



TWIN CITY TIMES

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Thursday, August 3, 2023 • FREE

Breastfeeding Support Group Up and Running Again at CMMC

LEWISTON, ME (July 26, 2023) -- Just as National Breastfeeding Month is about to begin in August, the popular in-person breastfeeding support groups for new mothers at Central Maine Medical Center (CMMC) are up and running again, after being scaled back during the pandemic.

CMMC's maternity team has earned a stellar reputation. For the second straight year, CMMC was recognized by U.S. News & World Report as "High Performing in Maternity Care." The hospital also maintained its "Baby-Friendly" designation from Baby-Friendly USA for providing mothers with the information, skills and confidence to breastfeed their babies. CMH is one of only three health-care systems in Maine with that distinction.

August is National Breastfeeding Month which was established to highlight the benefits of breast milk for babies. Among them are stronger immune systems, a reduced risk of SIDS (sudden infant death syndrome) and physical development. There are also numerous health benefits for breastfeeding mothers.

Vicky Roy, RN, has worked at CMMC's maternity ward for more than 50 years. She says when she first started, only about 40 percent of new mothers attempted to breastfeed. Now, she says, that percentage is in the high 80s.

"There can be a lot of anxiety around being a new mom, but as they're breastfeeding, they get a really close, intimate connection with their baby," Vicki said. "It's like an extension of the pregnancy and it really bonds them. A lot of women have said it's the most powerful experience of their lives -nursing their babies."

CMMC has lactation specialists on hand, seven days a week, including overnights with certified breastfeeding mothers.

"Breastfeeding can be pretty tricky," said Lindsay Petty, RN, who also works at CMMC's maternity ward. "So being able to provide the individual support a woman needs to be successful on her breastfeeding journey is a wonderful experience."

Central Maine Medical Center's breastfeeding support group meetings are held on Thursdays at 9:30-11:30 a.m.



at 12 High Street, in the lower level. They are open to all new breastfeeding mothers in the central Maine region.

CMMC's maternity department has also been recognized by Blue Cross Blue

Shield as a Blue Distinction Center+. This distinction recognizes hospitals that demonstrate more affordable care in addition to quality care, treatment expertise and better overall patient results.

Seeking Municipal Office? Nomination Papers Are Available

LEWISTON, ME (July 28, 2023) -- Nomination papers for municipal office are available for distribution and circulation by prospective candidates. 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 Lewiston. Candidates for all other positions must submit 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

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

YARD SALE August 5 8:30 am to 2 pm
12 Usher Mill Rd, Hollis
Retired handyman and wood craftsman, many items, power hand tools dozens of hand saws for craft projects, wood craft supplies, dowels, shaker pegs, wooden balls, slate for painting, storage racks, totes, lifejackets, (people and large dog), free box for the curious.

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Barbara Prey Projects To Benefit UNICEF



Barbara Prey signing her print Standing Together at Barbara Prey Projects

PORT CLYDE, ME (July 28, 2023) -- Barbara Prey's iconic painting Islands from Above is unique in her body of work. She will sign a print release of Islands from Above Sunday, August 6 from 4-5 pm at Barbara Prey Projects in Port Clyde. Sales of the Islands from Above print

will benefit UNICEF. Also available at the signing are other recent print releases including Fibonacci's Workshop, collection of The National Gallery of Art in Washington D.C., Family Portrait, collection The Brooklyn Museum and a print release of her MASS MoCA com-

missioned painting MASS MoCA: Building 6.

MASS MoCA commissioned Prey to paint the largest watercolor in the world for their recently opened building. Many others of her prints limited edition prints will be available. Her annual exhibit Still Light is July 20- Labor Day at Barbara Prey Projects.

As one of the key figures of 21st century painting, Prey was appointed by the President of the United States to the National Council on the Arts, the advisory board of the National Endowment for the Arts. Members are chosen for their established record of distinguished service and achievement in the arts.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

"She is, quite simply put, the world's pre-eminent watercolorist, persisting over the past four decades in the mastery of her idiom."

- Museum Director Charles Rile

Barbara Prey is considered one of America's

foremost painters. A living master, her recently completed commission for MASS MoCA, described as a "technical tour de force" by Director Joe Thompson, is the largest watercolor ever exhibited. Her paintings are in the collections of the National Gallery of Art, the Brooklyn Museum, the Smithsonian Art Museum, the White House, the Kennedy Space Center, among many other public and private collections.

For the past decade she has been a member of the National Council for the Arts, the governing body of the National Endowment for the Arts, a position she was appointed to by the President. In 2003 her painting of the Diplomatic Reception Room was featured on the White House Christmas card. With dozens of artworks commissioned by government agencies and institutions, such as four paintings for NASA, Prey is a global ambassador for American Art. Tapped annually for the U.S. Art in

Embassies program, Prey's work has been on display in over one hundred U.S. Embassies and Consulates worldwide, including those in Paris, Hong Kong, and Madrid. Her painting Gallantly Streaming is currently on exhibit in the lobby of the U.S. Mission to the U.N.

Prey earned a Bachelor's degree from Williams College, where she is an adjunct faculty member, and a Master's degree from Harvard University. She has received numerous institutional accolades, including a grant from the Henry Luce Foundation, and the New York Senate's "Women of Distinction"

Award, joining Eleanor Roosevelt and Susan B. Anthony.

ABOUT THE GALLERY

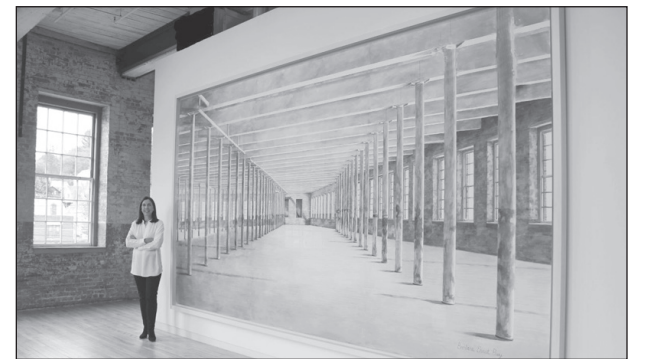
Barbara Prey Projects is a gallery and exhibition space in Port Clyde, ME. Celebrating 23 years this summer, the gallery is housed in a historic waterfront structure that has been part of the community since the late 1800s.

BARBARA PREY PROJECTS

Main St., Port Clyde, ME 04855

10:00 am – 5:00 pm, daily 207-372-8087

www.barbaraprey-projects.com | info@barbarapreyprojects.com



Prey in front of her painting at MASS MoCA

Red Cross Supports Recovery for Vermonters

MONTPELIER, VT (July 28, 2023) -- Two weeks after Vermont was hit with catastrophic flooding, the American Red Cross continues to help people in the hardest hit areas. More than 250 Red Cross volunteers from Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine and states across the country are in the Green Mountains to feed, shelter and support Vermonters during their time of need.

RED CROSS SERVICE DELIVERY

Since shelters opened, the Red Cross and our partners have provided 873 overnight stays for more than 191 residents in

two emergency shelters.

With the help of partners, a total of 9,485 meals and 15,427 snacks have been provided.

To date, 27,106 relief items, including comfort kits and other supplies have been provided to people in need and 2,520 total households have been served.

This Red Cross disaster relief operation is supported by 257 trained Red Cross disaster workers.

Even as the American Red Cross delivers disaster relief such as food and shelter, we also think about the future and plan for how to help impacted communities and families

recover in the months and years ahead. Every disaster is different, and so are the needs of each affected community and family. The Red Cross works closely with local partners to create plans and coordinate recovery services to ensure people get the help they need to get back on their feet.

DISASTER RECOVERY CENTERS

Our trained disaster workers will offer individual disaster care and recovery services at FEMA Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) locations. Red Cross services include disaster mental health, di-

aster spiritual care and disaster health services. To find the DRC closest to you, please visit <https://egateway.fema.gov/ESF6/DRCLocator>

Multi-agency resource centers are also being led by the state of Vermont in multiple locations. For a complete list, please visit <https://vem.vermont.gov/flood/marc>

DONATE LIFE-SAVING BLOOD

Changing weather conditions can force the cancellation to blood drives or cause lower donor turnout. Individuals in unaffected areas — especially those with type O

blood types — are urged to give blood now to help ensure patients in impacted areas continue to have access to lifesaving blood.

Please schedule an appointment to give blood at the above blood drive or find other donation opportunities near you by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

OTHER WAYS YOU CAN HELP

You can help people affected by disasters like flooding and countless other crises by making a donation to support Red Cross

Disaster Relief. Your gift enables the Red Cross to prepare for, respond to and help people recover from disasters big and small.

Visit redcross.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS or text the word REDCROSS to 90999 to make a \$10 donation.

The Red Cross is not accepting donations of clothing or household items, as these types of donations divert resources away from our mission.

Due to health code regulations, the Red Cross cannot accept donations of homecooked meals or food items not prepared in a commercial kitchen.



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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Governor Signs Proposal to Build Solar Energy Project

AUGUSTA, ME (July 20, 2023) — Gov. Janet Mills has signed into law a joint proposal from Sen. Eloise Vitelli, D-Arrowsic, and Sen. Stacy Brenner, D-Scarborough, that would advance Maine’s energy independence by promoting building solar energy projects on farmland that has been contaminated by PFAS.

The proposal is a combination of Sen. Brenner’s LD 1591, “An Act to Promote Economic Reuse of Contaminated Land Through Clean Energy Development,” and Sen.

Vitelli’s LD 1830, “An Act to Advance Maine’s Clean Energy Goals.” The proposal is being carried on an amended version of Sen. Brenner’s bill.

“We know that PFAS contamination has already impacted more than 50 farms across the state. This new law will help make them whole, as we pursue remediation research and investment,” said Sen. Brenner. “I’m grateful to my colleagues in the Legislature who gave this bill such strong support, and to the Governor for signing this bill into law.”

“When we pursue innovative solutions, we can address more than one problem at once. This bill is a great example of that kind of opportunity. We’re investing in Maine farmers and our state’s energy independence,” said Sen. Vitelli. “I’m thankful to Sen. Brenner for her leadership on this bill, and I’m excited to see it signed into law.”

In the 129th Legislature, Sen. Vitelli sponsored LD 1494, which set in statute the requirement that 80% of Maine’s electricity come from renew-

able resources by 2030, with a goal of 100% by 2050. As highlighted by the Renewable Energy Goals Market Assessment, additional clean energy sources are required to meet these goals.

There are more than 700 sites across the state that were licensed for land application of Class B biosolids, which includes wastewater sludge and septage, meaning that PFAS contamination is likely widespread. There is currently no way to remediate PFAS contamination in soils.

LD 1591 has three intersecting goals: to advance Maine’s clean energy development; to ensure benefits to ratepayers; and to make use of PFAS-contaminated lands. The bill would promote the economic reuse of contaminated land, including farmland impacted by PFAS contamination, through renewable energy projects that guarantee ratepayer savings.

The procurement in LD 1591 would be open to all PFAS-contaminated land. This proposal leverages federal opportunities,

such as the Inflation Reduction Act. These operations would also be eligible for storage.

In order to approve a contract for this procurement, the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) must determine that the contract will provide financial benefits to ratepayers.

The proposal is also supported by the Governor’s Energy Office and the Natural Resources Council of Maine.

LD 1591 will go into effect 90 days after the Legislature adjourns sine die.

Wedge joins Rinck Advertising as Social Media Manager



LEWISTON, ME (July 28, 2023) – Rinck Advertising is pleased to announce the addition of Karli Wedge, Social Media Manager. Wedge brings a wide variety of skills to the position, including social media strategy, brand management, and graphic design.

Earlier this year, she graduated from Northern Arizona University with a Bachelor’s Degree in Strategic Communications with an emphasis in Advertising and a Marketing Certificate. She held internships at Saaty Photography, Blaze Partners, and Northern Arizona University.

In her role at Rinck, Wedge is responsible for social and digital media activities such as image and video creation, content writing, ad development, blogging, community development and management, and social boosting. She is tuned into trends across the broader social media world and uses her expertise to develop strategies for content programs and execute them for agency clients. She also coaches clients and agency staff on participating in the content media conversation to help grow customer-brand relationships. Current clients include Dental

Herb, Intermodal Association of North America, VetriScience, Pet Naturals, and MaineHousing.

“We are so excited to welcome Karli to the team,” said Sarah Bird, Content Director. “She brings a fresh perspective and creative insights that we can’t wait to see in action.”

Originally from Raymond, Maine, Wedge recently returned to Maine after finishing her studies in Arizona. She now resides in Freeport, and when she is not working, you can find her reading at the beach or exploring new places across Maine.

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 (207) 795-5017

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Saco River Paddlers Urged To Exercise Caution



Image of the debris obstruction blocking a portion of the Saco River.

FRYEBURG AND BROWNFIELD, ME (July 28, 2023) – The Maine Warden Service is urging canoeists and kay-

akers on the Saco River to use extreme caution due to a debris obstruction blocking passage between mile 17 and 18 on the

Saco River.

Continued high water along the upper Saco River Corridor has created a nearly impassable debris obstruction on the river. Paddlers are encouraged to take out at the Lovewell Pond access site before reaching this site, or portage their boat and gear around the obstruction.

The obstruction has blocked the width of the river, which is approximately 50 yards in width, and has precipitated the rescue of at least 17 paddlers in the past ten days.

The Maine Warden Service is notifying canoe and kayak rental business-

es in the area about the obstruction, urging the businesses to inform paddlers about the obstruction, and to instruct paddlers on how to portage around the obstruction, or to tell paddlers to take out at the Lovewell Pond access site. The Maine Warden Service also plans to post signs at put-in access sites on the river, alerting people to the obstruction, and how they can avoid it.

The Maine Warden Service encourages all paddlers to always wear their lifejackets when in a canoe, kayak and paddleboard, and to never paddle alone. Additional safety



Game Wardens used an airboat to visit and assess the site.

gear such as a throw rope and a throwable PFD is also recommended. Due to the highwater on the Saco, canoeists should

be on the lookout for debris, downed trees called strainers that impede water flow, and swifter currents.

Northeast Credit Union Hosts Nourish Maine Road Race Series

PORTSMOUTH, NH (July 28, 2023) – The Northeast Credit Union Foundation announces the Nourish Network Road Race Series for the fall of 2023. These races will be held in Southern Maine, and in the spirit of advancing the Foundation’s mission to enrich and nourish the lives of others, a portion of the proceeds from each race will benefit a different non-profit with ties to the Pine Tree State.

Northeast Credit Union has partnered with the organizers of Rock Row in Westbrook to host the first race in the

series on Sunday, October 1st. Centered around a 26-acre quarry, The 5K run/walk will start at 10am at Rock Row; proceeds will support Safe Passage, a top-rated, non-profit school in Guatemala City. Safe Passage School, founded by a Bowdoin College alum and headquartered in New Gloucester, brings hope, education, and opportunity to the children and families trying to make a living around one of the largest landfills in Central America.

On October 15th, the Nourish Network

Road Race Series will partner with Grahamtastic Connection in Springvale to present the Grahamtastic Connection 5k Run/Walk and Celebration starting at 10am at the Nasson Community Center. Grahamtastic’s mission is to provide free technology to children with cancer and other serious illnesses to support their education, as well as their social and emotional well-being. Technology, including iPads, laptops, robots, and Internet access, enables children to continue their education during treatment while

also remaining connected to family, friends, and medical providers. Following the race, there will be a celebration to honor Grahamtastic’s 25th anniversary – complete with a free BBQ, silent auction, raffles, and more!

The third 5K in the race series will occur on Sunday, October 29th at Biddeford’s Clifford Park. Starting at 10am, this Halloween-themed run/walk will feature prizes for the best costumes and will benefit Apex Youth Connection, an after-school program for kids in grades 5-12. This organization

challenges comfort zones and expands perceptions, gently pushing youth to set and reach goals they never thought possible. Apex creates a safe space for children of the Biddeford area to learn, socialize, stay active, and get real-world experience.

“The Northeast Credit Union Foundation believes in supporting local organizations who are doing their part to enrich and nourish the lives of others. Joining forces with these important organizations to bring the Nourish Network Road Race Series to life will not only

benefit our Maine communities, but will have lasting impact on a global scale” stated Dan Raposa, Executive Director of the Northeast Credit Union Foundation. “Whether folks support the race series by participating, volunteering, fundraising, or donating to a participant, there are opportunities for everyone to join the movement and make a difference,” Raposa added.

To learn more about the Nourish Network Road Race Series and to register to participate in the races, visit: necu.org/race.

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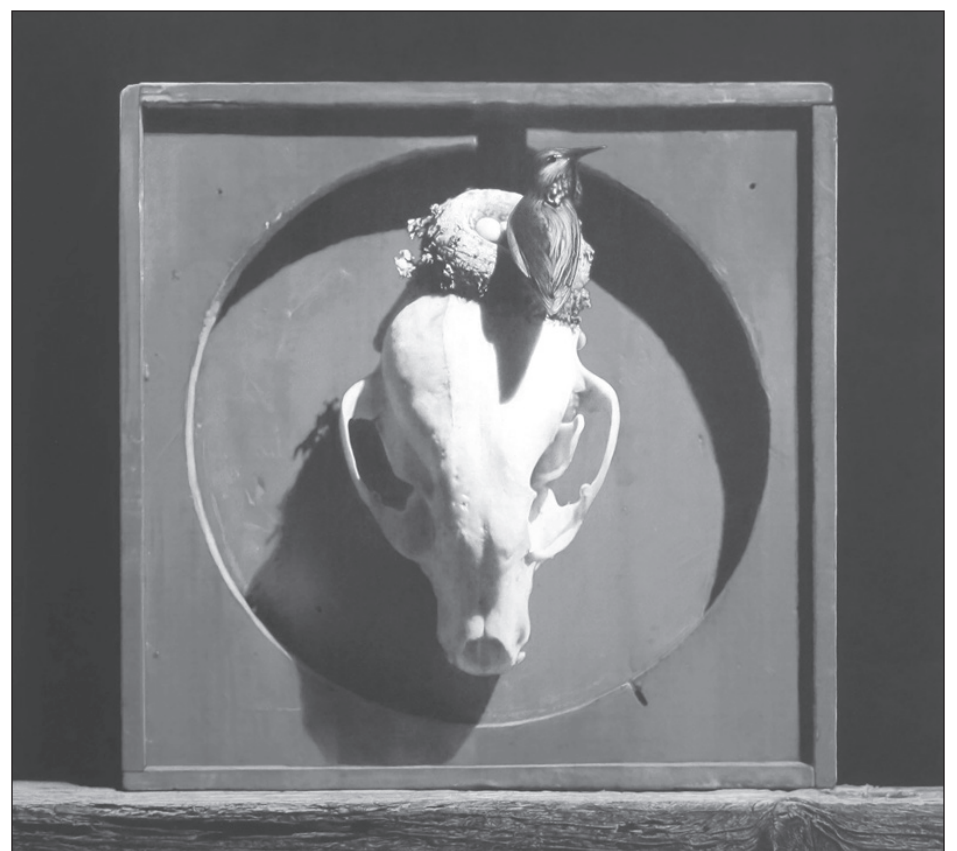
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“Good Bones” Open Studio Presented by Jon Mot



PORT CLYDE, ME (July 28, 2023) – Jon Mot will present “GOOD BONES” Open Studio 2023 August 5th and 6th, 10 am to 5 pm at Fieldstone Castle, 129 Marshall Pt Lighthouse Rd, Port Clyde, Maine. An artist tour and talk will take place Sunday, August 6th at 1 pm. Jon’s latest collection

of original colored pencil landscapes and still lifes as well as recently released additions to his limited edition Portfolio Print Collection will be displayed.

A Rhode Island School of Design trained artist and architect, his talents for technique and design have been widely

recognized as unique and evocative. Jon’s artwork has been featured in over 30 gallery and museum exhibitions and is represented worldwide by MassoniArt.com and SomervilleManningGallery.com.

For more information: JonMortStudio.com or 207-372-8658.

Greg Mort Holds “Illuminations” Open Studio

PORT CLYDE, ME (July 28, 2023) -- Greg Mort will host his annual summer Open Studio “ILLUMINATIONS” August 5th and 6th, 10 am to 5 pm at Fieldstone Castle, 129 Marshall Pt Lighthouse Rd, Port Clyde, Maine. An artist tour and talk will take place Sunday, August 6th at 1 pm. Mort created “ILLUMINATIONS” an extraordinary collection of twelve watercolor and mixed media works of art that elevates the realism genre to new heights. His concept

combines craft and technology to draw the viewer into the image on an interactive level that only truly singular virtuosity can achieve using 21st century materials to expand the normal range of luminosity beyond those possible in traditional painting techniques. This dynamic interaction between art and viewer is only possible in real time with the work and cannot be achieved with reproduction.

Mort’s paintings have been exhibited around the

world, most recently in the CLIMATE ACTION – INSPIRING CHANGE exhibition at the Peabody Essex Museum and the White House through the Arts in Embassies Program. His original works are in the permanent collections of the National Gallery of Art, Smithsonian Museum of American Art, Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum, Portland Museum of Art, Farnsworth Museum and many more. A lifelong naturalist, in 2007 Mort co-founded The Art



of Stewardship a nonprofit initiative that supports art and environmental partnerships. For more information: GregMort.com and 207-372-8658.

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

Senate Designates July as “National Blueberry Month”

WASHINGTON, D.C. (July 28, 2023) – The U.S. Senate unanimously passed a bipartisan resolution, cosponsored by Senators Susan Collins and Angus King, designating the month of July as “National Blueberry Month.” The resolution recognizes the importance of blueberries to Maine, and the

United States’ agricultural economy, and highlights the crop’s history. Senators Collins and King included language in the resolution specifically paying tribute to Maine wild blueberries and Wabanaki blueberry heritage.

“Wild blueberries have a special place in our state’s history, providing

nutritious, delicious fruit for centuries dating back to Maine’s tribal communities, who first cultivated the crop,” said Senators Collins and King. “Today, wild blueberries continue to be an economic powerhouse for the state’s economy, family businesses, and rural communities – not to mention a sought-after

treat and baking staple for people worldwide. This bipartisan resolution honors the blueberry industry’s many vital contributions along with the generations of Maine people who have supported the iconic product. We appreciate our colleagues’ unanimous recognition of this fruit’s cultural and economic

significance, and will continue to work to ensure a bright future for the industry.”

Senators Collins and King have long advocated for the Maine blueberry industry and its farmers. Amid the pandemic, they joined a bipartisan group in successfully urging the U.S. Department of Agri-

culture (USDA) to make blueberry growers eligible for the \$16 billion in agricultural assistance provided by the CARES Act. They also recently called on the Biden Administration to expand markets for Maine blueberries and reduce barriers facing farmers who export the fruit.

Maine Justice Foundation Awards Access To Justice Tax Credit

AUGUSTA, ME (July 28, 2023) -- The Maine Justice Foundation is pleased to announce the 2023 recipients of the Access to Justice Tax Credit Program. In an effort to encourage lawyers to provide services to underserved areas of our State, the Legislature enacted the Access to Justice Tax Credit Program. Starting in 2022, the program authorized five lawyers who practice in underserved areas. Now in its second year, the program is authorizing five additional eligible attorneys to receive a \$6000 tax credit in 2023. Attorneys can continue to claim this credit for up to five years provided they maintain eligibility.

36 M.R.S. Section

5219-ZZ provides that the Maine Supreme Court or its designee shall certify up to five qualified attorneys annually for participation in the Access to Justice Tax Credit program. The Court has designated the Maine Justice Foundation to administer the program and established a Standing Committee to assist and advise the Foundation in the process. The Standing Committee includes representatives of the Maine Justice Foundation, the Maine State Bar Association, and the Maine Trial Lawyers Association.

The Foundation accepted applications from eligible attorneys from June 1- 15, 2023 and received submissions from eligible applicants state-

wide representing Penobscot, Kennebec, Knox, Hancock and York Counties. The Foundation has recertified the 2022 applicants for their second year representing applicants from Penobscot, Hancock, Waldo, Aroostook, Somerset, Androscoggin, and

Cumberland Counties. To be eligible for selection, the recipient attorney has committed to practicing law in an underserved area for at least 5 years, are rostered by the Maine Commission on Indigent Legal Services to accept court appointments

to represent clients in an underserved area and agree to perform pro bono legal services in an underserved area. Once eligibility was determined, the five successful recipients of the tax credit were made by random selection.

The new attorneys

selected through this process for 2023 include Brittany Sawyer of Arundel, Shamara Bailey of Patten, Lynn Madison of Rockland, Stephen Smith of Augusta, and Cheryl Saniuk-Heinig of Rockland. The attorneys who have been recertified are Cassandra Rogers and Benjamin Everett of Presque Isle, Taylor Kilgore of Turner, Gregory LeClerc of Standish, and Ryan Rutledge of Skowhegan.

The Maine Justice Foundation, founded in 1983 as the Maine Bar Foundation, is the state’s leading funder of civil legal aid for poor and vulnerable Mainers. Find us online and support access to justice through donations to various funds at www.justicemaine.org.

Arts & Entertainment

Freshen up your Home Library with LPL's Book Swap

LEWISTON, ME (July 28, 2023) -- On Monday, August 28th, the Lewiston Public Library will host a community book exchange. This free, public program will take place between 11am and 2pm in the Jeanne Couture Room on the first floor. Over the years, the library has amassed a

collection of donated books and we would love to trade them out for some that our community members have at home. Choose from a wide variety of genres including mystery, thriller, romance, cookbooks, knitting patterns, and self-help. Bring up to three books to swap or just come take one

of ours, no registration or other preparation required. The Lewiston Public Library is located downtown at 200 Lisbon Street at the corner of Pine Street. More information on this event is available by contacting the Lewiston Public Library at 513-3135 or LPLReference@lewistonmaine.gov.

Take a book, Leave a book!

COMMUNITY BOOK SWAP

Mon Aug 28 | 11AM - 2PM

Summer Centerpieces & Wreaths

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16 AT 5:30PM

Cat's Meow Presents Standup Comedy at Rusty Bus Brewing

Comedy Nite

featuring
Cory Nicholson · Crystal Bernard
Ben Chadwick · Tim Hofmann
 hosted by **Ann-Marie Keene**

RUSTY BUS BREWING

120 Lisbon St. Lewiston, ME
August 4th · 7:00pm · 21+ · Pay-What-You-Can

LEWISTON, ME (July 28, 2023) -- Cat's Meow Comedy presents another First Friday stand-up comedy show at Rusty Bus Brewing on August 4th.

Featured comedians include Crystal Bernard, Tim Hofmann, Ben Chadwick, Cory Nicholson, and host Ann-Marie Keene.

Crystal Bernard has

been a finalist in New England's Funniest Comic competition, and a runner-up in Maine's wicked funny laugh off.

Tim Hofmann is the original creator and host of the Laugh Shack comedy club in Portland Maine, and performs everywhere he is allowed.

This Pay-What-You-

Can show starts at 7pm and is for ages 21 and up. Rusty Bus Brewing is located at 120 Lisbon St. in Lewiston.

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

Field Laborer Environmental Projects, Inc., Auburn, ME

The starting pay range is \$18.00/hr. - \$20.00/hr.

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\$228K Raised for Ronald McDonald House Charities

MAINE (July 28, 2023) -- McDonald's Owner Operators throughout New England raised a combined \$227,996 for Ronald McDonald House Charities last month, pro-

viding more than 2,000 nights of housing for families of pediatric patients. These local, independent business owners live and work in our communities and raised

this money through donations from the community – people coming into McDonald's restaurants across New England donating \$1, \$3 or \$5 in the month of June.



Pictured from L to R: Sal Napoli, McDonald's Owner/Operator & RMHCNE Board Member; Peter Napoli, McDonald's Owner/Operator & RMHC Burlington Board Member; Cathy Bignolas, Director of Communications & Marketing RMHC CTWMA; Tom Walsh, McDonald's Owner/Operator & RMHC CTWMA Board Member; Joe Chiczewski, Field Vice President McDonald's Stamford Field Office; Tina Ledo, Chief of Staff & Director of Strategic Partnerships RMHCNE; Mark McBee, McDonald's Owner/Operator & New England Co-Op President; Michelle D'Amore, Chief Executive Officer RMHC CTWMA; Scott Taylor, McDonald's Owner/Operator & RMHC CTWMA Board Member; Jeff Roth, Operations Officer McDonald's Stamford Field Office; Bill Marcellus, McDonald's Owner/Operator & RMHC Burlington Board President; Ron Lydick, McDonald's Owner/Operator & RMHC Maine Board President; Robin Chibroski, Executive Director RMHC Maine; Taylor Goble, McDonald's Owner/Operator & RMHC Maine Board Member; Kristine Bickford, Executive Director RMHC Burlington; Marty Eckman, McDonald's Owner/Operator & RMHC Maine Board Member.

VA Maine Healthcare System Receives 4 Stars

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
Maine Healthcare System

AUGUSTA, ME (July 28, 2023) – Today VA Maine Healthcare System announced that it received a 4-star overall quality and a 5-star patient experience rating from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). This is the first time CMS has included VA facilities in their annual Overall Hospital Quality Star Ratings.

The CMS uses 5 categories – mortality, safety of care, readmission, patient experience, and timely and effective care – to award a quality rating for each hospital. The more stars (out of 5), the better a hospital performed on the available quality measures.

Overall, 67% of VA hospitals included in the CMS annual Overall Hospital Quality Star Ratings received either 4 or 5 stars, compared to only 41% of non-VA hospitals. These findings are the latest in a series of recent evaluations showing the effectiveness of VA health care com-

pared to non-VA health care. VA hospitals outperformed non-VA hospitals on all 10 core patient satisfaction metrics in the recent Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems Star Ratings, and a recent systematic review of more than 40 peer-reviewed studies found that VA health care is consistently as good as — or better than — non-VA health care.

"I am incredibly proud of the VA Maine team! Our inpatient acute care received an overall 4-star quality rating and 5-star patient experience rating," said VA Maine Healthcare System's Medical Center Director Ms. Tracye B. Davis. "VA Maine's culture of continuous improvement supports our mission to provide exceptional health care for Body, Mind, and Spirit."

"Our job at VA is to deliver the best possible care to every Veteran who walks through our doors," said VA Under Secretary

for Health Dr. Shereef El-nahal. "While we're very proud of these findings, there is still work to do. We will study these results, learn from them, and continue to improve until we're delivering world-class care to every Veteran, every time."

For more information on VA Maine Healthcare System, please visit VA Maine Health Care | Veterans Affairs.

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This Week at Great Falls Comedy Club



7:30 pm host Ian MacDonald brings headliner Brian Plumb to the stage with feature sets by Mike Gray, Trevor Dion, and Gabby Hajos.

Then at 8:30 pm host Nick Gordon sets the stage for Keith Hebert and absurdist comedian, Casey Crawford at Obscura Café and Drinkery.

Tickets and information can be found at <https://www.greatfallscomedyclub.com> or purchased at the doors. The Great Falls Comedy Club is located inside Craft Brew Underground at 34 Court St., Auburn, under the red awning. Obscura Café and Drinkery is located at 108 Lisbon St., Lewiston.

For more information contact Great Falls Comedy Club at info@greatfallscomedyclub.com or by phone at 207-200-5366.

AUBURN and LEWISTON, ME (July 28, 2023) – The Great Falls Comedy Club will host live stand-up comedy this week in Auburn and Lewiston.

Friday, August 4, at 7:30 pm catch the Comedy Hypnosis Show with Bob Lauver, and host Leonard Kimble.

Saturday, August 5 at

Filmmakers Honored at 26th Maine International Film Festival



WATERVILLE, ME (July 28, 2023) – The Maine Film Center (MFC) announces the winners of the Tourmaline Prizes and the Audience Favorite Award at the 26th annual Maine International Film Festival (MIFF). This year's MIFF featured nearly 100 films, 23 of which were made in Maine.

The juried Tourmaline Prizes, named for Maine's state gem, recognize the best Maine-made films of the festival. Prizes were awarded to one feature-length and one short film.

The winner of the Tourmaline Prize for best feature film and a \$5,000 prize was "We Are the Warriors" a documentary cen-

tering on the controversy in Wells, Maine, following accusations of indigenous culture mockery by the local high school team fans. The film was co-directed by David Camlin and Megan Grumbling, both Wells High grads.

The winner of the Tourmaline Prize for best short film and a \$2,500 prize was "See You In April," directed by Alec Helm. The documentary visits North Street Dairy Cone, a beloved mom-and-pop establishment that has been lovingly crafting ice cream for 58 years in Waterville, Maine. Helm explores how the seasonal business manages to flourish year after year and poses the question

of what lies ahead once the owners decide to retire.

Throughout the festival, audiences voted for their favorite feature films. The winner of this year's Audience Favorite Award is "What I Want You to Know," directed by Catie Foertsch, which tells the story of the costs, consequences, and casualties of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan through interviews with service members who were there, including two Mainers.

MIFF is a project of the Maine Film Center and is made possible by presenting sponsors Waterville Creates, Colby College, and the Lawry Family Foundation.

Send all items for
Names & Faces to the editor.
Deadline is Friday by five pm.

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Letter to the Editor Maine is Penalizing Speech About Election Errors

By: J. Christian Adams

There is a movement to chill and even fine speech about problems and errors in our elections.

Stopping free and open discussion about election shortcomings is a new tool of the far left. They have allies in government. State officials have badgered private companies to censor speech about any defects or problems in American elections. In Maine, they actually passed a law to impose financial penalties if you talk about public information with unauthorized people.

Passed with the direct involvement of the Maine Democratic Party, the legislature there enacted penalties for talking with anyone about Maine's competence in conducting election administration. In particular, if you look at the public voter roll and discover errors or duplicates, you aren't allowed to talk about it, period. Worse, citizens may not use this public information to evaluate whether someone is registered in more than one state or has died.

In other words, Maine has enacted a law that penalizes you for criticizing the government when they don't do a good job. It is the most brazen restriction on free speech that any state has adopted in decades.

It is also a restriction that every newspaper and media outlet should oppose, not just a single conservative charity like the Public Interest Legal Foundation.

Remember when some media outlets discovered that former White House Chief of Staff Mark Meadows had voter registrations in his former

state of residence as well as his new state? The old state had not yet removed the old registration. Under Maine's speech restrictions, talking about this discovery subjected one to fines and penalties.

This law penalizes free discussion critical of government officials. Maine has given the government the power to sanction those who discover that officials aren't doing an effective job in running elections. Even the failures of government officials to follow federal election law would be protected from criticism.

The Public Interest Legal Foundation, of which I am President has fought and defeated this law in federal court.

Court ruled that the NVRA prohibits states from chilling speech about election administration by imposing fines and use restrictions on government documents.

But the case didn't stop there. Maine has appealed the ruling to the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit.

Maine officials continue to fight against transparency and damper our right to free speech.

At the heart of the First Amendment is the right to criticize the government. Whether or not Maine has a program to keep voter rolls up to date is an important public issue. There is no way for the public or press to assess that question without actual access to the voter rolls. With that access, we can tell if registrants are registered in more than one state. Maine's law would prevent the public from assisting election officials across the country by alerting them to those regis-

tered in multiple states. It would also penalize any speech that discusses poor election administration, like those we have found across the nation, including dead registrants.

Americans should not face fines or lawsuits for speaking about failures in election administration. The only people who benefit from Maine's speech restrictions are the government officials who are protected from critics. Bureaucrats who administer elections enjoy the ability to impose fines and penalties on those who violate Maine's speech restrictions when they use data to demonstrate those same bureaucrats could do a better job.

This sounds like the practice of some authoritarian regime in history, not something in Maine.

J. Christian Adams is the President of the Public Interest Legal Foundation, a former Justice Department attorney, and current commissioner on the United States Commission for Civil Rights.

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Auburn Announces Zero Increase to Mill Rate

AUBURN, ME (July 28, 2023) – The City of Auburn's assessor has set the tax rate for the next year and there will be no increase to the mill rate for Auburn property taxpayers. Local property taxes are calculated by multiplying a property's assessed value (which is different from its appraised value and market value) by the city's mill rate, which is set on an annual basis.

"This is a meaningful accomplishment," said City Manager Phil Crowell. "And it's a direct result of good growth combined with the hard work of our staff and our city council, both of whom are deeply committed to controlling costs."

Last year, the city did a valuation adjustment to single-family homes. This year, a valuation adjustment was made to multi-family units in order

to keep up with growing value in the housing market.

"Auburn has finally stopped mill rate increases this year," said Mayor Jason Levesque. "We will continue to focus on growth and new commercial, industrial, and residential development, which has led to stability this year, and hopefully in the years to come. I suspect we are the only Maine municipality without a mill rate increase this year, and that is something to be proud of."

"It gives me great pleasure to report there will be no increase in the mill rate for the 2023 tax year," said City Assessor Karen Scammon. "This comes after a \$1.07 drop in the mill rate for the 2022 tax year. Assessing staff worked diligently over the past few years to be able to accomplish this and I am extremely proud of the ef-

fort and hard work that has gone into it."

"Auburn's overall certified ratio will remain at 93%," added Scammon. This was accomplished through sales ratio studies and making necessary adjustments over the past three years in an effort to maintain equity and keep pace with the market. "Being able to maintain the certified ratio is extremely good news for the taxpayers," said Scammon.

"By maintaining the mill rate and certified ratio, properties that have been stabilized or properties that did not see any change in their valuation will have the same tax amount as in 2022." By maintaining the 93% ratio the amount deducted on the tax bill for exemptions such as the Homestead Exemption, Veteran's Exemption and Blind Exemption will remain the same.

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Award Winning Local Singer-Songwriter Releases Maine Song

MAINE (July 21, 2023) – Gordon Thomas Ward, a Grammy-balloted, award-winning, singer-songwriter and year-round resident of Winter Harbor, Maine, has a new song about Maine titled “Welcome Home” that was just released on June 27.

The song is available from all or most of the streaming platforms, but you can listen, download, and/or get lyrics and more information about it from its page on the musician’s website: <https://gordonthomasward.com/welcome-home>

Gordon says, “I love my home state, and have a long history here. My father was a professor of botany at the University of Maine in Machiasport, and one of my ancestors was a co-founder of the town of Blue Hill, ME, hundreds of years ago.

“Welcome Home” was written to highlight many of the major attri-

butes that Maine offers to residents and tourists alike. The song was written in March of 2023 and recorded in Frog Hollow Studio in Topsham, Maine.” Here’s the list of the track’s musicians and their contributions toward the song.

For more information about about Gordon, see <https://gordonthomasward.com/>

From Gordon’s bio:

Dubbed “the total package” by his fans, GRAMMY-balloted, award-winning, multidimensional and recording artist Gordon Thomas Ward tours as a solo performer with four charting #1 songs. He’s charted in the Radio Guitar One Acoustic Top 30 and the Roots Music Report charts. Gordon’s songs and records have also soared in the Folk Music Charts, the Euro Indie Music Chart, DRT Global Adult Contemporary Airplay Chart,

DRT Global Top 150 Country Airplay Chart, and more! His song stylings have been influenced by the singer-songwriters of the late 1960s through the 1970s, yet Gordon’s songs occupy a space all their own filled with honesty, emotion, and personal politics from time to time.

Gordon is, at heart, a storyteller who paints musical portraits that plumb the depths of our emotions and bring the past to life while pointing to a hope-filled future. His listeners travel mystical and historical roads, winding through lush, sonic landscapes. Employing his experience as a teacher, writer, paranormal investigator, storyteller, group facilitator, and radio host, it’s no wonder that his fans often comment on Gordon’s knack for establishing an endearing relationship with them through his extraordinary and captivating words and music,

which fit into the contemporary folk rock, adult alternative, and Americana genres. Matheson’s Entertainment Blog says his music “Will grab you by the heart and never let go.” At the end of his performances, audiences leave inspired, and Vents Magazine calls his work, “In a word: liberating.”

Utilizing a variety of instruments in his shows, including six-, eight-, and twelve-string guitars and an eight-string Walkabout dulcimer; results in a varied spectrum of tonal colors. His songs have led him to work with notable musicians such as Noel Paul Stookey (Peter, Paul, and Mary), Abbie Gardner, Jud Caswell, Eric Troyer and Mik Kaminski (Electric Light Orchestra, and The Orchestra), Kevin Barry (Jackson Browne, James Taylor), William J. Hall, Caroline Cotter, share the stage and billing with Natalie Merchant and Chris-

tine Lavin, and open for noted singer-songwriter Bill Staines. Gordon’s first album Welcome to the Past was released in 2013. His celebrated, GRAMMY-balloted record Providence was released on August 30, 2018. Gordon followed that up with the release of his much-anticipated, critically acclaimed, double album titled Eiderdown on May 1, 2020, which has charted as the #1 folk record, both nationally and in Maine, and as the #3 alternative folk record in the nation. Eiderdown also spawned three #1 songs: “Dreams,” “Long, Long Ago,” and “Just for You.” Gordon’s new album Whispers from the Woods was released on September 1, 2022, and charted as the #4 alternative folk album in the nation. It was also nominated by a panel of jurors from around the world for the 6th annual Blues & Roots Radio Worldwide Album of The Year Award!

Gordon has written songs for documentary film, historical events and celebrations, and The United States World War One Centennial Commission. He is a voting member of the Recording Academy and, as the author of five books, is no stranger to television and radio, and has performed at many festivals and venues, including several appearances at Musikfest in Bethlehem, PA. He’s even appeared on stage in the role of a troubadour in Gioachino Rossini’s opera The Barber of Seville and Die Fledermaus by Johann Strauss II. Additionally, he’s often been “Artist of the Week” on radio, received enthusiastic reviews by prominent music critics, and highlighted in media articles. As an artist interested in social issues, Gordon produced and performed in a Concert Across America to End Gun Violence in 2016 and 2018.

Legislation Seeks to End Chronic Homelessness

PORTLAND, ME (July 11, 2023) — Avesta Housing and Preble Street applaud the signing of the budget package by Governor Janet Mills and its inclusion of funding to support the creation of more Site-based Housing First programs across Maine. This funding will support the creation of 12-15 Site-based Housing First programs in communities across Maine and will help to end long-term, chronic homelessness in our state.

Avesta Housing and Preble Street partnered on the first three Site-based Housing First programs in Maine: Logan Place, Florence House, and Huston Commons, providing 85 total units in Portland. Avesta Housing built, owns, and maintains the buildings; Preble Street provides 24-hour support services to ensure that people who are making the transition to permanent independent housing will succeed. Portland Housing Authority

issues project-based Section 8 vouchers that are attached to every unit.

“March 24, 2005, is the day that Avesta and Preble Street opened Logan Place, the first Site-based Housing First program in Maine; that was the day we realized that this was a real solution to chronic homelessness,” said Mark Swann, Executive Director, Preble Street. “This opportunity for Maine is thanks to the efforts and leadership of many people: Governor Mills and House Speaker Rachel Talbot Ross and their staffs; Greg Payne, Senior Advisor, Housing Policy for the Governor; and Representative Drew Gattine. I’d also like to acknowledge the hard work of the Joint Housing Committee, which took the time to visit Huston Commons and learn directly from tenants about the impact on their lives, and its chairs Senator Teresa Pierce and Representative Traci Gere. Site-based Housing First

programs have a profound impact on the lives of people with chronic homelessness and complex needs and Preble Street looks forward to being a resource to other organizations as they launch similar programs in their communities.”

“We are grateful to Governor Mills and her staff, the Maine Legislature, and the many others who worked tirelessly to create funding to support the expansion of Site-based Housing First programs across Maine,” said Avesta Housing President & CEO Rebecca Hatfield. “This funding couldn’t have come at a better time. The lack of affordable housing and the number of people experiencing homelessness in Maine are at record proportions. Since we opened Logan Place in partnership with Preble Street in 2005, Site-based Housing First has proven to be the most successful model to provide permanent housing stability for those who

have been homeless for extended periods. Avesta is looking forward to building more Site-based Housing First properties as we all work together to end chronic homelessness in Maine.”

As defined by HUD, Housing First is an approach to quickly and successfully connect individuals and families experiencing homelessness to permanent housing without preconditions and barriers to entry, such as sobriety, treatment, or service participation requirements. The hallmark of Site-based Housing First is professional social work staff on site 24 hours a day providing support services, harm reduction, and crisis intervention to chronically homeless individuals to maximize housing stability and prevent returns to homelessness.

Besides reducing the number of people staying in shelters or living in encampments, vehicles, or

on the street, Site-based Housing First is an evidence-based practice that saves money and emergency resources. The number of police calls, emergency room visits, medical transports, and jail stays for tenants of Logan Place plummeted, compared to the year before they moved into their apartments. Site-based Housing First targets people who are homeless the longest and have severe mental health and substance use disorders. It does exactly what it says, provides housing – first.

Avesta Housing is a nonprofit affordable housing provider with more than 50 years of experience as a leader in affordable housing development and property management in Maine and New Hampshire. The organization is headquartered in Portland, Maine, and operates more than 100 affordable properties, more than 3,000 apartments and two assisted living facilities, provid-

ing safe, affordable homes for more than 4,000 people every day. Avesta’s mission is to improve lives and strengthen communities by promoting and providing quality affordable homes for people in need. www.AvestaHousing.org.

Preble Street is a nonprofit human service agency serving the most vulnerable people in Maine since 1975 through innovative, best-practice, client-centered programs. In addition to the largest direct service emergency food program in northern New England, Preble Street operates low-barrier programs throughout Maine providing 24/365 services for individuals and families, including homeless youth, women, veterans, and survivors of human trafficking, driven by its mission to meet urgent needs, empower people to move beyond the crises in their lives, and advocate for solutions to homelessness, hunger, and poverty. PrebleStreet.org

Governor Signs Cloutier Bill to Expand Health Care Workforce

AUGUSTA, ME (July 14, 2023) – Last Friday, Gov. Janet Mills signed into law legislation sponsored by Rep. Kristen Cloutier, D-Lewiston, that

will study the expansion of the state’s health care workforce by looking at ways to integrate physicians trained outside of Maine into the health care system.

LD 937, which received unanimous support in the Legislature’s Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services Committee, creates a 13-member

commission to develop guidelines for the licensure of foreign-trained physicians and physicians moving to Maine from other states.

The bill was introduced to help address Maine’s shrinking health care workforce, which is part of a nationwide trend. According to the Association of American Medical Colleges, the United States is facing a projected physician shortage of up to 124,000 physicians by 2034.

“Maine, like much of the rest of the nation, is dealing with a health care workforce shortage,” said Cloutier. “LD 937 will help to address this crucial issue by allowing us to better un-

derstand how to utilize the existing skills and training of foreign-trained physicians, as well as physicians who are seeking a new career in our state.”

The new law will go into effect 90 days after final adjournment of the legislative session.

Cloutier is the Assistant House Majority Leader and is currently serving her third consecutive term in the Maine House of Representatives. She represents House District 94, which includes part of her hometown of Lewiston.

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Maine Surpasses 100,000 Heat Pump Goal Ahead of Schedule

FAIRFIELD, ME (July 28, 2023) – Governor Janet Mills today announced that Maine has – two years ahead of time – surpassed its goal of installing 100,000 new heat pumps by 2025, a milestone that represents significant progress in reducing Maine’s reliance on heating oil, lowering heating costs, and curbing harmful carbon emissions.

To continue Maine’s momentum, Governor Mills also unveiled a new target: installing another 175,000 additional heat pumps in Maine by 2027, thereby bringing the number of heat pumps installed in Maine homes, businesses, and public buildings during her time in office to 275,000. If this target is achieved, Maine would have more than 320,000 heat pumps in total installed across the state.

Maine’s heat pump progress stems from legislation signed by Governor Mills in 2019, which established the state’s heat pump target of 100,000, enhanced heat pump rebate incentives through Efficiency Maine, and established a low-income heat pump program at MaineHousing. Through these programs, approximately 104,000 heat pumps have been installed in Maine.

Governor Mills announced the milestone at Kennebec Valley Community College (KVCC) in Fairfield, where she unveiled the initial goal in 2019. Following that announcement, the Maine Community College System expanded its heat pump workforce programs, and has trained 558 heat pump technicians to date, including more than 250 at KVCC, which opened an all-new heat pump workforce training lab in early 2021.

The governor was joined for the announcement by White House

National Climate Advisor Ali Zaidi, who extended his congratulations to Governor Mills and the State of Maine for its climate leadership by embracing heat pumps to reduce reliance on fossil fuels, increase overall energy efficiency, and decrease greenhouse gas emissions.

“Our transition to heat pumps is creating good-paying jobs, curbing our reliance on fossil fuels, and cutting costs for Maine families, all while making them more comfortable in their homes – a hat trick for our state,” said Governor Janet Mills. “We are setting an example for the nation, and with our new and ambitious goal, we will continue to lead the way when it comes to embracing efficient, climate-friendly technologies that strengthen our economy, protect our environment, and save people money.”

“Maine is paving the way for states across the country seeking to build a clean energy future that protects our climate and creates good-paying jobs for all Americans,” said Ali Zaidi, White House National Climate Advisor. “The progress also shows that President Biden’s Investing in America agenda is working — helping turbocharge efforts like what’s underway in Maine by expanding access to cost-saving clean energy upgrades and cutting the pollution that hurts our environment and public health. I applaud Governor Mills for her leadership and the State of Maine for reaching this ambitious goal — and now reaching even higher to promote a clean energy future for all Mainers.”

“Spurred by Governor Mills’ clear call to action on heat pumps in 2019, we immediately added training lab space, hired more instructors, developed new short-term



(Left to right): White House National Climate Advisor Ali Zaidi, Maine Community College System President David Daigler, Governor’s Energy Office Director Dan Burgess, and Governor Janet Mills receive a tour of the heat pump workforce lab at Kennebec Valley Community College.

training programs, and incorporated new heat pump training units into our degree and certificate programs,” said David Daigler, President of the Maine Community College System. “Today, I’m proud to say it worked. Maine’s community colleges have trained 558 heat pump installers, with 60 percent of them trained through short-term workforce training programs, further showing why Maine’s community colleges are the state’s go-to for nimble, responsive workforce training.”

Maine’s success in installing heat pumps has earned wide recognition for how the high-efficiency heating and cooling technology works well in rural areas with cold climates and can generate new economic and workforce opportunities for Maine people.

Installation data from Efficiency Maine Trust show heat pumps have broad adoption in rural and northern Maine, which underscores the economic benefits of the program and success of the enhanced

incentive program enacted by Governor Mills in 2019.

“You have to be impressed with what Maine’s community of heat pump installers have accomplished in our state,” said Michael Stoddard, Executive Director of Efficiency Maine. “Their adept marketing and skilled installations make them the perfect partners for the incentive programs that the Governor and Legislature have funded through Efficiency Maine’s programs, and together we are changing how Mainers heat and cool their buildings.”

“We know that when a lower-income home can add a heat pump, it helps reduce overall heating and cooling costs and trims our dependence on carbon-emitting fuels. It helps our planet and enhances a home’s affordability and a heating system’s reliability, all at the same time,” said Erik Jorgensen, Senior Director of Communications and Government Relations at MaineHousing. “MaineHousing is proud of its contributions in helping Maine accomplish our heat pump goal.”

Since taking office, Governor Mills has prioritized action against climate change in Maine through reducing carbon emissions, transitioning to renewable

energy, and making Maine communities more resilient to climate effects.

In May, she was elected co-chair of the U.S. Climate Alliance, a bipartisan coalition of 25 governors committed to fighting climate change, which together represent more than half of the U.S. population and 60 percent of the national economy.

In 2019, with bipartisan support of the Legislature, Governor Mills enacted laws setting ambitious targets for transitioning to renewable energy and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. These include reducing greenhouse gas emissions in Maine by 45 percent by 2030 and 80 percent by 2050, and transitioning Maine’s electricity use to 80 percent renewable energy by 2030.

Earlier this, with Maine experiencing high energy prices caused by volatile global markets, Governor Mills committed to accelerate Maine’s transition to using 100 percent clean energy to 2040, a move that would ensure the expansion of climate-friendly technologies in Maine – such as heat pumps – are powered by clean electricity.

In 2019, Governor Mills also pledged Maine will become carbon-neu-

tral by 2045, a commitment which she signed into law in 2022.

The governor in 2021 also announced a new State program, the Community Resilience Partnership, that was recommended by the climate plan to help Maine communities reduce emissions, transition to clean energy, and increase resilience to climate effects.

Since opening to enrollment in early 2022, 148 Maine cities, towns and Tribal governments have chosen to participate in the Partnership as individual entities or regional coalitions, and more than \$3.7 million in grants have been awarded to 74 community projects across the state.

Governor Mills has also committed to more than doubling Maine’s clean energy jobs to 30,000 by 2030, and made several historic investments in climate priorities, thanks to Maine’s strong economic recovery and the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan. These investments include:

- \$50 million for energy efficiency programs, such as residential weatherization and heat pumps and other efficiency upgrades for schools, towns, non-profits, and hospitality businesses.

- \$27.5 million for municipal grants to protect infrastructure from flooding, rising sea levels, and extreme storms.

- \$8 million for the Clean Energy Partnership, an initiative to grow the Maine’s clean energy workforce and innovation economy.

For an updated guide on climate incentives now available for Maine residents and businesses, please visit mainewont-wait.org.

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



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Fridays Aug 4 –Aug 18

LEWISTON -- Opening Minds through Art (OMA) classes Fridays July 14–August 18 from 1-3 p.m. at Education Center of SeniorsPlus at 8 Falcon Road in Lewiston. Through a series of classes, OMA engages students with dementia in creating freewheeling art. Contact SeniorsPlus, at 207-795-4010, edcenter@seniorsplus.org.

Aug 7, 14, 21, 28

LEWISTON -- The Lewiston Public Library, in partnership with ArtVan, will be offering art programs in Kennedy Park this summer for children ages 5-14 on Mondays July 10, 17, 24 and August 7, 14, 21, 28 at 3:00PM. Information can also be found on our website at <https://lplonline.org/events/artvan-in-kennedy-park-2-july/> and <https://lplonline.org/events/artvan-in-kennedy-park-2-august/>

For any further information, please contact the Children's Department at LPLKids@lewistonmaine.gov or call 207-513-3133.

Aug 7

LEWISTON -- The Lewiston Public Library, in partnership with ArtVan, will be offering art programs in Kennedy Park this summer for children ages 5-14 on Mondays July 10, 17, 24 and August 7, 14, 21, 28 at 3:00PM.

Aug 10

Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

LEWISTON -- Thursday August 10th some of the veterans who chose the Air Force went to Sampson AFBVA for basic training will be having a get together at noon time at the Governors Restaurant in Lewiston.

Veterans, their guests, and folks with a connection to Sampson AFB, gather monthly through the summer months for lunch and share stories and memories. Sampson was a Navy base during WW2, to be reopened during the Korean era. All Veterans and their guests are welcome to visit..

FMI call 657-4909 or e-mail wwmtkwkr1933@gmail.com (Bob Sawyer Sampson AFB 1953)

Aug 10-20

AUBURN -- Community Little Theatre presents the musical The Little Mermaid, based on the Hans Christian Andersen story and the classic Disney animated film. Show dates are August 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, and 19 at 7:30 p.m. and August 13 and 20 at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are available online at www.laolt.com/ box-office or by calling 207-783-0958.

Aug 12

TURNER -- Inside Yard Sale at the Universalist Church, Rt# 117 (Turner Center Road) across from Gazebo on Saturday, Aug. 12th, from 8:00 to 1:00

Aug 15, 16, 17, 19, 22

DaPonte String Quartet Summer Series II Program with guest violinist Petros Karapetya: Francaix String Trio in C; Stravinsky Three Pieces for String Quartet; Stravinsky Concertino for String Quartet; Brahms String Quartet in C Minor, op. 51, no 1

Tuesday, August 15, 7:30 pm Union Church, South Bristol

Wednesday, August 16, 7:30 pm Old Meetinghouse, Yarmouth

Thursday, August 17, 7:00 pm Robinhood Free Meetinghouse, Georgetown

Saturday, August 19, 7:30 pm St. Paul's Union Chapel, Waldoboro

Tuesday, August 22, 7:30 pm Ocean View Grange

Tickets and additional information available at dapontequartet.org

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 day-lilies. All are welcome.

Oct 21

WESTBROOK -- Annual Holiday Craft Fair and Silent Auction

Where: Prides Corner Community Church, 235 Pride St. Westbrook, ME 04038

When: October 21, from 9AM to 3PM

Handmade crafts, baked goods and very popular silent auction items featuring sports memorabilia, game tickets, themed gift baskets, fabulous items and gift certificates! **SILENT AUCTION ENDS AT 2PM.**

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 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

LPLonline.org **Wednesdays**

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



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INSIDE YARD SALE

At the Universalist Church Rt# 117 (Turner Center Road) across from Gazebo Saturday, Aug. 12th, from 8:00 to 1:00

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review of your project with advice on what you have now and the best way to proceed. Call 207-786-9849

SENIOR TRIPS

August 18, 2023 - Warren's Lobster House - Kittery - We will have lunch from a limited menu which includes a super salad bar, the main entrée and dessert. After lunch we will head to Ogunquit where you will have a few hours to shop or walk on Marginal Way or find a bench and enjoy the ocean view. We leave Lewiston Park and Ride at 9:15 a.m. and will be back around 4:30 p.m. Price is \$77.00 which includes the bus, lunch and tips.

August 30, 2023 - THE DAVINCI CODE - Ogunquit Playhouse - Bus will leave Lewiston Park and Ride on Lisbon Street at 12 Noon and travel to the playhouse for the 2 p.m. show. After the play we will go to the Clambake Restaurant in Scarborough for dinner on your own. The price for the bus, bus driver tip and play is \$105.00 due at sign up. Deadline to sign up is August 14 th . Last year's play

sold out so if you are interested sign up early. September 27, 2023 - Join us for a day of fun in Bar Harbor. We will leave Lewiston Park and Ride at 7:15 a.m. and head to Bar Harbor Cellars. We will enjoy a tour and tasting of 5 different wines . From there we head to Bass Harbor where we will enjoy lunch at the Seafood Ketch Restaurant. Lunch is on your own. After lunch we travel to Seal Cove to visit the Seal Cove Auto Museum. The price for the bus, wine tasting, auto museum and tips is \$87.00. The deadline to sign up is August 30 th . Sign up at the Lewiston Senior Citizens office at 65 Central Avenue in Lewiston.

FRYEBURG FAIR - OCTOBER 3, 2023 - Senior Day at Fryeburg Fair. 65 and over get in for free . For those under 65 the price is \$15.00. You are responsible to pay for your admission. Bring something with you showing proof of your age. We will leave the Lewiston park and ride at 8 a.m. and be dropped off at the entrance with a return time of around 5 p.m. You will have plenty of time to view exhibits, visit the animals and

enjoy the food. The price for the bus and driver's tip is \$52.00. Deadline to sign up is August 29, 2023.

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

NOVEMBER 29, 2023 TO DECEMBER 1, 2023

- WHITE MOUNTAIN HOTEL & RESORT - This trip includes 2 nights lodging, 2 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 2 dinners and 2 different entertainment shows, an Austrian sleigh ride at Nestlenook Farm in Jackson, NH., shopping at Settler's Green or in town shopping. All room and meal taxes & gratuities included. The price is \$589.00 per person double occupancy. A \$100.00 deposit per person is

due at registration. Final payment is due October 28, 2023. Pick up location is The Auburn Mall (in back of J.C. Penney) 500 Center Street, Auburn, ME at 10:30 A.M. For more information on any of these trips please contact Claire at 207-784-0302 [Home] or 207-576-8604 [Cell] or Cindy at 207-345-9569 [Home].

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A New Look for Lewiston/Auburn Senior College

LEWISTON/AUBURN, ME (July 28, 2023) – After more than a year of discussion and research, the board of Lewiston/Auburn Senior College made the decision to become a 501C3 last September. We are now a non-profit, finan-

cially separate from the University of Southern Maine. We are grateful to the University for welcoming us and working with us for many years. We will still be keeping a presence there, but will also be free to pursue other venues and create a

more flexible schedule. Senior College offers a variety of activities and learning opportunities for people over 50. Classes will be available both in person and on-line, and as a member of L/A Senior College you have the option to partic-

ipate in the offerings of other senior colleges in Maine.

We have a great line up of classes that will begin at the end of September. Registration begins at 8 AM Sept 5, but you can already view some of them at: [https://lew-](https://lewiston-auburn-senior-college.coursetorm.com)

[iston-auburn-senior-college.coursetorm.com](https://lewiston-auburn-senior-college.coursetorm.com)

In addition to classes we offer group activities such as Art Club, Outsiders, Dine Around, free speakers on Food For Thought, and more.

Join us for some fun at Wallingford's Orchard

on Sept. 6 - more information to follow!!

Meanwhile, check out our new website: laseniorcollege.org. If you have questions, call 207.713.7266 and leave a message or send an email to laseniorcollege@gmail.com

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