that centers the needs of our youngest cit-

izens. NN4Y applauds that Senators from both sides of the aisle have come together in support of this Senate Resolution. Through a cross-system approach, we can end child and youth homelessness in Ameri-

ca," said Darla Bardine, Executive Director, National Network for Youth. "Children and youth living without a home suffer trauma, inequity, and instability, yet remain largely out of sight. Ameri-

ca's promise of 'opportunity for all' requires seeing and prioritizing children and youth who experience homelessness – a large, yet often hidden population. I am pleased at this federal

*See Homeless, page 12*




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# Arts & Entertainment

## A Very Ida Christmas Returns to The Public Theatre



LEWISTON/AUBURN -- Share the gift of laughter this holiday season, when Maine humorist Susan Poulin returns to The Public Theatre December 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> in her hilarious and heartwarming production of *A Very Ida Christmas*.

Come on over to Ida's for the best Christmas ever as she shares the do's and don'ts of holiday decorating and

the hilarious secret in her *Not-So-Secret Santa* plan. Ida is definitely no Scrooge, so banish your humbugs and come prepared to laugh!

Selected by *Portland Magazine* as one of the "Ten Most Intriguing People in Maine," Susan's shows have broken box office records throughout the Northeast.

The Public Theatre is requiring that all au-

dience members show proof of vaccination or a negative COVID test within 48 hours to attend, and a mask must be worn while in the building.

For more information on The Public Theatre's COVID safety protocols, visit [thepublictheatre.org](http://thepublictheatre.org)

*A Very Ida Christmas* is playing at The Public Theatre, Lewiston/Auburn's Professional Theatre, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> (on Friday at 7 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m.). Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$22 for groups; Video-on-Demand tickets are \$25 single/\$50 household.

Tickets for in person or Video-on-Demand can be purchased online at [thepublictheatre.org](http://thepublictheatre.org) or by calling 782-3200. The Theatre is located at 31 Maple St. Lewiston.

*A Very Ida Christmas* is sponsored by Berube's Complete Auto Care, Napa Coastal Auto Parts and Twin City Times. Season Underwriters are Platz Associates, Austin Associates, Sun Journal, Maine Magazine and WOXO 92.7 and WIGY 105.5.

## Holiday-Themed La Rencontre Coming to Gendron Franco Center in December

LEWISTON—The Gendron Franco Center has announced the return of *La Rencontre*, complete with a lunch and live holiday music in its downstairs Heritage Hall. *La Rencontre* will be held on Thursday, December 9<sup>th</sup>. Doors open at 9:30 a.m. for social time. Lunch is at 11:30 a.m. and will consist of tourtière, butternut squash soup, and cake.

*La Rencontre* (the gathering) is not restricted

to French-speakers or even those of Franco descent. All are welcome to attend this event.

Musical entertainment will feature familiar local performers including Nel Meservier, Melissa St. Pierre, Lorraine Giasson, Sue Caron, Debbie St. Pierre Robitaille, Bob Mathieu, and a special appearance by Mike Willette.

Tickets for *La Rencontre* must be purchased by noon on December 6<sup>th</sup>

and are \$15. The price includes the meal and entertainment.

Order tickets at [www.francocenter.org](http://www.francocenter.org) or call 207-689-2000. Proceeds from ticket sales will benefit the Gendron Franco Center and its mission to preserve its home in the former St. Mary's Church and to bring the best in arts and entertainment to the community. The Gendron Franco Center is at 46 Cedar Street in Lewiston.

## Androscoggin Historical Society offers Victorian Christmas Tours of Auburn's Robinson House

AUBURN -- The Androscoggin Historical Society is pleased to sponsor a visit to Victorian Christmas at the 19<sup>th</sup> century Robinson House in Auburn on Saturday, December 18<sup>th</sup> from 12:30 to 4:30 pm. The private home's owner has lovingly adorned each room in the historic mansion with ornate decorative items collected from around the world.

Tours are limited to six people (masks required) and will begin every half

hour, with light refreshments to be enjoyed afterward. An \$8.00 charge per person will help fund repainting the Society's West Auburn Schoolhouse. Pre-register for a specific time slot by leaving a message with the AHS at 784-0586 or online at [info@Androhist.org](mailto:info@Androhist.org). Someone will respond with confirmation and directions.

*AHS was founded by the DAR in 1923 and its purpose is promoting the study of the history of An-*

*droscoggin County and its citizens and preserving in its 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.*

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

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# Maine International Film Festival Opens Submissions



WATERVILLE, ME – The Maine Film Center (MFC) has opened submissions for the 25th annual Maine International Film Festival (MIFF). The festival is scheduled for July 8-17 and will be hosted at Railroad Square Cinema, the Waterville Opera House, and online.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the festival, which was founded in Waterville in 1998. Festival organizers are planning for a full-sized festival, which screens approximately 100 films over 10 days and hosts guest filmmakers and audiences from Maine and around the world. Throughout the festival, filmgoers enjoy the best of American inde-

pendent, international, and classic cinema, including several works that might not otherwise be screened in Maine.

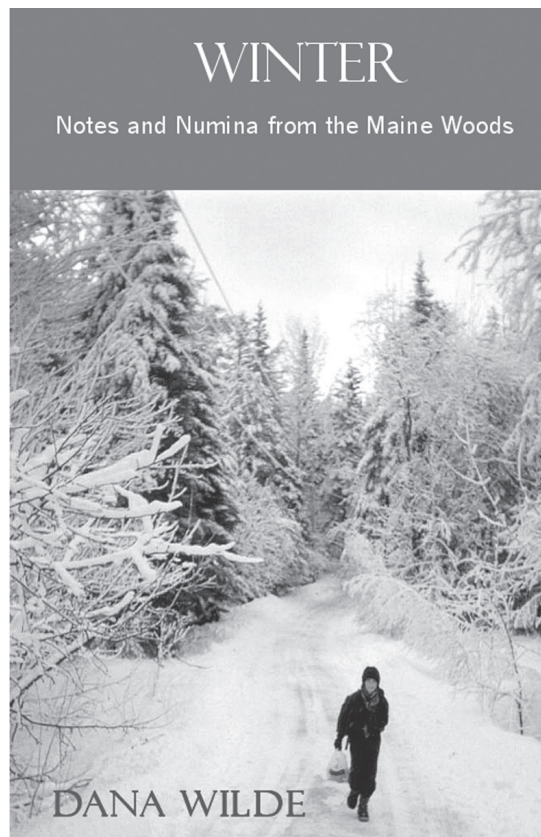
“MIFF has garnered a reputation for showcasing a wide range of films every year, including works by emerging and established Maine filmmakers, and the best new and restored releases of American and world cinema,” said Mike Perreault, executive director of MFC. “We’re honored to have a robust and dedicated fan base of film lovers who have supported us since the beginning, and we love growing our community each year with audiences and filmmakers from far and wide. We’re

excited to be at work crafting our 25th anniversary festival.”

New this year, MIFF introduces the Tourmaline Prizes—named for Maine’s state gem—which are two juried awards recognizing the best Maine-made films of the festival. At the closing night of MIFF, a \$5,000 prize will be awarded to the best feature film, and a \$2,500 prize will be awarded to the best short film. To support the local filmmaking community by offering a low-cost means of entry, eligible filmmakers can receive a 50 percent discount on submission fees. More information is available via the “Submit” link at MIFF.org.

*The Maine Film Center brings world-class independent film to Central Maine through Railroad Square Cinema, the only Sundance Art House Project cinema in Maine and the annual Maine International Film Festival, a 10-day celebration that attracts filmmakers and film aficionados from around the world, and by delivering impactful, accessible film exhibitions and education programs. MFC firmly believes that art and culture have the power to enrich lives, strengthen community bonds, and serve as an economic engine. MFC is a division of Waterville Creates. For more information visit MaineFilmCenter.org.*

# Dana Wilde’s Winter Publication



Dana Wilde’s beautifully articulated perspective of Winter in Maine is shared in this new publication.

North Country Press is pleased to announce publication of “Winter: Notes and Numina from the Maine Woods” by Dana Wilde. In winter, snow and ice are everything. Or used to be, until the last few years when the effects of climate change have become plain to see. In this new collection of writings, a companion book to Summer to Fall, Dana pieces together frosty images of pre-winter stillness, the disappearing and reappearing sun, the depths of snow, the dog of March, and the once and future climate, where Maine winters turn out to be a climatological barometer. This book of funny, worried, thoughtful, poetic essays will help readers keep warm through to spring. “Winter: Notes and Numina from the Maine Woods” by Dana Wilde is a softcover that spans 234 pages. To or-

der, contact North Country Press [pnewell@northcountrypress.com](mailto:pnewell@northcountrypress.com), call 207-948-2208, or visit [www.northcountrypress.com](http://www.northcountrypress.com). It is also available through Ingram and online book sellers.

Dana Wilde lives in

Troy, Maine, and writes the Backyard Naturalist column which appears regularly in the Kennebec Journal and Morning Sentinel newspapers. He has been a college professor, editor, Fulbright scholar, and NEH fellow.

His writings have appeared in a wide array of publications, including The Working Waterfront, The Magazine of Fantasy & Science Fiction, North American Review, The Maine Entomologist, and many others.

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# Portland Public Library and Lewiston Public Library Host National Association of Black Storytellers

**LITERARY LUNCH:**  
STORYTIME WITH QUEEN NUR

WHEN: December 21 | 12:00–1pm  
WHERE: Zoom - ONE DAY ONLY

Karen **"Queen Nur"** Abdul-Malik will talk about her love of libraries when she was growing up and will include interactive storytelling celebration that engages social emotional learning competencies.

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In the story, Queen Nur will talk about her love of libraries when she was growing up and will include interactive storytelling celebration that engages social emotional learning competencies. Using children's folktales found in storybooks, original songs and chants, the audiences participates in call and response stories that impart self-awareness, social awareness, building of relationship skills, as well as responsible decision-making and self-management. Audiences walk away rhythmically singing, "I take my time and think about it."

Karen "Queen Nur" Abdul-Malik is a nationally-renowned storyteller and teaching artist. Queen has performed in venues

from the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. to Equity Theater on Broadway, from the National Black Storytelling Festival to the National Storytelling Festival in Jonesboro. She has been the recipient of MidAtlantic Artist as Catalyst Grants for her work with Teens-at-Risk and Women's Shelters, as well as the National Storytelling Brimstone Grant for her innovative community-based programs. Queen received her Masters of Arts in Cultural Sustainability from Goucher College and a Certificate in Dispute Resolution from Harvard Law School. Queen Nur has recorded two CDs: *Sweet Potato Pie and Such* is an IParenting Media Golden Award Winner; *Live and Storified* was recorded at the Walt Whitman Cultural Arts Center in Camden, NJ.

Sponsored by the National Association of Black Storytellers, guest teller Karen Abdul-Malik, known on the stage as Queen Nur, will be providing an exciting virtual storytelling program.

LEWISTON -- co-hosting an event with Tuesday, December 21 at noon, the libraries will host Karen "Queen Nur" Abdul-Malik at the Literary Lunch series. The event can be accessed at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81831774721>

## 2021 Smart Growth Awards Demonstrate Smart Growth is Happening Statewide

Smart growth is a common-sense concept that helps communities welcome – and manage – growth where it makes sense for the long term while still maintaining their historic feel and natural beauty.

GrowSmart Maine's fourth annual Smart Growth Awards recognizes not only the diverse activities that contribute to smart growth but serve as real-life illustrations of the benefits it can bring. A video recognizing this year's four winners was presented at the 2021 GrowSmart Maine Summit on November 4<sup>th</sup>.

This year's winners showcase bold solutions to such challenges as designing equitable housing choices within a robust community process and implementing practical ecological solutions for a just transition to a thriving, regenerative economy. The organization also showcases one Mainer who is considered by his peers to be the father of planning in Maine.

This year's judges were Chuck Lawton, retired economist; Paul Schumacher, Director of the Southern Maine Planning and Development Commission; Betsy Biemann, Chief Executive Officer for CEI; and Rob Wood, Director of Government Relations and Climate policy for The Nature Conservancy of Maine.

Board Chair Rebecca Casey noted, "We

share common hopes and fears for the future. Across Maine we are all keenly focused on challenges such as social and economic injustice, escalating housing cost, sprawl, and climate change. These challenges threaten the quality of life that defines our Maine communities, and these awards recognize successes to inspire further action across the state."

The 2021 winners are:

**OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES:** The Center for an Ecology-Based Economy (CEBE)

Contact: Scott Vlaun, [scott@ecologybasedeconomy.org](mailto:scott@ecologybasedeconomy.org)

The Center for an Ecology-Based Economy (CEBE) is a non-profit organization based in Norway, Maine. CEBE's mission is to engage the community in addressing

the climate emergency. They organize, educate, take direct action, and implement practical ecological solutions for a just transition to a thriving, regenerative economy. CEBE's community activities are focused on the areas of transportation, energy, food, and shelter.

In its short history, CEBE has launched an impressive array of direct-action initiatives such as:

Spoke Folks which is a worker cooperative that hauls trash, recycling and food waste by bicycle while working to educate customers about waste reduction and composting.

Local food programs such as an edible main street project, community gardens, and a Community Food Forest.

A Norway-based BikeShare program providing convenient low-cost bicycle access and promoting cycling as an alterna-

tive for in-town travel.

Solar Electric Initiatives such as the planning of a community solar cooperative as well as the ongoing expansion of a network of free EV charging stations across the region which are successfully reducing barriers to electric vehicle ownership.

Looking to the future, CEBE is working with community partners to lay plans to develop cooperative housing that is intergenerational, permanent and affordable. Increasingly, CEBE finds itself working not only on these direct-action initiatives but also in policy and advocacy work at the local, state, and federal level. GrowSmart Maine commends the work that CEBE has done and continues to do to advance Smart Growth principles and create a more sustainable and resilient future for the Norway region.

OUTSTANDING

**PLAN AWARD:** The City of Lewiston, Community Concepts, and Choice Neighborhood Partners for their Choice Neighborhood Transformation Plan "Growing our Tree Streets"

Contact: Misty Parker, City of Lewiston: [MParker@lewistonmaine.gov](mailto:MParker@lewistonmaine.gov)

In recent years, the City of Lewiston has seen significant economic investment into its downtown and mill districts, marking an exciting turning point in the City's economic development. However, just a few blocks away is Lewiston's Tree Streets neighborhood, one of the poorest and most distressed neighborhoods in the state. Regrettably, the Tree Streets have yet to see the same sort of reinvestment as oth-

er parts of the city.

Responding to this challenge with what is arguably the largest, most comprehensive, and most ambitious neighborhood redevelopment plan in our state's history and, more importantly, one with social and economic justice at its core, the City of Lewiston and the non-profit Community Concepts facilitated a robust community process with multiple community partners in the development of a comprehensive Neighborhood Transformation Plan named, "Growing our Tree Streets."

Growing our Tree Streets lays out plans to systematically redevelop each and every pre-1950 distressed housing unit to

*See Awards, page 14*



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# Gift Ideas for the Outdoor Enthusiast in your Life



### A season pass to the Maine Wildlife Park or Swan Island

Experiences make great gifts! Purchase a season pass to the Maine Wildlife Park where you can see over 30 species or to Swan Island for a relaxing, nature-filled getaway.

### A pass to a workshop to learn something new

Becoming an Outdoors Woman Winter skills workshop day, Saturday, February 5th - Join a group of women to learn about winter wildlife watching, snowshoeing, ice fishing, fly tying, and more.

Winter SustainME Workshop - Open to ALL adults, Saturday, February 19th - Gain hands on experience maple sugaring, rifle shooting, snowshoeing, ice fishing, and more!

You can also find various programs at L.L.Bean's Outdoor Discovery School as well as locally run programs such as fly casting lessons with Maine guides and more.

### Book a hunt, fishing trip, or adventure with a registered Maine guide

Registered Maine guides have a lifetime of experience and are happy to bring all ages and experience levels on a Maine adventure. If your favorite outdoor enthusiast has wanted to try hunting a different species, go on an unforgettable fishing trip, or enjoy a canoe trip, a guided

experience is a perfect gift. An added bonus, you are supporting a small Maine business.

### Ice fishing gear

Starting a new hobby can be both exciting and intimidating; luckily, ice fishing is a winter hobby that can be enjoyed with a few pieces of equipment and there are endless opportunities throughout the state. Many anglers start out with the essentials and add more gear over time (second hand gear is a great option!).

### Make a donation, make a difference

'Tis the season to give! Help support Maine's wildlife programs by purchasing: A birder band that can be proudly worn on a binocular strap to show support for bird conservation; A Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund lottery ticket; or donate to the Endangered and Non-Game Wildlife Fund. To thank you for your support, you will receive a set including a mug, poster and magnet featuring artwork by Mark McCollough.

### 2022 Hunting or fishing license

A new year of hunting and fishing opportunity in Maine is upon us! 2022 Hunting and Fishing license are now available to purchase ONLINE or from one of over 800 licensing agents across the state. Lifetime licenses also make a great gift!

### Mammals of Maine

### print

Know someone who loves Maine's wildlife? The new Mammals of Maine print is a perfect addition to any home or camp.

### Outdoor Partners Program hat and decal

Along with opting to support Maine's landowners by becoming a Member of the Outdoor Partners Program, you can also purchase Outdoors Partners hats and decals to proudly display your continued appreciation for access to privately owned land in Maine.

To learn more about the Outdoors Partners Program, visit [mefishwildlife.com/outdoorpartners](http://mefishwildlife.com/outdoorpartners)

### MDIFW logo gear and apparel

Our online store features logo merchandise including hats, t-shirts, drinkware, and more! Like many other stores this season, we have limited supply and encourage you to place your order as soon as possible. Orders should be placed by Monday, December 13th if you wish to receive it by December 25th.

Proceeds from the sale of logo merchandise supports MDIFW outreach and education programs and these purchases are a great way to show your support of and love for Maine's fish and wildlife.

We wish you a happy holiday season and a wonderful new year of adventures in Maine!



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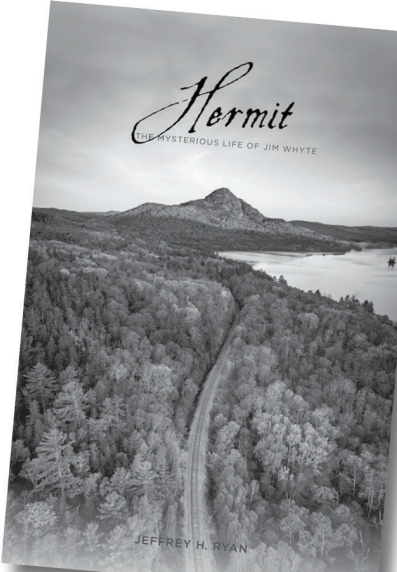
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— Bill Bushnell, Bushnell on Books

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— George Smith, Bangor Daily News



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**Mandate**

*Continued from page 2*

For now, we know that reductions in available healthcare workers are causing patients seeking care to be diverted, turned away, or having to wait extended periods of time for the medical procedures they need.

Delays in ambulatory services potentially compromise the health of us all.

Since the healthcare system was already overworked and understaffed before the Governor's mandate, the situation will only get worse. The burden on the remaining health workforce has increased, and there is concern that employees will burn out and leave for other jobs. Ultimately, Mainers will be seeing their healthcare systems having to do even more with less.

Even before we start-

ed hearing from Maine's health providers, legislative Republicans were calling out the burdens placed on hard working Mainers by state and federal mandates.

These burdens are painful to people just trying to make ends meet and go about their daily lives. The response from the Governor is an unwillingness to change and adjust policy to get the state out of the way.

The consumer price index has risen 5.4 percent in just 12 months.

The average gasoline price in Maine is now \$3.38 a gallon, an eight year high.

The federal Energy Information Administration projects that people will pay an average of 43 percent more for heating oil and 47 percent more for propane than last winter.

People are experi-

encing price increases, and are paying more for food, housing, automobiles, goods, services and everyday staples.

Supply chain issues continue to lead to shortages and delays of items that are readily available in normal times.

The Democrats in charge appear to be unable or unwilling to address these and other challenges that directly affect our daily lives.

People across the country recognize that the increased presence of government in our daily lives is not resulting in things getting better.

Maine has a proud commitment to local control, where our citizenship is supposed to mean more than paying taxes and voting; it is a commitment to make our towns and communities the best they can be. It is a commitment to self-government. We need

to reaffirm that commitment and reduce the interference from the state inserting itself into our daily lives.

We should protect access to healthcare, we should empower parents in the education of their children, and we should incentivize work, not punish it.

Legislative Republicans will continue to respectfully advocate for these and other policies that improve the lives of all Mainers.

*Representative Nathan Wadsworth serves as the House Republican Lead on the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities & Technology. Rep. Wadsworth has a degree in Economics from Montana State University. Previously he served on the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee. Rep. Wadsworth makes his home in Hiram.*

**Homeless**

*Continued from page 5*

recognition of their plight, and hope it is the first of many steps in supporting their needs, resilience, and success. I look forward to continuing to work with youth, families, advocates, businesses, community members, and policymakers to ensure that every child and youth has the opportunity to thrive," said Barbara Duffield, Executive Director, SchoolHouse Connection.

The COVID-19 pandemic has compounded children and youth homelessness with high unemployment, unstable living conditions, and job insecurity – resulting in higher rates of children, youth and families experiencing homelessness. The COVID-19 pandemic also kept many students at home during the 2020 school year, and schools struggled to track those

students experiencing homelessness.

The resolution was supported by SchoolHouse Connection, National Network for Youth, First Focus for Children, National Association of School Psychologists, AFT, National Association of Secondary School Principals, Family Promise, National Alliance to End Homelessness, National Low Income Housing Coalition and Opportunity Starts at Home Campaign.

In addition to Senators Collins and Manchin, the resolution was supported by Senators Ron Wyden (D-OR), Maria Cantwell (D-WA), Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), Chris Coons (D-DE), Gary Peters (D-MI), Mazie Hirono (D-HI), Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), Maggie Hassan (D-NH), Chris Van Hollen (D-MD), Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) and Jack Reed (D-RI).

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## Maine Home Values Increased in Past Months

Lower-than-normal inventory combined with high demand for single-family existing Maine homes led to a 10.94 percent decline in sales across the state in October 2021 compared to October 2020. Maine Listings today released statistics indicating a 10 percent price increase over that same time period. The median sales price (MSP) for existing single-family homes reached \$308,000 in October compared to \$280,000 one year ago. The MSP indicates that half of the homes were sold for more and half sold for less.

"Despite the lower sales volume numbers compared to 2020 for each month from July through October, demand remains extraordinary for Maine's residential real estate," says Aaron Bolster, Broker/Owner of Allied Realty in Skowhegan and 2021 President of the Maine Association of REALTORS. "Available for-sale inventory is significantly low—56 percent below the pre-COVID levels of October 2019. In October of 2019,

the market had a 4.5-month supply of for-sale inventory. In October 2021, we experienced a 1.8-month supply. Buyers are quickly purchasing homes that are new to the market."

Nationally, sales of single-family existing homes dipped 5.8 percent in October 2021 compared to October 2020. According to the National Association of Realtors, last month's national MSP of \$360,800 reflects an increase of 13.5 percent. October sales in the regional Northeast declined 13.8 percent compared to October 2020, while the regional MSP rose 6.4 percent to \$379,100.

"Overall, 2021 continues to be strong for single-family existing home sales," says Bolster. "For January – October 2021, sales are 5.54 percent higher than January – October 2020, and 11.41 percent higher than January–October 2019. The sales years of 2019 and 2020 were record-breakers for Maine. With a strong finish this year, 2021 will be another."

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Thursday, December 16  
GORHAM –Tentative Recurring CIP Meeting. Room TBD at 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, December 16  
GORHAM –Tentative Board of Appeals Meeting Council Chambers at 6:30 p.m.

# Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

Tuesday, December 21  
GORHAM –Tentative Recurring Town Council Workshop Council Chambers at 6:30 p.m.

Friday, December 24  
GORHAM –Municipal Center, Administrative Offices & Library closed in observance of Christmas.

Wednesday, December 29  
GREENE – “What Do Animals do in Winter?” program from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. at 303 South River Road, Greene.

Friday, December 31  
GORHAM –Municipal Center, Administrative Offices & Library closed in observance of New Year’s Day.

## Awards

*Continued from page 9*

achieve an entirely lead-free Tree Streets Neighborhood. The scope and variety of new construction activity is impressive, but Growing our Tree Streets doesn’t stop there. The plan also advances wide-ranging social, health and economic development initiatives, all while maintaining the Tree Streets as a vibrant, walkable neighborhood.

Growing our Tree Streets has successfully secured \$30 million dollars in grant funding from the Choice Neighborhood Program, which has already leveraged an additional \$10 million in private investment.

Once secondary private investments are factored, the plan has sparked a total of over \$100 million in anticipated public and private investment in the Tree Streets neighborhood. The Growing our Tree Streets plan demonstrates the enormous power of public-private partnerships to tackle community challenges and better the lives of residents.

**L I F E T I M E  
A C H I E V E M E N T  
A W A R D:** Evan Richert, Planner

Contact: Nancy Smith, GrowSmart Maine, nsmith@growsmartmaine.org

The planning profession is absolutely critical to shaping a better future for Maine. We are lucky to have so many great land use planners across Maine doing incredible work. Evan Richert is possibly

the most accomplished and well-known planner in Maine’s history, who has been referred to by his peers as the Father of Planning in Maine, and his work has had far-reaching and transformative effects on our state.

Since the early 1970s, Evan Richert has worked across Maine as a planning director and consultant, including eight years as Director of the State Planning Office. It was during that peak, while serving as the State Director, that Evan was instrumental in the creation of Maine’s landmark Growth Management Act. Evan authored the early municipal manuals that set the tone for land-use planning profession in Maine including Comprehensive Planning: A Manual for Maine Communities and The Sensible Transportation Handbook.

His far-reaching work has also supported the expansion of research and development in Maine, including his standard-setting reports called The 30 and 1000 Series. Evan’s support of R & D in Maine led toward the creation of the Maine Technology Institute and the Gulf of Maine Ocean Observing System. He co-founded UpStart Maine, a coalition of entrepreneur support programs in the Bangor Region and still serves today on the Board that oversees the UpStart Center for Entrepreneurship in Orono.

In the area of conservation, Evan served as the state’s lead negotiator for the decommissioning of the Edwards Dam on

the Kennebec River in Augusta, a project that provided a nationally-recognized model for river restoration.

He also served as Planner on a four-person advisory team which was instrumental in shaping the Moosehead Lake Concept Plan, establishing a 360,000-acre conservation easement in the region—one of the largest such easements in the United States.

Evan developed the Maine Vernal Pool Special Area Management Plan, a method of mitigating vernal pool impacts while enabling compact development within a municipality’s designated growth area.

He was a pioneer in bringing the principles of smart growth to Maine, including the Great American Neighborhood concept, formal recognition of “service center communities” and by helping to broker the initial funding for the Maine Downtown Center at the Maine Development Foundation.

In recent years, Evan has assisted developers integrating smart growth principles into projects such as the Chestnut Street Lofts in Portland and the University Credit Union headquarters in Orono.

The breadth and depth of his work is absolutely remarkable, but the thing that his colleagues all seem to value the most about him is his unwavering kindness, consideration, and humility.

**OUTSTANDING PROJECT:** Portland Housing Authority’s Sol-

terra Apartments

Contact: Jay Waterman, Portland Housing Authority, jwaterman@porthouse.org

Portland Housing is Maine’s largest housing authority and provides direct service to about 10% of Portland’s population. Completed in 2020, Solterra Apartments is a 55-unit, six-story, mixed-use family apartment building with ground-floor commercial space located at the corner of Boyd and Lancaster Streets.

Solterra provides critically needed mixed-income housing, as the 55 apartments at Solterra serve residents from a broad range of economic circumstances while achieving many other positive social, environmental and economic community outcomes.

Portland Housing places high importance on these contributions it is making to the rebuilding of the Bayside neighborhood. In the 1960s, as part of Urban Renewal, more than 200 structures, many owned by low-income residents, were demolished to make way for a divided highway here. Solterra repairs a significant swath of that social and physical damage by reintroducing equitable housing choices, mixed-uses, street grid connectivity, and walkability.

In terms of Smart growth design, Solterra is located along four major bus routes, close to schools, services, grocery stores, and jobs earning it a 93 on WalkScore.com, making it ideal for car-free households.

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At Solterra, Portland Housing specified the most robust, high-efficiency envelope and environmental controls possible, and installed a 50-Kilowatt solar panel system. As a result, Solterra is 34% more energy-efficient than what Maine’s already stringent energy codes would have required.

The name Solterra was derived from the Latin root for ‘sun’ (sol) and ‘earth’ (terra), paying homage to the solar panels on the roof as well as the food security and gardening focus of the community that was created here. Portland Housing sees Solterra not as a finish line but as the starting point for larger plans to serve Portland’s ongoing housing needs.

**2021 Maine Smart Growth Award Criteria**

**Q1. Mixed Use, Compact Design and Placemaking:** How does the submission support optimal use of limited downtown or village center land through mixing uses, compact building design or context-sensitive density? How does it make optimal use of existing public infrastructure? How does it contribute to a community-valued built environment, whether in contemporary or historic contexts or through excellence in architecture and site design?

**Q2. Housing Opportunity and Choice:** How

does the submission contribute to increasing housing options for persons of all ages, family and socio-economic status, including those with disabilities?

**Q3. Transportation Choice and Walkable Communities:** How does the submission contribute to creating/enhancing walkable communities or reducing auto dependency by supporting access to other transportation options such as rideshare, transit or bicycling?

**Q4. Preservation of Open Space:** How does the submission reduce development pressure on open spaces such as agricultural, recreational, forested and/or environmentally sensitive lands.

**Q5. Transformation:** In what way is this submission transformational to the understanding and successful implementation of smart growth principles? How has it shaped people’s perceptions or changed the dynamics of the neighborhood?

**Q6. Climate Change:** How does this submission support Maine’s need to adapt to a changing climate?

**Q7. Public Engagement:** How does this submission encourage open and balanced discussion on changing community needs while also helping community members to build confidence in their ability to successfully interact with each other and local and state government?

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"To College or Not to College" is the question and this book has the answers. Check it out: www.authorcaseybill.com.

Book lovers and bookstores: looking for unique and eclectic books? Check out author Casey Bell: www.authorcaseybell.com.

## BUSINESSES FOR SALE

### Working small engine/ outdoor Power equipment business.

Parts inventory B&S, Kohler, Tecumseh, MTD, Ariens, Toro and more. Special tools and equipment. Good opportunity to expand or add to your business. Call Glen 207-655-4635 daytime for more information.

## POEM 2 BY ANGEL STARCHILD

Jesus is Lord. It's the cry of the Christian. It all began, with a miraculous mission. We are his servants, and he is our Lord. To all of the world, we are preaching his word.

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apart. Two bedroom sets, double and queen - wicker 5 pieces - Bench with microfiber cushion. Two living room chairs. All plus more. All priced low for quick sale. (207) 883-0808

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NASHVILLE SHOW TRIP - JUNE 11-19, 2022

Trip includes 9 days and 8 nights - 14 meals - Grand Ole Opry Show - Nashville Nightlife Dinner Theater - Guided tours of Nashville and Belle Meade Historic Site & Winery. Admission to the Country Music Hall of Fame. Admission to the Grand

Ole Opry behind the Scenes Tour. Admission to Madame Tussauds Wax Museum. Price is \$1,025. per person double occupancy with a \$75.00 deposit due upon signing.

MACKINAC ISLAND - SEPTEMBER 10 - 18, 2022

Trip includes 9 days and 8 nights - 14 meals - Guided tour of Mackinaw City - Visit to Mackinaw City. Visit to Mackinac Island including a guided Carriage Tour. Boat ride through the Soo Locks and free time and sightseeing in Sault Sainte Marie. Admission to Colonial Michillmackinac. Price is \$899.00 per person double occupancy with a \$75.00 deposit due upon signing.

WHITE MOUNTAIN HOTEL AND RESORT - DECEMBER 4 & 5, 2022 -

Trip includes 1 night lodging - 3 meals (Grand Sunday Brunch) - 2 different entertainment shows, Austrian Sleigh Ride through Jackson Village, Chocolate Tour, shopping and much more. \$100.00 deposit due upon signing. Total price not available at this time.

For questions and detailed information on these trips, please call: Claire - 207-784-0302 or Cindy - 207-345-9569.

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Local

Continued from page 1

Shopping certainly isn't the only way to benefit your community this time of year if you're looking to make a positive impact. Our food banks and other local organizations are always looking for volunteers or donations, especially around the holidays. One great option we have here in Auburn is Good Shepherd Food Bank, which coordinates with many other local agencies around the state to make sure folks can access nutritious food. Thousands of volunteers help Good Shepherd each and every year. To learn more or get started, you can visit their website at [www.gsfb.org](http://www.gsfb.org).

As you're planning any purchases you will make this holiday season, I do hope you will consider shopping at our locally-owned small businesses. These businesses – and those who own them – have taken the brunt of the pandemic since it began. Between all the measures taken to protect public health, folks staying home, and now the difficulty of hiring new employees, it hasn't been easy. At the end of the day, when you shop local, you're helping friends and neighbors, and benefitting our community as a whole.

If you have a question, comment or idea, don't hesitate to reach out to me. You can send me an email at [Ned.Claxton@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:Ned.Claxton@legislature.maine.gov) or call my office 287-1515.

# Wabanaki Winter Market Returns with In-person Shopping and Events

Orono — The Wabanaki Winter Market, a celebration of art created by Wabanaki artists, will return with in-person shopping and demonstrations from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at the University of Maine Collins Center for the Arts.

This year marks the 27<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this signature holiday event, sponsored by the UMaine Hudson Museum and the Maine Indian Basketmakers Alliance (MIBA). The show will feature 25 Passamaquoddy, Penobscot, Maliseet and Micmac artists who create brown ash and sweetgrass baskets, birchbark containers, and jewelry, among other traditional works. MIBA participants

include new and nationally award-winning basket weavers.

During the market, Gal Frey, a Passamaquoddy artist, will read "The First Blade of Sweetgrass," written by her son Gabriel Frey and daughter-in-law Suzanne Greenlaw. Gabriel and Suzanne, a Ph.D. student with the UMaine School of Forest Resources, will hold a book signing afterward.

Last year's Wabanaki Winter Market was held virtually, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, with an online artist directory and livestreamed demonstrations.

"The Hudson Museum is excited to host the first in-person market since the

Holiday Show held in December 2019," said Hudson Museum Director Gretchen Faulkner. "The event provides the public with an opportunity to purchase Wabanaki art directly from the artists and to learn about these ancient traditions."

Per University of Maine System health and safety guidance, attendees will be required to wear face coverings indoors, regardless of vaccination status, and show evidence of a COVID-19 vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours of arrival.

For more information on the event, please visit the Hudson Museum website. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact the museum at 207-581-1904.



Passamaquoddy Pack Purse by Gabriel Frey, basketmaker, and Nisa Smiley, jeweler, 2017.

## Gratitude for Raffle Contestants in Barbara Bush Children's Hospital



New England Division National Vice Commandant David Porter accepted the wooden flag presented by Commandant Charles Paul. Dave accepted for JR, who was the winner but was unable to pick up flag because he was sick. JR is the CFO for the New England Division Marine Corps League. Also pictured is Paul St Pierre who is Charles Paul's Aide-de-Camp.

Charles Paul would like to send a "Thank You" to everyone who purchased a raffle ticket to help support the Barbara Bush Children's Hospital raf-

fle. They will be presenting a check in the amount of \$1750 to the Hospital thanks to the contributions of all participants. Paul expresses, "Thank you to all who have help me succeed. You are all awesome. Semper Fi to my Marines, Woof Woof to my Devil Dogs, and a hearty thank you to everyone else."

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