



TWIN CITY TIMES

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FREE • Vol. XXIV, No. 28

Your Hometown Newspaper Since 1999

Thursday, November 17, 2022 • FREE

LA Businesses to Lead “Stuff the Bus” Holiday Donation Drive



Northeast Bank kicks off Stuff the Bus with a check presentation

LEWISTON, ME (November 10, 2022) -- The LA Metro Chamber has joined forces with Northeast Bank and the new Target Auburn to help those in need during the holidays this year for the annual “Stuff the Bus”. Northeast Bank’s generous support of Stuff the Bus helps the LA Metro Chamber reach businesses and residents through print, TV, and radio. This initiative invites anyone who would like to donate new toys and clothing to help families during the holidays to drop off their items at the Chamber or at one of the partner drop-off locations listed on their website <https://discoverlamaine.com/stuff-the-bus/>. Donations can also be purchased online through the Target Stuff the Bus Wishlist Registry.

In conjunction with the collection of

new toys, winter clothing, and items for seniors and pets, the LA Metro Chamber and WIGY Radio are teaming up Tuesday, November 29, starting at 7 AM for a Stuff the Bus Radiothon. Radio host Mark Turcotte and Chamber President + CEO Shanna Cox will be joined in the studio by representatives from the mission-based organizations who help distribute the donated items to local individuals and families. Listeners tuning in will hear more about the Stuff the Bus partners, their mission, and their involvement, which will support more than 1,500 local families, teens, and seniors this year.

The WIGY radiothon will introduce listeners to the events’ distribution partners - Community Concepts, Kaydenz Kitchen, Lewiston Housing, MAINE Communi-



ty Integration, New Beginnings, Promise Early Education Center, Safe Voices, Sandcastle Clinical and Educational Services, The Root Cellar, Tri-County Mental Health Services, Trinity Jubilee Center, and the YWCA.

On December 13th, the LA Metro Chamber Team will travel around LA on a Northeast Charter bus, collecting all of the donated gifts from the public drop-off locations and participating businesses and sort the items. On December 14th the public is invited to the Stuff the Bus Business After Hours at the Hilton Garden Inn Auburn Riverwatch to see the donations first hand and to network with the Stuff the Bus collecting businesses, bus stops, and distribution partners, as well as members of the Chamber Board of Directors and staff.

On December 15th all of the collected community donations will be given to LA’s distribution partner organizations.

To learn more and find out how you can participate, visit <https://discoverlamaine.com/stuff-the-bus/>

UMaine Extension 4-H, APL Offer Workshop



Image courtesy of University of Maine Cooperative Extension/Sarah Sparks. Participants in the aquaculture workshop will explore and discuss fish anatomy and aquaculture landmarks in Maine.

ORONO, ME (November 10, 2022) — University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H and Auburn Public Library will offer a workshop about aquaculture and its impact in Maine from 4–5 p.m. Nov. 30 at the Auburn Public Library, 49 Spring St.

Aquaculture is the practice of cultivating aquatic plants and raising aquatic animals for food. Here in Maine, farmers raise oysters, mussels and tilapia and grow many different types of seaweed. Brandon Dyer, Auburn Public Library children’s librarian, and Jason Collins, Benchmark Animal Health sales and technical manager, explore and discuss fish anatomy and aquaculture landmarks in Maine. Recommended for ages 8 and up.

The workshop is free; no registration is required. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Sarah Sparks, 207.581.8206; sarah.sparks@maine.edu. More information about UMaine Extension 4-H is available on the program website.

Ladies of St Anne Sodality to Hold Annual Christmas Dinner

LEWISTON, ME (November 4, 2022) -- The Ladies of St Anne Sodality of Holy Family, Prince of Peace Parish will be having their annual Christmas Dinner at

6 PM at the Green Ladle on Dec 7. Doors will be opened at 5:30 PM.

Tickets are \$20. for the Turkey Dinner and have to be purchased before Nov.

22 and are available by contacting any Board Members or by calling Anita at 782-4516.

Entertainment will be provided by

Dan and Cindy Roy of the Franco American Music and Dance.

The Cash Raffle will be drawn and there will be many Door Prizes and a 50/50.

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Husson Addresses Shortage with Online RN-to-BSN Program

BANGOR, ME (November 9, 2022) – Husson University announced today that a reconceptualized version of its popular Registered Nurse to Bachelor of Science in Nursing (RN-to-BSN) program is now available online. The updated program is now suitable for both students and working nurses.

“With Husson’s online RN-to-BSN program, it’s now even easier for working professional nurses to complete their bachelor’s degrees. Our redesigned program now offers students more flexible course schedules than before. These schedules will make it easier for our students to continue working as they take classes,” said Dr. Amy Arnett, associate

provost for online and distance education.

“In addition, our generous transfer credit policy and year-round enrollment will allow students to utilize credits earned elsewhere and begin their degree studies at times that are more convenient for them,” continued Arnett.

Husson University is also trying to make this online nursing degree more affordable. All nurses who live and work in Maine, and who enroll in Husson’s online RN-to-BSN nursing program, are eligible take classes at a tuition rate of \$338 per credit hour. That’s \$60 per credit hour less than the standard cost of \$398 per credit hour for online courses.

“Husson’s online



RN-to-BSN program now offers affordability, flexibility, a generous transfer credit policy and rolling year-round enrollment for working nurses. There’s never been a better time for those interested in earning an RN-to-BSN degree to enroll in this online program,” said Dr. Alicia Murray, the online director of the RN-to-BSN program and an assistant professor at Husson University. “It’s

our hope that all of these incentives will motivate more individuals to earn an RN-to-BSN degree and help alleviate the nursing shortage we’re currently facing here in Maine.”

At present, Maine is facing a projected nursing shortfall of 1,450 registered nurses in 2025. While some progress has been made, the state still has a long way to go to make sure local citizens have access to the

healthcare personnel needed to address the needs of our state’s aging population.

In fact, Maine has the third-largest percentage of nursing staff shortages at long-term care facilities in the nation, according to a study by Seniorly, an online platform that connects people with senior living options and resources. This study found that nearly 38% of nursing homes and long-term care facilities in Maine experienced nursing shortages in 2021-2022. That’s an increase of over 18% from 2020, when the pandemic began.

Meanwhile, the proportion of Maine’s population that’s 60 and older continues to grow. The U.S. Census Bureau estimates

that more than 31 percent of Maine’s population will be 60 and older by the year 2030, an increase of 41 percent from 2012.

“We’re facing an increased need for nurses at a time when the number of nurses is decreasing,” said Dr. Valerie Sauda, the chief nurse administrator, undergraduate director and associate professor in Husson University’s School of Nursing. “The effort being undertaken to partner with our online division and produce more qualified and knowledgeable nurses will make a difference in the quality of care patients can expect in the future. Together, we are working to help ensure the people of Maine get the quality of care they expect and deserve.”

Mills’ Plan Invests \$20M to Rebuild State Fish Hatcheries



AUGUSTA, ME (November 3, 2022) – The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (MDIFW) announced today that it will utilize a \$20 million investment from Governor Mills’ Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan to redesign and rebuild two

state fish hatcheries in Grand Lake Stream and New Gloucester. The two hatcheries produce over 70 percent of Maine’s landlocked salmon and over 40 percent of the state’s brown trout that are stocked each year.

“As an avid angler

myself, I know how much fishing means to sportsmen and women across Maine,” said Governor Mills. “With this investment, we will improve our fish hatcheries to support our outdoor economy and to ensure that generations of fishermen to come will be able to enjoy the great outdoors and the thrill of a brook trout on a tight line.”

The \$20 million in federal American Rescue Plan funds dedicated through the Governor’s Jobs Plan will be used to modernize the Grand Lake Stream and New Gloucester Fish Hatcheries, as well as water outflow at IFW’s six other hatcheries. New Gloucester was built in the 1930s, and the fish are still raised in 1930’s era earthen raceways which are collapsing. Grand Lake Stream improvements include the installation of new rearing tanks that will safeguard one of the last remaining distinct land-

locked salmon populations.

The initial phase of the redesign and reconstruction is underway, as IFW has contracted with HDR Engineering, Inc. of Portland to design and engineer the two facilities. Construction plans will be put out to bid by early spring, with construction starting in the summer of 2023.

“This is welcome news for anyone who fishes in Maine,” said MDIFW Commissioner Judy Camuso. “These improvements through the Governor’s Maine Jobs and Recovery plan will only enhance Maine’s reputation as a world-class fishery.”

The recreational fishing industry in Maine contributes an estimated \$320 million to the state’s economy annually and supports over 3,300 jobs, many of which are in rural Maine. Over 380,000 anglers are licensed to fish in Maine annually, and these anglers

pursue a variety of fish that include our coldwater species such as brook trout, brown trout, lake trout, and landlocked Atlantic salmon.

At the core of Maine’s fisheries is Maine’s state hatchery system, which stocks over one million fish annually into Maine’s waters. Maine’s hatcheries enhance fisheries where there is not enough natural fish reproduction to support a fishery, and help sustain wild strains of brook trout, landlocked Atlantic salmon, and Arctic char. During the Covid-19 pandemic, outdoor activities such as fishing spiked as people flocked to the outdoors. To sustain this recreational growth and continue to grow Maine’s outdoor economy, Maine’s hatcheries need to grow as well.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.maine.gov/ifw/fish-wildlife/hatcheries/hatchery-improvements>.

htm.

The Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan is the Governor’s plan, approved by the Legislature, to invest nearly \$1 billion in Federal American Rescue Plan funds to improve the lives of Maine people and families, help businesses, create good-paying jobs, and build an economy poised for future prosperity.

In the last year since the Jobs Plan took effect, the Mills Administration has delivered direct economic relief to nearly 1,000 Maine small businesses, supported more than 100 infrastructure projects around the state to create jobs and revitalize communities, and invested in workforce programs estimated to offer apprenticeship, career and education advancement, and job training opportunities to 22,000 Maine people.

For more about Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan, visit maine.gov/jobsplan.



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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

TAM Presents Holiday Classic With A Twist



MONMOUTH, ME (November 8, 2022) – Theater at Monmouth’s 53rd season concludes with Tom Mula’s comedic take on a Holiday favorite in Jacob Marley’s Christmas Carol. An entertaining twist on Charles Dickens’ A Christmas Carol, this tale is written from Scrooge’s business partner’s point of view. Marley, chained and shackled, is condemned to eternity with a malicious little hell-sprite

named Bogle. But Marley is given a chance to free himself. If he can redeem Scrooge, he can save his own soul. And so begins a journey of laughter and terror, redemption and renewal, during which Scrooge’s heart, indeed, is opened, but not before Marley discovers his own.

Director Dawn McAndrews explains, “Returning to live Holiday Show performances for 2022 seemed like the most wonderful gift for our community. For many seasons, Theater at Monmouth has turned holiday traditions on their heads, exploring traditional Yuletide gems with a twist. Though TAM has never produced Dickens’ A Christmas Carol, pieces of it have appeared in pre-

vious holiday shows. For 2022, TAM dumps old Scrooge from the center of the tale and focuses on his business partner. Jacob Marley’s Christmas Carol by Tom Mula offers the backstory on the journey of Jacob Marley, the first spirit that visited Scrooge on that fateful night. Marley is condemned to an eternal Hell, but gets just one shot to be freed from his chains, redeeming Scrooge. Given the hellish times we’ve just lived through, we thought a comic take on a holiday classic was just the thing to shake up the holidays and bring the community together in a tale of redemption and the power of friendship.”

TAM veteran Paul Haley steps into the famed

shackles and brings to life a number of well-remembered characters from the tale, including Jacob Marley, Scrooge, Christmas Past and Christmas Present, Fezziwig, and Cratchit while also serving as the story’s Narrator. This hilarious and touching story gives new insight into a well-known but not often examined character while maintaining the heartwarming meaning at the center of the longstanding tale.

In addition to featuring Haley as Marley (and all the other characters of the story), Jacob Marley’s Christmas Carol is Directed by Dawn McAndrews with Set & Lighting Design by Jim Alexander, Costume Design by Michelle Hand-

ley, Sound Design by Rew Tippin, Sound Engineering by Erin Fauble, and Stage Management by Kathleen Nation.

Performance Calendar: PREVIEW 11/24 at 7:30 p.m.; OPENING 11/25 at 7:30 p.m.; additional performance dates 11/26, 12/1, 12/2, and 12/3 at 7:30 p.m., 11/26, 11/27, 12/3 and 12/4 at 1:00 p.m.

Audience Engagement Programs Tickets, Subscriptions, and Ways to Save. Thanksgiving Night Special: Join us for our preview performance on Thursday, November 24 for only \$10 per ticket! Single tickets for Jacob Marley’s Christmas Carol are \$29.

Opening Nights are Educator Nights. Educa-

tors receive 20% off the general ticket price with a valid photo ID at the Box Office.

Under 30 Rush Tickets. For patrons under 30, \$10 Rush Tickets are available for up to 20 audience members at each performance in the season excluding the Family Show and Special Events. Contact the Box Office by email boxoffice@theateratmonmouth.org or by calling 207.933.9999 after 10 a.m. on the day of the show. Requests made before the Box Office is open will not be processed.

For calendar and reservations, please contact the TAM Box Office at 207.933.9999 or visit www.theateratmonmouth.org.

Sen. Ned Claxton: Reflecting on my Time in Office

Guest Column by Sen. Ned Claxton (November 6, 2022)

-- As many of you know, I have decided not to seek reelection to the Maine Senate and will not be returning to the State House in 2023. This decision was not an easy one. Representing our community in the Legislature over the past four years has truly been the honor of a lifetime. After working as a physician in Auburn for forty years, I thought I knew this region well. But during my two terms in office, I have had the opportunity to meet so many more people, hear their concerns and beliefs, and become even more acquainted with what makes our cities and towns tick. The ability to then take what I heard from folks at home back to Augusta with me and work on making a difference in their lives was a profound responsibility,

and one I won’t ever forget.

When I first ran for office in 2018, I promised to work with anyone, no matter what party, who was willing to sit down and talk about ways to improve life here in Maine. That’s exactly what I’ve done. Working together, we have been able to prioritize those issues I heard about most often from folks in our community. These included the high cost of health care and prescription medications, property taxes, the need to support for our veterans and seniors, and most recently inflation and the rising cost of energy. While we haven’t completely solved these large and complicated problems, I am proud of the progress we have been able to make by putting politics aside and working across the aisle.

To address high property taxes, we restored the

municipal revenue sharing program to its full 5 percent, fully funded the state’s share of K-12 public education at 55 percent for the first time ever, and fully reimbursed municipalities for the Homestead Exemption. These steps took a huge burden off our towns and residents. I sponsored a law to protect patients from surprise medical billing, and as chair of the Health and Human Services Committee, I fought for our vital direct care providers to get the raise they rightfully deserved.

I also sponsored a new law that provides funding for Meals on Wheels programs around our state, a critical lifeline for seniors and disabled Mainers. During the pandemic we were reminded of just how vital these programs are – they deserve full support from the state. We also worked to increase transparency in prescription drug pricing, so lawmakers can have the data they need going forward to take real and meaningful steps to lower costs.

This year, we sent \$850 checks directly to

over 850,000 Mainers to help deal with inflation and rising costs. I heard from folks around our community about how helpful the money was for bills, groceries, their medications or saving for an emergency. We also worked to improve and streamline the Home Energy Assistance Program, which is a major way for folks to get help paying to heat their home. Finally, we provided Maine

businesses and nonprofits with a credit of more than \$2,000 on their electricity bills.

I want to emphasize that the vast majority of the work I did during my time in Augusta was done in a bipartisan fashion. Despite the rhetoric, I have seen firsthand that the two major parties can still work together, and when they do, Maine people benefit. I am incredibly proud to have

been a part of this work during these four years and will always be grateful for the opportunity.

I will continue serving in the Senate through November and plan to remain active in our community beyond that. I want to thank you for the privilege of serving and for all the emails, phone calls and conversations during this time. I hope to see you around soon.



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Androscoggin Land Trust Purchases Camp Gustin

AUBURN, ME (November 7, 2022) -- Androscoggin Land Trust is pleased to announce the purchase of Camp Gustin on September 15th, 2022, which will now be known as Camp Gustin Conservation Area, in Sabattus, ME.

Purchasing Camp Gustin has permanently protected 95 acres in Sabattus, Androscoggin County, along Loon Pond and Curtis Bog. The property has freshwater vulnerable forested and bog wetlands, upland wetlands, and forested upland buffer. Resource protection is the primary management goal for this property. There are approximately 1,800 feet of shore frontage on Loon Pond, several flowing and intermittent streams, vernal pools, and wetland including 15 acres of Curtis Bog. This property gives ALT the opportunity to protect the undeveloped character of a substantial section of shoreline providing water quality benefits. The property is a key component in protecting and preserving a 429-acre connective undeveloped habitat corridor with abutting conserved land. This property had been at significant risk from developers for over a decade. We are proud to say that we raised a substantial amount of funding and

were able to secure a loan in less than six months of the start of our Camp Gustin Campaign in March 2022! After more than two years of discussions with the Pine Tree Council of the Boy Scouts of America, generous donors making significant gifts, some very successful grant writing done by ALT Staff, and the bold step taken by the ALT Board in securing a gap funding loan, ALT is proud to announce that we have closed on the 95-acre Camp Gustin property in Sabattus. This remarkable property has been supporting scouting adventures for almost 90 years and ALT will be continuing this tradition by not only allowing for this historic use of the property, but also expanding access to other youth groups, as well as the public. But we still need some help in satisfying the conservation loan.

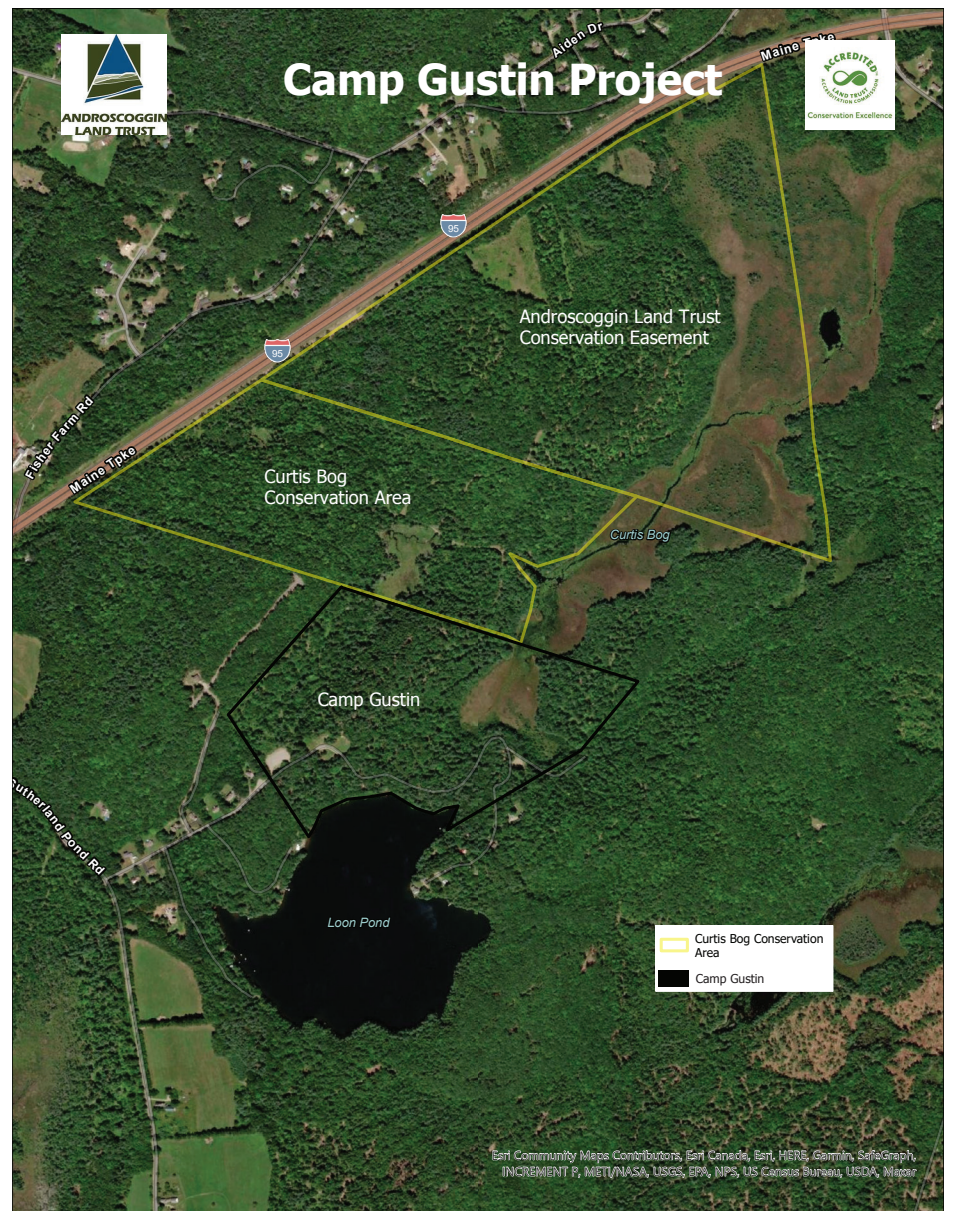
We at ALT are grateful for the generous support received from many to make this acquisition a reality, including, but not limited to The Conservation Fund, Land for Maine's Future, Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund, Maine Bureau of Parks and Land, Rob Levin, John Sage Foundation, Lost Valley, Sonder & Dram, The Vault, Norway Savings Bank, Waterman

Farm Machinery, Maine Source Homes & Realty, and the Gustin Family.

However, while we now hold the deed on Camp Gustin, our work is not over! As we finalize plans for this entire conservation parcel, we are also working hard to secure the final \$114,222.00 needed to pay off the gap loan taken out to secure the September 2022 purchase. We additionally attempt to set aside stewardship funds to assist in maintaining the property and its facilities into perpetuity. Please consider supporting this effort by making a generous gift to the project. We're seeking close to \$150,000 to successfully fund this final phase of fundraising. Make a gift and help your communities, youth, and conservation efforts.

Use of the property would include low-impact recreation including hiking, hunting, biking, skiing, fishing, birding, and carry-in carry-out camping. Camping on this site has been established for decades and ALT would continue to maintain this site for camping. Camping will be open to the public and sites will be available by reservation.

"The Gustin families are more than thrilled to know that their legacy will live on through the acquisition by Androscoggin Land Trust. This purchase will preserve the property for outdoor recreational use in its wild and undeveloped nature by the Boy Scouts and the public. It has always been a source of immense pride that our grandfather, great-grandfather, and great-great grandfather, Charles W. Gustin, made this charitable land donation in 1948. It was very important to his two sons, George W., and Lewis A. Gustin, that the land continue to be used for the purpose their father intended, and for his legacy to live on for generations.



We thank Androscoggin Land Trust and Pine Tree Council for working together in providing per-

manent conservation of Camp Gustin. Truly, this is a great outcome and will allow Camp Gustin to be appreciated and used for years and years to come by all." – Shareen Gustin Thompson and the Gustin family

"This is a tremendous opportunity to conserve a very important property not only for its conservation values, but its historical ties for local people, the Gustin family, and the scouting community," said Aimee Dorval, ALT Executive Director. "We are grateful to the Pine Tree Council for agreeing to sell and conserve this land, and we are thrilled to extend the acreage in the Loon Pond/Curtis Bog watershed. The contiguous wild-

life habitat and wetlands are irreplaceable. And we are extremely grateful to have the full support of the Gustin family in protecting a piece of land that is sentimental to their family."

For more information about ALT or to make a gift please visit www.androscogginlandtrust.org/donate

Aimee Dorval – Executive Director
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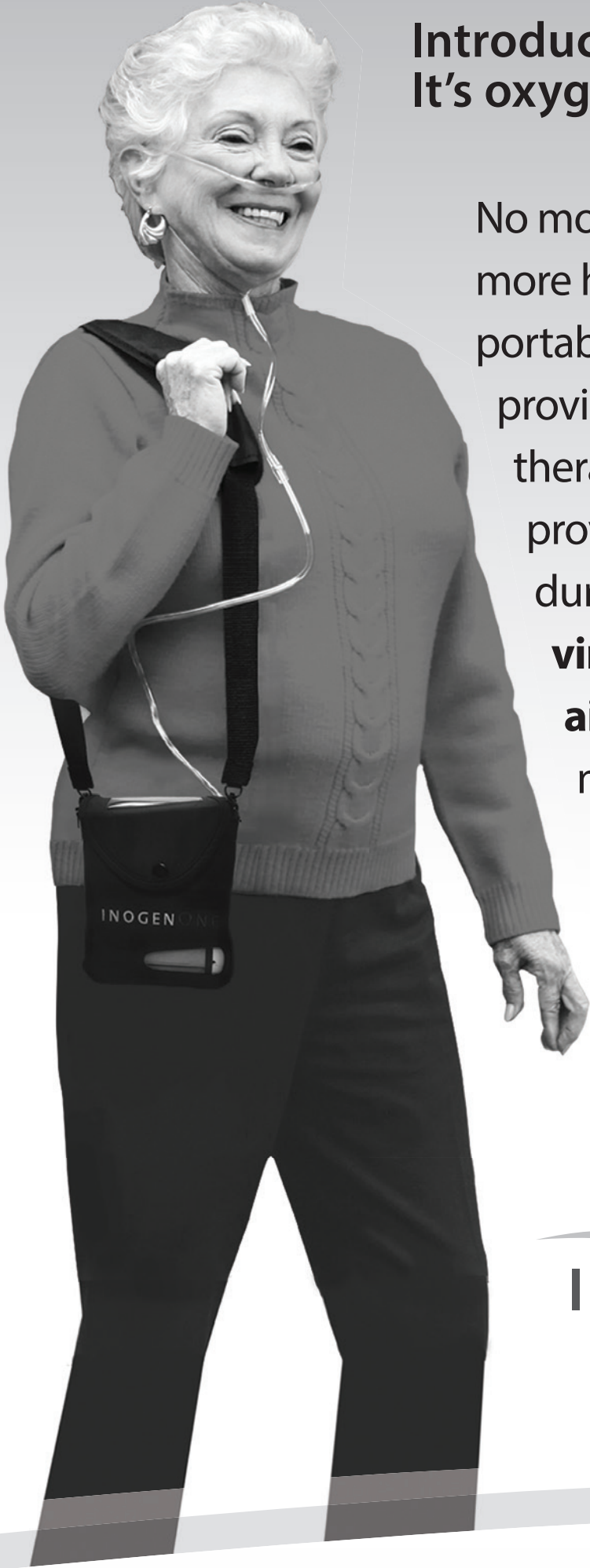
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Arts & Entertainment

Tom Petty Tribute Band to Perform at the Franco Center

LEWISTON, ME (November 7, 2022) – The Franco Center has announced that Runnin' Down a Dream: The Tom Petty Tribute Band will perform on its stage at 7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 19, 2022.

This Maine-based band includes members Mike Boucher on lead vocals and guitar; Harry Coddington on lead guitar; Roger Howard on drums; Marty McLellan on guitar and vocals; and Steve Brown on keyboard and vocals. For over 40 years, Tom Petty created timeless classics with the Heartbreakers, Mudcrutch, The Traveling Wilburys, and released solo albums until his unfortunate death in 2017.

When five veteran musicians from Maine, with local and national experience, play Petty's music together, the feeling, meaning, and very soul of these songs are undeniable. "Our show faithfully replicates the style and feel of a Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers concert, allowing the audience to experience the music of this extraordinary artist," said Roger Howard.

Mike Boucher started

playing Tom Petty songs in his high school cover band. During the 1990s, Boucher began to focus his talents on song writing and has continued to sing and play his music for audiences on the East and West coasts.

In 2007, Boucher called on Harry Coddington to lend his versatile guitar-playing talents to the alt-country band The Gaffers. Most recently, Boucher has been performing around the Portland area with his roots rock band Jeezum Crow. Boucher is also the owner of Sonic Pictures, a video production company based in Portland, Maine.

Coddington started playing guitar shortly after seeing The Beatles on the Ed Sullivan show in 1964 when he was six years old. Initially, he was impressed by the bands of the 1960s and '70s such as Rolling Stones, Creedence Clearwater Revival, Cream, The Hollies, The Zombies, The Eagles, Jimi Hendrix, Derek & The Dominos, and the Allman Brothers. He also loved country and instrumental bands such as Johnny Cash, The Ventures, Willy Nelson, The Hellecasters, Brad Paisley, Ricky Skaggs,



Runnin' Down a Dream, a Tom Petty tribute band from Maine, will perform at 7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 19, at the Franco Center, 46 Cedar St., Lewiston. Submitted photo.

Vince Gill, The New Nashville Cats, and Johnny Hiland.

Coddington won the Downeast Country Music Association's first place "New Country Instrumentalist" for the year 2000. He's played in many different bands in Florida and now in Maine. He has an affinity for Tom Petty and The Heartbreakers, which made dreaming up this band just feel natural.

Roger Howard started taking drum lessons at age 12 and joined his first garage band at 16. From there he went on to play in an assortment of bands in five states. His wide variety of musical styles include blues, country, alternative, rock, and rhythm and blues.

Since settling in Maine in the 1980s, Howard has been part of the Maine music scene. His stage experiences have taken him from local bars and clubs to private functions, town fairs, campgrounds, festivals, tour boats, and just about anywhere he can set up a drum set. From early on, Howard had his mind on the business aspect of the being in a band, always willing to go out and meet club owners, managers, and booking agents.

Playing in Runnin' Down A Dream is the culmination of everything Howard has learned and experienced over many decades in his extensive musical career.

Marty McLellan made

his debut at a coffee house performing covers of Neil Young, Grateful Dead, Jim Croce and James Taylor at Hobart College in Geneva, New York in 1982. Following that gig, he was fortunate to hook up with a local musicians club and formed his first band, Xtra Stok.

In 1995, McLellan began to jam with local musician Ken Goodman in what would eventually become Blues Barn. The band acquired a new drummer and a new name. Dirty McCurdy marked McLellan's first real experience as a frontman. The band covered mostly rock and roll, but also some original material while it continued to adhere to the blues standards it had established in the Blues Barn years.

Steve Brown's music career began in the late 1970s when he joined the band White Water in Central Maine playing a beat-up old Wurlitzer electric piano. This led to a brief Holiday Inn tour with an Elvis Presley tribute show.

Over the years, Brown became an in-demand keyboard player in the New England region. He was a member of some well-known bands includ-

ing Ricky and the Giants, Elmore Twist Band, Gary Black and the Blues, 43 North and the LA Harley Band. He has been a first-call keyboard fill-in for dozens more bands.

These five musicians together on the Franco stage will perform the music of Tom Petty with authentic renditions from every stage of his career. Doors and cash bar open an hour before showtime.

Support for this concert comes from Androscoggin Bank, Maple Way Dental Care, Bennett Radio Group, Sun Journal, Turner Publishing, and Uncle Andy's Digest, according to Franco Center staff.

Tickets are \$30 in advance and \$35 at the door day of show and can be purchased online at www.francocenter.org/shows or by phone at 207-689-2000. Tickets can also be purchased in person at our box office between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

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.

MCHPP Offers Thanksgiving Services

BRUNSWICK, ME (November 7, 2022) -- Mid Coast Hunger Prevention Program (MCHPP) is offering two Holiday meal options this Thanksgiving. For anyone who wants to celebrate by cooking their

own meal, our Thanksgiving Kits are a great option. Kits include: boxed stuffing, gravy mixes, canned corn and green beans, butternut squash, carrots and potatoes.

Meal kits are avail-

able for pickup at our Food Pantry from 11am to 3pm on Thursday, November 17th! They are also available for online ordering at Orderahead.org. If you have questions, please call our Food Pantry Coordina-

tor at (207)725-2716 ext. 311 or email dsantora@mchpp.org.

When filling the kits, MCHPP prioritizes supporting local producers as much as possible. This year that included the purchasing of 4,800lbs of carrots from Crystal Spring Farm (Brunswick), 8,000lbs of butternut squash from Six River Farm (Bowdoinham), and 6,000lbs of Maine potatoes from Good Shepherd Food Bank.

Those who would rather pick up a prepared hot meal for their celebration can drop by our Soup Kitchen, which will be serving a to-go meal on Thanksgiving Day from 11am until 12:30pm. No reservations or registration are required- all are wel-

come.

Our Soup Kitchen Coordinator can be reached for questions at (207)725-2716 ext. 304 or by email at jgoldstein@mchpp.org. Generous funding from residents of Highland Green and 600 gift cards provided by the Albertson Companies Foundation are making these holiday offerings available.

With so many neighbors feeling the pinch of inflation on their household budgets, the public's generous support is more important than ever before. Mid Coast Hunger Prevention Program offers dignity and empowerment by providing all members of our community with access to healthy food. Services include prepared meals, gro-

cery distribution on-site, at local schools, and satellite locations in Harpswell and Lisbon Falls.

The MCHPP food pantry—located at 12 Tenney Way, Brunswick—is open to the public on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Friday from 11 am–2 pm; Tuesday evenings 4-6 pm; and Saturdays from noon–3 pm; the Soup Kitchen serves freshly made-to-go meals on Mondays–Fridays from 11 am–12:30 pm and Saturdays noon–1:30 pm.

MCHPP is diligently working to maintain the health and safety of our staff, clients, and volunteers. We are committed to ensuring that our services are open and available to any and all in need.

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Relief Checks Sent to 850,000 Maine People

AUGUSTA, ME (November 10, 2022) — With the deadline to file a 2021 income tax return closed, the Mills Administration announced today that 850,010 relief checks have been sent to Maine taxpayers across the state.

The \$850 inflation relief checks — or \$1700 for the average Maine family — is one of the strongest inflation relief measures in the country and is intended to help Maine people deal with rising costs.

“I am pleased that my Administration was able to deliver one of the strongest inflation relief measures in the nation to help

Maine people through this difficult time,” said Governor Mills. “Many Maine people have told me that they are using this money to put oil in their tank and gas in their cars and to buy groceries or pay copays for prescription medications. I thank the Legislature — Republicans, Democrats, and Independents alike — for their support of this important program and I pledge to continue to work closely with them to support Maine people moving forward.”

The inflation relief payments give back more than half of the State’s surplus — \$729.3 million — in the form of one-time, \$850

checks to eligible Maine people. The measure was proposed by Governor Mills in her supplemental budget, drawing on an idea from Republican lawmakers, and was overwhelmingly passed by the State Legislature.

To date, 99 percent of the estimated 858,000 eligible Maine people have received their relief payments. Maine Revenue Services will continue processing checks as paper tax returns arrive in the mail and are vetted.

“At the direction of Governor Mills, we worked hard to reach Maine residents, including our seniors, who may not

typically file income taxes to make sure they also received this important inflation relief,” said Kirsten Figueroa, Commissioner of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services. “In the coming weeks, we’ll process any outstanding tax returns and work hard to ensure that every eligible Maine person benefits from this important program.”

Maine people who have filed and have not received their relief checks can check the status of their relief check on the Department of Administrative and Financial Services website at <https://portal.maine.gov/refund->

status/payment.

Governor Mills, working with the Legislature, has fought to help Maine people and small businesses with high costs by: Returning more than half of the state’s budget surplus to Maine people through \$850 inflation relief checks — one of the strongest inflation relief measures in the country; Providing a one-time energy bill credit of more than \$2,000 to 2,919 Maine small businesses and nonprofit organizations of Central Maine Power and Versant; Providing up to \$1,400 in tax relief for eligible low- and

middle-income Maine families and seniors; Securing a one-time energy bill credit of \$90 for tens of thousands of low-income customers of Central Maine Power and Versant; Providing \$800 in heating cost relief to nearly 13,000 low-income households to help pay for high energy costs; Successfully pressing for increased funding for Federal heating assistance programs to help Maine households with oil bills this winter; MaineHousing has advanced \$11 million in heating relief funds to nearly 11,000 households, of which 7,200 are seniors aged 65 and older.

Congregations Hold Transgender Day Of Remembrance Services

BRUNSWICK, ME (November 12, 2022) — By a recent count, at least forty-two transgender or gender variant lives were lost since this time last year to transphobia and violence. Those forty-two deaths are just the murders that have been made known. Many victims of transphobic violence never have their deaths publicly acknowledged. With the recent bombardment of anti-trans legislation aimed to suppress the

trans and gender variant community in this country, the acknowledgement of these tragic deaths is all the more critical. Now, more than ever, it is important to speak their names and honor their memories. To this end, three local churches are joining together to host a Transgender Day of Remembrance gathering in Brunswick.

What is Transgender Day of Remembrance?

Transgender advocate Gwendolyn Ann

Smith began Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR) in 1999. TDOR began as a vigil to honor the memory of Rita Hester, a transgender woman who was killed in Allston, Massachusetts in 1998. The vigil also commemorated all the transgender and gender variant lives lost to anti-Trans violence in the time following Rita Hester’s murder. Thus began an important tradition that has evolved into an annual Transgender Day of Remembrance

observed throughout the world on November 20th.

TDOR founder Gwendolyn Ann Smith says, “Transgender Day of Remembrance seeks to highlight the losses we face due to anti-transgender bigotry and violence. I am no stranger to the need to fight for our rights, and the right to simply exist is first and foremost. With so many seeking to erase transgender people -- sometimes in the most brutal ways possible -- it is vitally im-

portant that those we lose are remembered, and that we continue to fight for justice.”

How can I get involved in the Transgender Day of Remembrance?

Join organizers Rev. Dr. Kharma Amos from the Unitarian Universalist Church of Brunswick, along with Rabbi Lisa Vinikoor from the Beth Israel Congregation of Bath, and Rev. Hillary Collins-Gillpatrick from the First Universalist Church of Yarmouth

in a service to honor the transgender and gender variant lives lost this year to transphobic violence.

This Transgender Day of Remembrance event will be held at 5:00pm on November 20th at the UU Church of Brunswick located at 1 Middle St. in Brunswick.

While this event is being held at a church and led by religious leaders, this TDOR event is open to all who support the transgender and gender variant community.

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A kayaker crosses Moosehead Lake towards Mount Kineo



The views from Indian Trail on Mount Kineo are phenomenal



An overlook on Little Kineo Mountain provides an expansive vista of central Moosehead Lake

By Ron Chase
Moosehead is Maine's largest lake and Mount Kineo is one of the state's most distinctive peaks. Combining a kayak paddle on the lake with a climb of Mount Kineo, which I call a surf and turf, seemed like the ideal way to end the kayaking season and begin fall hiking. A previous Moosehead surf and turf that included a partial lake traverse is a chapter in my new book *Maine Al Fresco: The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine*. For several years, I've organized fall surf and turf trips at locations around the state for my outdoor club, the Penobscot Paddle & Chowder Society. When I announced this year's Moosehead trip, four Chowderheads expressed interest. The date

was dependent upon two consecutive "good weather" days as I had decided to add a second peak to the agenda, Little Kineo Mountain. Arguably, the most important weather factor to be considered was wind as treacherous blows are notorious on Moosehead. One of the few benefits of old age is the flexibility to make last minute outdoor decisions. Unfortunately, when two exceptional days were forecast, three of the hopefuls were unable to participate. On the plus side, my son, Adam, was able to fit the plan into his work schedule. We began our excursion at Kineo Landing in Rockwood on a beautiful fall day. The marvelous colors of the autumn foliage coupled with the

majestic cliffs of Mount Kineo provided a breathtaking start for our endeavor. As predicted, the winds were almost non-existent for the one mile crossing to the landing at the foot of Kineo. A surf and turf has an inherent complication. Paddling clothes are not suitable for mountain hiking. Adam and I changed into hiking shoes and clothing at the landing, donned packs that included water and snacks, and began the mountain undertaking. We followed the flat Carriage Trail along the shore for a short distance to Indian Trail which ascends along the cliffs until it joins Bridle Trail about halfway to the summit. The panoramic vistas of southern Moosehead Lake from Indian Trail were nothing short of phenom-

nal. After connecting with Bridle Trail, we entered a wooded area and proceeded to a restored fire tower that offers spectacular 360 degree views of the surrounding area. Shortly after leaving the fire tower, we met a couple who had canoed across the lake from Birches Resort near Rockwood. They were the only hikers or paddlers we encountered during the entire outing. Our decision to follow the Bridle Trail on the descent was a mistake as heavy rains the previous night turned the badly eroded path into a virtual stream. From the landing, we kayaked two miles north to the northwest tip of the island where spacious Hardscrabble Point Campsite is located. After setting up camp, an exploration of nearby Farm Island was added to the day's adventure. Hardscrabble Point Campsite offers an exceptional view of the northern portion of the lake including Little Kineo Mountain in the northeast. A clear night, star gazing was ex-

ceptional. We awoke to another outstanding day. A hearty breakfast was consumed while watching the first rays of sunshine reach the summit of our intended goal, Little Kineo Mountain. The two mile open water crossing in calm conditions to Moosehead Public Lands on the east shore was easily accomplished. We quickly located and walked camp roads towards Little Kineo Mountain. After hiking steadily up from the lake for about two miles, the clearly marked trailhead was on the left. A small parking area is available for those arriving by vehicle. We found the narrow one mile path to the summit to be in exceptionally good condition for a remote infrequently hiked mountain. The first half was in a predominantly hardwood forest covered with a blanket of recently fallen leaves. In the upper portion, we ascended a series of steep ledges in a conifer forest. Nearing the summit, an overlook of-

ferred an expansive vista of central Moosehead Lake. Soon after, we arrived at a rounded open ledge that is the high point. We experienced mirror calm conditions during the paddle back to Hardscrabble Point. After breaking camp, our return to Rockwood was equally pleasurable. It's difficult to imagine two more exquisite days for our fall surf and turf. The endeavor will be difficult to duplicate next year, but we'll try.

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Sen. Collins Announces \$42.5M in LIHEAP Funding for Maine

WASHINGTON, D.C. (November 3, 2022) – Following a bipartisan push led by U.S. Senators Susan Collins (R-ME) and Jack Reed (D-RI), the State of Maine has been awarded \$42.5 million through the Department of Health and Human Services’ (HHS) Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), which provides funding to help low-income households pay their energy bills.

Senators Collins and Reed, senior members of the Appropriations Committee, led ef-



orts to include \$4 billion for LIHEAP in the fiscal year 2022 appropriations package that was signed into law earlier this year. In addition, they worked with their colleagues to secure \$1 billion in emergency supplemental funding for the program in the short-term funding package that was signed into law last month. This supplemental funding—

coupled with additional funding authorized by the bipartisan infrastructure law that Senator Collins co-authored—provided a nearly \$7.2 million boost in LIHEAP for Maine, on top of the state’s typical allocation.

“With the average price of home heating oil currently a staggering \$5.42 per gallon, it is going to be extraordinarily chal-

lenging for many Maine families to stay warm this winter,” said Senator Collins. “Given the sharp increase in energy prices this year, this funding will be essential to helping ensure that low-income families and seniors do not have to make the impossible choice between paying for heat and paying for food or medicine. I am pleased that the Administration

heeded our call to distribute these critical funds appropriated by Congress as quickly as possible.”

LIHEAP is a federally funded program that helps low-income households with their home energy bills by providing payment and/or energy crisis assistance to pay for heating oil, gas, electric, and other methods customers use to heat their homes. LIHEAP is administered by states and accessed through local Community Action Agencies. Eligibility for LIHEAP is based on income, family size, and the avail-

ability of resources. This funding is particularly critical given that the average cost of home heating is unaffordable for millions of low-income households costing over \$1000 per year. The increase costs of staying warm this winter is 17% higher on average than last year. Last year, more than 30,000 Maine households benefitted from LIHEAP.

More information on how to apply can be found here: <https://www.mainehousing.org/programs-services/energy/energydetails/home-energy-assistance-program>



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Stay Food Safe this Thanksgiving Holiday

WASHINGTON, D.C. (November 7, 2022) – Keep your stomach full of turkey and free from foodborne illness this Thanksgiving holiday. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) reminds us all that it's important to remember the steps to food safety during America's biggest meal.

"While the four steps to food safety — clean, separate, cook and chill — are important every day and at every meal, they are particularly significant on Thanksgiving," said USDA Deputy Under Secretary Sandra Eskin. "There will likely be many guests and many delicious dishes at your holiday table, but you don't want to invite any foodborne pathogens. Follow those four steps — in particular remember to use a food thermometer — and your Thanksgiving dinner will be a safe one."

Keep your Thanksgiving celebration food safe by following the tips below.

Clean and Sanitize

Handwashing is the first step to avoiding foodborne illness. Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water before, during, and after handling food. In a recent study, 97 percent of participants in a USDA test kitchen failed to wash their

hands properly. Make sure to follow these handwashing steps:

Wet your hands with clean, running water.

Lather your fingers with soap.

Scrub soapy hands and fingers thoroughly for at least 20 seconds. Rinse your hands under clean, running water.

Dry hands off with a clean towel or air dry them.

Clean and sanitize any surfaces that have touched raw turkey and its juices and will later touch food such as kitchen counters, sinks, stoves, tabletops, etc.

Avoid Cross-Contamination

Cross-contamination is the spread of bacteria from raw meat and poultry onto ready-to-eat food, surfaces, and utensils. One way to avoid this is by using separate cutting boards — one for raw meat and poultry, and another for fruits and vegetables. Our recent study found that sinks are the most contaminated areas of the kitchen. USDA recommends against washing your raw poultry due to the risk of splashing bacteria throughout your kitchen. Clean and sanitize any areas that will come into contact with the turkey before and after cooking.

Thaw the Turkey Safely

Never thaw your tur-

key in hot water or leave it on a countertop. There are three ways to safely thaw a turkey: in the refrigerator, in cold water and in the microwave.

Refrigerator thawing: Turkey can be safely thawed in a refrigerator to allow for slow and safe thawing. When thawing in a refrigerator, allow roughly 24 hours for every four to five pounds of turkey. After thawing, a turkey is safe in a refrigerator for one to two days.

Cold water thawing: The cold water thawing method will thaw your turkey faster but will require more attention. When thawing in a cold-water bath, allow 30 minutes per pound and submerge the turkey in its original wrapping to avoid cross-contamination. Change the water every 30 minutes until the turkey is thawed. The turkey must be cooked immediately after thawing.

Microwave thawing: To thaw a turkey that fits in the microwave, follow manufacturer's recommendations. Cook it immediately after thawing because some areas of the food may become warm and begin to cook during the thawing process, bringing the food to the "Danger Zone."

It's safe to cook a completely frozen turkey; however, it will take at

least 50 percent longer to fully cook.

Cook Thoroughly

Your turkey is safe to eat once it reaches an internal temperature of 165 F. Insert a food thermometer into the thickest part of the breast, the innermost part of the wing and the innermost part of the thigh to check its internal temperature. USDA recommends using a food thermometer even if the turkey has a pop-up temperature indicator to ensure it has reached 165 F in the three previously stated places.

Stuffing your Turkey

USDA recommends against stuffing your turkey since this often leads to bacteria growth. However, if you plan to stuff your turkey, follow these steps:

Prepare the wet and dry ingredients for the stuffing separately from each other and refrigerate until ready to use. Mix wet and dry ingredients just before filling the bird's cavity.

Do not stuff whole poultry and leave in the refrigerator before cooking.

Stuff the turkey loosely — about 3/4 cup of stuffing per pound.

Immediately place the stuffed, raw turkey in an oven set no lower than 325 F.

A stuffed turkey will take longer to cook. Once it has finished cooking,

place a food thermometer in the center of the stuffing to ensure it has reached a safe internal temperature of 165 F. Let the cooked turkey stand 20 minutes before removing the stuffing.

For more information on turkey stuffing, visit Turkey Basics: Stuffing.

The Two-Hour Rule

Don't leave your food sitting out too long! Refrigerate all perishable foods sitting out at room temperature within two hours of being cooked, or one hour if the temperature is 90 F or above. After two hours, perishable food will enter the "Danger Zone" (between 40 F and 140 F), which is where bacteria can multiply quickly and cause the food to become unsafe. Discard all foods that have been left out for more than two hours. Remember the rule — keep hot foods hot and cold foods cold.

Transporting hot foods — Wrap dishes in insulated containers to keep their temperature above 140 F.

Transporting cold foods — Place items in a cooler with ice or gel packs to keep them at or below 40 F.

When serving food to groups, keep hot food hot and keep cold food cold by using chafing dishes or crock pots and ice trays. Hot items should remain

above 140 F and cold items should remain below 40 F.

Leftovers

Store leftovers in small shallow containers and put them in the refrigerator. Thanksgiving leftovers are safe to eat up to four days in the refrigerator. In the freezer, leftovers are safely frozen indefinitely but will keep best quality from two to six months.

Resources

For Thanksgiving food safety questions, call the USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline at 1-888-MPHotline (1-888-674-6854), email MPHonline@usda.gov or chat live at ask.usda.gov from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday.

Do you have any last-minute turkey day questions? The Meat and Poultry Hotline will be open on Thanksgiving Day from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. EST.

Check out the USDA FoodKeeper App, which helps to reduce food waste by providing food and beverage storage information. Access news releases and other information at USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service's (FSIS) website at www.fsis.usda.gov/newsroom. Follow FSIS on Twitter at twitter.com/usdafoodsafety or in Spanish at: twitter.com/usdafoodsafety_es.



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Open Call for Art at The Monson Arts Gallery

MONSON, ME (November 4, 2022) -- Monson Arts - an art center and artist residency program located in Monson, Maine - is seeking art for their winter exhibition, Artists of the Maine Highlands, Today and Tomorrow. Art-

ists working in any medium are encouraged to submit up to three pieces.

The theme is designed to represent artists creating in and around the North Maine Woods region. Work will be juried by Monson Arts staff.

Please send submissions to info@monsonarts.org and include your name, an image of each work you would like to submit, and your contact information by Nov 30, 2022.

There is no fee to submit or participate. Monson

Arts Gallery is a non-sales gallery. Any inquiries of purchase will be forwarded to the artist. Artwork that is accepted into the show will need to be dropped off by Dec 15, 2022 for installation.

Monson Today will

be on view Jan 4th - Feb 27, 2023. The Monson Arts Gallery is located at 8 Greenville Road, Monson, Maine and is open Wednesday through Friday 10:00am - 3:00pm or by appointment by calling 207-997-2070.

Monson Arts was founded in 2018. Their mission is to provide time and space for creative work through residencies, workshops, and educational partnerships. Visit monsonarts.org to learn more about all of their programs.

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Maine Ranked 1st in Nation for Beach Protection

SAN CLEMENTE, CA (November 3, 2022) – Today, the Surfrider Foundation released its sixth annual State of the Beach Report, which grades 30 states and the territory of Puerto Rico on comprehensive laws and policies to protect our nation’s beaches from coastal erosion, sea level rise and poorly planned development. For the second year in a row, this year’s report reveals that 67% of coastal areas assessed are performing at ‘adequate’ to ‘poor’ levels, with some of the lowest grades earned by states that are most often affected by extreme weather and worsening climate events.

“Rising seas and more powerful storms are already damaging community infrastructure, shrinking coastlines and diminishing the public’s ability to enjoy our favorite beaches across the country,” said the Surfrider Foundation’s Senior Manager of the Coast and Climate Initiative, Stefanie Sekich-Quinn. “It is imperative that local, state and federal governments work together to protect our coastal communities from the growing impacts of climate change. Long-term climate planning not only safeguards our coastal communities, but it also makes economic sense. A recent report found that if the U.S. fails to take sig-

nificant climate change action, it could cost \$14.5 trillion (in present value terms) to our economy over the next 50 years. Surfrider’s report provides a road map for states to improve coastal management and proactively plan for climate change impacts.”

Out of 30 states and the territory of Puerto Rico, only 11 states earned a grade of either an ‘A’ or ‘B.’ The remaining coastal states are performing at a ‘C’ level or less, including the majority of areas that have been impacted the most significantly by extreme weather events. While the Northeast and West Coast states earned a ‘B’ average, the Southeast, Island and Mid-Atlantic states collectively earned a ‘C’ grade overall and the Great Lakes and Gulf of Mexico states scored a ‘D’ average.

Each state or territory was graded on a set of 12 criteria separated into four major categories, including sediment management, development, coastal armoring and sea level rise. The highest-scoring states have strong policies regarding coastal building setbacks, restrictions on coastal armoring, limiting development and redevelopment, and the advancement of progressive sea level rise policies that encourage local governments to incorporate climate adaptation measures into land

use plans. In comparison, the lowest-scoring states tend to have less stringent policies regarding development in hazardous coastal zones, ineffective or nonexistent prohibitions on coastal armoring, poor sediment management and a lack of sea level rise policies.

“Surfrider has intentionally been increasing our work on climate change mitigation and adaptation to help provide solutions to this global issue,” said Sekich-Quinn. “In addition to the graded assessments, we have also included targeted suggestions for improvements for each state in our report. While the climate emergency is daunting, Surfrider is working around the country every day with our network of volunteers and local representatives to help protect our communities, ecological resources and recreational access.”

Since Surfrider released its inaugural report in 2017, 12 states have made improvements to coastal policies, with advancements in sea level rise planning and coastal resiliency in light of climate change.

To find out how to help advance your state to the next level to prepare for urgent climate change impacts, visit Surfrider’s State of the Beach Report or find out more at Surfrider.org.

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Calendar

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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

November 17
LEWISTON -- SPECULATIVE FICTION BOOK CLUB - SCIENCE-FICTION (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 Sci-fi read will be *This Is How You Lose the Time War* by Amal El-Mohtar & Max Gladstone. 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

November 17; December 15
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

November 19
GORHAM -- Craft Fair Nov. 19th, 9am-2pm @White Rock Grange #380, 33 Wilson Road, Gorham

Join White Rock Grange for a Christmas Craft Fair. Over 30 crafters, jewelry, sewn & knitted items, goat soap, soy candles, home decor and much more!

<https://www.facebook.com/events/621206766104293>

November 19
GORHAM -- Craft Fair Nov. 19, 2023, 9am-2pm @White Rock Community Clubhouse, 34 Wilson Road, Gorham

White Rock Friendship Club hosting Christmas Craft Fair as a college

scholarship fundraiser. Many handmade crafts, bake sale, and raffles. Lunch will be served: Either corn chowder or steamed hot dog meal includes: chips, cookie and a drink.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/392143993085347>

November 19
GRAY -- The First Congregational Church of Gray's Annual Holly Fair will be held on Saturday, November 19 from 9 to 2 at the Parish House at 5 Brown Street, Gray. The Fair will include Crafts, Rada Cutlery, White Elephant, Jewelry, Children's Activities, Baked Goods with CookieTrail, Coffee and Donuts and Corn Chowder to Go. and much more.

November 19
NEW GLOUCESTER -- LUNNE-HUNNEWELL AMVETS POST#6, Bean Supper From 5PM-6:00PM; Cost \$10.00 Adults Ages 12To 6 \$5.00, Ages 5 and under Free.

Then at 7:00PM -9:30PM the Annual Turkey Spinning Wheel with the chances to win the games for a Turkey or Turkey & All the Fixings.

We are all selling 20 LB Turkey's Raffle Tickets Chances and will be at the door. "HAPPY THANKSGIVING"

November 19
AUBURN -- The United Methodist Church of Auburn will hold its annual Church Fair on Saturday, November 19, from 9 to 1 pm. Enjoy the country kitchen and purchase homemade beans, chili, meatballs, donuts, homemade pies. Also shop for candy, crafts, vintage cabbage dolls, jewelry, fresh Maine wreaths, \$5 surprise gift bags, white elephant goodies and much more. Come early to 489 Park Avenue in Auburn for the best selections.

November 19
AUBURN -- The Auburn Public Library Bookstore is holding a "Buck-a-Bag" clearance sale of books, including popular and classic fiction, children's books, biographies and all manner of nonfiction books. Most books in the sale were donated to the library, but the sale also includes some ex-library books. Bring a bag, fill it up with books and pay only \$1. Saturday, November 19 10:00 am - 4:30 pm in the Androscoggin Room on the ground floor of the library. Masks are recommended.

November 19, 20; December 1, 3, 4
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Quartet Concerts in November: Mozart String Duo in B flat Major for Violin & Viola, Dohnanyi Serenade for String Trio, Op. 10 and Beethoven String Trio in C Minor, Op. 9 no 3

Saturday, November 19, 3:00 pm, Meetinghouse Arts, Freeport

Sunday, November 20, 3:00 pm, St. Columba's Episcopal Church, Boothbay Harbor

Thursday, December 1, 7:00 pm, Maine Jewish Museum, Portland

Saturday, December 3, 3:00 pm, First Congregational Church of Blue Hill

Sunday, December 4, 3:00 pm, Union Hall, Rockport

December 3
MECHANIC FALLS -- The Ladies Guild of Our Lady of Ransom Church in Mechanic Falls is hosting a Christmas Craft Fair, which will take place on

Saturday December 3rd from 9am to 2pm in the church hall located at 117 Elm St, Mechanic Falls.

There will be various craft vendors, a bake sale and many amazing raffle baskets. A luncheon will be served, and will include a hot dog combo meal as well chili and a chowder. The Christmas spirit will be strong in Mechanic Falls on December 3rd; come and check it out.

December 6
LEWISTON -- Hiring Event on Tuesday, December 6, 2022 from 10:00am-noon at the Lewiston CareerCenter, 5 Mollison Way, Lewiston. Bring your best self and speak with over thirty employers all offering great job opportunities! The event is free and open to the public. For more information visit: <https://www.mainecareercenter.com/employment/hiring-events/>

Turkey Trot 4 Hope Returns on Thanksgiving Day in Norway

NORWAY, ME (October 31, 2022) -- The fifth annual Turkey Trot 4 Hope Scenic 4 Mile Run or 1 Mile Run/Walk will be held Thanksgiving Day, November 24th, at 9am at the Norway Fire Station, 19 Danforth Street, Norway. Our many sponsors this year have guaranteed that this will be a great event to benefit the Cancer Resource Center of Western Maine (CRCofWM). This is indeed a day of THANKS where individuals teams, businesses, and communities can support

the work that the CRCofWM does.

You can register individually or as a team at raceroster.com/59121. Registration through October 31st is \$25 and guarantees you a t-shirt. All Maine students K-12 can register for FREE, thanks to a very generous donor. November 1st registration increases to \$30. We are fortunate this year to have Back40 doing our timing and announcing. At 10:15am there will be awards for the top runners as well as drawings for prizes for all partici-



The 5th Annual Turkey Trot 4 Hope will be held in-person and virtually this year. All proceeds benefit the Cancer Resource Center of Western Maine. Visit raceroster.com/59121 to register

throughout the course. Prizes will also be awarded to the highest fundraisers. Organizers also encourage anyone to join in the fun VIRTUALLY from November 20th - 27th anytime, anywhere, in support of the CRCofWM. Your route can be a favorite trail, a walk with your dog, a daily running route, or even a treadmill. If you run virtually, your T-shirts will be mailed to you and we would love to see where you chose to participate by posting on our Facebook page or #turkeytrot4hope.

fundraising," commented Gene Benner, committee co-chair. "We challenge each Turkey Trot 4 Hope participant to help us raise much needed funds to support people in western Maine affected by cancer."

CRCofWM's mission is to embrace anyone affected by cancer in a community that offers hope and caring through support, education and concepts in healthy living. CRCofWM offer one to one support, free wellness programs and classes, support groups, travel and food assistance, and comfort items to anyone impacted by cancer... because no one should face cancer alone. For more information www.crcofwm.org or 207-890-0329.

pants. You will receive a free T-shirt if you register by October 31st. There will be timing for runners, prizes and water stations

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Harriman Joins Maine Source Homes & Realty

AUBURN, ME (November 3, 2022) -- Malayka Harriman, a native of Auburn, has joined Auburn-based Maine Source Homes & Realty as a Sales Agent/Realtor®.

"As Maine Source Homes celebrates 50 years of service to our customers, we are delighted to

bring onboard someone of Malayka's drive and commitment to client service," said Jon Mercier, Designated Broker®/ Owner at Maine Source Homes & Realty. "We proudly support Malayka in her number one goal, which is to help empower the younger generation of home buyers

to achieve home ownership in this challenging real estate market."

In her free time, Malyka Harriman enjoys adventuring with her two dogs, Jasper and Murphy. She also dabbles in interior design and loves to help with decor and design projects.

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Wood boiler – Must go! \$2,500. Alternate heating carbon steel wood boiler. Purchased in 1996 for \$6,800. New door seal, bricks, blanket, and silicone card bead. Includes cycle timer and plumb fittings. 1,400#. Model E100 wood gun. Can be lifted directly into your trailer. GORHAM. (207) 222-2755.

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Turboclean Powerbrush Pet Pro carpet cleaner. Brand new. Used once. Asking \$80. Call 893-8851. Gorham.

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Briggs & Stratton Generator for sale

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KAYAKS

New Kayak for sale Kayak bought at Cabalas. Comes with life jacket, paddles. It is a sit on, color red. Paid \$400. Asking \$200. Used once! Call (207) 413-7502

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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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The Midcoast Welcomes Back Signature Tree Festival

BRUNSWICK, ME (November 9, 2022) – The Midcoast Tree Festival (MTF) fundraiser will return to Brunswick’s St. John’s Community Center at 43 Pleasant Street during the weekends of November 18 -20 and November 25 – 27.

Brimming with gifts worth more than \$500 each, beautiful Christmas trees are donated by businesses and organizations in and around the Midcoast area. The public is invited to view the trees and purchase raffle tickets for chances to win the trees and all gifts in that

tree space. Over thirty trees with gifts will be available to view and bid on. The trees will display a wide variety of themes that are sure to delight and interest participants—truly something for everyone. Back by popular demand, Priority Real Estate Group will again donate “Mega Tree” – an oversized Christmas tree that includes over \$3,000 worth of gifts and goodies!

In addition, fundraiser guests will enjoy concessions and a hot cocoa bar provided by the Brunswick Knights of

Columbus. A range of entertainers will participate at various times including the Maine Marimba Ensemble, Your Caricature (character drawings), Spark’s Ark Animal Services, Maine Youth Orchestra, Peter Boie Magician, Libby Matthews singer, St. John’s Catholic School Chorus and the Playing for Laughs Improv Troupe. Youth arts and crafts activities will be offered ongoing throughout the course of this two-weekend event. A visit from Santa will conclude festivities on November 27 at 1:00 p.m.

Event entry is only \$2 per person and FREE for children under the age of twelve. Raffle tickets are 50 cents each with an unlimited amount sold to attendees that want to bid. Purchasing tickets will be cash only due to state regulations.

The Midcoast Tree Festival is a fundraiser that supports the programs and services of Spectrum Generations including Meals on Wheels; All Saints Parish of Brunswick grief support, emergency fuel and housing assistance fund in addition to other pro-

grams and projects; and the Bath-Brunswick Regional Chamber “Chamber Works 2030” program which focuses on education, workforce development, hiring needs and other key issues that affect those living and working within the Midcoast region.

Volunteers and sponsors are also needed to support this fundraiser. To learn more and become involved in the Midcoast Tree Festival visit: <https://www.midcoastreefestival.com/> or email: midcoastreefestival@gmail.com and make sure to

follow Midcoast Tree Festival on Facebook @midcoastreefestival.

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Hazen Donates \$10K to Nathaniel Hawthorne’s Boyhood Home

RAYMOND, ME (October 31, 2022) – Steven Kelsey Hazen of California, a long-time seasonal resident of the Casco-Raymond area, offered on October 25 a donation of \$10,000 to the Phase 2 fundraising campaign being conducted by Nathaniel Hawthorne’s Boyhood Home in Raymond to fully repair and restore the beloved, historic home. Previously, Mr. Hazen had donated a total of \$11,000 to Phase 1 of the fundraising effort, including \$10,000 in memory of Clyde Stanley Murch (a founding member of the Hawthorne Community Association) and his wife, Edna Pearl Ames Murch. His new donation is offered in memory of his mother and father, Prudence Eleanor

(Kelsey) Hazen and Franklin Graham Hazen, both of whom were ardent supporters of the Hawthorne Community Association. Clyde Murch and Mr. Hazen both trace their ancestry to Sally (Dingley) Murch, whose sister Susan (Dingley) Manning was married to Richard Manning, who build the Hawthorne House for his sister, mother of Nathaniel Hawthorne. The Association was formed in 1922 and still oversees care of the building.

“In offering this gift, I wish to congratulate the residents of the Casco/Raymond area for their wonderful support for this fundraising effort, and to convey my sincere hope that others with ties to the region and/or to

the Hawthorne House will be able to fund the remaining portion of the restoration project, so it can be completed in 2023,” Mr. Hazen said.

How to Support the Fundraising Campaign

To help fully repair and restore Nathaniel Hawthorne’s Boyhood Home in Raymond, please consider a much-appreciated check or online donation. Please make checks payable to “Hawthorne Community Association” / PO Box 185 / South Casco, ME 04077. Credit card, debit card, and/or PayPal donations may be made online at: <https://www.hawthorneassoc.com>.

For more information, please contact Abel Bates at (207) 318-7131 or jbates4@maine.rr.com.

Cloutier Law Expands Workforce Training Programs Across Maine

AUGUSTA, ME (November 3, 2022) – A law sponsored by Rep. Kristen Cloutier, D-Lewiston, to bolster Maine’s workforce education and training programs, has been implemented by the Maine Department of Education (MDOE) to fund eight “Strengthening Maine Workforce” projects across the state.

LD 1684 established a statewide competitive grant process that is providing \$3.2 million in funding to adult education programs.

The law, funded by the American Rescue Plan Act, created worksite-based, vocation-specific English language acquisition and job skills training programs designed to meet employers’ specific workforce needs.

“The success of Maine’s businesses depends upon the caliber and skills of our workforce,” said Cloutier. “Funding this new initiative will strengthen Maine’s workforce, and will help our state and local economies grow, innovate

and thrive.”

Expanding adult language education was identified as the most immediate priority in the Governor’s Office of Policy, Innovation and the Future’s Supporting Maine’s Foreign-Trained Professionals report in April 2020.

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



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