



TWIN CITY TIMES

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The Drowsy Chaperone opens this weekend at CLT



Rehearsing one of the many song and dance numbers in CLT's *The Drowsy Chaperone* are from left cast members Joseph Tiniawow, Zack Balkcom, Kathryn Kellogg and Scotty Venable.

AUBURN, ME -- The opening production of Community Little Theatre's 84th season begins Friday, October 27 with the musical comedy *The Drowsy Chaperone*.

Hailed by New York Magazine as "The Perfect Broadway Musical," and winner of five Tony Awards, including Best Book and Best Original Score, *The Drowsy Chaperone* is a loving send-up of the Golden Age musical, featuring one song-and-dance number after another, such as "Show Off" and the double-entendre laden "Toledo Surprise."

With the house lights down, the "Man in Chair," an agoraphobic Broadway fanatic, appears on stage and puts on his favorite record: the cast recording of a fictitious 1928 musical called *The Drowsy Chaperone*! The wild and wacky characters in the recording then come to life on stage as the Man in Chair looks on.

"This show is hilarious," says director Brandon Chaloux. "If you like musicals and laughing, then this is the show for you, and definitely one that the whole family will enjoy," adds Chaloux.

The Man in Chair is played by veteran actor and director Jonathan Carr. In the opening number, "Fancy Dress," the premise and other characters of the show are introduced: it's the wedding of oil ty-

coon Robert Martin (Ray Woodworth) and Broadway star Janet Van De Graaff (Kathryn Kellogg), who plans to give up her career for married life. In attendance are aging hostess Mrs. Tottendale (Anita Charles) and her loyal employee known only as Underling (Tony Roy); self-proclaimed famed Latin lover Aldolpho (Justin Morin); Robert's best man George (Abram Dwyer); Broadway producer Feldzieg (Zack Belkcom), who is hoping to persuade Janet to forgo marriage and continue starring in Feldzieg's *Follies*; ditzy flapper Kitty (Julie Sanborn), who hopes to take Janet's place in the *Follies*; two gangsters (Scotty Venable & Joseph Tiniawow) disguised as pastry chefs; Janet's alcoholic Chaperone (Kristen Gilhooly), who is supposed to keep her away from Robert until the wedding; and Trix the Aviatrix (Casey Waters).

Rounding out the cast are ensemble members Leslie Gail Reed, Karianna Merrill, Meg Walz, Sophia Wood, Ansley Watson, and Hannah Hanson.

Chaloux has assembled a talented and experienced crew led by music director Paul G. Caron, choreographer Adelyn Bell, stage manager Sarah Chaloux, and producers Jackie McDonald and Cody Watson.

See *Drowsy*, page 16

Domestic Violence Awareness Month pages 8-9

Lewiston seeks registered voters to work as election clerks

LEWISTON, ME – The City Clerk's Department is seeking additional registered Lewiston voters to work as election clerks at polling places on Tue., Nov. 7, and during future City of Lewiston elections.

The election clerks are paid positions, and training material is provided. There are two shifts available. The morning shift is 6 AM until 2:30 PM, and the evening shift is 2:30 PM until close, which is usually around 9 PM. Election clerks will be checking in voters on the incoming voting list, distributing ballots, monitoring the voting machine, and other related duties.

"Election Day is the single, largest one-day event that the City coordinates," said Lewiston City Clerk Kathy Montejo.

"We need local citizens to dedicate their time to work at the polls, helping their friends, neighbors, and fellow Lewiston residents with this important process. The administrative details for elections are coordinated by the staff in the City Clerk's Department; however, we rely on the approximate 130 workers at the polls who are all dedicated citizens who commit their time to this large community event. Working at the polls is a wonderful way to give back to the community and to see friends and neighbors that you may not have seen in a while."

Interested residents are asked to contact the City Clerk's Office at (207) 513-3124. An election worker application is also available on the City's website at www.lewistonmaine.gov/electionclerk

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

'Buy, Give, Get' to benefit veterans in need

NORTH KINGS-TOWN, RI -- Ocean State Job Lot (OSJL), the region's premier discount retail chain with 152 stores across New England and the mid-Atlantic, is pleased to announce the return of its annual 'Buy, Give, Get' program to benefit veterans in need, Thursday, October 19, 2023 through Wednesday, January 3,

2024. Since the start of "Buy, Give, Get" in 2016, OSJL has provided more than 250,000 coats to veterans and 200,000 backpacks to children in need. During OSJL's 'Buy, Give, Get' coat donation program, any customer who buys a warm winter coat at OSJL for \$40.00 (retail value at \$120.00 or more) and gives it back to the

store as a donation to a veteran in need, will get a \$40.00 Crazy Deal Gift Card for free, to be used for a future purchase online or at any Ocean State Job Lot store. Approximately, 55,000 winter coats will be available for purchase to be distributed to veterans' organizations in partnership with a multi-state network of more than 50

veteran support agencies, organizations, assistance programs and action groups serving New England, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. Some restrictions apply for the redemption and use of the Crazy Deal Gift Card. Promotion does not apply to Ship-to-Store purchases. Participants must be registered as a Job Lot Insider. Promotion may not be combined with any other discount, offer or promotion, including but not limited to advertised sale items, Crazy Deals®, Insider coupons and Insider Executive Deals. No rainchecks. Merchandise credit and Crazy Deal Gift Cards cannot be used as a form of tender during this promotion. Limited product exclusions apply,

including Ocean State Job Lot gift cards, third party gift cards, clearance items, propane tanks and refills, beer and wine, kayaks and live plants and flowers. Offer may not be applied to past purchases. All warranty and return rules apply. To find out more Crazy Deals®, please visit: <https://www.oceanstatejoblot.com/crazy-deals-faq>.

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Fall enrollment up 16% at Maine's community colleges

Fall Enrollment up 16% at Maine's Community Colleges			
	2022	2023	% Change
Central Maine Community College	3,376	4,121	22%
Eastern Maine Community College	2,376	2,531	6.5%
Kennebec Valley Community College	2,119	2,381	12%
Northern Maine Community College	783	772	-1%
Southern Maine Community College	6,007	7,205	20%
Washington County Community College	505	685	36%
York County Community College	1,626	1,782	10%
MCCS TOTAL	16,792	19,477	16%

AUGUSTA, ME -- Enrollment at Maine's community colleges hit a historic high of 19,477 students this fall, surpassing the record set in 2011 and up 16 percent from last year.

Enrollment was boosted by a new tuition-free scholarship for recent high school graduates, expanded nursing programs statewide, more than 700 short-term workforce students moving into degree programs, and an easing of pandemic-related restrictions that expanded on-campus housing capacity.

"At a time when Maine desperately needs more skilled workers and Mainers need good jobs to support themselves and their families, we're extremely pleased to see enrollment increase so significantly," said David Daigler, president of the Maine Community College System (MCCS).

"These numbers show the strength of our offerings, the hard work and drive of our students, and the promise of a stronger economy for Maine as these students enter the

workforce or continue on to four-year degrees and beyond," Daigler said. "I am humbled by how hard the people at the colleges and system have worked to make the dream of a college education come to fruition for so many Mainers who want the opportunity to improve their lives through education."

Total headcount this fall is 19,477 students, up from 16,792 students last year, according to the official tally on October 15. The previous high point was 17,911 students in 2011.

Sixty-one percent, or 8,186 students, qualified for free tuition under the Free College Scholarship because they graduated from high school or earned a Hi-SET diploma in 2020, 2021, 2022, or 2023. The scholarship covers 100 percent of a student's tuition and mandatory fees, which is \$3,750 a year for the average full-time student. That's the lowest college tuition in New England.

Of the 8,186 Free College Scholarship-eligible students this fall, 3,668 are new students enrolling for the first time, and 4,518 are continuing community college students who were previously enrolled.

Since the Free College Scholarship program was proposed by Governor Janet Mills and enacted by the Legislature in early 2022, 11,543 Free College Scholarship-eligible students have enrolled, surpassing the administration's target of enrolling 8,000 students by the end

of the 2023-24 academic year.

"The impact of the Free College Scholarship is impressive," Daigler said. "In its first year, it attracted a higher-than-expected number of young men and lower-income students to college. As a group they had a higher fall-to-spring retention rate than the rest of the student body. All of that is particularly noteworthy since these students had a high school experience significantly disrupted by the pandemic. We're looking forward to welcoming the graduating classes of 2024 and 2025 to this transformative scholarship."

In addition to offering a tuition-free scholarship, 2022-23 was also the year Maine's community colleges added 200 seats to the nursing program; had more than 700 short-term workforce graduates enroll in degree programs; and expanded on-campus housing as pandemic-related restrictions eased.

Official fall enrollment figures do not include the thousands of students enrolled in rolling short-term workforce programs that take less than a year to complete. Last year, 12,000 students enrolled in short-term workforce programs over the course of the year. Those courses focus on tailored job skills training that prepares students for their first job or helps them advance in their career in the trades, health care, hospitality, business, and many other Maine industries. Last year, more than 700 short-term training graduates earned scholarships to enroll in a degree or certificate program.

Altogether, MCCS serves more than 30,000 students a year through early college courses, two-year degree programs, one-year certificate programs, short-term workforce training, advanced certificates, and continuing education.

Holly A. Lupo joins Skelton Taintor & Abbott

LEWISTON, ME -- The law firm of Skelton Taintor & Abbott, of Lewiston announces that Holly A. Lupo has joined the firm as an Associate Attorney. Ms. Lupo graduated from the University of Maine School of Law (J.D., 2023) and the

University of Maine, Orono (B.A., Psychology, 2018). She was admitted to practice in all Maine state courts October 18, 2023. Ms. Lupo intends to focus on real estate law, business and corporate law, and estate planning.

"We are honored to

have Holly join our firm. Her wealth of knowledge and energetic personality will benefit all our clients," said Daniel A. D'Auteuil, Jr. Shareholder at Skelton Taintor & Abbott.

Ms. Lupo was a Legal Intern for the Volunteer

Lawyers Project (2019) and Penobscot Community Health Care (2021). Most recently, she was also a Legal Intern with MaineHealth (2022). Additionally, Ms. Lupo served as President of the University of Maine School of Law's Business

Law Association, is a CALI Award Recipient for Small Business & Entrepreneurship and is the 2023 Corporate/Business Law Award Recipient from the University of Maine School of Law. Skelton Taintor & Abbott is a full-service trial and gen-

eral practice law firm representing clients throughout Maine.

With the addition of Attorney Lupo, the firm consists of 13 attorneys practicing in virtually all fields of law and in both federal and state courts.



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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Letter to the Editor Our country is in crisis

There are many issues of importance to this State and Country. Abortion, economy, relations with China/Russia, energy, climate change, etc., are just some of these issues. As is appropriate, these issues are being discussed and debated by citizens and politicians alike. This has been the way of democracy for years. However, what is happening on our southern border is killing our Country, and it can all be laid directly at the feet of the democrat party and Biden. The democrats falsely maintain, and some in the media falsely report, that the border is closed.

So far, millions have flooded illegally into Texas and other border States, and these States have dealt with the problem all by themselves. No help from Biden. No help from the Feds. The democrat cities expressed no concern. It was not their problem.

Aliens did not present themselves at legal border crossings and ask for asylum. That would make them legal asylum seekers. Instead, they bypassed the legal system and simply invaded our Country. They did so because they got a "wink and a nod" from the administration we elected. This new administration promised to do the job "better than Trump." They lied. Trump's remain in Mexico policy, and his border wall, were effective, and all the same laws and rules were in place. Nothing changed except the democrats took over.

Finally, the Southern border States have smartened up. They are shipping the aliens to the areas that have always claimed they are sanctuaries. As a result, the media is being forced to report on the revolt by rank-and-file democrats in local areas. New York says it is overrun with illegals. In fact, they now claim that if the democrat party continues this wrong-headed policy "New York will be destroyed as a city." Recently, the Mayor and the Gov-

ernor of New York, both democrats, along with the democrat mayor of Chicago, began begging President Biden for help. Sanctuary areas all over America are crying "uncle" as tens of thousands of unidentified people are flooding into their cities. They come from over 140 countries, and they number as high as 10,000 per day. 230,000 that we know of in August alone. We have had enough. Everyone has had enough. Worse yet we now have learned there are likely sleeper cells composed of those who wish to harm Americans embedded in those groups that have illegally entered our country.

All now realize that local people are going to foot the bill for the freebies being provided to illegals. This includes cell phones, housing, food, health care, education, clothing and all the other necessities of life. Thousands of dollars for each of the men, women, and children pouring over the border. Leaders of all the so-called "sanctuary areas" now want the rest of us to pick up the tab for their past virtue signaling and their failure to demand that their democrat party close the border immediately. When it was only border States absorbing these millions, not one democrat demanded an end to this stupidity.

This Country was built on many things. Among them were legal immigration in quality and numbers that facilitated assimilation into our culture. Another was clearly respected borders that allowed us to bring in people that we needed to enhance our economy and culture.

The democrats apparently to us have a different dream. They dream of creating a new socialist nation with millions of unvetted people wandering around our nation and expecting every taxpayer in this Country to support them. We are not going to take this anymore.

We are asking Mainers and all Americans to stand up to this progressive

destruction of our traditional families and our culture. We can no longer stand by and watch our economy, our educational system, our healthcare system, and our infrastructure be destroyed by democrats' hell bent on the "transformation" of America. We need to send letters to every democrat in every office. We must demand that they close the border and send these people back. We must tell them the United States is an independent nation, and as such we must maintain control of our borders. Legal immigration is always welcome, but invasion of our sovereign nation by millions of illegals will result in lower wages for our middle class and a much lower standard of living for our children.

Folks, our Country is now 33 trillion dollars in debt. That debt must be repaid with interest. The democrats have totally failed us. We must demand and expect better. The undersigned promise to continue to supply the kind of leadership that will make Maine and our nation proud. Please join us and make your voices heard.

Joseph Martin, Rumford, Candidate for Maine State Senate

Lee Clement, Lewiston, Lewiston City Council

Richard Pickett, Dixfield, Chairman, Board of Selectmen

Robert McCarthy, Lewiston, Lewiston City Council

Tammy Schmersal-Burgess, Mexico, State Representative

Ricky LaChapelle, Lewiston, Lewiston City Council

Craig Charpentier, Lewiston, Candidate for School Committee

Tim Gallant, Lewiston, Lewiston City Council

Thomas P. Peters, Lewiston, Group Spokesperson and former President Lewiston City Council

Skelton Taintor & Abbott attorneys named to Best Lawyers

LEWISTON, ME (August 25, 2023) – U.S. News Media Group and Best Lawyers® have released the 2024 Best Lawyers in America® list. Four attorneys from the firm of Skelton Taintor & Abbott have been named. Best Lawyers® is the oldest and most respected peer-reviewed publication in the legal profession. A listing reflects the respect of fellow members of the legal profession as well as the public.

The Skelton Taintor & Abbott attorneys named and their practice areas

are: Darcie P.L. Beaudin, Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights, Insolvency and Reorganization Law Amy Dieterich, Employment Law – Individuals Sarah C. Mitchell, Family Law Theodore Small, Construction Law, Litigation – Real Estate

"The recognition of our colleagues as among the best attorneys in America is a fitting tribute to the skills, dedication, and expertise of these attorneys. Our firm's attorneys continue the longstanding tradition of providing the highest

quality legal services to our clients and the larger community," said David Dubord, the firm's Management Committee Chair. Skelton Taintor & Abbott is one of Maine's leading law firms serving individuals and businesses in litigation and general representation throughout northern New England for more than 150 years.

The firm has been named in U.S. News-Best Lawyers® "Best Law Firms" in America. For more information, visit www.STA-Law.com or call (207) 784-3200.

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Info@TwinCityTimes.com
(207) 795-5017

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A Unique Celebration of Maine Open Lighthouse Day



Kayakers cross Cape Porpoise Harbor



Paddlers approach Goat Island



Visitors enjoy spectacular views from the Goat Island Light Tower

Early each September, the United State Coast Guard, the Maine Office of Tourism, and the American Lighthouse Foundation sponsor Maine Open Lighthouse Day. The event provides an opportunity for the public to visit and explore many historic lighthouses and attracts more than 15,000 visitors each year.

This year, the event was held on September 9th. Twenty famous Maine lighthouses participated including Goat Island Light in Cape Porpoise Harbor near Kennebunkport. An offshore lighthouse, there is no ferry service to Goat Island and visitors must find their own transportation.

Our friend, Shwe-

ta Galway, conceived a unique plan to experience the event. She proposed a Penobscot Paddle and Chowder Society sea kayak trip to the island. My wife, Nancy, and I enthusiastically signed on.

Weather was a concern. There was a chance of storms, fog, and gusty winds. We carefully monitored the forecast in advance of the trip. The prediction improved the night before but the possibility of fog and some storms remained. The trip was on for early the next morning.

It was high tide when five of us met at a small primitive landing on the causeway between Cape Porpoise and Bickford Island. The winds were calm, skies partly-clear, and no fog. While unloading a

tandem and three solo kayaks, we wondered how difficult our return would be at low tide.

The waters were mirror calm when we departed and turned south. While cruising along the east side of Bickford Island, we met a paddler who reported he'd been to the lighthouse and it appeared closed. Since it was early, we decided to explore some of the other islands in the vicinity and planned a later arrival at the lighthouse.

We progressed farther south into Cape Porpoise Harbor and navigated along the shores of Folly and Green Islands. Investigating the narrow circuitous passages between them was a very stimulating endeavor. However, breaking waves could be seen on the outside of the islands. We decided to remain in the more protected environment on the inside.

Persisting northeasterly from Folly Island, the distinctive profile of the lighthouse tower and keepers' house could be seen when approaching treeless Goat Island. We weren't the only paddlers who had this undertaking in mind as we met four other kayakers when landing on the gravel beach next to the dock.

A short walk brought us to the keepers' house. Friendly and helpful Scott Dombrowski, who shares keeper duties with his wife Karen, met us at the

door and confirmed the lighthouse was open. He told us how to access the lighthouse tower and the enclosed walkway that connects the tower with the house.

Early English explorer John Smith sailed by the islands in 1614 and named the area "Cape Porpus." Numerous reefs and ledges on the periphery of the harbor make entry potentially hazardous. The need for a lighthouse was apparent early on. The original light was established in 1833 and the current twenty-five foot brick tower was rebuilt in 1859. Keeper records indicate that during one 55-year period there were forty-six shipwrecks in the area.

Climbing the narrow dark circular tower stairs to the railed platform at the top was like taking a journey back in time. The views of the surrounding area were nothing short of phenomenal. The lighthouse is now automated and still an important navigation aid.

The covered walkway was rebuilt in 2011 after the original was swept away during the blizzard of 1978. The current bell tower was also constructed during that timeframe. Keeper Dombrowski thoughtfully opened the bell tower for our inspection.

Our thoroughly enjoyable and informative visit completed, we de-

ecided on some additional island exploration on the return trip. Departing from Goat Island, we kayaked northeasterly into modest swells on the outside of Trott Island and then negotiated through a very narrow rocky channel between Trott and Cape Islands.

A gentle tailwind helped propel us back to the causeway landing. Low tide resulted in a substantial mudflat at the take-out. Rather than wallow through the mud, we elected a strenuous carry along the rugged shoreline. The unplanned struggle at the end did not diminish from a wonderful day of paddling and lighthouse reconnoitering.

My book, *Maine Al Fresco: The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine* narrates eight more exciting sea kayaking excursions on the Maine coast.

Ron Chase resides in Topsham. His latest book, *"Maine Al Fresco: The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine"* is available at www.north-countrypress.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.ronchaseoutdoors.com or he can be reached at ronchaseoutdoors@comcast.net

Maine DOE podcast highlights voices from Maine schools

AUGUSTA, ME—The Maine Department of Education (DOE) launched a new podcast today hosted by Commissioner Pender Makin featuring conversations with educators, school staff, and students. The monthly podcast, *What Holds Us Together*, highlights the great things happening in public schools across Maine and how public education connects us.

The podcast launched with a conversation between Makin, 2023

Maine Teacher of the Year Matt Bernstein, and the newly named 2024 Maine Teacher of the Year Joshua Chard. The three discuss what they love about teaching and schools in Maine, the importance of public education, student voice, elevating the education profession, their message to aspiring teachers, and so much more.

"Public education is the most precious common good that we share. Every month, I'll

highlight the inspiring and amazing things happening in Maine schools through conversations with educators, school staff, and students across our state," said Maine Education Commissioner Pender Makin in the podcast's trailer.

What Holds Us Together can be listened to and subscribed to on all major podcast platforms, including Apple and Spotify. New episodes to be released on the third Thursday of every month.

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Maine guardsmen join regional domestic response training

JOINT BASE CAPE COD (August 24, 2023) (readMedia) – Twenty-five Maine soldiers and airmen joined over 150 fellow guardsmen from New Hampshire and Rhode Island Aug. 12-18, 2023, for a training and evaluation exercise of the New England CERFP (pronounced “surf-pee”), a regional National Guard response team designed to assist first responders during various large-scale emergencies.

CERFP stands for ‘CBRN enhanced response

force package,’ and CBRN stands for ‘chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear.’ The package is an additional mission set on top of what units are primarily trained and equipped to do in a combat environment. The CERFP mission is one example of Air and Army National Guard elements working together jointly as part of what the military calls defense support to civil authorities, or DSCA (“disk-uh”).

The package consists of six elements: command

and control, search and extraction, decontamination, medical, fatality search and recovery, and a communications team. Maine is primarily responsible for the command and communication elements.

The scenario for the final test on evaluation day centered around a simulated ten kiloton nuclear detonation in a New England city. Over 350 simulated casualties were extracted from building rubble and processed through decontamination, triage, and recovery stations.

“The New England CERFP received a ‘T’ for 100% of all collective performance tasks for all elements,” said Lt. Col. Kevin Kelley, commander of Maine’s 521st Troop Command.

A ‘T’ rating indicates the unit is fully trained on that particular task. Kelley also reported that the exercise director and lead evaluator shared that the current New England team is only the second unit he has seen achieve a 100% in the past ten years of the director’s conducting similar

evaluations.

“The CERFP mission is a critical one, and really embodies what the National Guard is all about – being ‘Always Ready’ to render aid to our civilian neighbors,” said Brig. Gen. Dean Preston, commander of the Maine Army National Guard, during a site visit. “Every time they get together, this New England team gets it done. The faces have changed, but their record of success does not. This group has a lot to be proud of.”

Preston recognized

five soldiers and airmen for excellence and presented each with a command coin.

Nationwide, there are 27 CERFPs, all composed of regional Air and Army National Guard personnel who perform additional annual training beyond the traditional two weeks a year focused on the federal wartime mission. The New England CERFP, which serves FEMA Region 1, can assemble within six hours of an official request and an advance party can be on scene within four hours.

Maine secures \$3.07M for tree stewardship and grants

AUGUSTA, ME (September 21, 2023) – The Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (DACF) announced the award of over \$3 million from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to support urban and community forestry projects and workforce development initiatives. This funding is part of President Biden’s Investing in America agenda to advance environmental justice, generate economic opportunity, and build a clean energy economy nationwide. The grants are made possible by investments from President Biden’s Inflation Reduction Act, the largest climate investment in history.

“Today’s announcement marks a significant milestone in our commitment to environmental stewardship and community development,” commented DACF Commis-

sioner Amanda Beal. “As we invest over \$3 million in urban and community forestry projects and workforce development initiatives, we are strengthening the well-being of our community forests and nurturing the growth of forestry careers.”

A \$1.57 million allocation will fuel a pioneering initiative launched by the Maine Conservation Corps (MCC), enabling the enlisting of five dedicated Community Tree Stewards, who will serve as full-time MCC members over four years.

“The Community Tree Stewards program will provide invaluable hands-on experience and mentorship opportunities for our members as they pursue careers in forestry,” said Sara Knowles, Director of the Maine Conservation Corps. “Simultaneously, it will elevate the

well-being of community forests, benefiting all residents.”

Established in 1983, MCC builds upon the Civilian Conservation Corps legacy by engaging diverse individuals to address pressing conservation needs in Maine communities. Members of MCC develop in-demand skills and work experience while showcasing the power of service and civic engagement. MCC is part of the DACF’s Bureau of Parks and Lands.

Project Canopy, a DACF Maine Forest Service (MFS) program, is set to allocate \$1.5 million in a competitive subgrant program aimed at municipalities and community organizations. This funding will support the upkeep of public right-of-way and park shade trees, risk mitigation efforts, and replanting initiatives to bolster

climate change mitigation and resilience. Key determinants for grant approval will include designations as disadvantaged entities, evidence of pressing needs, proactive urban forest risk planning, community involvement and educational endeavors, and a demonstrated commitment to climate-responsive planning and planting for resilience against pests and storms.

“This significant investment in public funding for community trees will address the 20-year backlog of deferred maintenance of roadside trees in Maine,” said Jan Santerre, Project Canopy Coordinator. “The investments will allow communities to build local capacity to understand this resource and plan for ongoing maintenance, growth, and long-term support for care.”

According to Maine State Forester and MFS

Director Patty Cormier, trees within our urban environments deliver economic, environmental, and social advantages. “Urban forests help mitigate air pollution and stormwater runoff, provide the pivotal role of carbon sequestration, and strengthen local economies.”

The Urban and Community Forestry industry contributes \$410 million to Maine’s economy annually and employs more than 5,000 people, according to a ground-breaking study by the Northeast-Midwest State Foresters Alliance. Trees are estimated to cover 44.9% of Maine’s most populous communities, saving them \$83.8 million a year by removing air pollutants, stormwater reduction, and carbon sequestration.

Project Canopy will seek input from potential

grant recipients on the types of support most needed through a grant survey. The Request for Proposals will be announced by December 1, 2023. Interested parties are encouraged to subscribe to receive Project Canopy updates.

Best Source for Arts, Music and Theater!

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Northeast Delta Dental strives to improve oral care

LEWISTON, ME -- Northeast Delta Dental will officially present a gift of \$665,000 to University of Maine at Augusta (UMA) to expand the dental workforce in Maine. The award will enable UMA to expand the current UMA Lewiston Center Dental Clinic and

increase the enrollment size of dental assisting and expanded functions dental assisting (EFDA) students and provide dental hygiene students with additional rotations. Entitled Expanding The Dental Workforce Throughout Maine: An Educational, Rotating Dental Clinic,

the initiative’s goal is to address the shortage of dental auxiliaries in Maine and extend the benefits of dental care to address disparities in oral health, providing quality oral health care for people who are low-income, uninsured, and/or members of racial/ethnic minority, immi-

grant, or rural populations. Specifically, the funding will cover:

The addition of state-of-the-art dental units to UMA’s Lewiston Center Dental Clinic, including equipment and construction costs; A scholarship program; Support for necessary staffing additions.

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Arts & Entertainment

Maine Music Society announces 6th annual Online Auction



Try out a zip line experience

LEWISTON, ME -- Looking for a unique shopping experience? Take a look at the amazing assortment offered on the Maine Music Society's sixth on-line auction site beginning at noon on November 4, 2023. You'll find everything from homemade breads to snow-shoeing and skiing experiences, elec-

tronics, vacation rentals, beautiful artworks, musical instruments, toys, fashions crafted by local artisans, and gift certificates from a variety of local businesses ranging from hardware to personal care to dining to sports events. You'll be able to preview everything on Friday, November 3, so that you're ready to start



Bid on a vacation rental

bidding when the site goes live at noon on Saturday, November 4. The Auction will close 10 days later at 10 pm on Wednesday, November 15, 2023. Winners will be notified and given the location to pick up items.

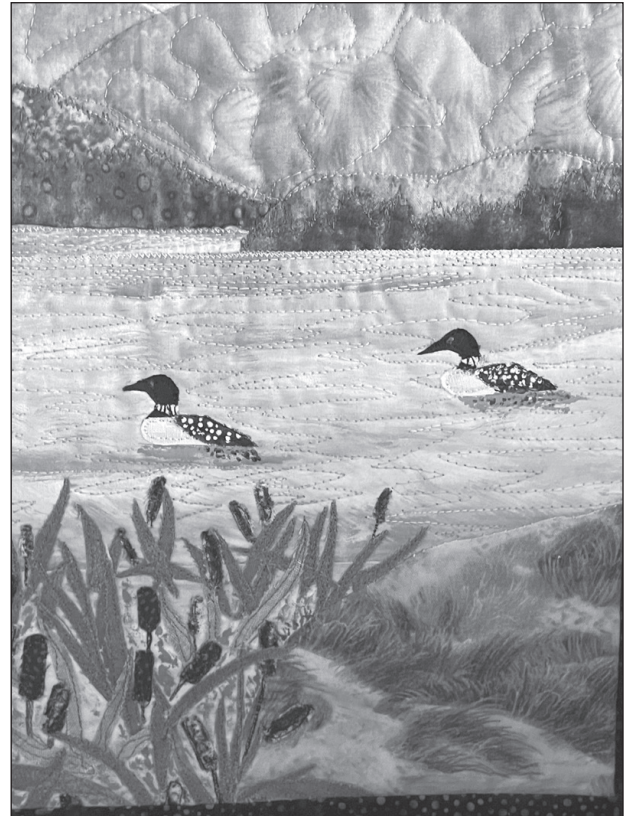
Details on bidding procedures and a link to the auction website are available on the MMS website www.mainemusicsociety.org.

MMS is also excited to announce that rehears-

als are under way for our 2023-24 season: Golden Jubilee – 50 Years of Song!

We begin with the ever-popular a cappella experience Battle of the Blends on Saturday, November 4 at 7:00 pm, when we'll also kick off the Online Auction. Join us in December for A Season of Celebration, in March for A Breath of Mozart accompanied by strings, and in May for 1972 – A Musical Retrospective. All concerts are at the Franco Center, 46 Cedar Street, Lewiston. Visit www.mainemusicsociety.org for details and tickets.

Please support the



Happy Loons art quilt available for bidding

MMS Chorale and Chamber Singers by participating in this shopping experience just in time for the holidays.

Thank you to our Auction Sponsors: Androscoggin Bank, Dirigo Federal Credit Union, Chuck & Patty Scheib, Bates Mill

Dermatology, DeBlois Electric Inc., Maine Family Federal Credit Union, Roopers, The Vault and Varney Chiropractic.

Visit www.mainemusicsociety.org or contact info@mainemusicsociety.org for more information.

City Clerk announces early voting polling place is open

LEWISTON, ME – The City of Lewiston's City Clerk announced today that in-person early voting will begin on Mon., Oct. 23, at Lewiston City Hall, 27 Pine

Street.

Early voting for the Tue., Nov. 7, municipal/state election will take place in the first-floor Council Chambers from 9 AM – 4 PM, exclud-

ing weekends, until Thu., Nov. 2.

Lewiston residents may contact the City Clerk's Department with any election-related questions at (207) 513-3124.

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Auburn publishes homeless service data

AUBURN, ME -- The Auburn Community Development Office announces the release of its latest Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER), for federal funds granted by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) via the CDBG and HOME programs. The report spans activities undertaken by the city to serve low- and moderate-income residents from July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023.

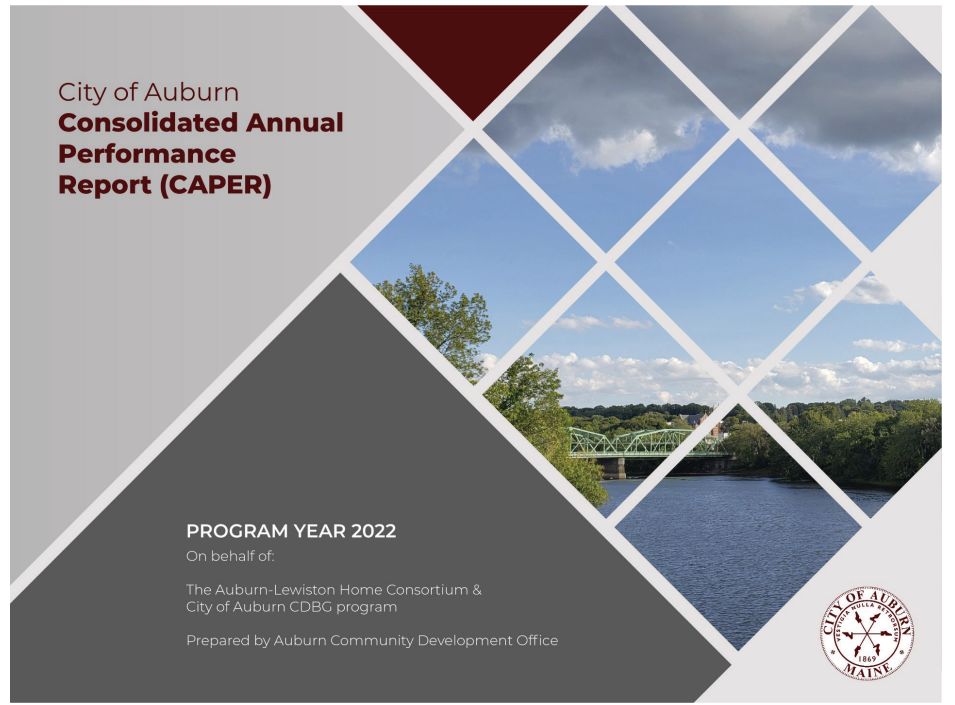
Notably, this year's report includes data from the HOME-ARP program,

assisting homeless and at-risk residents in Auburn and Lewiston. In its first six months, Auburn helped 34 homeless households and 14 households at-risk of becoming homeless. The General Assistance program, located within the same office, saw a 330% increase in local need, with 426 applications received, including 112 asylum-related cases (509% more than the previous year). The City's General Assistance budget contributed an additional \$233,375 in leveraged funds for federal activities, a 237% year over year increase, primar-

ily for housing, utility, and food aid.

The report also highlights the city's use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for the Project Support You (PSY) program. These funds provided a dedicated staff position with mental health and substance abuse expertise to co-respond directly with Auburn police and fire departments to triage care during rescue calls. In the first seven months, staff, in collaboration with Tri-County Mental Health, served 263 homeless Auburn residents.

The Auburn City



Council held a Public Hearing regarding this report on October 16, 2023, in Council chambers. Auburn

Community Development Office is dedicated to enhancing residents' well-being through strategic Fed-

eral fund investments. For more details, see the full CAPER report on the city's website, auburnmaine.gov.

Chasse & Co empowers enterprises for accelerated growth

AUBURN, ME -- Chasse & Co, a prominent and dynamic CPA firm spearheaded by advisor Dan Chasse, proudly announces its mission to target businesses throughout Maine that embrace capitalist principles. By harnessing the power of a free market mindset, Chasse & Co aims to unlock unparalleled growth opportunities for these businesses through its

comprehensive financial solutions and strategic accounting strategies.

"We firmly believe that a capitalist mindset fosters innovation, competition, and economic prosperity, and that businesses thrive within the framework of a free market economy," said Dan Chasse, leader behind Chasse & Co. "By working with businesses that share this perspec-

tive, we aim to empower them with financial strategies that not only align with their values but also capitalize on the growth opportunities within their specific sectors."

Chasse & Co's comprehensive suite of services includes:

Financial Planning and Analysis: The firm's seasoned financial experts work closely with clients to develop robust finan-

cial plans that align with their long-term goals.

Strategic Tax Planning: By leveraging extensive tax knowledge and staying up-to-date with ever-changing tax regulations, Chasse & Co identifies opportuni-

ties for tax optimization, helping businesses minimize tax liabilities and maximize overall profitability.

Business Valuation and Consulting: Chasse & Co offers expert business valuation services,

clearly understanding a business's worth.

Compliance and Assurance: With an unwavering commitment to excellence, Chasse & Co ensures that businesses comply with all financial regulations and standards.

Come to the Holiday Fair!

MINOT, ME -- Minot Corner United Methodist Church, Rt. 121 Corner of Minot Avenue & Empire Road on Saturday, Novem-

ber 4th from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. We'll have homemade baked good, candy fudge, table crafts, old fashioned Cabot extra sharp cheddar

cheese, silent auction table with great Christmas gifts, and so much more!

Takeout luncheon available at 9:00 a.m.

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Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Community resources for domestic violence prevention

Safe Voices Please call 211 or visit 211maine.org to find resources in your area. Below are common resources that you may find helpful.

Emergency Hotlines

Safe Voices Domestic Violence Services 1-800-559-2927

Sexual Assault Prevention and Response

Services 1-800-871-7741 National Human Trafficking Resource Center 1-888-373-7888 State Wide Crisis for Mental Health 1-888-568-1112

Child Protective Services 1-800-452-1999

Adult Protective Services 1-800-684-8404 Office of Substance Abuse 1-800-499-0027

Interpreters

Certified Interpreting for Sign Language 207-798-7995

Catholic Charities 1-866-200-3963

Children and Family Services

New Beginnings Outreach 207-795-6831

Advocates for Children 207-783-3990 Catholic Charities of Maine 207-784-0157

Child Development

Services 207-795-4022 Head Start and Child Care 207-795-4040

Franklin County Children's Task Force 207-778-6960

New Mainers DV/ Sexual Assault Initiative 207-553-0061

Elder Services Safe Voices (Sharon Lewis) 207-795-6736

Social Security 1-800-772-1213

Meals on Wheels / Seniors Plus 1-800-427-1241

Legal Services for the Elderly 1-800-750-5353

Support Groups Safe Voices (Domestic Violence) 207-795-6744 (call for county-specific information)

Grief Support 207-777-7744 x 1463

The Center for Wis-

dom's Women 207-513-3922

Legal Services Volunteer Lawyers Project 1800-442-4293

Pine Tree Legal 207-784-1558

Safe Voices Court Advocate 207-795-6744 (call for county-specific information)

Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project (ILAP) 207-780-1593

Safe Voices support groups

Safe Voices confidential support groups provide a safe place to listen and talk with others who have experienced domestic violence in their lives. Attending a support group can help you understand the pain of living with domestic abuse in a supportive, encouraging and non-judgmental environment. All groups are facilitated by trained domestic violence victim's advocates who are here to offer information, emotional support and referrals to other resources and support as you make

the choices you feel are best for you.

Safe Voices offers a wide variety of confidential support groups throughout Androscoggin, Franklin and Oxford Counties for individuals who have experienced abuse in a relationship. Some of our groups are open to new members at any time while others are closed once the secession has begun. All groups are offered free of charge. The groups include:

Adult women's drop-in group

Adult women's confidential support group

Adult Men's closed support group

Family support group (for non-offending parent and child/children who have been exposed to domestic violence)

College based support group

Trauma Recovery Empowerment Model Groups (TREM)

Ongoing support group for residents of our shelter All group locations, names and stories of group members are completely

confidential.

All group locations, names and stories of group members are completely confidential. For more information about the time and location of the support groups please call your local office:

Androscoggin: (207) 795-6744

Norway: (207) 743-5806

Rumford: (207) 369-0750

Franklin: (207) 778-6107



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Working to End Domestic Violence

We are grateful for and proud of the work of our colleagues at Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Services. Thank you for providing vital services to survivors when they need it most.

24-hr Helpline 1-800-559-2927 | www.safevoices.org

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Safe Voices: Supporting local victims of domestic violence

Safe Voices was incorporated as a not-for-profit organization in 1977. At that time, our community struggled with addressing the needs of battered women and children who did not have refuge. Low-income housing wasn't available, there were no federal or state monies for domestic violence education or victim support programs, and no laws to protect them. Our organization began as a project to meet the critical need for an emergency shelter for abused women and their children. Local women from social service agencies in Androscoggin County attended a conference in Massachusetts to learn about that state's efforts to help battered women. From there, Pearl Residential Facility was born, (known to the community as the Abused Women's Advocacy Project) with two families accepting women into their homes. In 1979, the agency opened

the first emergency shelter with a total of three staff, due in part to federal CETA (Comprehensive Education and Training Act) funding. Over the years, the shelter moved many times, and once it was burned down and much was lost. Currently, Safe Voices is the sole provider of support services and shelter operator for victims of domestic violence in Androscoggin, Franklin, and Oxford counties.

In 2010, the organization's name was changed to Safe Voices to recognize that men are victims also and to have a name that reflects hope and empowerment. The new name resonated with those we serve, with one survivor in our support group stating "We had no voice. Now it is safe to have a voice."

Since 1977, our goals of providing emergency and support services to victims of domestic violence, promoting ways to foster healthy relationships, ed-

ucating the community about the seriousness and prevalence of this crime, and working toward legislative change so that communities no longer tolerate this abuse—have guided us in developing a strong safety net for victims of domestic abuse seeking support, assistance, and a life free from the threat of further violence. In addition to providing emergency shelter, Safe Voices has a network of local community-based offices in Farmington, Lewiston, Norway, and Rumford. These local offices provide one-on-one support, support groups, children's services, advocacy, information and referral, court

advocacy, transporting and accommodation for shelter, community education, and professional trainings.

Non-discrimination Policy

Safe Voices does not exclude admission to, par-

ticipation in, or receipt of services or benefits of any of its programs, activities, services, or otherwise discriminate against any person on the grounds of race,

ancestry or national origin, color, sex, immigration status, age, religion, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression.

What do you think?
 We strongly encourage Letters to the Editor, Op/Eds, columns or any other submissions from our readers. Agree with us or another columnist? Disagree? Write to us and let us know! Email all submissions, including name, address and phone number, to the editor.

We support Domestic Violence Awareness Month

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Let's Celebrate!

Celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Auburn branch and the Norway Savings Bank Arena with us!
 Join us for a Public Skate from 3:50—4:50 p.m. on Sunday, October 22, at 985 Turner Street. Admission is \$5, and skate rentals are \$5. 50% of the proceeds will be donated to the **Good Shepherd Food Bank!** Non-perishable food items will also be collected!

Also, what better way to celebrate than to support another local nonprofit? From **October 23–27**, come into the branch or go online to vote for your favorite local cause. Nonprofits will receive a share of \$2023 based on the votes, so go vote!

Lake Stewards of Maine **Tree Street Youth**
 New Beginnings **You can also write in**
 Safe Voices **your favorite nonprofit!**

We're proud to have our roots in Auburn.

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 You can also visit our branch to vote.

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The Right Priorities

Lowering Taxes

Mayor Levesque is acutely aware of the importance of reducing taxes. Throughout the past six years, he has successfully limited tax increases to rates below inflation. Furthermore, under his leadership this year, taxes have remained unaltered. Although these efforts have presented challenges, Mayor Levesque's commitment to fostering development in Auburn's tax base will ultimately contribute to stabilizing tax rates, enhancing the overall quality of life, and safeguarding crucial city services.



Quality Education

Mayor Levesque was the first Mayor to take his seat on the School Board in over 20 years, championing educational excellence with tangible outcomes: notably, significant improvements in proficiency scores and a remarkable surge in the graduation rate, soaring from 73% to an impressive 93%. Led the efforts to create Auburn's and CMMC's Spring Ahead initiative creating the likelihood that ELHS students can attain an associates degree, or trade certification program upon graduation. Mayor Levesque has also been at the forefront of implementing strategic and efficient education funding, ensuring that Auburn's taxpayers receive the maximum benefit from their investments in education.

Economic Development

Under Mayor Levesque's leadership, Auburn has achieved record-breaking development in 4 out of the past 6 years, positioning the city as a leader in both new growth and high-paying job opportunities within the state. This remarkable expansion of the tax base promises to ensure the long-term sustainability of Auburn for generations to come.

Attainable Housing

Mayor Levesque is a strong advocate for making housing accessible to everyone. He has championed inclusive zoning, worked to dismantle obstacles, and facilitated partnerships between developers, landowners, and contractors to foster growth in the housing sector.

Protecting Natural Resources

We cannot have a vibrant city without identifying and protecting the natural resources that are essential to our future. Mayor Levesque is proud of the work done to Protect Lake Auburn.

ote **Jason Levesque**
AUBURN'S MAYOR
PAID FOR BY LEVESQUE FOR AUBURN

Mary Morton Cowan to present book talk at Franco Center Nov. 1



Mary Morton Cowan, 2018. Submitted photo.

LEWISTON, ME — Award-winning author Mary Morton

Cowan will speak about her family history that inspired her new book, "Trouble in Nathan's Woods," set during World War I at a New Hampshire lumber camp. The free presentation is part of the Books & Stories program and will take place at noon Wednesday, Nov. 1, at the Franco Center.

Cowan is a member of the Morton family that owned the Paris Manufacturing Company in South Paris. PMC is known for

manufacturing wooden chairs, skis and sleds. The family operated a lumber camp in Crystal, N.H., near the Canadian border, which supplied wood for PMC. Morton's presentation will include photos of the camp from the early- and mid-20th century, including a photo of the lumbermen's bunkhouse.

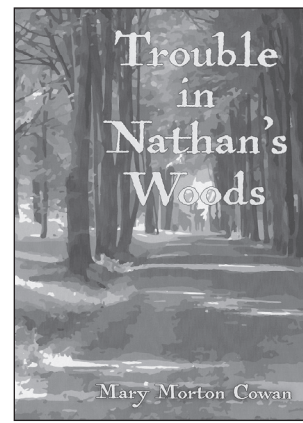
Cowan's father spent his early childhood living in the camp. Cowan's fictionalized story is based on her father's and

aunt's memories. World War I raged in Europe while enemy spies lurked in New Hampshire, causing trouble in the woods.

Cowan will speak about why she wrote the book, and she will share vintage photos of the actual logging operation, taken by her grandfather, Clarence G. Morton.

This event is free and open to the public.

It is suggested that participants buy the featured book or any of the



The lumbermen's bunkhouse at the logging camp in New Hampshire. Submitted photo.

author's books ahead of the presentation and bring them to be signed by the author.

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

The Books & Stories program at the Franco Center has been funded in part by the Maine Humanities Council and Maine Arts Commission.

Aegean Development announces opening of the Peck Center

LEWISTON, ME -- The new PECK Center will now be Maine's hub for Space as a Service (SaaS) offerings at its 64,000 sq/ft property located at 184 Main St, in Lewiston ME.

Since Covid-19 the country and state have seen a radical shift in office space needs, with more remote employees being asked to return to an office atmosphere

the standard 'shared desk' model is quickly not meeting the needs of many companies, nor is the traditional commercial leasing space attractive to companies as they deal with changing commercial environments.

The PECK Center bridges that divide by providing dedicated private office space, and shared resources and amenities

all with a simplistic billing model and customizable membership lengths from monthly to annually. And unlike traditional leases, there is no ambiguity or long-term commitments.

By focusing on Professional and Enterprise needs, single operators to growing enterprises that need open space for future growth in a landmark building with se-

cure facilities and free connected garage parking for themselves and their clients. An example of the fields that will be represented as members are, Financial, Legal, Marketing, Health and Wellness, Engineering, Insurance, Physical and Occupational Therapy, Massage Therapy, and Home Health management.

Prices will start at \$375

for a dedicated workstation, and go up based on office and space needs. The Peck Center will customize space for clients to include interior design and furniture procurement at additional costs.

All prices will include unlimited access to amenities for themselves and clients during normal business hours.

Amenities include a

fitness room with locker and shower facilities, café, conference rooms, parking, High-Speed Internet, and business support. We will be interviewing prospective members effective immediately, with the target occupation beginning in late November.

For more information, including pictures please visit www.peckcenter.com

Good Shepherd marks successes, prepares for challenges

AUBURN, ME -- Good Shepherd Food Bank of Maine distributed a record 33.6 million meals in its last fiscal year, exceeding a target it has been working toward since 2015. This milestone comes as a result of the Food Bank's recently completed \$250 million Campaign to End Hunger in Maine, which helped the state's largest hunger relief organization rapidly scale distribution through donated food and funds.

"In 2015 we set a bold goal to grow our meal distribution from 19 million meals per year to over 30 million, which is in line with the estimated need we've seen in Maine over the past eight years," said Erin Fogg, vice president of development and communications for the Food Bank. "Not only have we exceeded our original target, but we've distributed more nutritious and culturally relevant foods, and increased access to food through new and expanded partnerships."



Good Shepherd Food Bank credits its growth to the partnership of many, including the network of more than 600 hunger relief organizations across the state that continues to be a lifeline to Mainers experiencing hunger, and the more than 50,000 donors who helped raise \$105 million in funds and \$162 million in donated food over the past four years, for a total of \$267 million raised for the Campaign to End Hunger.

Of the \$267 million raised, more than \$226 million has already supported communities across the state in the form of food distribution and grants to community partners in the last four years. All told during the four-year campaign, the Food Bank worked with partners to source and distribute more than 120 million

meals and granted \$12.7 million to community organizations to increase access to food.

Additional campaign funds have helped expand more equitable access to food through partnerships with schools, health care centers, and organizations led by and serving people of color. The organization has also grown its advocacy efforts, created Harvesting Good, a subsidiary of the Food Bank dedicated to processing local produce, and built a modest endowment to strengthen sustainability and support continued innovation for the future.

Despite the Food Bank's growth, the organization, statewide partners, and communities are feeling the strain of increased food costs, inflation, and a reduction in pandemic-era public benefits that tem-

porarily reduced rates of food insecurity in Maine.

"Many of our partners across Maine are reporting that they are seeing a need that is higher now than it was during the start of the pandemic," says Shannon Coffin, the Food Bank's vice president of community partnerships. "We've grown food distribution to a scale that aligns with the estimated need, and now we need to maintain that scale while fine-tuning our understanding of needs at the community level, particularly for communities and populations that are disproportionately impacted by hunger."

"Our Campaign to End Hunger in Maine was unprecedented in many ways, being among the largest campaigns for a human services organization in our state, and the feeling at the finish line

is equally unique," noted Fogg. "Generous food and philanthropic donors have helped us reach a critical milestone on our journey to end hunger and together we are alleviating suffering and reducing the devastating impacts and costs of hunger across Maine," said Fogg. "But we don't have a ribbon to cut or a moment to celebrate; communities are counting on us to maintain this level of food distribution while we partner on root cause solutions that reduce demand on the charitable food network."

Food Bank leaders have been advocating in recent months to reinstate COVID-era SNAP benefits to address increased rates of food insecurity across the state. The Food Bank is also partnering with community organizations and the state of Maine on its Roadmap to End Hunger by 2030, which is aimed at reducing rates of food insecurity.

Heather Paquette, the Food Bank's newly named

president, is helping lead the organization on the next leg of its journey.

"There are many lessons we've learned as we've grown our food distribution, and the biggest lesson is the importance of partnerships," shared Paquette. "Our growth has been in partnership with community organizations, businesses, foundations, and individuals, and our future growth will require new and different partnerships in addition to those valued relationships so that we can all work to end hunger for good."

The Campaign to End Hunger represents the Food Bank's largest fundraising endeavor to date. Hannaford Supermarkets, a founding partner of the Food Bank, led the campaign with donated food valuing nearly \$75 million. In addition to a \$25 million dollar grant from MacKenzie Scott in 2021, more than 50,000 unique individuals, businesses, and foundations contributed to the campaign.

Auburn renews commitment to recycling

AUBURN, ME – At a meeting held Monday, October 16, the Auburn City Council voted to reinstate a reimagined and refreshed new citywide curbside recycling program for residents. On June 28, the city suspended the curbside collection of residential recycling and launched a 24/7 drop-off system located next to Auburn Public Works on Gracelawn Road. In the weeks that followed, Auburn Mayor Jason Levesque called a

meeting with Casella to negotiate a better option for the city.

In September, the city council authorized City Manager Phil Crowell to modify the city's solid waste agreement with Casella to reintroduce a "pilot" recycling program. During the meeting, staff presented the details of the new program, which will begin on November 1 and will feature every other week curbside collection of recycling to all

solid waste participants in the city. The program will feature Zero-Sort® technology, and accepted materials will include #1, #2, #5 plastics, cardboard, and mixed paper.

Another highlight of the program will be Casella's "Recycle Better App," which will provide direct communication and education to participants. The app will make it easy for residents to stay connected about trash and recycling collection with an easy-

to-use calendar, seasonal reminders and tips, service day reminders, real-time updates on weather-related service delays, and more. The app will also feature the "Waste Wizard Tool" to show which items are recyclable.

Public education on recycling is a high priority for the city and for Casella. Auburn-specific direct mail pieces will be produced and distributed by Casella, and the city communications team will

provide educational social media content as well as resources on the city's website. Casella and the city will work collaboratively to collect data over the duration of the pilot program for curbside collection of recyclables. Periodic reports will be presented to the city council, including data on participation by household, and percentage of overall waste collected.

"We are committed to working collaboratively

with the City of Auburn to meet its goals, both environmentally and economically," said Chris McHale, Market Area Manager for Casella. "We feel that this proposal reflects our strong desire continue our partnership with the city and work towards building the recycling program back up."

The city plans to retain the centralized drop-off containers currently located at Public Works on Gracelawn Road.

The Lewiston Raytheon Story

Part 1: Why Raytheon chose Lewiston and why it left



Radio Electronics Magazine, Feb 1953. Source: rfcfe.com

It is easy to understand why the area's the last two generations identify the 1775 Lisbon Street structure as the "old" Liberty Mutual building, given their 1970 arrival as tenants (purchased from RCA in 1972 and vacated in 2022). It is also understandable that not many people remember that 2023 marks the 60th anniversary of Raytheon's March 1, 1963, announcement to leave the Lisbon Street plant and relocate their transistor/computer memory manufacturing facility to Mountain View, California.

I do not recollect Raytheon's opening in June 1961 and never knew much about how its arrival and departure impacted the state, Lewiston, and the greater L-A and Portland areas. It all began in 1957 when Raytheon hired Boston's nationally

recognized Arthur D. Little company, which, at the time, specialized in business operations research and analysis. The Little study would produce data on some 30 New England communities, resulting in Raytheon's decision to select only Biddeford-Saco, greater Portland, and the L-A area as plant finalists.

Early media reports surfaced about Raytheon's Maine interest in March 1959. By May, the Portland Press Herald revealed there were "rumors" that Lewiston would be selected. There was also a report that Bangor and Auburn had made last-ditch efforts to derail the selection process. In the end, Raytheon chose Lewiston because its wage rates were slightly more favorable than those of the greater Portland area.

When Raytheon

issued their formal announcement of Lewiston's selection on July 1, 1959, the company's arrival into the L-A airport came complete with a police-escorted caravan into the city; a banner on one caravan convertible filled with city and Raytheon officials that read "Raytheon IS HERE!"; and a press conference and banquet at Lewiston's DeWitt Hotel featuring prognostications of a statewide "industrial renaissance."

Given the challenges associated with convincing manufacturers of their size to relocate to Maine in the 1950s, this was a significant achievement for the elected officials, Industrial Development Director Sam Michael, the resident-created Lewiston Development Corporation (LDC), and the State of Maine's relatively new Department of Economic Development. Raytheon's status as a significant national technology company signaled that the city's economic development work was moving in the right direction.

Raytheon would formally open in June 1961 and sign a twenty-year lease for a building funded and owned by the LDC. All seemed well, and employee numbers would increase to 1,300 by 1962, but the unimaginable would happen on March 1, 1963. Raytheon unexpectedly announced they would leave Lewiston and move their operation, which had just begun transitioning from germanium to silicon transistors, to a California silicon transistor manufacturing facility they had purchased from Rheem in 1961. It was a stunning announcement as this was all happening in the same year that Fairchild Semi-

conductor began operations in South Portland. Their new facility was fabricating the same kind of silicon transistors that Raytheon desired to make in California. The question was, why would Raytheon invest the energy and money in Lewiston and leave twenty months later?

Raytheon would say that the California plant was more efficient. Stories also circulated about how their unhappiness with the area contributed to their departure, statements that were utterly contrary to every public report made by the company. What Raytheon did not do was reveal how they failed to develop the kind of silicon semiconductor manufacturing technology developed by Fairchild in 1960 to fabricate competitive and superior silicon transistors. In 1959, they compounded their problems by expanding their germanium transistor manufacturing capability in Lewiston, underestimating the value of silicon transistor competition. These misjudgments would permanently erode their mid-1950s reputation as a transistor manufacturing leader.

Fairchild Semiconductor's research and development in silicon semiconductors and their control of silicon semiconductor and integrated circuit patents established their early dominance in the analog electronics field. It also helped that the leadership provided by Dr. Robert Noyce, later recognized as the father of the integrated circuit (and co-founder of Intel in 1968), impacted Fairchild's success in the early and mid-1960s. For Raytheon, their semiconductor/chip division's missteps eventually led to their abandoning the division and its assets after being purchased by Fairchild Semiconductor in 1996.

The impact of Ray-



Lewiston Raytheon Semiconductor Division Plant, City of Lewiston Bicentennial Booklet, 1961. Source: DigitalCommons.USM.Maine.edu



Lewiston caravan into Lewiston - July 1, 1959. Source: Lewiston Evening Journal, p1, July 1, 1959

theon's departure disappointed city leaders, but their resolve to overcome the setback produced a new tenant for the building. This economic development leadership can be traced to 1952 when Mayor Roland Marcotte created the Industrial Development Department, which worked with Lewiston residents who assembled the Lewiston Development Corporation that same year. Those efforts led to the Knapp Brothers shoe company expansion in Lewiston in 1953; the relocation of the New Jersey-based Geiger Brothers company in 1954; the creation of the area's first business park, the Lewiston Industrial Park, in 1957; and the recruitment of the Raytheon Company. Lewiston's resolve would also fuel more success in the future and inspire its twin-city neighbor Auburn, who would also create a similar development strategy

in the 1950s.

Phil Nadeau has written about L-As history in his book "The Unlikelihood of it All - Part 1" and now produces a free YouTube history channel called "Deconstructing Lewiston-Auburn and Maine History." See Episodes 1 through 4 for more Raytheon story details.

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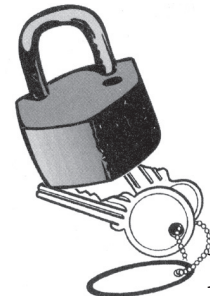
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2nd and 4th Wednesday each month
LEWISTON -- MAKE ART WITH ARTVAN 2nd and 4th Wednesday each month, 3:30PM starting September 13th

ArtVan will be providing hands-on creative art program in the Children's Department of the Lewiston Public Library for children ages 5-14 (ages 5-8 must be accompanied by an adult) for self-expression, personal growth, and fun.

Free. All art supplies will be provided. 513-3133; www.LPLonline.org

Oct 27 - Nov 5

AUBURN--Community Little Theatre presents the musical comedy *The Drowsy Chaperone*. When a die-hard theatre fan plays his favorite cast album, the characters come to life in this hilarious musical farce! A loving sendup of the Jazz Age musical that features one show-stopping song and dance number after another. Show dates are October 27, 28, November 2 & 3 at 7:30 p.m., and October 29 & November 4 & 5 at 2:00 p.m. All performances at CLT on 30 Academy Street in Auburn. Tickets and more information at www.laclt.com

Oct 27

BAR MILLS -- The Originals present *OUTSIDE MULLINGAR* a play by John Patrick Shan-

Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

ley at Saco River Theatre, 29 Salmon Falls Road, Bar Mills, ME, Oct 27, 28, Nov 2, 3, 4 at 7:30pm and Oct 29 at 2:30pm. Tickets: \$15 General Admission at www.sacorivertheatre.org or call 207-929-6473 for reservations.

Oct 28

BUXTON -- Had-dock Supper Buffet - Saturday, October 28, 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 wish is optional. Hand sanitizer is available for those who wish to use it.

Oct 28, 29

LEWISTON, TOPSHAM -- "Soulful Expressions" Saturday, Oct. 28, 2023, 7:00 p.m. - Franco Center, Lewiston; Sunday, Oct. 29, 2023, 2:30 p.m. - Orion Performing Arts Center, Topsham

Oct 28

GRAY -- First Congregational Church of Gray Saturday Night Church Supper Saturday, October 28, 2023, @5:00 P. M. at

the Parish House, 5 Brown Street, Gray

Handicapped Accessible. Meals are single-sized and are \$10.00 each. Please pay at the door. The Menu includes: Variety of Casseroles & Salads, Baked Pea Beans, Red Hot Dogs, Breads, Assortment of Desserts & Beverages.

Phone # day of the supper - 657-4279

Nov 4, Dec 2, Jan 6, Feb 3, Mar 2, Apr 6, May 4

WESTBROOK -- Prides Corner Community Church, 235 Pride St. Bean Supper \$10 per person: Two kinds of baked beans, mac and cheese, ham, coleslaw, bread and brownie. Eat in at 5:00PM or Take Out from 4:30-5:30PM. Call 207-415-9260 to reserve your individual meal today.

Nov 11

TURNER CENTER -- Christmas Craft Fair Saturday, Nov. 11th from 8 to 1at the Universalist Church, Turner Center, across from the Gazebo. Crafts and Attic Treasures. Lunch available.

Nov 18

GORHAM -- Christmas Craft Fair 9:00am -

2:00pm

White Rock Friendship Club and the White Rock Grange #380 will host our annual Christmas Craft Fair. Over 30 crafters offering jewelry, sewn & knitted items, home decor and much more!

Nov 19

SABATTUS -- Our Lady of the Rosary Christmas craft fair on Saturday, November 18th from 9 to 3. The fair will be located in the lower level of the church at 131 High St. in Sabattus. We'll have around 30 crafters and vendors, a basket raffle, and a bake sale. Come join us.

Jan 20, 21

LEWISTON, TOPSHAM -- "Song & Dance Music from Around the World" Saturday, Jan. 20, 2024, 7:00 p.m. - Franco Center, Lewiston; Sunday, Jan. 21, 2024, 2:30 p.m. - Orion Performing Arts Center, Topsham

Mar 23, 24

LEWISTON, TOPSHAM -- "A New Artistic Mélange" - Emily Isaacson, Guest Conductor Saturday, Mar. 23, 2024, 7:00 p.m. - Franco Center, Lewiston; Sunday, Mar. 24, 2024, 2:30 p.m. - Orion Performing Arts Center, Topsham

May 18, 19

LEWISTON, TOPSHAM -- "Cityscape, Seascape, Soundscape" Saturday, May 18, 2024,

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7:00 p.m. - Franco Center, Lewiston ; Sunday, May 19, 2024, 2:30 p.m. - Orion Performing Arts Center, Topsham

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 Ho-

meschool 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



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Drowsy

Continued from page 1

“This ‘Drowsy’ creative process has been another very rewarding experience for our cast and crew,” added Cha-

loux. “And the show itself is a rollercoaster ride of fun and surprises - you will never be able to guess what will happen next!”

The Drowsy Chapter one will be performed at

CLT at 30 Academy Street in Auburn at 7:30 p.m. on October 27, 28, and November 2 and 3; matinees will be at 2:00 p.m. on October 29, and November 4 and 5. In response to grow-

ing audience demand, CLT is now offering three matinee performances, with a second weekend Saturday matinee in lieu of an evening performance.

Ticket prices (includ-

ing all fees) are \$25.00 for adults, \$22.00 for seniors and students, and \$17.00 for children ages 13 and under. Tickets and subscriptions are available online at www.laclt.com/

box-office or by calling 783-0958. Season subscribers can get five shows for the price of four - a savings of 20 percent - and can reserve their seats for the entire season.



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