

Cancer Care Center at CMMC Celebrates One-Year Anniversary



LEWISTON, ME (June 15, 2023) -- The Cancer Care Center at Central Maine Medical Center (CMMC) celebrated its one-year anniversary last week.

Construction on the two-story, 52,000-square-foot building was completed in May of 2022 and cancer patients began getting treatment in June of that year.

The cornerstone of the Central Maine Healthcare (CMH) Cancer Care Institute, the Center allows patients to access

See **Anniversary**, page 16

Compassion Cures: Building Hope by Overcoming Stigma

AUBURN, ME (June 16, 2023) -- The Auburn Public Library, in partnership with Be the Influence Coalition and other community resource partners, is pleased to present a screening of Compassion Cures. This 30-minute documentary features collective voices and original music which addresses overcoming stigma related to mental health and substance misuse disorder. It also provides resources on helping, in a compassionate way, those who are affected.

The screening will be followed by a panel discussion featuring Tri County Mental Health and Healthy Androscoggin, and there will be a resource table available at the event. It is a great opportunity to learn about community efforts to address mental health and substance misuse. The screening will take place on Tuesday, June 27, in the Androscoggin Community Room starting at 5 p.m.

This program is part of Auburn Public Library's summer reading program and pairs with the statewide summer Read ME program, which is sponsored by the Maine Humanities Council, the Maine State Library, and the Maine Writers & Publishers Alliance. This summer's selected books are Lungfish by Meghan Gilliss and Night of the Living Rez by Morgan Talty. Both books, although fictional in nature, touch upon family life, survival, and perseverance, while Lungfish specifically addresses poverty, addiction and substance misuse.

For information about the book discussions at APL on July 6 (Lungfish) and August 10 (Night of the Living Rez), contact the Reference Desk at 207-333-6640, ext. 4. For more information about Read ME, visit the Maine Humanities Council's website at mainehumanities.org.

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

Youth Council Giving Back to Other Lewiston Youth

LEWISTON ME

Drink Lemonade
and
Donate School Aid!

Youth Council Giving Back to Lewiston Youth

Have a Glass of Refreshing Lemonade
and
Drop Off School Supplies for
Ages K-18 and Travel Size Hygiene Items

Thursday, July 6, 2023
12 Noon - 4:30 PM
The Store Next Door
Parking Lot - 145 Birch Street, Lewiston

Hosted by the Lewiston Youth Advisory Council
www.lewistonmaine.gov/lyac

council members when they recently brainstormed about their next community outreach. Concern about homeless youth in Lewiston rose to the top of their discussion, and "Drink Lemonade and Donate to School Aid" was born.

On July 6, LYAC members will serve refreshing lemonade to individuals who donate school supplies and travel-size hygiene products for teens who utilize The Store Next Door—which assists homeless youth in Lewiston schools—as well as supplies for younger students that the Store reaches out to. The age range for donations is K – age 18.

The Store Next Door, located at 145 Birch Street, Lewiston, is a nonprofit organization that provides Lewiston homeless students with clothing, hygiene items, household goods, and community resources.

When Jamie Cauouette, Director of The Store Next Door, heard about the youth council's plans, her response—in all caps—was "I LOVE THIS!"

Supplies that the youth council sug-

gests for donation in exchange for a cup of lemonade include backpacks, notebooks, pens, pencils, binders, etc.

From noon – 4:30 PM on July 6, the youth council's lemonade stand will be in the parking area of The Store Next Door with a designated drop-off spot (inside if inclement weather).

"We want to help teens start the school year in the fall with the supplies they need," said LYAC member Zara Bimbi.

LYAC member Feysal Abdirahaman concurred, "We want kids to come to school with a smile on their face."

The Lewiston Youth Advisory Council was established by the Lewiston City Council in 2001. It provides grades 9-12 youth with an opportunity to learn about municipal government, undertake projects to enhance the City of Lewiston, as well as share the voice of youth. To learn more about the youth council and their numerous efforts/projects over the last 22 years, please visit: www.lewistonmaine.gov/lyac

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Red Cross: Blood Supply Facing Stress, Donors Needed

PORTLAND, ME (June 7, 2023) – A concerning shortfall in blood donations last month could stress the American Red Cross blood supply. The Red Cross collected over 26,000 fewer blood donations than needed in May to meet the needs of patients. The need for blood is constant, with someone needing a blood transfusion in the U.S. every two seconds. Platelet donors are especially needed at this time. The public can help ensure continuity for patients by making an appointment to give blood or platelets now and in the weeks ahead.

Northern New England blood donor Elizabeth O'Brien has been rolling up her sleeve for years after learning her O negative blood type was universally accepted by all patients. "It could be a baby needing blood or someone in a car accident – people all around the nation could use that blood and my blood could go to all of them. It feels empowering to know you can make a difference in any one of those people's lives," she said.

Elizabeth lost her own mother to cancer, but credits blood donation with extending and improving her mother's quality of life during her battle with the disease. "She was only 53 years old. So every single minute that got extended, we were grateful to have.

That's what I think about when I'm giving blood. I don't care if it's a minute, an hour, a day, a year, that blood that goes to extend time with a loved one is precious," she concluded.

In thanks for taking time to help, all who come to give blood, platelets or plasma June 1-30 will receive a \$10 gift card by email to a merchant of their choice. Those who come to give throughout June will also be automatically entered for a chance to win a backyard theater package. Details for both offers can be found at RedCrossBlood.org/June.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities, June 8-30:

Androscoggin
Auburn

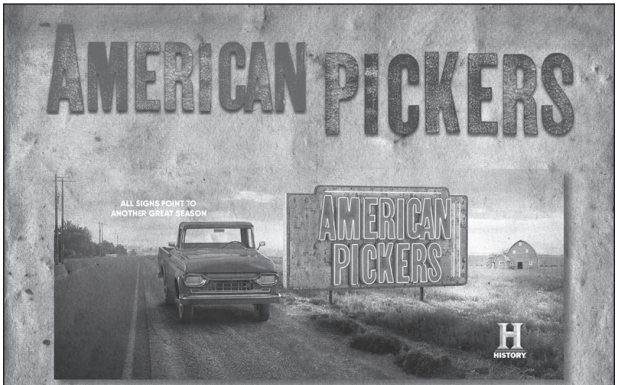
6/29/2023: 12 p.m. - 4:30 p.m., East Auburn Baptist Church, 560 Park Ave
Lewiston
6/19/2023: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., Bates Mill, 35 Canal Street
Cumberland
Bridgton
6/29/2023: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m., Masonic Hall, 166 Harrison Road, Route 117
Brunswick
6/15/2023: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Morong Brunswick, 314 Bath Road
6/24/2023: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., American Legion Post 20, 1 Columbus Drive
6/27/2023: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Morong Brunswick, 314 Bath Road
Falmouth
6/28/2023: 9 a.m.

- 2 p.m., The Episcopal Church of St. Mary, 43 Foreside Rd
Freeport
6/21/2023: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Hilton Garden Inn Freeport, 5 Park Street
Gray
6/16/2023: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., American Legion Gray, 15 Lewiston Rd
Portland
6/21/2023: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Portland Elks Lodge, 1945 Congress St.
6/30/2023: 11 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., MMC 995 Congress Street, 995 Congress Street
Scarborough
6/23/2023: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Saint Maximilian Church, 150 Black Point Rd
South Portland
6/20/2023: 9 a.m. - 2

p.m., Portland Sheraton at Sable Oaks, 200 Sable Oaks Drive
6/29/2023: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Eastpoint Christian Church, 345 Clarks Pond Pkwy
Standish
6/15/2023: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Gardenside Condo Association, 12 Gardenside Drive
Westbrook
6/19/2023: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Westbrook Community Center, 426 Bridge Street
Windham
6/21/2023: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., North Windham Veterans Center, 35 Veterans Memorial Drive
Yarmouth
6/23/2023: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., American Legion Post 91, 196 Main St

AMERICAN PICKERS to Film in Maine

MAINE (June 16, 2023) -- The American Pickers are excited to return to Maine! They plan to film episodes of The History Channel hit television series throughout your area in August 2023. AMERICAN PICKERS is a documentary series



AMERICAN PICKERS



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- PHONE NUMBER
- WHERE YOUR COLLECTION IS LOCATED
- A DESCRIPTION OF YOUR ITEMS



that explores the fascinating world of antique "picking" on The History Channel. The hit show follows skilled pickers in the business, as they hunt for America's most valuable antiques. They are always excited to find historically significant or rare items, in addition to unforgettable Characters and their collections.

As they hit the back roads from coast to coast, the Pickers are on a mission to recycle and rescue forgotten relics. Along the

way, they want to meet characters with amazing stories and fun items. They hope to give historically significant objects a new lease on life while learning a thing or two about America's past along the way.

The Pickers have seen a lot of rusty gold over the years and are always looking to discover something they've never seen before. They are ready to find extraordinary items and hear fascinating tales about them.

We at American



Pickers continue to take the pandemic very seriously and will be following all guidelines and protocols for safe filming outlined by the state and CDC. Nevertheless, we are excited to continue reaching the many collectors in the area to discuss their years of picking and are eager to hear their memorable stories!

The American Pickers TV Show is looking for leads and would love to explore your hidden treasure. If you or someone

you know has a unique item, story to tell, and is ready to sell...we would love to hear from you! Please note, the Pickers DO NOT pick stores, flea markets, malls, auction businesses, museums, or anything open to the public.

If interested, please send us your name, phone number, location, and description of the collection with photos to: american-pickers@cineflix.com or call (646) 493-2184 facebook: @GotAPick



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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Nomination Papers for Municipal Office Available June 26

LEWISTON, ME -- The Lewiston City Clerk's Department announced that nomination papers for municipal office will be available for distribution and circulation by prospective candidates on Monday, June 26. Positions available include Mayor, seven City Council seats, and eight School Committee seats. The City Council has one representative from each of the seven city wards serving on the Council. The School Committee has one representative from each ward as well as one at-large position available. All candidates must be at least 20 years old and must be registered voters of Lewiston.

The 2023 city election is the first year the city is implementing staggered terms for elected officials. The voters approved this change in 2021. The Mayor's position will be for a three-year term as will the City Council seats for wards 2, 4 and 6 as well as the School Committee seats for wards 1, 3, 5, and 7. The positions of School Committee At Large, City Council wards 1, 3, 5 and 7 as well as School Committee wards 2, 4 and 6 will all be for a two-year term of office. The municipal election will be held on Tuesday, November 7, 2023. All terms will commence on Tuesday, January 2, 2024.

Candidates for Mayor must submit nomination papers signed by not less than 100 or more than 200 qualified voters of Lewiston. Persons interested in the at-large seat on the School Committee must submit completed nomination papers signed by not less than 50 nor more than 100 qualified voters of the respective ward.

Per the City Charter, all candidates for the position of Mayor must have registered and qualified to vote on or prior to February 24, 2023. Residents interested in running for the School Committee At Large position must have registered and qualified to vote on or prior to May 24, 2023. Candidates for all other positions must have registered and qualified to vote in their respective ward on or before May 24, 2023.

Completed nomination papers must be filed with the City Clerk's Department no later than Thursday, August 24, 2023, by 4:00PM. All candidates are requested to file their nomination papers early in order to provide sufficient time to obtain additional signatures if necessary.

Nomination papers may be picked up at the City Clerk's Department located on the second floor of City Hall, 27 Pine Street. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30AM to 4:00PM. Questions regarding the procedures for nomination papers or the municipal election process may be directed to the Clerk's Department at (207) 513-3124. Additional information is available on the election page of the city website at www.lewistonmaine.gov/elections

Summer Reading at Lewiston Public Library

Summer Reading at the
Lewiston PUBLIC LIBRARY
June 26 - August 18

207-513-3004 | LPLONLINE.ORG [f](#) [t](#) [i](#) [@LPLONLINE](#)

LEWISTON, ME (June 16, 2023) -- The 2023 Summer Reading program at Lewiston Public Library begins Monday, June 26th and will run until Friday, August 18th. The library will have free, public events, performers and programs for children, teens, and adults throughout the summer. Check the library's website at www.lplonline.org/events-programs for a full list of upcoming events.

The library is also releasing a new Summer Reading logo with the theme of Read, Make, and Explore. This logo will be used every year to make all of our unique Summer Reading activities and programs immediately recognizable. We are encouraging participants not only to read or listen to books but also make a new craft or recipe or explore a favorite place in our beautiful city or a new landmark in our wondrous state.

For the Summer Reading program, all ages will be using a bookmark to track reading and activities for free books and prizes. Pick up a bookmark at the library, complete the activities listed, and turn it in at the library to be entered into our end-of-summer prize drawings. Children and Teens will also get to choose a free book to keep for every reading bookmark completed. All ages may complete as many reading bookmarks as they wish throughout the summer reading program. The first 25 participants of each age group to turn in a completed bookmark will also receive a free T-shirt with the new Summer Reading logo. Bookmarks are available starting on Friday, June 23rd.

Admission is free to all Summer Reading events and no library card is required to participate in the reading programs. Prizes must be picked up in person at the library.

The Lewiston Public Library is located downtown at 200 Lisbon Street at the corner of Pine Street. More information on the 2023 Summer Reading program is available by contacting the Lewiston Public Library at 207-513-3135 or LPLReference@lewistonmaine.gov.

Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club Hosts Field Day



LISBON, ME (June 16, 2023) -- Every June, more than 40,000 hams throughout North America set up temporary transmitting stations in public places to demonstrate ham radio's science, skill and service to our communities and our nation. It combines public service, emergency preparedness, community outreach, and technical skills all in a single event. Field Day has been an annual event since 1933, and remains the most popular event in ham radio.

The Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club will be participating in an Annual ARRL Field Day event on Saturday June 24th beginning at 2PM through Sunday June 25th at 12:00PM at the Beaver Park Pavilion in Lisbon Maine.

Field Day is an open house and open to the public. We would like to invite the public to come throughout the weekend and see what

Amateur Radio is all about and get a chance to get on the air. Field Day is the biggest event planned for the Amateur Radio community.

Event Details: Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club Field Day

Location: Beaver Park - 37 Cotton Road, Lisbon, ME

Times: 6/24 @ 2PM through 6/25 @ 12PM

Club Info: W1NPP.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/w1npp

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Seniors Not Acting Their Age

Hazardous Paddling on Cathance River



A kayaker avoids the Room of Doom on the Cathance River

By Ron Chase

The Cathance River is my river. Not really, but I like to think so. Located in my hometown of Topsham, the Cathance travels through a picturesque wilderness area, most of which cannot be accessed without hiking or paddling. Judging from the placid waters at the put-in and takeout, one would never guess a tumultuous whitewater gem is hidden away in an unseen four-mile sector.

For decades, challenging the Cathance has been a rite of spring for members of my outdoor club, the Penobscot Paddle & Chowder Society (PPCS). Consisting of one long technical rapid and five cataracts, the Ameri-

can Whitewater Association describes it as a Class III/IV creek with two Class V waterfalls.

Proximity and stimulating rapids are not the only benefits of the Cathance. A moderately large watershed for a small river, water levels tend to remain high longer than most similar-sized waterways. And, the Cat is usually one of the first to experience ice-out in the spring.

Another noteworthy feature, the Cathance is notorious for collecting hazardous debris. Twice in recent years, the PPCS has organized special cleanup projects to remove dangerous obstructions that had accumulated in the rapids. The latest was last summer.

A painted gauge is lo-



Paddlers work to move a tree on Third Drop

cated on an Interstate 295 bridge abutment at the put-in. Friends and I have paddled the river between 1.5 and 4.5 on the gauge. The low end is shallow and the excursion gets pushy and intimidating over three feet.

Right after ice-out in early April, I participated in a club trip on the Cathance at a little over two feet. We enjoyed an outstanding day of paddling and all of the rapids were free of debris. Subsequently, two substantial storms visited the area. After the second, I announced another club trip.

When three of us met at the put-in at the end of Old Augusta Road in Topsham, the gauge was over 3 feet, a feisty level.

Concerned about the possibility of new hazards as a result of the recent storms, we decided to carefully inspect all of the difficult rapids.

Following a mile of flatwater, two usually easy rapids were more demanding than expected. A reminder that not only did we need to be alert for hazards but the water level was higher than normal. Just below, we eddied out left to scout Z-Turn, the longest most complex rapid on the river. A small fallen tree partially obstructed the main channel at the top. After careful scrutiny, we were able to negotiate around the impediment and successfully complete our descents.

Next is a tricky cataract we call Second Drop. Midway through, it takes an abrupt left turn and the water tumbles over a ledge in a narrow twisting passage. A notorious boat flipper, everyone managed to stay upright.

Steeper and more hazardous, Third Drop soon follows. Most of the current flows left over a pitch and then beneath a treacherous undercut rock



A canoeist paddles over submerged rocks on Boulder Pile

called Room of Doom. The safest technique is to power through approach waves while angling right and plunging down a precipitous tongue as far from doom as possible. We encountered an added complication; a downed tree blocked the rapid a little downstream of the pitch. Using a small handsaw and lots physical effort, we created a passageway around the hazard. Stimulating plummets over the falls ensued.

Boulder Pile is shortly after. So named because of a seemingly impenetrable mass of boulders at the bottom of a steep slide, it's actually easier at high water. We maneuvered far left and used the robust flow to bounce over submerged rocks at the end.

Intimidating Little Gorilla follows. Careening through a narrow gorge, it ends with a 90-degree left turn down a steep shallow slide into a churning foam pile with boulders waiting just below the surface. Portage was our unanimous decision.

Around the bend, Final Drop is a slightly easier version of Little Gorilla.

Not on this day. A large log blocked the channel normally used to avoid a sticky hydraulic at the bottom. After careful consideration, we decided to walk rather than risk colliding with the log or swimming out of the hydraulic.

Our exciting day completed without any mishaps, I anticipate another Cathance cleanup when the water level diminishes to remove the three newest hazards.

My book, *Maine Al Fresco: The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine* narrates eight more Maine whitewater adventures.

Ron Chase resides in Topsham. His latest book, "Maine Al Fresco: The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine" is available at www.northcountrypress.com/maine-al-fresco or in bookstores and through online retailers. His previous books are "The Great Mars Hill Bank Robbery" and "Mountains for Mortals – New England." Visit his website at www.ronchase-outdoors.com or he can be reached at ronchaseoutdoors@comcast.net

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‘Hot Lunch Summer’ Provides
Children With Nutritious Meals

AUGUSTA, ME (June 16, 2023)--The Maine Department of Education (DOE) announced the return of Hot Lunch Summer, the state’s summer food service program which provides free meals to children beyond the school year. These meals are available at hundreds of sites across Maine and families can locate nearby meal opportunities on the Hot Lunch Summer website HotLunchSummer.com or by texting ‘Summer Meals’ to 914-342-7744.

“Hot Lunch Summer ensures that Maine children can continue to access the healthy and nutritious meals they rely on during the school year,” said Maine Education Commissioner Pender Makin. “No child should worry about going hungry when the school

year ends, and we thank the schools and organizations that have stepped up to make the distribution of these meals possible.”

Maine’s summer food service program is a U.S. Department of Agriculture program offered statewide in areas or at sites where more than 50 percent of the children are eligible for free or reduced meal benefits under the National School Lunch Program or where census track data supports the need. Free meals are provided to children 18 and younger at open meal sites. Eligible sponsoring organizations include schools, nonprofit residential summer camps, government agencies, and tax-exempt organizations including faith-based organizations. This year, rural meal spon-

sors may offer free meals offsite to further assist in reaching children who are unable to access congregate meal programs.

The Maine DOE launched Hot Lunch Summer last year as a statewide ad campaign to raise awareness of summer meal options and clearly explain the logistics of where, when, and how Maine children and adolescents can access complementary meals. This year, the campaign focuses on reaching households through social media networks and includes an animated video to promote summer meal opportunities which can be viewed online.

To find nearby summer meal sites, please visit www.HotLunchSummer.com or text “Summer Meals” to 914-342-7744.

Maine Iris Society Announces Floral Show Winners

AUBURN, ME (June 16, 2023)--The Maine Iris Society announces its winners for the 2023 flower show held at the Auburn Middle School on May 27th. The show was chaired by Chairpersons Paul Dostie and Carol Foster.

Harriet Robinson was awarded Queen of the Show and best Intermediate Bearded (IB) for 'Code of Honor'. First runner up and best historic was Carol Foster's historic iris, 'Sugar'. Peter Young's 'Spring is Here' was the best standard dwarf bearded (SDB) iris and second runner

up. Peter's SDB 'Woody Woodpecker' was third runner up. An arilbred iris, 'Desert Snow', grown by Peter Young was the fourth runner up. The fifth runner up was Harriet Robinson's IB 'Arctic Wind' and the sixth runner up was Katherine Lothrop's species Iris cristata. The best miniature dwarf bearded (MDB) was Harriet Robinson's 'Black Olive'. Harriet won the silver medal for the most blue ribbons and Pauline Grenier won the bronze medal as runner up.

In the artistic division, Peter Young won the



Award winners for the 2023 Maine Iris Show are pictured from Left to Right: Carol Foster of Auburn, Harriet Robinson of Otisfield, Peter Young of Buckfield and Paul Dostie of Greene.

Clara MacLaren award for the best design and the sweepstakes for the most blue ribbon entries in design. Brent McHale won an Artistic Rosette of Special Merit for one of his designs.

The winner of the Bernard McLaughlin award for the best spring flower was Paul Dostie with columbine 'Pink Petticoat'.

Voting for People's Choice is always popular with both members and the public. The favorite iris stalk was 'By the Sea', and SDB entered by Pauline Grenier. The species Iris germanica entered by Harriet Robinson was second. In spring flowers, Paul Dostie gathered the most votes for his tree peony 'Helen Parmer' and was second with columbine 'Pink Petticoat'.

According to the society's rules, one person can only win one prize in this category. Therefore, Susan Labonville, the entrant who received third place in the voting took home the prize for her flowering almond.

For information about becoming a member, please go to <http://www.maineirissociety.org>. The cost of membership is only \$8.00 (or \$10.00 for two people in the same household) and entitles you to the informative MIS newsletter and opens you up to the opportunity for new friendships with those who love gardening.

Sen. Collins Welcomes Maine Students to Washington, D.C.



WASHINGTON, D.C. (June 16, 2023) – U.S. Senator Susan Collins met with students from across Maine in Washington to wish them luck as they compete in the final round of the National

History Day contest this week. Following victories in Maine's statewide competition, these students will represent our state as they compete alongside nearly 3,000 of America's top young historians.

"I am very proud to welcome the bright and talented winners of the Maine National History Day competition to our nation's capital," said Senator Collins. "I wish them luck at the national competition and am confident that they will do a wonderful job representing our state."

Each year, approximately 600,000 students in grades 6 through 12 compete in National History Day, and about 3,000 students qualify for the national finals, which take place in College Park, Maryland. To participate, students research historical topics related to a national theme and present their findings with exhibits, documentaries, performances, or papers. The 2023 contest theme was Frontiers in History: People, Places, Ideas.

Maine Hosta Society to Hold Auction



Peter Young of Buckfield, president of the Maine Hosta Society, kneels with two of his best friends -- his dog and his hosta garden. To Peter's right, a hosta cultivar named Targeel Blue displays its beautiful foliage. Photo Credit: Carol Foster

the public.

The mission of the Maine Hosta Society (MHS) is to develop interest in horticulture with emphasis on the propagation and culture of the genus Hosta and promote the use of hostas in landscape design. Each year MHS organizes a bus trip to leading gardens and Hosta nurseries in New England, a garden tour of member gardens and Maine nurseries (including a picnic and plant swap), and a fall meeting that usually features a nationally known guest speaker.

The cost of membership is \$5.00 (or \$6.00 for two people in the same household) and entitles you to the informative MHS newsletter and opens you up to the opportunity for new friendships with those who love gardening.

As the American Hosta Society puts it -- "Together, we can make the world a more beautiful place, one hosta and one new friend at a time."

AUGUSTA, ME (June 15, 2023) — The Maine Hosta Society will hold two auctions on June 24 at Viles Arboretum which is located at 153 Hospital Street in Augusta. At 10:00 am there will be a silent auction of hostas and

companion plants that have been donated by members from their gardens. The live auction will begin at 1:00 pm. It will include some of the best and newest hostas available.

Admission to this event is free and open to

Officers of the Maine Hosta Society are president, Peter Young of Buckfield, vice-president, Lenore Tipping of Orono, and treasurer, Kristin Sweeney of Portland.

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Arts & Entertainment

Wiscasset Art Walk Season Begins on June 29



WISCASSET, ME (June 16, 2023) – Summer is only days away and the Wiscasset Art Walk, on the last Thursday of the summer months, welcomes area residents and visitors from away to enjoy art, music, and perfor-

mance, indoors and out, in the heart of Wiscasset Village. On Thursday, June 29, 5-8pm, the accomplished jazz duo of David Lawlor and Neil Lamb entertain WAW’s sidewalk strollers with their ex-

traordinary music, while Treats, just next door, resumes its wine tastings this summer, a very popular WAW feature. The galleries will be open late for art browsing with accomplished musicians providing the accompaniment. Most of the Village shops will also stay open late for shopping or browsing, many featuring local artists, a standout feature of Wiscasset’s art walk. Visitors can purchase a fresh floral bouquet, direct from local gardens, courtesy of Garden Club of Wiscasset members, and WAW is a great time to learn about other community initiatives from the displays

along the busy sidewalks. Local creatives display their work for visitors – a game of chess, anyone? All are welcome for a beautiful evening, rain or shine, along our sparkling Sheepscot River! Lots of free parking; park once and stroll. The WAW sponsors who support the many free activities and performers are Lead Sponsor Fogg and Dalton Art Restoration and Major Sponsors Ames True Value, Big Barn Coffee, Carriage House Gardens, Cod Cove Inn, First National Bank, J. Edward Knight Insurance, Peter Eaton Antiques, Red’s Eats, Rock Paper Scissors, Sherri Dunbar/Tim Dun-



ham Realty, IndustrialME, BIRCH Home Furnishings & Gifts, and Water Street Kitchen & Bar. For more information about Wiscasset Art

Walk, www.wiscassetartwalk.org or email to wiscassetartwalk@gmail.com. Wiscasset Art Walk is a program of Wiscasset Creative Alliance.

View from the Podium: An Author Talk with Ed Judd

AUBURN, ME (June 16, 2023) -- Local author Edward Judd will be at the Auburn Public Library on Thursday, June 29, from 4-5 p.m., to talk about his book, “View from the Podium.” This book is a memoir tracing Judd’s 46 years as a music educator. It includes many of his experiences throughout that time as a teacher from elementary school through

the college levels. In addition, Judd also relates his experiences in professional organizations as a leader on the state and regional levels. The book has been described as “heartfelt”, “illuminating”, and “an uplifting story told in a straightforward way.” Copies of Judd’s book will be available for sale, and he will sign copies at the conclusion

of his talk. This program will take place in the Androscoggin Community Room. No registration is required. For more information about this and other programs offered at the Auburn Public Library, visit their website at www.auburnpubliclibrary.org or call the Reference Desk at 207-333-6640, ext. 4.

New Lewiston Restaurant Opens June 16

LEWISTON, ME (June 16, 2023) – “We’re hoping to bring the people of Lewiston a quick and healthy lunch option Tuesday – Saturday,” said Bronwyn Knight, owner of The Lunch Table, 884 Lisbon Street. The menu features soups, salads, sandwiches/paninis, and crepes and will be open 10 AM – 3 PM. The City of Lewiston is pleased to announce that a grand opening was held on Friday, June 16. As a new restaurant owner, Knight brings eight years of experience in the food industry, to include

being a Green Ladle sous chef, manager at Panera Bread, and working at Fish Bones Grill, DaVinci’s, and in various other roles. “Owning a little restaurant like this is something I have always wanted to do, so I couldn’t be more excited,” said Knight. As a new mom, she said the 10 am – 3 pm restaurant hours will give her time flexibility, “not to mention I love food, so it’s a win win!” Goals for the restaurant’s future include a food subscription membership. She also plans to transition to as many compostable products as possible, as

well as make sustainable choices utilizing as many local suppliers as she can. Knight is glad to be back in Lewiston, having grown up on a little farm on the city’s outskirts. She moved several times but is happy to be closing on a new home in Lewiston shortly.

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

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Red Cross Honors Top Volunteers for Incredible Service

PORTLAND, ME (June 16, 2023)— For more than a century, the American Red Cross has been dedicated to serving people in need – thanks to our founder Clara Barton. Through supporting service members and their families, collecting blood for patients, providing individuals with help and hope after disasters, teaching lifesaving training and providing international aid, we’ve stayed true to our roots.

During FY23, the Red Cross of Northern New England...

Installed 1,836 free smoke alarms (including 847 in Maine), making 579 homes safer across the region (including 275 in Maine)

Responded to 521 home fires (including 271 in Maine) and assisted 1,955 people (including 913 Mainers)

Educated 3,555 adults and children through our Pillowcase Project, Prepare with Pedro and Community Preparedness Engagement Programs

Collected more than 110,000 red cell units of lifesaving blood

Deployed over 200 volunteers and staff to more 30 large-scale disasters

This work would not be possible with our dedicated volunteers. Regionally, the Red Cross recognizes its top volunteers with the Clara Barton Award. These individuals embody the organization’s core values of compassion, commitment, credibility, creativity and collaboration.

This year, the American Red Cross Southern Maine Chapter is honored to recognize John Leeming, of Cumberland, Maine, as the 2023 Clara Barton Award recipient. Leeming will celebrate 30 years of Red Cross service in October – and remains an exceptionally committed Disaster Action Team responder. In 2022, Leeming responded to 26 disasters, opened 51 cases and served 99 people – which accounts for one-third of Southern Maine’s total caseload in 2022.

“John’s approach with our clients shows tremendous compassion. He understands all too well that we often meet people on their very worst days, but his calm and reassuring presence invites them to move forward one step at a time,” said Steve Thomas, Red Cross Southern Maine Chapter executive director. “It’s a privilege to serve with John, and we are so fortunate that he makes his home in our Southern Maine Chapter.”

The Red Cross is also pleased to recognize volunteer Gloria Krayenvenger, of North Waterboro, Maine, as the 2023 Clara Barton Award Runner-up. Krayenvenger has been a steadfast administrative volunteer at the Red Cross office in Portland since 2018 – and has held positions with operations, development and disaster cycle services. She wears many hats in her roles with the Red Cross and performs each with detail, confidence and warmth.

“What stands out most about Gloria, besides her professionalism and skill, is her kindness and love for others. I consider Gloria to be an exemplary representative of the Red Cross and feel so fortunate that she chooses to share her time, passion and heart with the Red Cross,” said Kristin Laporte, Red Cross Business Operations Coordinator, Northern New England Region.

Additionally, the Red Cross is pleased to recognize the following volunteers who achieved the President’s Volunteer Service Award which is sponsored by the President’s Council on Service and Civic Participation. These awards, issued by the U.S. government, recognize individuals who achieve and record a targeted number of service hours within a calendar year.

Gold Recipients (500+ volunteer hours)

Lorraine Bernier, East Portland

Robert Bouchard, Frenchville

Jessica Craig, Portland

Michael Craig, Portland

Paul Duclos, Glenwood

Jim Larson, Hampden

John Leeming, Cumberland

Karen Towle, Gardiner

Lynn Walkiewicz, Lewiston

Solomon Yusim, Scarborough

Silver Recipients (250 – 499 volunteer hours)

Sheila Blackman, Mount Desert

Ann Cibelli, Acton

Raybo Frank, Buckport

Irene Lang, Winterport

Ruth Lathrop, Windham

Anthony Lawless, Portland

Christopher Luck, Moultonborough

Linda Murphy Luck, Moultonborough

David Pincumbe, Brunswick

Daniel Sayner, Brunswick

Michael Thurston, Auburn

RSU 16 Futures Task Force Calls for Collaboration

POLAND, ME (June 16, 2023) -- The RSU 16 Futures Task Force is dedicated to developing and presenting recommendations to the School Board at the September 2023 Board meeting. These recommendations aim to achieve cost savings and address RSU 16 issues while ensuring that the quality of education for students is maintained. The Task Force recognizes the significant challenges it is grappling with and is actively working to make well-informed decisions that will ultimately benefit the RSU 16 educational community. The Futures Task Force is inviting RSU 16 community members and staff to share ideas and collaborate on July 12, 2023 from 6:00-7:30PM at Whittier Middle School. Together, let’s brainstorm, inspire, and take action.

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42st Band Concert Season about to Start



AUBURN, ME (June 16, 2023) – The Auburn Community Concert Band, under the direction of Milt Simon, will kick off its annual summer series of weekly outdoor evening

concerts at Festival Plaza in downtown Auburn on Wednesday, June 28th. The 7:00 p.m. performance is the first of 9 concerts scheduled for this Main Street location. The

free concerts will continue weekly on Wednesday evenings through August 23rd, weather permitting. There is no rain location this summer. In the case of inclement weather, that

evening’s concert will be cancelled, and an announcement will be posted on the band’s website at www.auburncommunityband.com.

This year marks the organization’s 42nd anniversary. Founded by director Milt Simon in the Fall of 1981, the group has varied in size from 24 to over 50 members. This season’s 46 volunteer musicians range in age from late teens to early 80’s, and collectively represent some 15 central and western Maine communities.

Simon stated that the organization “gives many individuals a chance to utilize musical talents neglected since their high

school days, and the entire community benefits.” He added that the Auburn group “is one of the larger community bands in the state of Maine, and often attracts over 300 people to its weekly concerts.” The City of Auburn has partnered with the group since its inception.

Each Wednesday evening, the band will present a 75-minute program featuring popular hit songs from the 60’s through the present. Simon predicts that the group’s repertoire of songs will appeal to audiences of all ages. “If you have a favorite song that’s been heard on the radio or in the movies, chances are good that our band will

perform it sometime during the upcoming 9-week concert series”, Simon said.

People planning to attend any of the Wednesday evening concerts at Festival Plaza should bring their own lawn chair on which to sit, and are advised to arrive well before the 7:00 p.m. start time, as large audiences are again expected this summer. Ample free parking is available in the parking garage located across the street from the Plaza. Portable toilets have been located alongside the garage for use by the band’s weekly audiences.

For more information, visit the band’s web site at www.auburncommunityband.com.

Maine Connections Academy Recognizes Valedictorian

SCARBOROUGH, ME (June 16, 2023) – Maine Connections Academy, a tuition-free, online public school for students in grades 7-12, proudly announces Zion Marsters, of Gray, ME, as the valedictorian of the Class of 2023.

Marsters started at Maine Connections Academy in the fall of 2019. It’s his lifelong love of learning, he says, that has propelled him in the virtual

classroom these past four years.

“I think it’s an extreme honor,” he said when asked about being named valedictorian. “I never thought I’d be in this position, but I’m very excited.”

While attending Maine Connections Academy, Marsters has also been looking ahead and getting a jumpstart on his college education. He leaves high school with 33 college credits already on his re-

sume.

Marsters was recognized as Maine Connections Academy’s STAR Student of the Month in January for his academic achievements and extra-curricular participation, including a passion for baking that led him to the join the school’s baking club and helped him raise money for a mission trip to Guatemala.

Marsters credits Maine Connections

Academy’s flexible online learning environment with helping him thrive academically during the pandemic, while so many others struggled with the switch to remote learning.

In his address to his fellow graduates during their commencement ceremony at Merrill Auditorium on Friday, June 2, Marsters compared the past four years to a race with various individual checkpoints along the way. He emphasized that graduation brings a collective end to that race. However, he was quick to point out that new adventures – new races – await them going forward. “Run your races with diligence, doggedness, and perseverance,”



he encouraged.

Marsters also took an opportunity to thank his parents and the teachers who inspired him along the way. “They taught me to love learning,” he said.

“I never want to stop learning.”

This fall, Marsters will pursue a degree in electrical engineering at Cedarville University in Ohio.

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2023 CIFF Summer Party presents Joan Baez Pre-release Screening



CAMDEN, ME (June 13, 2023) – On Thursday, June 29, the Points North Institute will host its annual CIFF Summer Party at the Strand Theatre in Rockland with a special pre-release screening of the acclaimed documentary, Joan Baez: I Am A Noise.

The CIFF Summer Party is Points North’s only annual fundraiser, and a special opportunity to help support your hometown festival, the Camden International Film Festival, as well as the organization’s year-round programs. In addition to the special screening, the evening will include a sneak peek of the Camden International Film Festival’s 19th edition, including a selection of trailers from the program and a performance by Robin the Cellist. Tickets are just \$25 and include a drink ticket!

Fresh from the Berlin and SXSW Film Festivals, Joan Baez: I Am A Noise is an unusually intimate psychological portrait of legendary folk singer and activist Joan Baez. Neither a conventional biopic nor a traditional concert film, this immersive documentary is more of a visual memoir anchored by Joan’s extraordinary archive, including newly discovered home movies, diaries, artwork, and audio recordings. Baez is remarkably revealing about her life on and off stage - from lifelong emotional struggles to her civil rights work with MLK and a heartbreaking romance with a young Bob Dylan. A searingly honest look at a living legend, the film is a deeply personal exploration of an iconic artist who has never told the full truth of her life until now.

The CIFF Summer Party has become known for presenting new films well before their wider release, providing audiences in Midcoast with an unparalleled opportunity to get ahead of the buzz. In 2021 they presented CODA which went on to win an Academy Award and last year they screened the Oscar-nominated Fire of Love.

The 19th edition of the Camden International Film Festival will take place September 14-17, 2023. Over sixty films from across the world will be presented at a number of venues throughout Camden and Rockland, ME. Passes to CIFF are now on sale with early bird discount pricing through July 1st.

Donors contributing \$500 or more receive tickets to the CIFF Summer Party, passes to CIFF and an invitation to a special reception prior to the event on July 29. For more information, visit <https://pointsnorthinstitute.org/rsvp/>

Central Maine Det. 810 Extends Thanks to Community



Pictured l to r: Paul St Pierre, Charlie Paul, Ben Redmond, Peter Lupus and Clifford Plourde. Not in the picture but just as important with their efforts, Toby Blais, Joyce Richmond, Rex and Donna Brookings.

AUBURN, ME (June 16, 2023) -- Central Maine Det. 810 would like to thank the communities of Lewiston and Auburn for their wonderful support in our recent fund-raising drive which was held on June 9 and 10 at the Shaw’s locations.

The community’s support for “Marines Helping Veterans” will help us reach our objectives for 2023. Central Maine Det.810 supports Honor Flight Maine, Maine Veteran’s Home (South Paris), Quilts of Valor, Wreaths Across America and two scholarships to area High Schools (Edward Little and Lewiston). We have a long history with the Auburn and Lewiston communities. Their support has always been much appreciated.



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UMaine to Host National Experts on Inclusive Education

ORONO, ME (June 16, 2023) — Educators and other professionals in Maine who support people with autism, intellectual disabilities and other developmental conditions will have the opportunity to learn from some of the country’s leading researchers and practitioners at the University of Maine next month.

The Council for Exceptional Children Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities (CEC DADD) is hosting its summer board meeting at UMaine on July 20. The next day, July 21, the division, in collaboration with the UMaine College of Education and Human Development and Maine Department of Education Office of Special Services and Inclusive Education, will host its Summer Symposium on campus.

“A few years ago, the leadership of the Division on Autism and Develop-

mental Disabilities decided that wherever we hold our summer board meeting, we also would host a symposium, or mini-conference, at a minimal cost to local educators,” says Bree Jimenez, CEC DADD president and associate professor of special education at the University of Texas at Arlington.

“Part of the reason we selected Maine as the site for this year’s symposium was because of the strong partnership between UMaine’s College of Education and Human Development and the Maine DOE, and both organizations’ commitment to inclusive educational practices for people with autism and developmental disabilities,” Jimenez adds.

Sarah Howorth, associate professor of special education at UMaine, has long been involved with the CEC DADD. Howorth is director of Maine Access to Inclusive Education Re-



sources (MAIER), an information and resource clearinghouse for professionals and families to assist in accessing and navigating programs and services related to inclusive education of students with autism and other disabilities. MAIER was established at UMaine in 2014 with significant financial support from Maine DOE, and continues to receive the bulk of its funding from the Office of Special Services and Inclusive Education.

“There’s critical work happening in Maine right now to ensure equitable and sustainable access to education for all individuals,” says Howorth. “By bringing its summer symposium here, CEC DADD is recognizing these efforts

and providing an important learning opportunity for the teachers, caregivers and others who support people with autism and intellectual disabilities in the state everyday.”

The symposium will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on July 21, and will feature two strands related to inclusive practices for students with autism and other disabilities: “Access to the Curriculum” and “Quality of Life.” Workshops, led by experts from the CEC DADD, include “Evidence-Based Practices for Implementing Physical Activity and Motor Development Programs in Pre-K and Elementary Classrooms” and “Planning for Life After High School.”

Rachel McInnis is

program coordinator for Woodfords Family Services, which operates a pre-school and special purpose private school in Waterville for students who have disabilities. She registered to attend the CEC DADD symposium to learn more about inclusive practices for her students. She says she’s particularly interested in learning more about implementing new physical activity and motor development activities in Woodfords’ K–5 program.

“I find that opportunities like this can give teachers confidence in the things we already know, but also give us a new perspective or angle on an approach, as well as teach us something we’ve never thought of before,” McInnis says. “I hope to share the knowledge gained with our teachers and empower them in their teaching. I also hope for our students to engage in new and exciting activities.”

Registration for the 2023 CEC DADD Summer Symposium is \$30 for individuals planning to attend in-person, \$40 for virtual, or \$100 for schools or other organizations that would like to host a group attending virtually. The cost for vendors wishing to attend the conference is \$40 per table. More information and a link to register is online.

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Fontaine Family Raises Over \$24K for Make-A-Wish Maine



MAINE (June 9, 2023) -- The Fontaine Family Team raised over \$24,000 for Make-A-Wish Maine at their 10th Annual Bid for Wishes Virtual

Auction hosted on Facebook. The team acquired over 300 items from Maine businesses and individuals. Fontaine has been fundraising for Make-A-

Wish Maine since 2009 starting with the Walk for Wishes events and has raised over \$140,000 since then. Fontaine Family Team has been providing a platform for local businesses and individuals to make a difference in the lives of seriously ill children by donating items, collecting, and dropping off items, and bidding on items. Fontaine Family Team is grateful for the generosity of Maine business owners and individuals and for supporting this worthy cause.

Fontaine continues to give back to the community and is committed to making a positive impact on Maine families. For more info to support Fontaine Family’s fundraising efforts for Make-A-Wish Maine visit their website, BrendaFontaine.com.

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Auburn Announces Summer Concert Series



AUBURN, MAINE (June 16, 2023) – The City of Auburn is delighted to announce the 2023 line-up of talented local musicians who will bring music and fun to the city’s downtown this summer. This year’s performers

include: • June 27: Michael Krapovicky • July 11: Brian Patrick, Maine Blues & Folk Artist • July 18: Jud Caswell • July 25: Acoustic Sunshine • August 8: Shanna Underwood Duo • August 15: Paddy Mills • August 22: Carole Wise Music

These free, family-friendly concerts will begin next week on Tuesday, June 20 and will be held in Festival Plaza on Main Street in the heart of beautiful downtown Auburn. Performances will be from 6:00 to 7:30PM for FREE.

Local non-profits will have concessions available for purchase during each show. No concerts will be held on Tuesday, July 4, which is

when the Liberty Festival is held, or on Tuesday, August 1, when the Auburn Police Department will host their annual “National Night Out” event.

The city is also pleased to welcome the Auburn Community Concert Band back to Festival Plaza on Wednesday evenings at 7:00PM beginning on June 28. This will be the band’s 42nd season of bringing free, live music to Auburn.

“We’re excited to have live music back in Festival Plaza this summer on Tuesday and Wednesday nights,” said Jennifer Boenig, Downtown Coordinator for the City of Auburn. “There’s nothing better than enjoy-

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Where: Simard-Payne Park Lewiston
Cost: Social Division: \$40.00 per team (2 players)
Competitive Division: \$60.00 per team (2 Players)
Each player receives one \$5.00 Beer Ticket with registration.
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Gov. Mills Signs Republican-Led Highway Funding Bill

AUGUSTA, ME (June 16, 2023) – For years, the budget that funds all operations of the state’s Department of Transportation (DOT) has been supported through short-term or one-time sources. Last week, Sen. Brad Farrin, R-Somerset, sought to fix that and proposed an amendment to the bill that would dedicate sustainable, permanent funding going forward.

That amended bill, LD 259, was enacted by the Maine Legislature yesterday and signed by Gov. Janet Mills today.

For Senate Republican Leader Trey Stewart, R-Aroostook, the passage of LD 259 proved to be a historic moment and will provide much-needed stable statutory funding for Maine’s roads and bridges.

“Maine owes a debt of gratitude for the leadership of Senator Brad Farrin, Representative Wayne Parry and Republicans on the Transportation Committee, without whom this critical change would not have come about,” said Stewart. “Passage of this bill eliminates the need to continually borrow against our future and pay interest when we don’t have to, par-

ticularly at a time when the State is flush with money. Instead of expanding state government by growing positions or creating new social programs, Republicans said enough is enough and that its time to actually find a way to fix our roads and bridges.”

According to Farrin, who is the Senate Republican Lead for the Transportation Committee, discussion regarding permanent funding for the State’s transportation infrastructure has been ongoing for years. A Blue Ribbon Commission was convened in 2020 to study the issue but couldn’t settle on a permanent solution.

“The proposed two-year transportation budget dedicated \$200 million in one-time funds and we were able to move another \$53 million in liquor fund cascade money into the budget,” Farrin said Thursday after the vote. “But as we were moving forward this session, we heard discussion about another bond issue despite our record amount of revenue.”

Farrin recalled that one of the major findings from the Blue Ribbon Commission was the growing negative impact

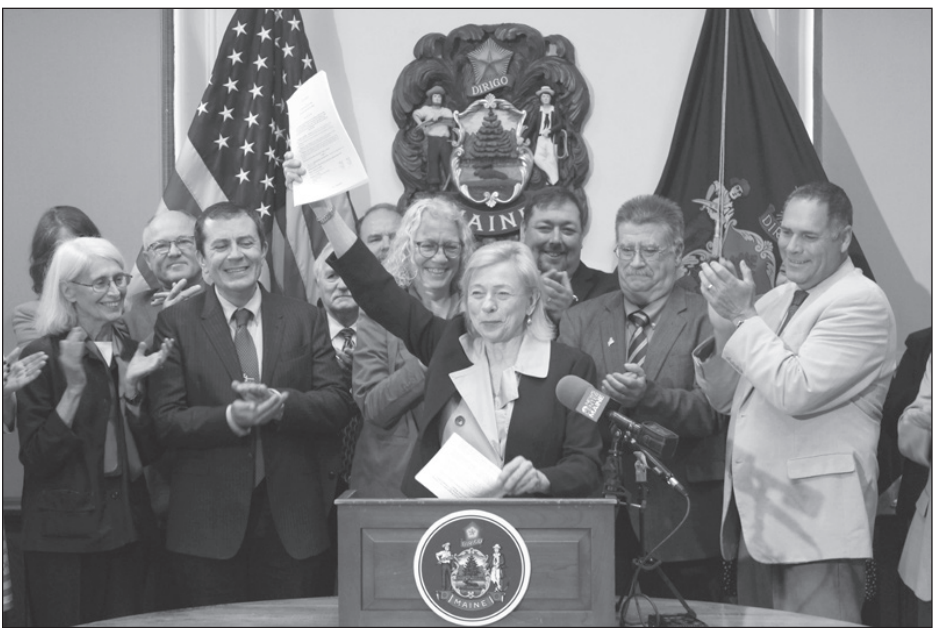
of electric vehicles on gas tax receipts. He proposed his amendment to the Transportation Committee that would dedicated 50% of sales tax revenue from the sale of vehicles and vehicle-related parts to the Highway Fund.

Ultimately, his amendment garnered bipartisan support with 9-4 majority vote.

When the bill reached the Senate, a floor amendment reduced the allocation to 40% but also included vehicle use tax, which is collected separately from the sales tax system. The change means the Highway Fund will have at least \$130-\$150 million in permanent funding per year going forward.

“I want to thank all of the members of the Transportation Committee who worked hard on this issue,” Farrin said of the bipartisan effort. “This will ensure that Maine’s transportation infrastructure will have dedicated funding now and in the future and our transportation needs will be met.”

Sen. Rick Bennett, R-Oxford, the Senate Republican Lead for the Legislature’s Appropriations and Financial Affairs Com-



Flanked by members of the Legislature’s Transportation Committee, Gov. Janet Mills, center, holds the highway funding bill LD 259 after signing it on Friday, June 16, 2023, at the State House in Augusta. The bill included a key Republican amendment by Sen. Brad Farrin, R-Somerset (right), that provides permanent funding for the State’s highways, bridges, ferry system and Bureau of Motor Vehicles budget. (photo courtesy of Senate Republican Office/Mike Fern)

mittee and a fierce critic of what he calls Maine’s “broken budgeting process,” said the structural imbalance of the Highway Fund had been growing for years. Electric vehicles don’t contribute to the State’s gas tax; yet they still cause wear and tear on Maine’s transportation system.

“We’ve known for a while that the motor vehicle fuels tax was no longer

sufficient to fund our transportation needs and EVs were only going to make it worse,” Bennett said. “We’ve been avoiding the problem for years through borrowing and other financial sleight of hand but this move to permanent funding will help avoid the need to do that.”

For Bennett, the State’s record amount of revenue gave Republican lawmakers the opportunity

to find a long-term solution, something he said everyone knew had to happen.

“Missing this opportunity to actually solve the Highway Fund’s funding crisis for the long term would have been a tragic mistake,” he said. “This transition to dedicated sources of funding that is going to last and grow over time is a really good move for the people of Maine.”

\$30M to Support Universal Broadband Access in Maine

WASHINGTON, D.C. (June 16, 2023) – U.S. Senators Susan Collins and Angus King, and Representatives Chellie Pingree and Jared Golden announced that the Maine Connectivity Authority was awarded \$30,016,472.13 in federal funding from the Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure grant. This investment is funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and will support Maine’s strategic goal of providing universal broadband access throughout the state.

“As one of the most

rural states in the nation, Maine will see immense benefits from expanding high-speed, affordable broadband access to all our people. In the 21st century economy, access to high-speed Internet is absolutely essential to business development and job growth in rural areas, and it opens doors to new opportunities in telehealth and education,” said Senators Collins and King and Representatives Pingree and Golden. “As proud supporters of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, we are pleased to see the continued impact of this bipar-

tisan legislation.”

“With this grant award, Maine is demonstrating its national leadership in the expansion of high-speed, reliable and affordable internet,” said Andrew Butcher, President of the Maine Connectivity Authority. “MOOSE Net will provide the connectivity infrastructure to enable the industries that power Maine— farming, fishing, forest products and fun.”

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invests \$65 billion to support broadband infrastructure nationwide, including \$1 billion for the Middle Mile Broad-

band Infrastructure Grant Program administered by the National Telecommunications & Information Administration. The funding will support the construction, improvement, or acquisition of “middle mile” broadband infrastructure, which will help reduce the cost of connecting areas that are unserved or underserved to the internet backbone and bridge gaps in the broadband network.

Senator Collins was part of the core group of 10 Senators who negotiated the text of the bipartisan infrastructure

law. Senator Collins and Senator Shaheen of New Hampshire spearheaded the broadband working group and co-authored the law’s provisions providing for \$65 billion broadband investment. This historic legislation is delivering billions of dollars to Maine for investments in broadband, roads, bridges, and more. As Co-Chair of the bipartisan Senate Broadband Caucus, Senator King has been a strong advocate for expanding affordable broadband access as a way to increase economic opportunity in rural Maine. Senator King in-

troduced the Middle Mile Broadband Deployment Act in 2021 that proposed creating a grant program to connect internet carriers to local networks in unserved and underserved communities.

The bipartisan infrastructure law is expected to deliver approximately \$2.5 billion to Maine over the next five years for critical broadband, transportation, energy, and environmental projects. In December 2022, Maine received \$5.5 million to plan for the deployment and adoption of broadband service throughout the state.



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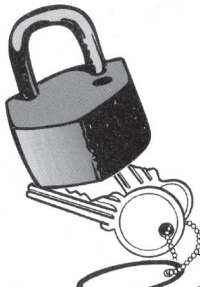
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June 15-25
AUBURN -- Community Little Theatre presents the Steve Martin comedy Picasso at the Lapin Agile. Young men Albert Einstein and Pablo Picasso meet and discuss art, the universe, and everything in between along with some colorful characters who add wit, humor, and wry perspectives. Show dates are June 15, 16, 17, 22, 23, & 24 at 7:30 p.m., and June 18 & 25 at 2:00 p.m. All performances at CLT on 30 Academy Street in Auburn. Tickets and more information at www.laclt.com/picasso-at-lapin-agile-2023

June 24
GRAY -- First Congregational Church of Gray Saturday Night Church Supper on Saturday June 24, 2023 @ 5 P. M. at the Parish House, 5 Brown Street, Gray. Handicapped Accessible. Meals are Singled-sized and are \$10.00 each. Please pay at the Door.

The Menu includes: A variety of Casseroles and Salads, Baked Pea Beans, Red Hot Dogs, Breads. Assortment of Desserts, and Beverages. Phone # day of the supper - 657-4279.

June 24
LEWISTON -- Members of Lewiston's delegation to the State Legislature will hold constituent office hours at the Lewiston Public Library later this month to provide local residents a

Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

chance to meet with their elected officials and discuss legislative and state government matters. The delegation will give updates on their work on various policy areas, including the state budget, law enforcement, insurance and financial affairs, taxes, transportation and veterans issues. Office hours are scheduled for the fourth Saturday of every month.

WHO: Sen. Peggy Rotundo, Rep. Kristen Cloutier, Rep. Margaret Craven, Rep. Mana Abdi and Rep. Michel Lajoie

WHEN: Saturday, June 24, 2023 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

WHERE: The Couture Room, Lewiston Public Library, 200 Lisbon Street

June 24
AUGUSTA -- The Maine Hosta Society will hold its Annual Plant Auction on Saturday, June 24th at Viles Arboretum located at 153 Hospital Street in Augusta. A silent auction of plants donated from members' gardens will take place at 10:00 am. The live auction of some of the latest hostas available begins at 1:00 pm. Admission is free and open to the public.

June 24
BUXTON -- Had-dock Supper Buffet - Saturday, June 24, 2023 - 5:00 pm at Living Waters Church, Parker Farm Road, Buxton. Suggested donation: \$10 Adult, \$5 Child, \$20 Family. Please note: We will offer the option of takeout containers for those who do not want to come inside for seating. Wearing of face masks for those who are not vaccinated is suggested. Hand sanitizer is available for those who wish to use it.

June 27, June 29, July 1, July 2
DaPonte String Quartet Summer Series Concerts Summer Series I. Program: Beethoven String Trio in G Major, Op. 9 no 1, Alan Hovhaness String Trio Op. 201 & Dohnanyi Serenade, op. 10

Tuesday, June 27, 7:30 pm Union Church, South Bristol

Thursday, June 29, 7:30 pm St. Paul's Union Chapel, Waldoboro

Saturday, July 1, 7:30 pm Ocean View Grange, St. George Peninsula

Sunday, July 2, 4:00 pm Surry Arts at the Barn, Surry

July 15
GORHAM -- On Saturday, July 15th, starting

at 1:00 pm at the Treworgy Homestead and Garden located at 120 Flaggy Meadow Road in Gorham, the Maine Iris Society will hold its annual auction of bearded iris rhizomes. All are welcome.

Sept 2
GORHAM -- On Saturday, September 2nd, starting at 1:00 pm at the United Methodist Church, 439 Park Avenue in Auburn, the Maine Iris Society will hold its annual auction of Siberian irises and daylilies. All are welcome.

Every 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Monday
LEWISTON -- PROGRAMS FOR HOMESCHOOL FAMILIES, held the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Monday 11:15am-12:30pm starting March 6th, 2023 at the Lewiston Public Library Children's Department

Homeschool families, are you looking for opportunities to have fun and socialize with other homeschool families? LPL will be offering activities for homeschool families in the Children's Department the first three Mondays of each month from 11:15am-12:30pm. The activities will be a Homeschool Video Game Social on March 6th, a Homeschool Lego Club and Curriculum Swap on March 13th, and a Homeschool Storytime and Craft on March 20th.

This program is free

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and recommended for homeschool families with children of all ages. No registration is required. Contact info. 513-3133, LPLKids@lewistonmaine.gov

Second and fourth Thursdays
LEWISTON -- YOUTH TRADING CARD GAME CLUB held from 4 PM to 5 PM at the Lewiston Public Library. Join the Youth Trading Card Game Club to play, learn, trade, and compete with your peers! Games include Pokémon, Magic: the Gathering, and more. All skill levels are welcome. Library staff and volunteers will be available to teach new players and coach developing ones. Free. For kids & teens ages 8-18. 513-3135; www.LPLonline.org

Wednesdays
LEWISTON -- Knitting Group, Dates: Wednesdays, Time: 4:30-7:30 p.m., Facilitator: Senior-

sPlus Staff, Location: Education Center, 8 Falcon Road, Lewiston

Join our knitting group to work on your own project, learn from others, and socialize. Classes are free, unless noted. SeniorsPlus is fully accessible. Hearing assistive equipment is available upon request. For more information or to register, call us at 207-795-4010 or visit seniorsplus.org.

Every second Monday
LEWISTON -- Care-giver Support Groups, Date: Monday, January 9 (every second Monday); Time: 5:30-7 p.m. Facilitator: Dana Morrell, SW. Location: SeniorsPlus, 8 Falcon Road, Lewiston.

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

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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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Anniversary
Continued from page 1

services in one accessible, centralized location, providing multi-disciplinary care in a healing environment.

It offers some of the most cutting-edge technology available in cancer care, including new linear accelerators in the radiation oncology department. The facility also includes infusion suites, an onsite lab and pharmacy.

There was a small celebration at the facility to mark the milestone, with Cancer Care staff being joined by Central Maine Healthcare leadership. Team members from CMH's other two hospitals, Bridgton Hospital and Rumford Hospital attended remotely. Also


in attendance were officials from the Dempsey Center which has a space at the Cancer Care Center where patients can access their services.

Several leaders from across the system expressed their gratitude to the team members who are committed to caring for our cancer patients every day. Steve Littleton, president and CEO, Central Maine Healthcare said while the facility, itself, is impressive, it's the team members at the Cancer Care Center who make the difference.

"Artificial intelligence can do many things, but no matter what, AI can't give a patient a hug; it can't hold a family member's hand," Littleton said. "And, that's what matters. Bricks and mortar are terrific, but it's the people. It's all of you who make the difference here at the Center."

"I can't tell you how proud I am to work with you all," said Hector Tarraza, chief of the CMH Oncology Institute. It is an absolute joy to be with each and every one of you. And who benefits from everything you do? The patients benefit by having all of us under one roof. The work you do, day in and day out always inspires me."

Pride Month Message
from Mayor Sheline



LEWISTON, ME (June 16, 2023) -- "Happy Pride Month to everyone in Lewiston! As your Mayor and ally, I pledge my commitment to our LGBTQ community. Lewiston is a place where all people, no matter their sexual orientation, gender identity, race, ethnicity, or disability, are welcomed with open arms. I recognize that our diversity is what makes us a great community and a thriving city."

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