



TWIN CITY TIMES

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Your Hometown Newspaper Since 1999

Thursday, October 20, 2022 • FREE

City Of Auburn Seeks “Perfect Tree” For Festival Plaza



AUBURN, ME (October 1, 2022) -- The City of Auburn is seeking a beautiful, local tree to use in Festival Plaza this holiday season. The ideal tree will be located in Auburn; an evergreen - spruce or fir; at least 25 feet tall; and relatively “accessible” (no close power lines or other obstructions).

The “winning” tree will be removed and transported by the Auburn Public Works Department at no cost to the property owner. Once in place, the tree will be decorated with care by the team at Public Works. It will be illuminated on Saturday, December 3 to the delight of spectators at the city’s annual holiday parade, officially kicking off the holiday season in beautiful downtown Auburn.

Tree donors will be publicly recognized and will be invited to the lighting ceremony. The tree will remain at Festival Plaza throughout the holiday season for the enjoyment of all who visit downtown Auburn.

Want to see if your tree can “make the cut?” Residents and property owners who wish to donate a tree and help bring holiday cheer to downtown Auburn are encouraged to submit their tree for consideration. The nomination form can be found at www.auburnmaine.gov. Entries are due by October 28.

Maine Source Homes & Realty Gives \$5,000 to Midcoast Humane



Maine Source Homes & Realty presents a \$5,000 check to Midcoast Humane. Pictured L-R are: Jess Townsend, Executive Director, Midcoast Humane * Ruth Glaeser, Director of Finance * Jon Mercier, Designated Broker/ Realtor®, Maine Source Homes & Realty * Linda Dupuis, Broker/ Realtor®, Maine Source Homes & Realty. Photo courtesy of Maine Source Homes & Realty.

AUBURN, ME (October 4, 2022)— How do you best celebrate 50 wonderful years of service to Maine homeowners? For Maine Source Homes & Realty of Auburn, the answer is to lovingly give back to the Lewiston-Auburn community. The company’s “Helping Our Neighbors Campaign” has identified 6 local nonprofits and charities it is powerfully supporting throughout 2022.

On September 20, Jon Mercier, Designated Broker/ Realtor® at Maine Source Homes & Realty, and Linda Dupuis, Broker/Realtor®, offered a donation check for \$5,000 to Midcoast Humane, the Brunswick-based animal shelter that is the fourth of the 6 selected nonprofit beneficiaries.

Midcoast Humane has, over the past 62 years, become one of Maine’s largest animal shelters. The organization provides loving care and second chances to nearly 3,500 animals every year and assists hundreds more in a variety of life-enhancing ways. That level of care—backed by Midcoast Humane’s passionate belief that every life is precious and worth saving—has resulted in an outstanding 97 percent Live-Release Rate.

Throwback Thursday Movie Matinee At LPL



LEWISTON, ME (October 13, 2022) -- The Lewiston Public Library will begin hosting Throwback Thursday Movie events starting this October. These events will showcase movies from previous decades to introduce new generations to some movie classics. These events will be free and open to the public.

Our first event is Thursday, October

27, 2022 from 4 to 6pm in Callahan Hall and will feature a movie open to all age groups with some spooky fun that you don’t have to wait 300 years and a black flame candle for.

To inquire about which movie will be featured this October please reach out the Lewiston Public Library at 513-3135 or LPLReference@lewistonmaine.gov.

Can DNA Unravel the Mystery of Wellness & Well-being?

LEWISTON / AUBURN, ME (October 1, 2022) -- We are more health conscious than ever; we call it Wellness or Well-being. Since the 60’s and 70’s research has taught us to rethink our health in a very different way. What do we really know about our own Wellness and Well-being? What exactly is Wellness and

Well-being? Which factors help us maintain overall Wellness and Well-being? And, can DNA give us clues about managing our own Wellness and Well-being?

On October 20, 2022 USM / LA Senior College will be presenting a ‘Food for Thought’ discussion on this important topic.

Joel Buckman has done classes and short workshops on the medical aspects and benefits of cannabis for us in the past. But this will be a session, free and open to the public, teaching participants about the benefits of understanding and managing our Wellness and Well-being from a

See DNA, page 11

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Red Cross: More People Now Eligible to Give Blood, Platelets

PORTLAND, ME (October 10, 2022) — The American Red Cross now invites those who spent time in the U.K., Ireland or France and have never tried to give blood due to concerns over variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (vCJD) — related to mad cow disease — to give blood and help save lives.

Recently, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration updated its blood donor eligibility guidance on vCJD, eliminating the deferral for those who spent time in the U.K., Ireland and France between 1980 and 2001. In alignment with FDA changes, the Red Cross began accepting donations Oct. 3 from individuals who have not tried giving blood before due to the prior donation criteria. In combination with prior eligibility updates in 2020 for those who spent time in

other European countries, this new change effectively eliminates the deferral related to vCJD for all donors.

“For many years, the Red Cross has heard from people who have spent time in these countries — often members of the military and their families — hoping for the opportunity to donate blood or platelets,” said Stephanie Couturier, CEO, American Red Cross Northern New England Region. “We now welcome all donors who may have spent time in Europe and avoided blood donation as a result to join us in our lifesaving mission to help patients in need.”

More blood donors — especially type O donors — are urged to donate now to prevent disruptions to essential medical care this fall. Book a time to give by using the Red Cross Blood

Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or by calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). As a thank-you, all who come to give Oct. 16-31, 2022, will receive a \$10 e-Gift Card by email to a merchant of choice.

Changes in progress for those with a Red Cross donor record

Those who have tried to give with the Red Cross and have been previously deferred from donating will be contacted by the Red Cross once system records are updated. This deferral is more complex to remove than others as there are decades of donors in the Red Cross system who have been deferred under the previous FDA requirements. Individuals who have questions about their donor record can contact the Red Cross Donor and Client Support Center at 1-866-236-3276.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities Oct. 16-31:

Androscoggin

Auburn
10/25/2022: 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Lost Valley Ski Resort, 200 Lost Valley Road

Greene
10/29/2022: 7:30 a.m. - 12 p.m., Greene Fire Department, 106 Patten Road

Cumberland
Bridgton
10/27/2022: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m., Masonic Hall, 166 Harrison Road, Route 117

Brunswick
10/21/2022: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., L.L.Bean Training Center, 29 Sewall St, LL Bean training center

10/25/2022: 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Morong Brunswick, 314 Bath Road

Falmouth
10/27/2022: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., The Episcopal Church of St. Mary, 43 Foreside Rd

10/28/2022: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Falmouth Fire Dept Falmouth, 8 Bucknam Road

Gorham
10/20/2022: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m., Cressey Road Unit-

ed Methodist Church, 81 Cressey Road

10/25/2022: 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Brooks Student Center, 32 Campus Avenue Portland

10/28/2022: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Cathedral Church of St. Luke, 143 State Street

10/31/2022: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., MMC 995 Congress Street, 995 Congress Street

South Portland
10/26/2022: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Eastpoint Christian Church, 345 Clarks Pond Pkwy

Westbrook
10/21/2022: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Westbrook Community Center, 426 Bridge Street

Yarmouth
10/21/2022: 12 p.m. - 6 p.m., Yarmouth Town Hall, 200 main street

How to donate blood
Simply download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enable the Blood Donor Skill on

any Alexa Echo device to make an appointment or for more information. All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver’s license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

Blood and platelet donors can save time at their next donation by using RapidPass® to complete their pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire online, on the day of their donation, before arriving at the blood drive. To get started, follow the instructions at RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass or use the Blood Donor App.

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CMMC Offering Stryker’s Mako Robotic Arm Assisted Procedures

LEWISTON, ME (October 11, 2022) — Central Maine Medical Center is the first hospital in central Maine to offer Stryker’s Mako robotic arm assisted total and partial knee re-

placement and hip replacement procedures. This latest advancement in joint replacement surgery is transforming the way joint replacement procedures are performed. Daniel Carlson, MD and Michael DeFrance, DO, launched this innovation with a Mako total knee replacement on Sept. 19. These surgeons have undergone special training in addition to their fellowship training to perform this procedure.

Our Mako robotic certified team also includes orthopedic surgeons Michael Regan, MD and Patrick Fallon, MD.

Robotic arm assisted surgery is an advanced approach to joint replacement that offers the potential for a higher level of patient-spe-

cific implant alignment and positioning. Joint replacement is designed to relieve the pain caused by joint degeneration due to osteoarthritis. Robotic technology allows surgeons to create a patient-specific 3D plan and perform joint replacement surgery using a surgeon controlled robotic arm that helps the surgeon execute the procedure with a high degree of accuracy.

“The availability of the MAKO robot, in the hands of a skilled surgeon and team, is changing the way joint replacement surgeries are performed,” said Dr. DeFrance. “Using a virtual 3D model, surgeons personalize each patient’s surgical plan pre-operatively, to determine how the surgeon will position the implant before enter-

ing the operating room. Robotic joint replacement surgery offers patients many benefits, including increased precision for more accurate joint replacements, fewer and less scarring, shorter hospital stays, and quicker recovery times.

“We are proud to be the first to use this innovative technology in central Maine,” said Lauren Adey, MD, chief of Orthopedics at Central Maine Healthcare. “It is part of our commitment to provide our community with the most technologically advanced care possible.”

Learn more about Central Maine Healthcare Orthopedics at www.cmhc.org.

Learn more about Mako robotic assisted joint replacement surgery at www.cmhc.org/mako

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

October Events to be Held at CCAC



FRIDAY, OCT 21,
7:30 PM 9:30 PM
TICKET PRICES:
\$24 ADV | \$27 DOS

BATH, ME (October 10, 2022) -- Schooner Fare is coming to CCAC on Oct 21st! Schooner Fare has won unanimous critical praise for captivating harmonies and winning stage presence. In addition to their numerous original songs on both contemporary and traditional themes, the band also writes and performs topical songs, country ballads, and maritime masterpieces that have made their name synonymous with the "Down East" style.

Consummate entertainers, their energetic concerts are laced with a Maine brand of universal humor. Combining their talents on six-string guitars, twelve-string guitars, and banjos, Schooner Fare's distinctive vocal and instrumental arrangements have been hailed by such folk music icons as the Kingston Trio, the Limelitters, the Chad Mitchell Trio, the Clancy Brothers, Tommy Makem, and Tom Paxton.

Schooner Fare's many recordings receive radio play on four continents and worldwide on satellite radio. The original songs of Schooner Fare's Chuck and Steve Romanoff continue to be recorded and performed by other artists in the U.S., Canada, Britain, Ireland, and Australia.

Ticket Prices: \$24 ADV | \$27 DOS. Tickets are selling fast so don't wait! <https://chocolate>.

na.ticketsearch.com/sales/salesevent/13730

Fall 2022 Readers Theater will be held Sunday, October 23rd, with two shows at 12:30pm & 3:30pm.

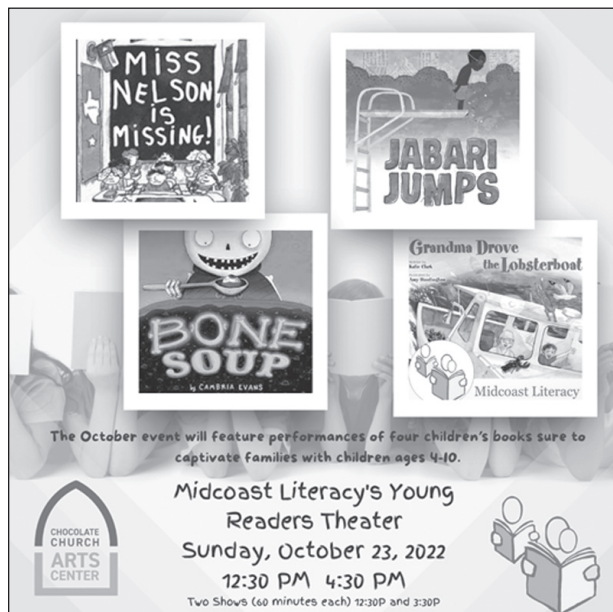
Introducing kids and adults to new stories through fun, live performances of books read by local actors.

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. Midcoast Literacy Readers Theater performances are our way of sharing a love of reading and great stories in a unique format with groups of kids and adults.

Featured Children's Books: Miss Nelson Is Missing by Harry Allard; Jabari Jumps by Gaia Cornwall; Grandma Drove the Lobsterboat by Katie Clark; Bone Soup by Cambria Evans.

The run-time of the performance will be approximately 1 hour, including an intermission. Kids will have a chance to meet the actors following the performance.

In "Miss Nelson Is Missing" by Harry Allard, the misbehaving kids in room 207 get a rude awakening when their teacher, Miss Nelson, is replaced by substitute Viola Swamp.



The October event will feature performances of four children's books sure to captivate families with children ages 4-10.
Midcoast Literacy's Young Readers Theater
Sunday, October 23, 2022
12:30 PM 4:30 PM
Two Shows (60 minutes each) 12:30P and 3:30P

In "Jabari Jumps" by Gaia Cornwall, working up the courage to take a big leap is hard, but Jabari is nearly almost ready to make a splash. In "Grandma Drove the Lobsterboat" by Katie Clark, when the waves get choppy, can Grandma take the helm and get the lobsters in to shore in time for the big Labor Day lobster bake? And in the ghoulish re-telling "Bone Soup" by Cambria Evans, a hungry skeleton on Halloween night tries to get the other townspeople to contribute to his cauldron of soup.

To purchase tickets for this live Readers Theater performance at Chocolate Church Arts Center, visit <https://chocolate.na.ticketsearch.com/sales/salesevent/13772>

Ticket Prices: Single: \$10 ADV | \$12 DOS; Family (up to 8): \$35 ADV | \$40 DOS; Family (8+) call the box office

Two Shows (60 minutes each) 12:30P and 3:30P

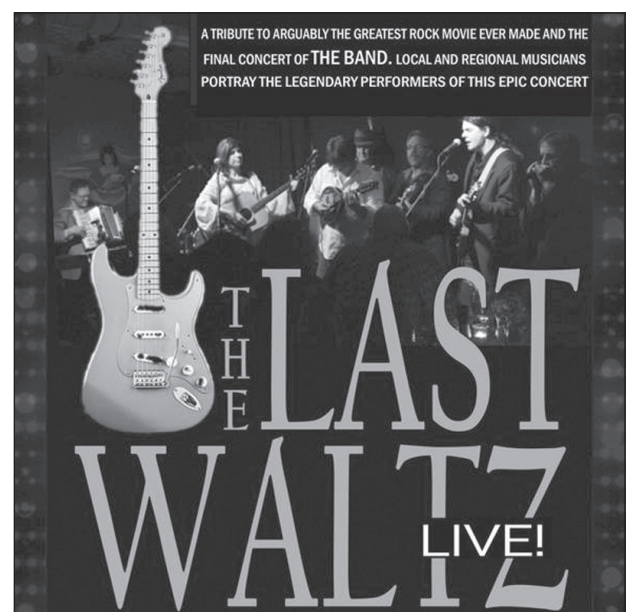
Tribute to The Last Waltz held October 28, 2022.

The Last Waltz, a tribute to arguably the greatest rock documentary ever made, comes to the Chocolate Church Arts Center in Bath on Oct. 28.

The tribute recalls the last concert of The

Band, at one time one of the most popular and influential rock groups in the world, performed on Thanksgiving Day, 1976. Martin Scorsese filmed it as a documentary, showcasing rock scene greats like Bob Dylan, Eric Clapton and other royalty of the 1960s and 1970s rock scene.

This marvelous, time-traveling event has played around the state, bringing back songs like "The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down" (The Band), "Caravan" (Van Morrison) and "Baby Let Me Follow You Down" (Bob Dylan). Maine musicians will gather to recreate The Band's last



concert and Scorsese's documentary, called "The Last Waltz," on the main stage of the Chocolate Church Arts Center, 804 Washington St. in Bath on Fri., Oct. 28 beginning at 7:30 p.m. This nostalgic evening of live music usually sells out in advance, so advance tickets are advised.

Tickets are \$22 in advance, \$25 the day of the show. For more information, log on to chocolatechurcharts.org, or call 207-442-8455. Ticket Prices: \$22 ADV | \$25 DOS

Get your tickets at: <https://chocolate.na.ticketsearch.com/sales/salesevent/13760>



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In her free time, Fran enjoys spending time with her family & friends and her pride & joy is her grandson, Caiden.



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Seniors Not Acting Their Age

A Surprise Ending on Scarborough Marsh



A kayaker passes under the Eastern Trail Bridge



Canoeists paddle along the Eastern Trail on Scarborough Marsh

Pine Point Road in Scarborough on a partly cloudy morning. Two couples were paddling tandem canoes while Nancy and I were in solo kayaks.

Tides and the resulting currents are an important factor to be considered when planning an excursion on the marsh. The tide was scheduled to be flowing in for the entire middle of the day. Shweta's plan was to paddle out against the flood tide, stop for a break, and ride the incoming tide back.

Since it was shortly after low tide, we encountered a relatively steep carry down to the Dunstan River when launching. Dunstan is one of several tributaries that feed the marsh.

A Snowy Egret was warily watching us from the left bank when we entered the pushy current. We enjoyed an exceptional day of bird watching. In addition to the Snowy Egret, sightings included four species of sandpipers, Great Blue Herons, Great Egrets, Double Crested Cormorants, Belted Kingfishers, Tree Swallows, Northern Harriers, Red-tailed Hawks, and Herring Gulls. From the viewpoint



Paddlers navigate into the parking lot at the takeout

By Ron Chase

Scarborough Marsh is the largest saltwater marsh in Maine. The 3,100 acre exceptionally scenic estuary is home to numerous species of birds, fish, mammals, and shellfish.

When Shweta Galway announced a Penobscot Paddle & Chowder Society paddling trip on the marsh, my wife, Nancy, and I enthusiastically signed on. Six of us met at the Audubon Center on

of a fledgling birder, this was an impressive list for a few hours on the water.

Steady, aggressive paddling was required to overcome the strong tidal currents as we navigated through a serpentine route in the grassy marsh. High banks and a muddy shoreline resulting from the relatively low tide left the impression of paddling in an enclosed corridor with grasslands high above. The Dunstan River joined Nonesuch River from the left as we passed near Pine Point Road.

Soon after, we arrived at the Eastern Trail Bridge. Bicycle riders, walkers, and runners were seen passing above. The channelized currents were particularly powerful under the bridge. Turning left, we paralleled the trail for a short distance before rounding a bend and heading downstream towards Scarborough River and the sea.

The northern trailhead for the Scarborough to Saco sector of the popular Eastern Trail is located a couple of miles north of the bridge near Black Point

Road. The segment of trail that travels through the marsh is probably the most picturesque area in the entire network. Another trailhead is situated close by on Pine Point Road.

The river widened and the character of the shoreline changed as we progressed. Tall swamp grass replaced the muddy precipitous banks and the undeveloped marsh was supplanted with housing on the right shore. Larger birds seemed more prevalent in this area.

After passing a boat landing on the right and another tributary, Mill Brook, on the left, the Amtrak Downeaster railroad bridge was spotted ahead. The low profile trestle was supported by wooden pilings with narrow passages between. As we approached, strong currents pushed towards us under the trestle. Proceeding with some trepidation, the robust flow forced our boats against the pilings despite our best efforts. Everyone managed to get through without additional problems.

Beyond the railroad bridge, Scarborough River

entered from the left creating a wider body of water that seemed more like a bay than the mouth of a river. The marsh behind us, we decided to return.

Having the tide at our back provided an immediate benefit. Navigating between the trestle pilings was far easier paddling with the current. We stopped at a nearby landing for a snack and break. A small picnic table and a toilet were welcome accommodations.

The flood tide helped propel us inland at about twice the speed of our paddle out. The Eastern Trail was even busier with large numbers of cyclists and walkers crossing the bridge.

As we approached the landing at the Audubon Center, there was a surprising revelation. An unusually high tide had overflowed the bank and partially flooded the parking lot. Our vehicles were sitting in several inches of water. We were able to paddle right up to our cars without carrying up the hill; a pleasant unexpected ending to an exceptional day.

Read about many more exciting canoe and kayak excursions in my book Maine Al Fresco: The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine.

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Maine to Receive \$298.55M for Roads, Bridges and More

WASHINGTON D.C. (October 11, 2022) – The U.S. Department of Transportation’s Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) today announced that it has released \$298.55 million to Maine in Fiscal Year 2023 apportionments for 12 formula programs to support investment in critical infrastructure, including roads, bridges and tunnels, carbon emission reduction, and safety improvements utilizing funding from the President’s Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. The funds go directly to Maine, providing transportation leaders within Maine the flexibility to continue the important work of rebuilding roads and bridges and making their transportation system more efficient reflecting their state’s particular needs.

“America’s roads and bridges are the vital arter-

ies of our transportation system, connecting people and goods across the country,” said U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg. “Because of President Biden’s Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, today we are sending historic levels of funding to every state to help modernize the roads and bridges Americans rely on every day.”

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law makes the single largest dedicated investment since the construction of the Interstate Highway System in the 1950s and 1960s to help address tens of thousands of bridges in need of repair or replacement. In Fiscal Year 2023, Maine will receive a total of \$45 million in Bridge Formula funding to address highway bridge needs. The funding is available to improve the condition of about 355 bridges in poor

condition and to preserve and improve about 1,470 bridges in fair condition in the state, that are at risk of falling into poor condition.

Nationwide, \$59.9 billion in Fiscal Year 2023 formula funding was sent to States, representing an increase of \$15.4 billion as compared to Fiscal Year 2021, the last fiscal year before the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law began to be implemented. This Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding is distributed annually by FHWA based on Congressionally mandated formulas.

“Formula programs give states the flexibility they need to determine how to allocate funds in order to replace deficient bridges, improve safety for all road users, and reduce carbon emissions by improving transportation infrastructure for communities throughout each

state,” said Acting Federal Highway Administrator Stephanie Pollack. “This funding we are announcing today will allow states to continue the important work of President Biden’s Bipartisan Infrastructure Law that will make our infrastructure safer and more efficient for the tens of millions of American families that count on it to get to school, work, and critical medical care every day.”

Today’s Apportionment Notice can be viewed at FHWA’s Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Funding web page, which organizes notices by fiscal year. FHWA has additional information for transportation agencies and others interested in grants and other discretionary funding opportunities as well as information on new and existing FHWA programs available under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law web page.

National Highway Performance Program	\$135,289,675
Surface Transportation Block Grant	\$65,816,599
Highway Safety Improvement Program	\$14,087,947
Railway-Highway Crossings Program	\$1,252,936
Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Program	\$11,443,952
Metropolitan Planning	\$2,478,760
National Highway Freight Program	\$6,529,829
Carbon Reduction Program	\$5,868,647
PROTECT Formula Program	\$6,673,072
National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program	\$4,110,043
Bridge Formula Program	\$45,000,000

WinterKids Announces Downhill 24 Outdoor Fund Winners



WESTBROOK, ME (October 11, 2022) – WinterKids is awarding \$25,000 to organizations working on getting kids outside and active more often! In honor of the 10th anniversary of the WinterKids Downhill 24, WinterKids created the Downhill 24 Outdoor Fund to help get even more kids outside and active across Maine and beyond. This fund will help to address the barriers to healthy outdoor activity, including but not limited to equipment, clothing, and transportation.

For the inaugural year of the WinterKids Downhill 24 Outdoor Fund, Win-

terKids is granting \$25,000 to 4 organizations to help get kids outside and active more often. These winning schools were determined by community vote: \$10,000 winner – Noble Middle School in Berwick (York County); \$5,000 winners: Bruce M. Whittier Middle School in Poland (Androscoggin County), Auburn Middle School (Androscoggin County), and Mt. Abram Regional High School in Strong (Franklin County).

The following organizations will receive \$500 honorable mention awards for receiving top votes in their categories of schools,

recreation departments, and community nonprofits: Memorial Middle School in South Portland (Cumberland County), Bangor Parks & Rec Department (Penobscot County), and Alford Youth & Community Center in Waterville (Kennebec County).

Funds must be used to get more kids outside and active more often. WinterKids reached upwards of 50,000 kids and teachers last year – and plans to do the same in the coming year. This Fund will help additional kids with unique ways to get them outside. This year’s winners plan to utilize funds for snowshoes, cross-country skis, trail system development, winter camping gear, a youth ski league, and winter boots and gear.

“We are thrilled to be able to support like-minded organizations working to make our kids more active in the outdoors,” says Julie Mulkern, Executive Direc-

tor. “The Downhill 24 Outdoor Fund is a direct result of the incredible fundraising our participants do each year to support WinterKids programs and strategic priorities in the community,” says Mulkern. “Each year, we will use the Downhill 24 Outdoor Fund to break down barriers to outdoor activity – including transportation, equipment, and clothing, to name a few.” Winning organizations were determined by a community voting period from September 1 – September 30, 2022. For further information, please visit <https://winterkids.org/downhill-24/winterkids-downhill-24-outdoor-fund/>.

ABOUT WINTERKIDS

WinterKids is the nonprofit organization that helps children develop healthy lifelong habits through education and fun outdoor winter activity. The organization delivers innovative outdoor programs



for families, schools, and communities. WinterKids’ Major Community Sponsor is L.L.Bean. WinterKids’ Supporting Sponsors are Agren, CMP, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care, WEX, and WMTW 8 and The CW. The WinterKids Winter Games are made possible with support from Hanaford Snack Pals, Backyard Farms, Aroma Joe’s, Subway, Anthem, MMG Insurance, and Kittery Trading Post. Learn more at [WinterKids.org](https://winterkids.org).

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

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Arts & Entertainment

Franco Center to Provide Scares With Fright Night Crypt Walks

LEWISTON, ME (October 10, 2022)—As a chilly fog settles along the riverfront in Lewiston-Auburn, and a cool breeze rustles through the remaining foliage, the Franco Center will open its crypt for Fright Night on Tuesday,

Wednesday, and Thursday, Oct. 25, 26, and 27.

The guided walk will be open from noon to 5 p.m. each day of the event for \$6 per person. During this time, the walk will provide less of a scare than the nightly walk.

Each night of the event, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. trained and costumed actors will play the parts of ghoulish and scary characters in the indoor crypt walk. The cost will be \$10 per person.

“These actors on our



On October 25, 26, and 27, the Franco Center will host a Halloween-themed walk through its crypt. Franco Center Production Manager Jake Hodgkin has been creating nightmarish Halloween scenes at various locations over the years including the annual Chaos on Cobb Road in Poland. Hodgkin will use stage props and costumed characters during the Franco Center’s Fright Night walks. Submitted photo.

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scream team will provide nightly entertainment while also watching to keep people safe and moving along,” said Franco Center Production Manager Jake Hodgkin. He described the special lighting and sound effects that will accompany the decorations as creepy. “Thrill seekers will

have to walk past staged nightmares. Prepared to be scared.”

Tickets can be purchased online at www.franco-center.org, by phone at 207-689-2000, or in person at our box office between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Season and media sponsors

include Maple Way Dental Care, Bennett Radio Group, Sun Journal, Turner Publishing, and Uncle Andy’s Digest.

The Franco Center is at 46 Cedar St., Lewiston. Parking is available in the mill lot. The building is handicap accessible on the Lincoln St. Alley side.



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Witnesses Knocking on Doors Again in Southern Maine



Karen Diakou and Christine Pelletier of Sabattus, Maine, engage in a door-to-door ministry delivering a message of hope and comfort. Photo Courtesy of Jehovah's Witnesses.

S O U T H E R N MAINE (September 2, 2022) -- Jehovah's Witnesses will resume their trademark door-to-door ministry beginning September 1 when a two-and-half-year suspension of the work is officially lifted,

just in time to begin a global campaign featuring a new interactive Bible study program. The decision to resume their door-to-door ministry marks the complete restoration of all pre-pandemic in-person activities for the 1.3 mil-

lion Jehovah's Witnesses in the 13,000 congregations in the United States.

Houses of worship (called Kingdom Halls) were reopened April 1, witnessing in public places resumed May 31 and in-person conventions are

once again being planned for 2023.

"It will be a wonderful opportunity to comfort folks in our community who need to hear some good news of better times ahead," said Karen Diakou, of Sabattus, Maine. "I am eagerly looking forward to visiting folks at their homes."

The suspension of the public ministry was a proactive response by the organization to keep communities and congregants safe. The move was also unprecedented. Jehovah's Witnesses had been preaching from house to house without interruption for more than 100 years through an economic depression, two world wars and global unrest. But COVID-19 demanded a different response.

"We believe that the early decision to shut down all in-person activities for more than two

years has saved many lives," said Robert Hendriks, U.S. spokesperson for Jehovah's Witnesses. "We're now ready and eager to reconnect with our neighbors once again — person to person, face to face. It's not the only way that we preach, but it has historically been the most effective way to deliver our message of comfort and hope."

The move coincides with a global campaign to distribute a new interactive Bible study program available in hundreds of languages at no cost. The program comes in the form of a book, online publication or as an embedded feature within the organization's free mobile application, JW Library. Released in late 2020, the interactive study platform combines text, video, illustrations and digital worksheets to help learners of all ages.

"This new study pro-

gram is designed to match the learning needs of the 21st-century student," said Hendriks. "We're excited to begin sharing it with our neighbors as we return to making personal visits."

The pandemic forced Jehovah's Witnesses to quickly pivot to virtual meetings and conventions, while conducting their ministry exclusively through letters, phone calls and virtual Bible studies. This has led to growth in meeting attendance and the number of congregants, with more than 400,000 newly baptized Witnesses joining the ranks of 120,000 congregations globally in just the first two years of the pandemic.

For more information about Jehovah's Witnesses, their history, beliefs and activities, visit their official website, jw.org, with content available in more than 1,000 languages.

Lewiston Seniors Offered Property Tax Relief

LEWISTON, ME (September 21, 2022) -- "The new Property Tax Stabilization Program should provide eligible seniors living in Lewiston with some meaningful tax relief," notes Lewiston's Chief Assessor Bill Healey. Assessing staff has been processing stabilization applications since August 8th with nearly 1,000 applications received so far. The deadline filing date is December 1st.

Property Tax Stabilization for Senior Citizens, also known as the Property Tax Stabilization Program (the "Program"), is a State program that allows eligi-



ble senior citizen residents to stabilize, or freeze, the property taxes on their homestead. If an individual is at least age 65 and has owned a homestead in Maine for at least ten years, that person may qualify for the property tax stabilization at the amount billed in the year when applying for the program. Eligible residents who move may transfer the fixed tax amount to a new homestead, even if that new homestead is in a different Maine municipality.

What is a homestead? According to the Maine Revenue Services, homestead means residential real property owned by an individual or individuals and occupied by those individuals as their permanent residence. Residential real property held in a revocable living trust for a beneficiary who occupies the property as his or her permanent residence also qualifies as a homestead. In addition, a resident homeowner who is subject to foreclosure and subsequently purchas-

es the home back from the municipality is considered to have no interruption in homeownership for purposes of this exemption.

If one's application for stabilization is approved, this will first affect the property taxes owed for the property tax year following the year of submitting the application. One's respective municipality may also request additional documentation to prove eligibility for the stabilization program.

Mayor Carl L. She-

line notes, "Older adults on fixed incomes shouldn't have to choose between which necessities to pay for if we can avoid it. With this program, older adults will be less burdened by property taxes."

For Lewiston seniors, the application is available at the Lewiston Assessor's Office and online at www.lewistonmaine.gov/stabilization. Each completed application must be submitted to the municipal office for the town/city in which the homestead is located. For Lewiston, the address is: Lewiston Assessor's Office, Lewiston City Hall, 27 Pine Street,

Lewiston, ME 04240. Applications are reviewed and applicants notified as to approval. The City of Lewiston has also learned that last week, the State of Maine mailed applications to who they deem as qualifying seniors.

If an individual has been previously approved to participate in the program and wants to continue stabilization, a Renewal Application for Property Tax Stabilization must be annually completed and is available on the Maine Revenue Services web site at www.maine.gov/revenue/tax-return-forms/property-tax.

Project Started, Breaks Ground to Restore the Sabattus River

LISBON, ME (September 14, 2022) — The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, in partnership with the Maine Department of Marine Resources (DMR), the Atlantic Salmon Federation and other partners, today broke ground on a restoration effort funded by President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law that will remove two dams on the Sabattus River, restore habitat for fish and wildlife, increase public safety, and reduce flood risk for communities around Lisbon and Sabattus, Maine.

Through a \$38 million investment in the Service's National Fish Passage Program this year, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is bolstering efforts to address outdated, unsafe or obsolete dams, culverts and other barriers to our nation's rivers and streams for the benefit of people

and wildlife.

"I am thrilled to join this important day for the local community and for our national investment in conservation, recreation and public safety," said Winnie Stachelberg, Department of the Interior Senior Advisor and Infrastructure Coordinator. "The Upper Town Dam removal is one of the first Bipartisan Infrastructure Law-funded projects from the National Fish Passage Program to break ground. This project will reduce flood risk upstream of the dam, decrease risk of catastrophic failure and impacts to neighboring infrastructure, and improve aesthetics and recreational opportunities for the community."

"The removal of these dams will result in many benefits not only for the local community

but also for the ecosystem of this important watershed," said Maine DMR Commissioner Patrick Kehliher. "I'm excited to celebrate the start of this project with the many partners who've been instrumental in its success."

"We are thrilled to be able to support this important dam removal project on the Sabattus River," said John Burrows, Executive Director of U.S. Operations for the Atlantic Salmon Federation. "Completion of this project will not only be a huge step forward for sea-run fisheries restoration in the Sabattus, but it will also address long-standing public safety and infrastructure issues for the Town of Lisbon."

Today's groundbreaking ceremony at the Upper Town Dam in Lisbon highlighted the project, which will remove the

Upper Town Dam and the Mill Remnant Dam and restore and revegetate adjacent riverbanks. Removing these two unstable dams will eliminate public safety hazards, reduce flooding risk, and improve access to nature and recreation opportunities for neighboring communities. The project was made possible in part by \$350,000 in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife's National Fish Passage Program. An additional \$300,000 came from Atlantic Salmon Federation, Maine Department of Marine Resources, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation National Coastal Resilience Fund, and partners.

Removing these dams in combination with other restoration projects will benefit wildlife by improving aquatic habitat

and opening fish passage in the Androscoggin watershed. Restoration of the Sabattus River is expected to result in 2,429 acres of lake and pond habitat and 75 miles of river and stream habitat becoming accessible to alewife, blueback herring, American shad, federally endangered Atlantic salmon, and American eel, which need to migrate between fresh and saltwater to complete their lifecycles. Once access is restored, a self-sustaining run of nearly 500,000 adult alewife from Sabattus Pond could return to the Androscoggin Watershed each year.

The Service's National Fish Passage Program supports aquatic ecosystem restoration projects and restores free-flowing waters, allowing for enhanced fish migration. These projects also help

mitigate the effects of climate change by removing or bypassing natural and man-made barriers that could be problematic during flooding events.

These projects will help support the America the Beautiful initiative to conserve, connect and restore our nation's lands, waters and wildlife.

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Monmouth Community Players Announce “CLUE The Musical” Cast



The cast of “CLUE The Musical” from left to right: Angela Quirion, Charlotte Morin, Kyle Mansur, Jane Mitchell, Ken Mansur, Mary Freeman, Josh Mcdonald-Cozman. Seated: Hannah Hanson and Owen Lewis. Not pictured: Debby Mansur

AUBURN, ME (October 10, 2022) -- Monmouth Community Players announces the cast of their fall production; “CLUE

The Musical”. This production would not be possible without the generous support of our sponsors, including our Marquis Sea-

son Sponsor, Monmouth Federal Credit Union, our Mt. Pisgah Season Sponsor, Auburn Savings Bank, and our Cochnewagon

Sponsor, Winthrop Area Federal Credit Union.

Based on the popular game, “CLUE The Musical” is a fun-filled musical, bringing the world’s best known suspects to life. Was it Professor Plum in the library with the candlestick? Or maybe Miss Scarlett in the dining room with the rope? Or perhaps any one of 216 possibilities, which the audience is invited to help solve? That’s right, the audience will help solve the crime using clues provided throughout the fun-filled evening! The clues will be provided using cards representing the potential murderers, weapons, and rooms. With so many potential outcomes, the possibilities, and laughs, are endless! You’ll enjoy comic antics, witty lyrics, beguiling music, and audience participation, all on a board game come

to life!

At the helm of this production are Josie French of Lewiston as Director and Ginger Smith of Winthrop as Assistant Director. Rounding out the team are: Emily Carlton (Fairfield) Choreographer; Kayla Newmeyer (Auburn) Props Mistress; Allie Thaller (Manchester) Stage Manager; Matthew Conklin (Turner) Lighting Design; Joshua Conklin (Turner) Sound Design; Nancy Kenneally (Lewiston) Print Media; and Adam Dawes Producer (Lewiston).

The cast of “CLUE The Musical” includes: Owen Lewis (Damariscotta) as Mr. Boddy, Angela Quirion (Wiscasset) as Miss Scarlett, Josh McDonald-Cozman (Norway) as Mr. Green, Mary Freeman (South Paris) as Mrs. White, Hannah Han-

son (Waterville) as Mrs. Peacock, Jane Mitchell (Greene) as Professor Plum, Ken Mansur as Colonel Mustard, Debby Mansur as The Detective and Kyle Mansur as the handyman (all of Auburn).

MCP will present “CLUE The Musical” November 4 – 13, 2022 at the Great Falls Performing Arts Center, 30 Academy Street in Auburn. Performances will be at 7:30 on 11/4, 11/11, 11/12 and matinee 2:00 pm shows on 11/5, 11/6, 11/13. CLUE: THE MUSICAL is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals www.concordtheatricals.com. For more information, or to purchase tickets, email the theater at mcp-boxoffice@gmail.com, call them at (207)370-9566, or purchase tickets online at www.monmouthcommunityplayers.org.

Safe Voices to Honor Lewiston Resident Sheila Barnies on Oct. 20

LEWISTON, ME (October 5, 2022) -- Safe Voices will honor Sheila Barnies of Lewiston as one of four awardees at the agency’s Fall Mixer and Awards Ceremony on October 20. Barnies will receive the agency’s Volunteer Service Award for her “caretaking of the caretakers” at Safe Voices.

Barnies – known as “Auntie” to most Safe Voices staff – supports the agency in myriad unexpected ways, from hand-knit blankets that she has donated to shelter and safe house residents since 2018 (and that also adorn several staff offices), to deliveries of homemade baked goods to

nourish advocates during their work, to being a vocal supporter of Safe Voices and encouraging others to do the same. Barnies is a model in how everyone can engage with community service in a way that works for them.

“The Barnies family is incredible,” says Director of Advocacy, Intervention,

and Prevention Rebecca Austin. “And Sheila is no exception. She is this amazing behind-the-scenes force, showing up with love and empathy to support the people who do advocacy work every day. We are so honored by her commitment to us.”

Barnies is a lifelong Lewiston resident with

deep community ties. She graduated from Lewiston High School and worked for many years at Central Maine Medical Center, retiring in 2019.

Additional awardees at the event include Androscoggin Bank receiving the Community Partner Award, Kayla Duvall of Madison receiving the Shining Star

Staff Award, and Dove-tail Consulting, LLC’s Andy Jackson of Portland receiving the Kimberley Wilson Community Transformation Award.

For more information about the Safe Voices Fall Mixer, please contact Grace Kendall at gkendall@safevoices.org or visit bit.ly/SVmixer for tickets.



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MCP Returns to the Graveyard with Tales from Monmouth

MONMOUTH, ME (October 13, 2022) – The Monmouth Community Players (MCP) are very pleased to announce our third annual socially distanced Fall production, titled Tales From Monmouth, Maine. The script for the show is adapted from “Beneath This Ground” by Dr. Larry Buggie, with original monologues written by MCP board member Jane Mitchell. In his book, Buggie brings to

life the stories of those buried within the Monmouth Cemetery. MCP’s adaptation of Buggie’s book pieces together some of these tales from beyond in an intriguing stroll through the very cemetery where they are buried.

The show is directed by Ray Fletcher, and publicity is being handled by Josie French. This year’s cast of specters includes: Jane Mitchell as Susan Gray; Jeanne Fletcher as



Photo of the Monmouth Cemetery.

Lizzie Frost; Charlotte Karen Lipovsky as Marguerite Marston; Jocelyn Morin as Carrie Dodd;

Curtis as Nettie Porter; Steve Miller as Benjamin Ellis; Andy Tolman as Joseph Allen; Tony Morin as Lot Sturtevent; Jake Junkins as Asa Clough; and Ray Fletcher as Harry Cochrane.

Performances will be October 21-23 in the Monmouth Cemetery, starting at Cumston Hall, from 6:30-8:30pm on Friday and Saturday, and 5:30-7:30pm on Sunday. Tickets are \$10.00 and will be sold at the door.

The show, despite its ghostly nature, is appropriate for all ages, though some content is a bit dark. For more information on this show and other upcoming auditions and performances, please visit our website at www.monmouthcommunityplayers.org. FMI, please contact our box office by email at mcpboxoffice@gmail.com or leave a message at 207-370-9566. We hope that you will join us for this unique experience!

UUCB Concerts for a Cause Presents Dirty Cello



BRUNSWICK, ME (October 10, 2022) – Fresh off their third tour to Iceland with crazy adventures like playing at an Icelandic film star’s wedding to a show on a whale watching boat, San Francisco based band, Dirty Cello, will bring their

unique spin on cello to the Unitarian Universalist Church in Brunswick on Friday, October 28th at 7:30 pm to raise money for the Brunswick Area Teen Center and Maine Family Planning.

The duo will present their exciting blend of

blues, rock and Americana that has been described by Oakland Magazine as, “...funky, carnival, romantic, sexy, tangled, electric, fiercely rhythmic, and textured, and only occasionally classical.”

Band leader and cellist Rebecca Roudman is a member of classical orchestras, but with the Dirty Cello band she lets her hair down and uses her classical training to push the cello to its limits - more Jimi Hendrix than Yo -Yo Ma.

Rebecca explains, “We play what folks want to hear, from the Devil Went Down to Georgia to Led Zeppelin, we go on stage with a huge collection of songs and then just have a ton of fun - we don’t take ourselves too seriously, and we just want the audience to have a good time too.”

Nick Diamantides

from Ashland Daily Tidings described it this way, “When lead guitar is replaced by the sound of hot licks on a cello, blues, rock and bluegrass rise to a new dimension. But what is most spectacular about them is hearing the depth of soul in Roudman’s playing—it goes beyond what most people would expect from the instrument.”

Tickets: \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door, Students/Children: \$10. Available at the church office, at Gulf of Maine Books,



or online at <https://ticket-stripe.com/dirtycello>.

Covid Requirements: Masking is now optional.

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American Cancer Society Recognizes Rep. Cloutier

AUGUSTA, ME (September 17, 2022) – Rep. Kristen Cloutier, D-Lewiston, was named a 2022 recipient of the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network’s National Distinguished Advocacy Award at a reception held in Washington, D.C. on Wednesday, Sept. 14. The award recognizes lawmakers who have led efforts to fight against cancer and to support patients, survivors and their families.

The organization highlighted Cloutier’s work to advance tobacco

use prevention policies in Maine. As the sponsor of [LD 1868](#), An Act to Restore Funding to the State’s Tobacco Prevention Control Program, Cloutier led the effort to restore a program that aims to reduce tobacco use among those who tobacco companies have specifically targeted. This includes historically marginalized populations, individuals with low-incomes and individuals with mental and behavioral health conditions.

“I am so very honored and grateful not only

to receive this award, but to receive it alongside my dear colleagues, Representatives Michele Meyer and Jay McCreight,” said Cloutier. “Fighting the tobacco industry is a monumental task, and it will take hard work from all of us to ensure that our next generation is safe from an industry that preys on kids. I am so grateful to the American Cancer Society’s Cancer Action Network and the network of volunteers they have built to help support these efforts.”

The award is the American Cancer Society

Cancer Action Network’s highest national advocacy honor. The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, or ACS CAN, is the organization’s advocacy arm and works to make cancer response and prevention a top priority of public officials.

“Rep. Cloutier embodies what it means to be a passionate advocate for reducing health disparities,” said Lisa Lacasse, president of ACS CAN. “Undoubtedly, it is thanks to her relentless pursuit and leadership that this lifesaving legislation passed in

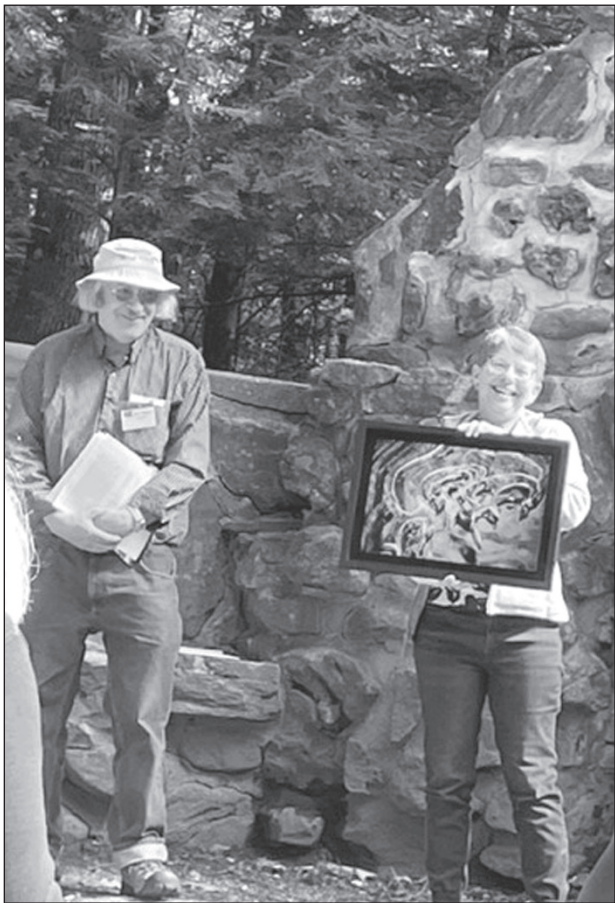
Maine to increase tobacco control funding, a significant step toward reducing cancer incidence and mortality rates. ACS CAN is grateful for her role in reducing the cancer burden through her steadfast commitment to improving public health. ACS CAN looks forward to continued partnership on behalf of all who live, work and visit Maine.”

“Thanks to her continued commitment and leadership on this issue, Rep. Cloutier put Maine on the top of the leaderboard when it comes to protect-

ing kids and all Mainers from big tobacco’s continued targeting,” said Hillary Schneider, director of Government Relations for ACS CAN in Maine. “This was a long and hard-fought win, and it would not have happened without her dedicated and passionate lobbying for the legislation to pass.”

Cloutier is serving her second term in the Maine House and sits on the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee. She represents House District 60, which is part of the City of Lewiston.

Stanton Bird Club Dedicates New Volunteer Memorial at Thorncrag



Land steward Gary Maurer being honored by board VP Nancy Kleckner with a gift of his favorite photograph from the “Thorncrag at 100” book. Photo by Dan Marquis.

LEWISTON, ME

(October 6, 2022) -- On September 25, the members of the Stanton Bird Club gathered for their annual meeting at the Anthony Fireplace in Thorncrag Nature Sanctuary to celebrate the 100th anniversary year of Thorncrag. This was a special occasion highlighted by the dedication of a volunteer monument at the height of land at Thorncrag which also happens to be the highest point of land in Lewiston. In his remarks at the dedication, volunteer land steward, Gary Maurer spoke about the “Many volunteers of all kinds: Bates Outing Club members, church groups, scouting groups, business and service groups and of course many, many individuals, clearing brush, planting trees and shrubs, trying to improve habitat for birds, plants and animals. Making it an oasis in the middle of this city

for people to walk here”. The monument was designed by Lew McCarthy, a volunteer with the bird club and is a tribute to the hundreds of volunteers who have donated thousands of hours in stewardship and education at Thorncrag.

The plaque embedded in the monument reads: “At this, the highest point in Lewiston (516 feet, 2 inches) the Stanton Bird Club gratefully honors all volunteers, past, present and future who have made and continue to make Thorncrag Nature Sanctuary a special place, open to all.”

As part of this anniversary year, five new benches have also been placed at Thorncrag thanks to the generosity of the club’s membership as well as other community members.

Other activities at the meeting included an auction of a quilt created



Dedication of volunteer monument. Pictured in photograph from left to right – president of the board of directors, Jeri Maurer; volunteer, Lew McCarthy; and retiring volunteer land steward, Gary Maurer. Photo by Dan Marquis.

by former Quiltessentials owner, Betsy Dorr, a talk about the trees of Thorncrag by Master Naturalist, Pam Davis-Green as well as special recognition for Gary Maurer who is retiring in his role for the bird club. As a parting gift to all members of the club, Gary and his wife, Jeri (president of the board of

directors) and in honor of Thorncrag’s 100th anniversary, published a book entitled “Thorncrag at 100” which is a collection of photographs through the seasons at Thorncrag by long-time club member, Dan Marquis. Books may be purchased by contacting the club at: stantombirdclub@gmail.com.

Lewiston’s Rinck Earns Four Golden Arrow Awards

LEWISTON, ME (September 13, 2022) – Rinck Advertising in Lewiston recently received recognition for their work with well-known brands, Dove and Dunkin’, winning four Golden Arrow Awards from the Maine Public Relations Council.

The annual Golden Arrow Awards recognize the best work of communications, public relations, and marketing professionals, in addition to student practitioners, based in Maine. Entries were scored by the Public Relations Society of America chapter in Phoenix, Arizona.

Rinck earned a Gold Award in the category of Integrated Communications Campaign and a Gold Award in the category of Innovative Use of Social Media, both for the Dove Everyday Hero Campaign. The campaign was developed in support

of Rinck’s client, Dove Nourishing Body Care, to build loyalty and advocacy with consumers. Rinck developed the Dove Everyday Hero program to recognize the heroes in communities around the country during the pandemic, including those who work in healthcare, public service, education, retail, hospitality, transportation, non-profits, and other areas. The primary element of the campaign was a partnership with TikTok influencer, Lexy Burke (@lexylately), and several other influencers around the country who recognized and surprised the heroes in their own communities with cash gifts. They shared the surprise videos on TikTok and Instagram and solicited nominations from their audiences for heroes deserving of recognition. The Dove and Rinck teams worked together to select

people from those nominated and partner with Burke to surprise them as well. A strategic partnership with Giving Tuesday and media relations outreach across the country helped bring awareness to the effort, which turned into a movement with several people continuing to pay it forward.

“This truly was one of the campaigns I’ve loved most in my career,” said Katie Greenlaw, Vice President of Public Relations and Influencer Marketing at Rinck. “To be able to partner with a globally recognized brand like Dove to do some good at a time when people really needed to be uplifted was so heartwarming. This campaign wasn’t about selling products, it was about supporting those who have supported the Dove brand and it was so nice to hear the feedback from those who were rec-

ognized, as well as those who just appreciated that the brand was making an effort to show they care.”

Rinck also earned two Gold Awards for their work with Dunkin’ of Maine. The Dunkin’ Blueberry Platform Launch took gold in the Paid-Earned-Owned Campaign category, and the Dunkin’ Maine Blueberry Mix-Off also took top honors in the category of Special Events. The blueberry platform launch was developed to celebrate the launch of the limited-time blueberry line-up including Blueberry Flavored Cold Brew and the first-ever Maine-exclusive limited-time-offer donut, the Blueberry Cobbler donut.

The launch campaign included sampling events, influencer partnerships, social media advertising, strategic partnerships, radio endorsements, and

perhaps the most “summer in New England” tactic of all — a Dunkin’ branded pontoon boat that went out on Maine’s lakes surprising and delighting Dunkin’ fans with gift cards and Dunkin’ branded merchandise. Perhaps the most exciting part of the launch was a contest the brand hosted, where mixologists from across Maine were invited to create new beverages using the Dunkin’ Blueberry Flavored Cold Brew. The event included four mixologists, celebrity judges, influencers, and Dunkin’ franchisees and fans, and was hosted by radio personality, Blake Hayes of WMGX Coast 93.1.

“This was such a fun campaign to plan and execute,” said Greenlaw. “We were thrilled to be able to work with the Dunkin’ team to do some new and out-of-the-box outreach and events for this launch.

The mixology contest was fantastic—our first, but hopefully not our last. And we were so delighted to see that our work helped achieve the objectives of a successful platform launch for the brand.”

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Sen. Libby: Home Heating Help is Available This Winter

Guest Column by Sen. Nate Libby
AUGUSTA, ME (September 17, 2022) -- Even though we've been lucky to enjoy some beautiful warm days this month, there's no denying that cooler weather is just around the corner. Fall and winter in Maine offer so much to enjoy, from the changing foliage to winter sports. But this time of year also brings stress for those who struggle to keep their homes warm. As we prepare for another winter where energy and home heating prices are expected to strain the budgets of families across the state, it's important you know that there is help available to keep your lights on and your home warm.

The Home Energy Assistance Program, or HEAP, is a federally funded assistance program that helps income-qualified home owners and renters pay for heating costs. This program is administered by different community agencies all over the state, and in Androscoggin County that agency is Community Concepts. (In the interest of transparency, I am employed by Community Concepts directing programs not related to HEAP). While you can apply for HEAP at most points throughout the year, it is recommended that you do so as early as possible – so if you feel you may benefit from this program, don't wait. You can begin the application process by

calling Community Concepts at 1-800-866-5588, and you can find more information about HEAP by visiting www.ccmaine.org/HomeEnergyImprovement. If you ever find yourself in need of an emergency fuel supply or in danger of having your utilities shut off by your utility company, there could be additional help available, so be sure to reach out and ask for help if you need it.

Those who are eligible for HEAP may also be able to receive additional help in making updates and repairs to home energy systems. This includes weatherization updates to make your home more energy-efficient and heating system repair and replacement. Finally, HEAP's

sister program, LIAP, can help you keep the lights on in your home by providing a credit on your electricity bill. Income guidelines also apply here, but you can discuss your LIAP eligibility during your HEAP intake appointment.

Another program that can help you pay for utilities is the Emergency Rental Assistance Program, also administered by Community Concepts for residents of Androscoggin County. This program can help you pay for rent and utilities dating back to the beginning of the pandemic if you meet income guidelines and had your ability to pay these bills impacted by the pandemic. Applications are being accepted on a rolling basis through

this month, so apply now if you need this assistance. If you're not a renter but a homeowner facing similar circumstances, the Homeowner Assistance Fund may be able to provide you with help. Visit haf.maine.gov to learn more.

No one should have to make the hard choice between keeping their lights on or their home warm and putting food on the table. While fuel and energy prices are greatly influenced by global factors, my colleagues and I in the Legislature have focused on doing what we can to keep prices down. This includes passing bills this year to improve access to existing relief programs by cutting red tape, giving consumers a louder voice

in the electric rate-setting process and making sure our utilities are accountable first and foremost to Maine consumers, not to their investors. We've also focused on making our energy grid more independent and reliable, so that it can carry us to and through the future.

As always, I am here to help you and your family however I can. If you have questions about these programs or need help finding other resources, never hesitate to reach out. You can send me an email at Nathan.Libby@legislature.maine.gov or call my office at (207) 287-1515 any time. You can also sign up for my regular email updates by visiting www.mainesenate.org.

Resident Input Sought to Identify Concerns and Funding Priorities

LEWISTON, ME (October 13, 2022) -- Are you a landowner, woodland lot owner, or farmer? Are you interested in applying for NRCS funding next year to accomplish larger projects to help conserve your property and help the environment? Would you like to participate in deciding how this funding is distributed throughout Androscoggin and Sagadahoc Counties? We want your input.

Androscoggin Valley Soil and Water Conservation District will be hosting the annual USDA

Natural Resources Conservation Service Local Working Group meeting on Wednesday October 26, 2022, from 9:30AM to 12:00PM. This meeting is open to the public. Topics include discussion of the 2023 USDA NRCS programs and the prioritizing of funding for the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) for Androscoggin and Sagadahoc Counties. This is a great time to learn about new NRCS cost-share programs and connect with others in the community who are committed to pro-

tecting our natural resources. Snacks and drink will be provided.

Date: Wednesday 10/26/2022
 Time: 9:30AM - Noon
 Location: USDA Lewiston Office at 254 Goddard Rd, Lewiston, ME 04240

Registration is requested but not required. To register please call or email Androscoggin Valley Soil and Water Conservation District. Phone: (207) 241-5374 Email: projectdirector@androscogginswcd.org

Lewiston's Early Voting Polling Place Opens October 13



LEWISTON, ME (October 10, 2022) -- Lewiston's early voting polling place for Lewiston residents opens Oct. 13 and continues through Nov. 3 from 9 AM to 4 PM, excluding weekends.

The polling place will be in the City of Lewiston's City Hall, 27 Pine Street, City Council Chambers, first floor.

Find more voting info at www.lewiston-maine.gov/elections

Maine Urgent Care Topsham to Consolidate with Lewiston

LEWISTON, ME (September 22, 2022) -- Central Maine Healthcare plans to make changes to its Maine Urgent Care and Topsham Family Medicine operations. The goal of these adjustments is to adapt to the continued challenges of the healthcare workforce shortage and rising operating costs, while continuing to provide the best possible care for our patients.

Effective September 30, 2022, Maine Urgent Care at 105 Topsham Fair Mall Road will be consolidated into the Lewiston location at 685 Sabattus Street. This move will al-



low the organization to increase staffing and urgent care access in Lewiston.

"Maine Urgent Care in Topsham has served as a vital resource to the local community," said Jason Krupp, MD, FACP, president, Central Maine Medial Group and senior Vice President, Central Maine Healthcare. "This was especially true during the beginning of the pandemic, when it offered

continual COVID-19 testing at a time when it was urgently needed."

While this represents a change for Maine Urgent Care, it does not mean Central Maine Healthcare is decreasing its overall presence in the Brunswick/Topsham region.

In fact, two new providers, Sean Close MD, and Ian Corbett DO, will both be joining the Topsh-

am Family Medicine this fall. In addition, Izzy Taylor, MD, will be joining the nearby Lisbon Family Practice, soon, as well. This will allow Central Maine Healthcare to meet the growing demand for primary care in the Brunswick/Topsham region.

Maine Urgent Care is a fully owned subsid-

iary of Central Maine Health Ventures which is in turn a subsidiary of Central Maine Healthcare.

Topsham Care Center will continue to offer the following Central Maine Healthcare specialty services:

- Breast Care Clinic
- Cardiology

- Gastroenterology
- Imaging Services
- with Shields Imaging
- Quest lab services
- Surgical Oncology
- Gynecology
- Wound Care
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- Telehealth Services
- Urology
- Vascular Care

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Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

Tuesdays
 LEWISTON – Baby Storytime held on Tuesdays, starting September 6th at 10:15am. Enjoy an interactive storytime with your baby that includes early literacy fun with books, songs, rhymes and body movement. Recommended for children ages 0 – 24 months old and their caregivers. Play and social time immediately follow the program. Siblings are always welcome. Please stay home if you or your child are sick and not feeling well.
 Free. 513-3133; www.LPLonline.org

Wednesdays
 GORHAM – 10:00am Weekly story

time has resumed at the North Gorham Public Library! Storytime is open to children & their caregivers. Join us weekly for stories, songs and crafts every Wednesday at 10am. 2 Standish Neck Rd, Gorham ME.

September 20 – December
 LEWISTON -- 3rd Tuesdays from September-December 2022, 3-5pm at the Lewiston Public Library: MAINE-TRANSNET TEEN TABLETOP TUESDAYS

This fall, LPL Teen and MaineTransNet Youth are joining up to host monthly tabletop role-playing sessions, on the 3rd Tuesday from 3-5pm in person in the LPL teen space. All supplies will be provided and no previous RPG experience is required – just bring yourself and your creative mind!

This program is open to teens ages 13-19. For more information, contact the Lewiston Public Library Adult & Teen Services Department

at 513-3135 or LPLReference@lewistonmaine.gov. www.LPLonline.org

October 1 – October 31
 LEWISTON -- TEEN MANGA CONTEST at LPL: Lewiston Public Library's Teen space is holding a manga drawing contest this fall. Submissions to the Teen Manga Contest can be made online via google form or in-person at the library's 2nd floor Reference Desk from October 1, 2022 through October 31, 2022. Art will be displayed in the LPL teen space and shared on library social media for voting from November 9, 2022 through November 23, 2022. Two winners will receive a pack of manga-making supplies as a prize. Contact the Adult & Teen Services Department at lplreference@lewistonmaine.gov or 513-3135 for more information; www.LPLonline.org

October 8 – November 13
 BOOTHBAY -- Boothbay Region Art Foundation's 15th annual juried exhibition, Art in Maine, will be held at the foundation gallery Oct. 8 through Nov. 13. Art in Maine's exhibit presents a fresh and selective look at the fine art being created by Maine artists today, showcasing originality in the media of painting,

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drawing and sculpture. The opening reception is Saturday, Oct. 8 from 5-7 p.m.; over \$1,00 dollars in prizes will be awarded.

The prospectus and other details can be found on the gallery's website: www.boothbayartists.org.

Works will be juried by artist Kathleen Galligan who is represented by Portland Maine's Greenhut Gallery and Littlefield Gallery in Winterport.

October 20; November 3; November 17
 LEWISTON --

Maine's first & only Backgammon club is looking for new members! Meetings October 6, October 20, November 3, November 17; 6pm - 8pm at Obscura Cafe & Drinkery, 108 Lisbon St. Lewiston

October 20
 LEWISTON -- SPECULATIVE FICTION BOOK CLUB – HORROR (5:30 pm at the Lewiston

Public Library)

In this limited three session adult speculative fiction book club, LPL librarians will host interactive discussions on select genre novels. The horror read will be Nothing But Blackened Teeth by Cassandra Khaw. Open to genre fans and those who are new to genre novels alike.

Free. Registration required. Bottled water and small snacks available. Contact info. 513-3135; www.LPLonline.org

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

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CONCERT

South Parish Church State Street Augusta, Sunday, November 6, 3:00 p.m. Schubert Rosamunde Overture Tchaikovsky Rococo variations soloist Hyun-Ji Kwon, Bizet Symphony in C. Conductor Jinwook Park. Free admission. Donations accepted.

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SENIORS

LEWISTON SENIOR CITIZENS TRIPS FOR 2022

White Mountain Hotel & Resort - December 4 - 5, 2022

Trip includes 1 night lodging and 3 meals, including the Grand Sunday Brunch, 2 different entertainment shows, Austrian Sleigh ride through Jackson Village with a Jingle Bell Chocolate Tour. Stop at the Christmas Tree Shop and Lunch on Sunday at Polly's Pancake Parlor. A \$100 deposit per person is due upon signing. Price is \$369 pp double occupancy.

Spotlight on San Antonio, Texas - April 2-6, 2023

Trip includes 5 days, 4 nights lodging, 3

breakfasts and 2 dinners, visit to two UNESCO world heritage sites, visit to the Mission San Jose, visit to the ALAMO, boat ride along the Paseo del Rio known as the River Walk, National Museum of the Pacific War and so much more.

Reflections of Italy - October 9 - 18, 2023

Trip includes 10 days, 9 nights lodging, and 12 meals, including Rome, Vatican Museums, Sistine Chapel, St. Peter's Basilica, Assisi, Perugia, Cortona, Florence, Michelangelo's DAVID, Chianti Winery & Cooking Class, Venice, St. Mark's square, boat ride to Murano Island, Milan and much more.

Virginia Beach, Colonial Williamsburg & Historic Norfolk - May 22 - 27, 2023

Trip includes 5 nights lodging and 8 meals, guided tour of Colonial Williamsburg, narrated

Norfolk Naval Base Harbor Cruise, admission to the Nauticus & Battleship Wisconsin, visit to Mariner's Museum and Park, admission to Virginia Beach Aquarium & Marine Science Center and free time on Virginia Beach and the Virginia Beach Boardwalk. A \$75 deposit pp is due when signing up. Price is \$809 pp double occupancy and includes bus driver's tip.

For more information on any of our trips, please contact Claire Bilodeau (207)784-0302 or Cindy Boyd (207)345-9569.

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I am using a 40-year-old computer and my wife and I would like to buy a "wow" computer to communicate with our grandchildren and our children. Please call (207) 650-7224.

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Rocky Horror Show LIVE! at CLT October 27-29



The Rocky Horror Show LIVE! will be performed at Community Little Theatre October 27-29. Pictured here left to right at a recent rehearsal are cast members Josh Caron as Rocky; Danielle Eaton, Columbia; Tony Roy, Dr. Scott; Justin Morin, Frank'n'Furter; Bryce Smith, Janet; and Cody Watson as Brad.

AUBURN, ME (October 14, 2022) -- The "frothy, fun, and naughty" rock 'n roll musical The Rocky Horror Show LIVE! will run for four performances October 27-29 at the Community Little Theatre (CLT) in Auburn.

Since its first appearance at the Royal Court Theatre in June 1973, The Rocky Horror Show by Richard O'Brien has become a worldwide favorite. It has been performed in more than 30 countries and has been translated into more than 20 languages. Often described as a non-stop party, the show follows sweethearts Brad and Janet on an unforgettable adventure, where they encounter Frank'n'furter, a mad transvestite scientist, and his bizarre followers.

Widely considered a campy classic and a tribute to the age of B-horror movies, the musical features rock n' roll classics such as "Sweet Transvestite," "Hot Patootie," and the world famous "Time Warp." The Rocky Horror Show LIVE! features significant audience participation. The show is for mature audiences only,



and all audience members must be at least 18 years of age.

Local theater company Rocky for Equality is heading up this production in partnership with CLT. The show is directed by Becca Tinkham with Joe Tinkham serving as musical director, Paul G. Caron as vocal director, as producer, and Brandon Chauloux is the stage manager.

The show will be performed starting at 7:30

p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, October 27-29. An additional performance will start at 10:30 p.m. on Saturday the 29th. Anyone interested in attending is strongly encouraged to purchase general admission tickets in advance at <http://www.rockyforequality.com/tickets>. This production is not part of CLT's season and tickets are not available through the CLT box office.

CMCC Offers NCCER Core, Construction Bootcamp Classes

AUBURN, ME (October 7, 2022) -- The Center for Workforce and Professional Development at Central Maine Community College (CMCC) is offering free National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) CORE Curriculum classes. The NCCER Core is the prerequisite to all other Level 1 trade curriculum. Course modules include Basic Safety, Construction Math & Drawings, Power Tools,

Basic Rigging, Communication, Employability Skills, Material Handling, Fasteners and Adhesives. Upon completion of each module, learners sit for that NCCER exam, which are nationally recognized certifications and are included in the course.

Learners can attend in person NCCER Core Boot Camp 80 hours at CMCC - 7:00 AM - 3:00 PM from 10/24/22 - 11/4/22

Or attend Zoom sessions starting October 24th

for a total of 90 hours 2 nights/week (no Fridays) Usually 5:00 - 7:30 PM or 4:30 - 7:00 PM.

More information and links to register for the program are available at <https://www.bit.ly/CWPDRegistration>.

This training joins several other free trainings currently offered at CMCC including, CompTIA Security+ and Network+ trainings, Behavioral Health Professional, Basic Life Support,

Certified Pharmacy Technician, Computer Support & Information Specialists, as well as the upcoming Welding Academy and General Carpentry.

Programs are funded by the Maine Jobs and Recovery Program (MJRP) and Maine Quality Centers. Participants are eligible for one training and must be at least 18 years of age, possess a high school diploma, GED, or HiSet, and be a U.S. citizen and/or authorized to

work in the U.S. Criminal background check and Covid vaccination records will be required. Additionally, candidates in MJRP-funded programs must be a displaced, unemployed, or underemployed worker, or someone whose job has been adversely affected by COVID-19. Underemployed can be considered as working part-time but looking for full-time work or working in an occupation below one's skillset.

For more information or to register, please contact Central Maine Community College's Center for Workforce & Professional Development at workforcedevelopment@cmcc.edu or 207-755-5280.

Central Maine Community College is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution and employer. For more information visit www.cmcc.edu/eoc or contact Human Resources at (207) 755-5396.

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