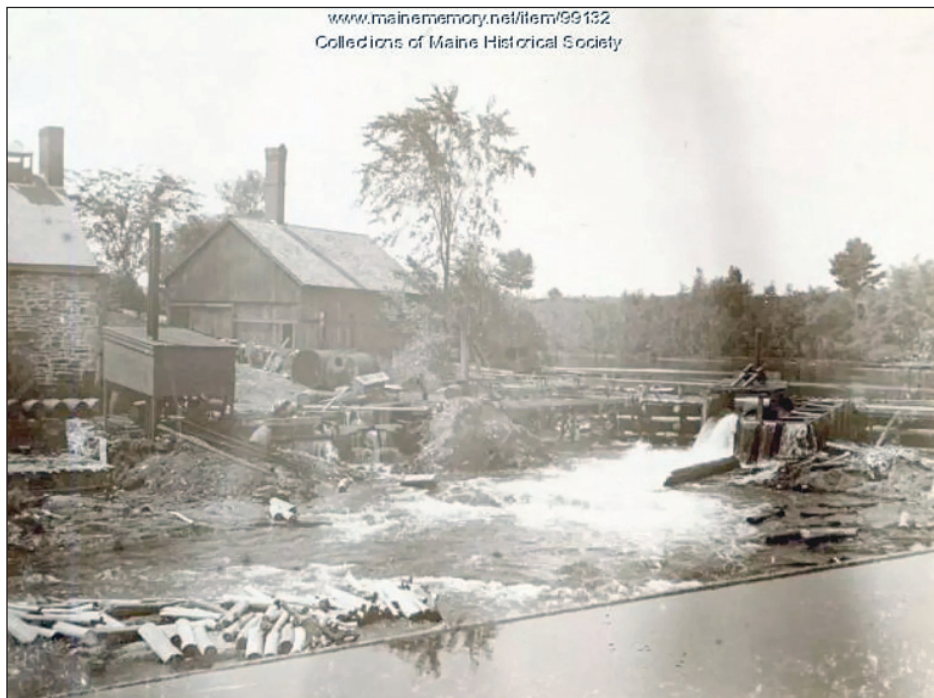


“The Gunpowder Mills of Gorham and Windham” to air



www.mainememory.net/item/99132
Collections of Maine Historical Society

Maine Historical Society/https://www.Mainememory.Net/Record/99132

GORHAM, ME -- The documentary as seen on Maine Public Television “The Gunpowder Mills of Gorham and Windham” will broadcast on Spectrum Channel 3 on Friday, January 19th and Saturday, January 20th at 7pm.

A high definition link can also be assessed through the Town’s website,

on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/TownofGorham/>, and at [vimeo.com/896348964?share=cop](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=896348964)y to view the show on demand.

This video was co produced by Saco River Community Media and Gorham Community Access Media (GOCAM).

Gorham public Pre-K program applications are open

**GORHAM SCHOOL DEPARTMENT
PUBLIC PRE-K
NOW ENROLLING FOR THE
24/25 SCHOOL YEAR**

Gorham families with children who will be 4 years old by October 15, 2024 are encouraged to apply for **FREE** half-day Pre-K!

- Our Pre-K program is conducted at Narragansett School and is open to all Pre-K aged students in Gorham. (If you reside in the Great Falls or Village district, your student will attend Narragansett for Pre-K.)
- Transportation will be provided for students enrolled in the program.

3 EASY STEPS TO APPLY

1. **COMPLETE THE PRE-K APPLICATION**
◦ (SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW OR FOLLOW THE LINK)
2. **SIGN UP FOR A SCREENING APPOINTMENT AT THE END OF THE APPLICATION.**
3. **ATTEND SCREENING ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH.**



**Click the link or scan the barcode to apply.
Please call 222-1295 if you need assistance completing the application.**



PRE-K APPLICATION LINK

GORHAM, ME -- Applications for the Gorham’s Pre-K Program will open on Monday, January 1st. Gorham families with children who will be 4 years old by October 15, 2024 are encouraged to apply for **FREE** half-day Pre-K!

Our Pre-K program is conducted at Narragansett School and is open to all

Pre-K-aged students in Gorham. (If you reside in the Great Falls or Village district, your student will attend Narragansett for Pre-K.) Transportation will be provided for students enrolled in the program. Please contact Theresa Connolly at 222-1295 if you have any questions or need assistance completing the application.

Citizen volunteers needed for Gorham boards & committees

GORHAM, ME -- The Town Council Appointments Committee is seeking citizen volunteers for various boards and committees to serve a 3 year term. The board and committee vacancies available are as follows:

- PLANNING BOARD - 2
- GORHAM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION- 3
- CONSERVATION COMMISSION - 2
- BOARD OF APPEALS - 1
- BOARD OF TRUSTEES - BAXTER MEMORIAL LIBRARY - 2
- HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION - 2
- FAIR HEARING BOARD - 1
- BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW - 1
- REVOLVING LOAN FUND COM-

**MITTEE - 2
BOARD OF HEALTH - 1**

If you are interested in applying to serve on any of Town board and/or committee, or for more information, please visit the Town Clerk’s Office. To apply, please complete and submit a Committee Volunteer Application available online. You may also contact the Town Clerk’s Office at 222-1670 or email the Town Clerk Laurie Nordfors at lnordfors@gorham.me.us. Applications will be accepted through January 26, 2024. The Appointments Committee will schedule short informal interviews with applicants starting in February and the Town Council will appoint applicants at their March meeting.

Applications will be accepted until January 26, 2024.

Gorham Fiscal Sustainability Committee looking for volunteers

GORHAM, ME -- The Town Council Appointments Committee is seeking citizen volunteers (one community member and one business owner) to make up the new Fiscal Sustainability Committee.

How to Apply

Please complete the application on the Town’s website and send to Town Clerk Laurie Nordfors at lnordfors@gorham.me.us. For assistance with questions, please email or call Mrs. Nordfors at 222-1670.

Committee Purpose

To understand the existing financial landscape for the Town of Gorham and the Gorham School Department; to evaluate the future financial landscape, and to use this knowledge to make recommendations for how to maintain sustainable taxes while continuing to manage the present and future growth of our community over the next five to 10 years.

Member Expectation/Time Commitment

Monthly or every other month meetings of 1.5 hours each, with initial meeting tentatively scheduled for February 2024.

Reading/research between meetings.

Membership

The committee will consist of 18 members plus one facilitator. Visit the committee page to view the committee make-up.

Deliverables

Development of a series of recommendations to the Town Council and School Committee for how to reduce costs (or mitigate continued cost increases) through efficiencies.

Development of a series of recommendations to the Town Council and School Committee for how to increase revenues that will offset direct taxpayer expenses at both the municipal and school levels.

Development of a series of recommendations to the Town Council and School Committee for how to improve communications between various stakeholder groups within the community of Gorham to aid in understanding current and future financial limitations moving forward.

Timeline

The work of this committee will begin in February of 2024 and will be targeted to start impacting the development of the Fiscal Year 2026 budgets at both the municipal and school levels in Gorham.

Follow us on Facebook!
Don’t miss our giveaways!



CLEAN BOOKS LLC
BOOKKEEPING AND PAYROLL SERVICES

9 North River Road
Suite 232
Auburn, ME 04210

Olivia Ouellette, Owner
(207) 370-9292
cleanbooksmaine@gmail.com

www.cleanbooksmaine.com

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

Pellet Stove need cleaning or repair?

Call The Stove Guy
(207) 286-7633

Affordable Rates ~ Installs ~ 23 Years Experience

Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Hundreds of MaineCF scholarships available

PORTLAND & ELLSWORTH, ME — The Maine Community Foundation (MaineCF) offers more than 700 scholarships available to graduating high school seniors, graduate students and adult learners pursuing myriad areas of study and professional certifications.

In 2023, MaineCF awarded \$3.23 million in scholarships to 1,357 students, including older, non-traditional students who returned to school. MaineCF offers both long-term support for adult learners seeking degrees and short-term scholarships for earning workplace credentials and licenses.

“There is no part of Maine we don’t reach and MaineCF scholarships offer support to students of all backgrounds and from all corners of the



Students at Northern Maine Community College participate in hands-on training in the electrical construction and maintenance program. The Maine Community Foundation (MaineCF) offers hundreds of scholarship opportunities to Maine students, including those entering trades. Photo courtesy Maine Community College System

state,” said Jackie Shannon, MaineCF scholarship manager.

This spring, MaineCF will travel across the state to host workshops during which students and families can get answers to

frequently asked questions and application support.

For more information about MaineCF’s scholarships, to apply for a scholarship or find a workshop near you, visit www.maine.org/scholarships.

Maine CASA to hold training on March 11-15, 2024

Interested in advocating for the best interests of a child? The Maine Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) program is holding its spring training for volunteer advocates on March 11-15, 2024.

This free, five-day training is designed to prepare attendees for certification as volunteer guardians ad litem (GALs) in Maine child protection cases. Trainees may participate virtually or in person. For those who wish to participate in person, the training will be held in Augusta. Accommodations may be available.

The foundation of a CASA’s work is learning about the case and then advising the court what

the CASA believes is in the child’s best interest. CASAs come from a wide variety of professional and personal backgrounds and are guided throughout the process by CASA program staff. CASAs bring their own unique perspectives to their work as volunteers.

If you are willing to advocate for a child’s best interests, we encourage you to apply to become a CASA volunteer. Those interested in the training must complete an application and, if invited to participate, must also complete criminal and child protection services background checks.

Are you ready to advocate for a child’s best interests? If so, we hope you

can join us for our March 11-15, 2024 training. For more information about becoming a volunteer, please contact Maine CASA at 213-2865 or by e-mail at casa@courts.maine.gov.

Best Source for Arts, Music and Theater! Your Hometown Paper.

Op Ed: Celebrating National CRNA Week

By Dr. Erin Foley, DNAP, MSNA, CRNA, FAANA Maine Association of Nurse Anesthesiology

Every year across the United States, Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) administer more than 50 million anesthetics to patients. My name is Dr. Erin Foley, I have been practicing in Maine as a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist for the past 14 years, and I am proud to count myself among the more than 61,000 CRNAs in the United States, and 350 CRNAs in Maine, celebrating our profession during National CRNA Week, January 21-27, 2024.

This year’s theme “Trusted Anesthesia Experts,” acknowledges our rich history as part of the nation’s most trusted professions according to Gallup. Nurses have topped Gallup’s Honesty and Ethics list for 20 consecutive years and are ranked in the top 10 of the 2023 U.S. News & World Report’s Best Health Care jobs report. National studies confirm that CRNAs are integral to high-value anesthesia care delivery where quality and safety are emphasized. Our skill and accuracy allow patients to undergo surgery safely, comfortably, and without unnecessary pain.

Each year, CRNAs deliver anesthesia to millions of patients, in traditional hospital surgical suites and obstetrical delivery rooms, critical access hospitals, ambulatory surgical centers, pain management facilities, and in our nation’s military service. Personally, I have practiced in many settings

in the state of Maine. I have worked in Level 1 trauma centers, small critical access hospitals and in nurse anesthesia education, and most recently, caring for the victims of the tragic shooting in Lewiston. These varied experiences allow me to care for patients throughout Maine and to increase access to safe, quality, cost effective anesthesia care throughout the state.

CRNAs are highly educated, highly trained professionals. We complete on average eight to 8.5 years of healthcare and anesthesia education and more than 9,000 hours of clinical training prior to graduating with an advanced degree as an expert in the field of anesthesiology. Graduates of nurse anesthesia educational programs must pass the National Certification Examination given by the National Board of Certification and Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists. And by 2025, all nurse anesthesiology program graduates will receive a doctoral degree.

In rural areas, CRNAs are the predominant providers of anesthesia care, representing more than 80% of the anesthesia providers in rural U.S. counties. CRNAs provide care to patients where they live, forming the backbone of surgical deliveries in these rural communities. We play an essential role for expectant families, allowing first-rate delivery experiences without maternal patients having to travel great distances for obstetrics care.

The American Association of Nurse Anesthesiology (AANA) established

CRNA Week in 2000 to inform the public about anesthesia safety and the benefits of receiving anesthesia care from CRNAs. From saving lives and advancing patient care, to collaborating for transformative wins in healthcare policy, National CRNA Week gives the healthcare community and the greater public alike the opportunity to reflect on the heroic work and unique expertise of CRNAs and nurse anesthesiology residents while recognizing the power and resilience of our community.

As members of one of America’s most trusted professions, CRNAs have always served on the front lines of patient care from the beginning, and we continue to answer the call to help keep patients healthy and safe. Please join me in recognizing Trusted Anesthesia Experts as we celebrate National CRNA Week! Each year the Maine Association of Nurse Anesthesiology (MEANA) members choose a local charity to raise money for during the month of January to help celebrate CRNA Week. This year we are honored to have partnered with Honor Flight Maine. Visit the MEANA website at www.meana.org to learn more about our profession and philanthropic endeavors.

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



Affordable Washing Services of Maine

VETERAN OWNED AND OPERATED

SPECIALIZING IN:
HOUSE WASH * ROOF WASH
ROOF CLEANING * SOFT WASH * POWER WASH
DECKS * FENCES * SIDING * DRIVEWAYS

Greene, Maine
207-240-9103 Affordablewashingservices.com

Like us on 



Save \$\$ on your business phone!

Call today for a demonstration!

PROFESSIONAL COMPUTER SERVICES INC.

207.784.6295
buck@pro-pc.us



Buck Buchanan
A+, MCP Certified Technician

Newsmakers, Names & Faces

\$13.5M in SNAP benefit replacements for Cumberland Co.

AUGUSTA, ME— The Maine Department of Health and Human Services' (DHHS) Office for Family Independence (OFI) announced that this weekend it will automatically issue an estimated \$13.5 million benefit replacement following the wind and rainstorm that knocked out power to much of the state for several days in mid-December. This is the first emergency waiver Maine has received since the ice storm of 1998 which was similar in its impact on power and people across the state.

Under a federal waiver approved on January 5, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefit recipients who live in storm-affected areas will automatically receive a replacement benefit totaling 60 percent of their December benefit this Saturday, January

13, 2024. Over 76,000 households across Maine will benefit from the replacement funds. This is in addition to the over 5,000 households that applied and already received funds to replace food lost to power outages and other storm-related challenges. Households that have already received requested replacement benefits or benefits equal to or greater than 60 percent of their December allotment will not receive the automatic benefit replacement.

The SNAP benefit will be applied to EBT-accounts this weekend for people enrolled in the program in all 14 counties named in the December 19, 2023 state of civil emergency declared by Governor Janet Mills. SNAP recipients in 34 towns in Cumberland and York Counties that had more than 50 percent of customers without power

for four or more hours will also receive the replacement funds.

"This replacement assistance will help Maine families recover from the December storm that left hundreds of thousands of residents without refrigerators, freezers, and easy access to affordable food," said DHHS Commissioner Jeanne Lambrew. "This is part of our mission to support health and safety as we adapt to an increased number of damaging storms."

"In times of crisis, such as natural disasters, the importance of SNAP cannot be overstated for Mainers facing food insecurity," said Amy Gallant, vice president of public policy for Good Shepherd Food Bank of Maine. "The charitable food network cannot end hunger alone and SNAP, along with its replacement benefits, serves as a crucial life-

line, providing support to individuals and families navigating the aftermath of these unpredictable events."

Maine DHHS' Office for Family Independence requested and received approval from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) to access federal funds to replace food bought with benefits issued for December. FNS set the amount at 60 percent of December issuances to account for the proportion of food that was not yet purchased prior to the storm, may not have been perishable, or that may have been consumed prior to the storm. Other states, including Connecticut and Massachusetts, have used this type of assistance to support residents in the wake of natural disasters.

Prior to receiving this approval from FNS, Maine

DHHS encouraged people in need of this support to submit a loss replacement form for replacement benefits. While that manual process will continue through January 18, 2024, the approved automatic benefit replacement will ensure that all impacted Maine people and families immediately receive the replacement funds without having to file paperwork or complete online forms. Given the change in the process, SNAP benefit recipients should be aware of the following:

If you already submitted a SNAP benefit replacement request and were issued your requested replacement benefits for this storm, you will not receive additional benefits as part of this issuance.

If you submitted a request that has not yet been processed:

You will receive the 60 percent replacement if

you are in a covered area.

OFI will continue to process your request and issue additional replacement benefits as appropriate.

Requests for replacement benefits will be accepted by OFI through January 18, 2024.

If the monetary value of the food lost was in excess of the 60 percent automated replacement, OFI will issue an additional replacement benefit as appropriate.

SNAP recipients should fill out a simple form (PDF) available on the DHHS website at maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/applications-forms and email it to farmington.dhhs@maine.gov. Paper forms are also available at local DHHS offices.

Maine residents can find information on other supports at Maine Flood Resources and Assistance Hub.

Falmouth NP serves as Clinician of the Day at Maine legislature



AUGUSTA, ME – On Tuesday January 9th, 2024 Valerie Fuller, PhD, DNP, AGACNP-BC, FNP-BC, FAANP served as Clinician of the Day at the Maine State Legislature. Dr. Fuller practices in

the Department of Surgery at Maine Medical Center in Portland and is the APRN member and Chair of the Maine State Board of Nursing.

The Clinician of the Day is a volunteer program that provides medical assistance at the State House in the event of a medical emergency. This program recognizes Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants and Physicians who provide health care services throughout the

state.

The program is operated with the cooperation and support of a number of organizations including the Maine Medical Association, the Maine Nurse Practitioner Association, the Maine Osteopathic Association, and the Maine

Association of Physician Assistants.

"It is an honor to be at the Maine State Legislature representing the more than 3500 Nurse Practitioners (NPs) across the state who provide primary, acute and specialty health-care to patients of all ages,"

said Dr. Fuller, who is the first Nurse Practitioner to serve in the Clinician of the Day program. "Maine Nurse Practitioners are health care experts who advocate for increasing access to high-quality, evidenced-based care for all Maine citizens"

Clothes Galore at Gorham's Mission of Hope Clothes Closet

GORHAM, ME (April 29, 2023) -- The FREE Clothes Closet at Cressey Road Church (Mission of Hope Clothes Closet) is open to all who need Fellowship, Friendship and Clothes. We are located at 81 Cressey Road, Gorham, and we are open on the FIRST and THIRD Saturday of each month from 9 o'clock AM to 12 Noon.

We focus on clothes

and accessories (gloves, scarves, hats, etc.) and welcome your donations during our operating hours. Clean clothes in good shape help the most, as they go right out to help people locally or in nearby communities. An attempt is made to have season appropriate clothes available to you. After we have displayed them for a time, they are donated to serve the people in need in

Ukraine.

In addition to helping folks find clothes, we want to spend time with you! There are tables to sit, talk and to share a cup of coffee and usually a goodie with volunteers or others. Come see us! You might make a new friend. All are Welcome!

WHY PEOPLE CHOOSE CHAMPOUX INSURANCE



STEPHEN NAGY
Personal Lines Agent

"I take the time to find the most comprehensive personal insurance package for each client. That's how I deliver on the promise."



CHAMPOUX INSURANCE

YOUR SECURITY IS OUR MAIN CONCERN

150 East Avenue - Lewiston, ME 04240
(207) 783-2246

www.MaineInsuranceOnline.com



Gorham WEEKLY

(207) 558-8488

Info@GorhamWeekly.com

28 State Street, Gorham, ME 04038
Mail: 89 Union Street, Suite 1014, Auburn, ME 04210

©TWIN CITY PUBLISHING, INC 2022® FOUNDED IN 1998

All materials found in GORHAM WEEKLY, INC. are copyrighted. All rights in those materials are reserved and permission to use them must be specifically granted by Gorham Weekly, Inc.

FREE e-subscriptions at www.GorhamWeekly.com

Advertising

For advertising information email ads@GorhamWeekly.com or call 795-5017.

Deadline

Deadline for ads and press releases is 5 p.m. on Friday preceding publication. Published every Thursday's publication.

Press Releases

All submissions, including photos, must be emailed to editor@GorhamWeekly.com.

Proofs

Publisher is not responsible for any errors in ad copy not inspected by advertiser prior to publication.

Jason Hodsdon Masonry
Chimneys • Chimney Cleanings • Masonry Demo
Repointing & Repairs • Culture Stones
Restorations • Stainless Steel Liners
We install professional chimney caps!
215-3557
North Monmouth
Jasonhodsdonmasonry@gmail.com

Seniors Not Acting Their Age

Joys of the First Day of Skiing



Skiers hold a snowplow on Prospect Farm Trails



A classic skier glides along on Boggy Brook Trail



The Prospect Farm Wildcat River Trail resembled a Christmas card scene

By Ron Chase

I didn't learn to Nordic ski until I was in my forties. Busy raising a family, there was insufficient time to learn a new sport until my sons grew older.

Thirty years later, I'm no more than a mediocre classic skier. I took a couple of skate skiing lessons in the early 2000s, but in the subsequent eight years my wife, Nancy, and I traveled in warm climates during the winter. I never progressed beyond learning to stay upright, some of the time. Shortly after our winter travels ended, I had my first knee surgery and decided to limit myself to classic skiing. Still, I love

Nordic skiing.

For many years, mountain hiking was my primary winter sport and Nordic skiing a secondary activity. Old age has raised its ugly head. Mountain hiking now puts more stress on my arthritic joints than any other outdoor activity. Thus, Nordic skiing has become my favorite winter sport. I've found the classic skiing kick and glide technique to be almost therapeutic for my hips and knees.

When biking and kayaking wind down in the fall and I've completed a few sometimes physically uncomfortable mountain hikes, I begin contemplating Nordic

skiing. Normally, Rangeley Lakes Trails Center in Dallas Plantation and Jackson Ski Touring in Jackson, New Hampshire, are the first Nordic ski areas to open within striking distance from my home in Topsham for a day-trip. Beginning in mid-November, I started monitoring their websites for positive news.

An early December snowstorm resulted in both ski areas beginning the trail grooming process. Eager to start the ski season, I called them to determine progress. Opening day for the Rangeley Trails was a week away. Fortunately, the high elevation Prospect Farm Trails at

Jackson Ski Touring were ready. I mounted the cargo carrier on the roof rack, gathered skis, boots, and poles and was on my way to New Hampshire.

Jackson Ski Touring has over 100 kilometers of trails. During peak season, there are numerous skiing options. However, at the beginning and end of winter, the Prospect Farm Trails, one thousand feet higher than the trails in Jackson, are often the best or only skiing available. That's no sacrifice for me; I'm a huge fan of the Prospect Farm Trails.

After purchasing a pass at the lodge in Jackson, I drove about five miles up Carter Notch Road to the Prospect Farm Trailhead. A relatively small parking area is a concern, but I was in luck, two parking spots were still available.

The weather was cool, breezy, and sunny when I began skiing in the winter wonderland on Wildcat River Trail. Snow clinging from trees in a mixed hardwood and conifer forest resembled a Christmas card scene. A woman was finishing her ski as I departed. The friendly skier reassured me the trail conditions were excellent. The first segment of Wildcat River Trail is a great warm up as

it begins with a downhill followed by a short climb to Boggy Brook Trail.

I had acquired my ski legs when turning right onto Boggy Brook Trail. Climbing gradually, I enjoyed exceptional views of the mountains in the east. Shortly after crossing Wildcat Brook, two skate skiers gracefully glided past. As I progressed, several returning skiers were met, all smiling.

Angling right, I began a gradual decline to a bridge. The aesthetic benefits of double-poling down a lengthy gradient are immeasurable; I feel young again.

Just beyond the bridge, I stopped to chat with Ken. I don't know his last name but he's loquacious, an excellent skier, and also an old man. We commiserated about old age and skied on. After a steep climb to the highpoint, I lingered to enjoy the view. A kayaking friend, Steve Fortin, arrived shortly after. A youngster in his sixties, we extolled the virtues of skiing and discussed Social Security benefits.

The predominantly downhill ski back to Wildcat River Trail is exceptional. Follow-

ing a short steep ascent on Wildcat River Trail, I began a rollicking ski on the elevated rolling Quail Trail. Approaching the top, I enjoyed partial views of Mount Washington. The exhilarating ski back to the parking area is almost all downhill. On the drive home, I experienced the tired satisfaction that few other activities provide.

My book, *Maine Al Fresco: The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine* narrates three exceptional Maine ski trips.

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



**Sealcoating • Hot Rubber Crack Filling
New Installations • Concrete
Reclaimed Asphalt • Loam**

**Our premium grade sealer inexpensively
adds years of life!**

**Protect your investment with our
wide range of products!**

Roadmark Industries

Mike Willett • 143 Pleasant Street • Auburn

(207) 240-5535



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

ROOTED
hair studio



Courtney



Michael

Accepting New Clients ~ Booth Rental Available

214 Minot Avenue ~ Auburn ~ 494-0900

Sen. King pushes for historical renovations, affordable housing

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Angus King (I-ME) is joining bipartisan legislation to expand affordable housing availability in Maine through redevelopment incentives of historic buildings. The Historic Tax Credit Growth & Opportunity (HTC-GO) Act would create a new 30 percent tax credit for qualified rehabilitation projects that cost less than \$3.75 million while maintaining the existing 20 percent credit. The bill lowers the threshold cost a project must meet to be eligible, bringing the HTC in line with other credits such as the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit.

The legislation further expands the category of eligible renovation projects by decreasing the

rehabilitation investment threshold from 100 percent to 50 percent of the project's expenses. Rehabilitation expenses would only have to exceed half of the project's cost to qualify for the credit, meaning, for example, that a project could include building an addition to an historic building as well as renovating the original structure. It also amends rules for tax-exempt entities – such as health care centers, arts organizations, community services, and workforce training providers – to allow better access to the credit.

“Communities across America are facing a serious affordable housing crisis, while there are large, historical structures nationwide that could be renovated to fight this problem,” said

Senator King. “The Historic Tax Credit Growth & Opportunity (HTC-GO) Act is a commonsense way to expand affordable housing availability by providing tax credits to people rehabilitating and modernizing existing historical structures. There’s no one easy solution to our housing affordability problems, but this bipartisan effort is an important step forward.”

“From Biddeford to Bangor, communities across Maine have benefited from the historic rehabilitation tax credit, whether through housing and job creation, cultural and economic revitalization, or all of the above,” said Tara Kelly, Executive Director of Maine Preservation. “Our 2020 economic impact report found that in the

prior ten-year period alone, these projects generated \$525 million of construction investment; rehabilitated 3.6 million square feet of commercial and residential space; created or preserved 1,911 housing units, of which nearly 1,300 were affordable; and generated between 200-700 full-time-equivalent jobs annually. Moreover, nearly 700 new full-time, year-round jobs were created through building maintenance and occupancy, resulting in \$13 million of income per year for families living in these communities.”

Elimination of the basis adjustment will increase the value of the credit and simplify transaction structures. Under current tax law, a building

owner must subtract the amount of credits received from a building's basis (the amount a property is worth for tax purposes). Eliminating this requirement will bring more value to all HTC projects by increasing the basis of rehabilitated historic buildings for building owners, providing additional depreciation and other tax benefits, and attracting more capital from tax credit investors.

U.S. Senators Susan Collins (R-ME), Ben Cardin (D-MD), Bill Cassidy, M.D. (R-LA), Maria Cantwell (D-WA), Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI), Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS), Roger Wicker (R-MS), Bob Casey (D-PA), Peter Welch (D-VT), Jerry Moran (R-KS), and Sherrod Brown (D-OH)

are also cosponsors on this legislation.

Senator King has long been committed to ensuring Maine people across the state can access safe and affordable housing. He recently introduced the bipartisan Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act to create nearly two million new affordable homes across the country – including thousands in Maine. He also worked with his Republican colleagues to improve affordability of rural homes and farms through the Access to Credit for our Rural Economy (ACRE) Act of 2023. Additionally, he has worked to expand affordable workforce housing on Mount Desert Island to support the economic development surrounding Acadia National Park.

Get ready for adventure this winter at Pine Tree Camp

ROME, ME - Pine Tree Camp's unique Adventure Day Pass provides an accessible way for Maine people with disabilities and their families to be engaged and active outdoors this winter through barrier-free day use of camp's 285-acre fully accessible campus on North Pond.

“Whether it's snowshoeing for the first time or experiencing the thrill of ice fishing, keeping people connected is the very essence of what we do,” said Pine Tree Camp Director, Dawn Willard-Robinson. “Adventure Day Pass is a way to bring our community together outdoors to experience the freedom of trying something new this



Pine Tree Camp Counsellors Kiara Warren from Waterville and Tina Hall from Freedom show Gracie Harper from Sangerville how to slide. Pine Tree Camp Adventure Day Pass brings Maine people with disabilities and their families together for winter day use of camp's 285-acre fully accessible campus on the shores of North Pond in Rome. Photo courtesy of Pine Tree Camp.

winter. It's a way for families to spend time together outdoors, have fun and meet new friends.”

Pine Tree Camp Adventure Day Pass will be offered four times this winter. Pre-registration is

required and full financial assistance is available.

- Activities include:
- New: Approach adaptive cross country skis
 - Snowshoeing
 - Ice fishing
 - Outdoor fire stations with s'mores
 - Indoor crafts
 - Warming hut
 - Plenty of surprises

“Our new adaptive Approach skis work with any boot the person is wearing and offer an exciting new way to explore our trails,” continued Dawn. “We're outfitted with kids and adult size skis and can't wait for people to come try them out.”

What: Pine Tree Camp Adventure Day Pass
When: Saturday, January 20
Saturday, February 17
Saturday, March 23
Saturday, April 20
10:00am – 4:00pm

Where: Pine Tree Camp, 114 Pine Tree Camp Road, Rome, Maine
How: Space is limited and pre-registration is required. Full financial assistance available. Register at this link: <https://pinetreesociety.org/camp-minder-info/>

Mainly Character opens 2024 scholarship applications

Mainly Character is now accepting applications for scholarships for Maine High School seniors graduating in 2024 and attending post-secondary schools. The goal is to award 12

scholarships at \$5000 each in 2024.

Mainly Character awards scholarships to seniors who demonstrate courage, integrity, responsibility, and concern for

others. We focus solely on these 4 areas of character when determining awardees.

Businesses and organizations throughout Maine have generous-

ly supported the Mainly Character Scholarship since its inception in 2001. For more information visit the Mainly Character Website, www.mainly-character.org.

Blanchard's Cash Fuel

**#2 Heating Oil and K-1
Off Road Diesel (Dyed)
On Road Diesel (Clear)
Propane**

225-3588

3 Conant Road, Turner
(on the Auburn/Turner Line)

Don't Shiver...We Deliver!

www.blanchardscashfuel.com

GRIDIRON
Restaurant
LEWISTON, MAINE

SCAN
HERE!

The Place where
every hour is
happy.

OPEN DAILY
11AM-9PM
DINE IN - TAKE OUT
207-777-6353
207-777-6354

1567 Lisbon Street Lewiston, Maine

We Deliver.

Uber Eats GRUBHUB Postmates DOORDASH

SUBWAY

Not all delivery services available at every restaurant. All (TM) related trademarks are owned by Frito-Lay North America, Inc. ©2020. Subway® is a Registered Trademark of Subway IP LLC. ©2020 Subway IP LLC.

Open for curbside pick-up, take out,
indoor dining, bowling and arcade!

American pub-style food and drinks.

A 7 Railroad Ave, Ste 102
Gorham, ME 04038

W www.jctbowl.com
P 207.222.7600

Arts & Entertainment

Maine State Ballet presents "Tap Tap Jazz"

FALMOUTH, ME – Jazz up your January (and February!) with Maine State Ballet in an evening of Broadway-style song and dance for the whole family. This annual show is a real crowd-pleaser, guaranteed to shake off the winter blues.

Maine State Ballet has a long history of sending dancers to major ballet companies, Broadway, and the Rockettes. Choreographer Jonathan Miele had a successful career on Broadway dancing with such notable stars as Carol Channing, Jane Powell, Bernadette Peters, and Robert Pres-

ton. Artistic Director Linda MacArthur Miele, in addition to dancing for the New York City Ballet, performed in several Broadway shows herself. Several Maine State Ballet alumni are currently working in film and on Broadway. Sara Esty recently performed as Meg in "Phantom of the Opera," and Tony Award nominee Robyn Hurder completed a run of "A Beautiful Noise." Performances run two weekends - Saturday, January 27 at 2 and 6 pm; Friday, February 2 at 7 pm; and Saturday, February 3 at 2 and 6 pm. The show length is approximately 1



½ hours with one intermission.

Choreography is by Emma Davis, Eliot Konzal,



Juliette Lauzier-Bridges, Ali Spurgin, Maine State Music Theater performer Glenn Davis, Janet Davis, and Broadway veterans Jonathan and Linda Miele. Performers include MSB's dance company members

and up-and-coming tap and jazz dancers from the MSB School. Tickets \$17-25 (discounts available for seniors & children) at mainstateballet.org and 207-781-3587.

WinterKids Downhill 24 registration is open

Registration is open for the 12th Annual WinterKids Downhill 24 at Sugarloaf on February 29-March 1, 2024. Presented by Agren and Zachau Construction, the WinterKids Downhill 24 is a 24-hour ski and snowboard challenge to raise money for

WinterKids programs – to help more kids build healthy habits through outdoor, winter activity. This is the only night of the year to ski under the lights at Sugarloaf. The Downhill 24 will start at 8 p.m. on Thursday and end at 8 p.m. on Friday

with a closing ceremony party in the King Pine Room at Sugarloaf. Teams can register to ski, ride, or skin-up for 24 hours. Registrations are available for corporate teams and individual teams, with teams of up to twelve people. There will be a full schedule

of events including a race arena, inflatable obstacle course, trivia, raffles, all night mid-mountain party, music, food, and more! For the 12th annual event, the organization aims to raise \$800,000. "The success of the event has not only changed our organization's trajectory but has also enabled us to expand our reach and serve thousands more kids each year," says Julie Mulkern, WinterKids' Executive Director. "The funds raised at the event are instrumental in their efforts to reach and positively impact the lives of over 50,000

children across all sixteen counties of Maine." This event will sell out. To register your team and learn more, visit www.winterkids.org/downhill-24. This event also supports the Carrabassett Valley community with local beneficiaries each year. This year's beneficiaries include the Adaptive Outdoor Education Center, Sugarloaf Ski Club, and the Western Maine Center for Children. Created in 2022, the WinterKids Downhill 24 Outdoor Fund supports organizations statewide through a community voting process in July. In the second

year of the fund, 12 public schools, 501(c)(3) nonprofits, and parks and recreation organizations received funds totaling \$51,000 to get more kids outside and active, including Pine Tree Camp, Teens to Trails, Aroostook County Action Program, Maine Youth Fish & Game Association, South Portland Middle School, Mariners Soar, Rangeley Lakes Regional School, Molly Ockett School, Town of Millinocket Parks and Rec, Saco Parks and Rec, City of Bangor Parks and Rec, and Quarry Road Trails.

The 12th Annual Downhill 24 is presented by Agren and Zachau Construction. Additional sponsors include Kittery Trading Post, WEX, Portland Pie Company, HERC Rentals/Pike Industries, Sugarloaf Inn/Three Rivers, Maine-Health, Franklin Printing, Patra Company, L.L. Bean, Winterstick/West Mountain Ski Company, Pape Subaru, Northern Light Health, AAA Northern New England, ACE Construction Services, Martin's Point Health Care, Capozza Floor Covering Center, Mountainside Real Estate, Family Chiropractic Associates, Kevin Browne Architecture, All States Materials Group, Orono Brewing Company, WEX, Bangor Savings Bank, Snowbound USA, Eighty8 Donuts, and Carrabassett Coffee Company.

It's 1973 and a hilarious Catholic family must outwit their parish priest in this nostalgic NEW COMEDY

Incident
at our Lady
Of Perpetual Help
By Katie Forgette

Jan 26 - Feb 4

ThePublicTheatre.org | 782-3200

UNDERWRITERS Platz Associates, Sun Journal, WOXO & WIGY
SPONSORS: Cross Insurance, Baxter Brewing Co., Berube's Complete Auto Care, NAPA Coastal Auto Parts

THE PUBLIC THEATRE

Injured on the job?

We should talk.

(207) 333-5103

Help@BilodeauLaw.me
BILODEAULAW.ME

BILODEAU LAW

Red Cross: Blood shortage may delay medical procedures

PORTLAND, ME — The American Red Cross is experiencing an emergency blood shortage as the nation faces the lowest number of people giving blood in 20 years. The Red Cross blood supply has fallen to critically low levels across the country, and blood and platelet donors are urged to make a donation appointment to help alleviate the shortage and help ensure lifesaving medical procedures are not put on hold.

Over the last 20 years, the number of people donating blood to the Red Cross has fallen by about 40%. When fewer people donate blood, even small disruptions to blood donations — such as the

nearly 7,000-unit shortfall in blood donations the Red Cross experienced between Christmas and New Year's Day alone — can have a huge impact on the availability of blood products and dramatic consequences for those in need of emergency blood transfusion. Blood products are currently going to hospitals faster than blood donations are coming in, and in recent weeks, the Red Cross has had to limit distributions of type O blood products — among the most transfused blood types — to hospitals.

“Small changes in blood donor turnout can have a huge impact on the availability of blood products and dramatic conse-

quences for those in need of an emergency blood transfusion,” said Dr. Eric Gehrie, executive physician director for the Red Cross. “More challenges may lie ahead as the potential for severe winter weather and seasonal illness may compound the dire blood supply situation. Donors of all types — especially those with type O blood and those giving platelets — are urged to give now.”

Don't wait — to make an appointment, download the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

The Red Cross and the National Football League (NFL) are partner-

ing this January, during National Blood Donor Month, to urge individuals to give blood or platelets and help tackle the emergency blood shortage. Those who come to give blood, platelets or plasma in January will automatically be entered for a chance to win a trip for two to Super Bowl LVIII in Las Vegas. For details, visit RedCrossBlood.org/SuperBowl.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities Jan. 8-31:

- Androscoggin
Auburn
1/27/2024: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Fairview Elementary School, 397 Minot Ave.
- Wales
1/31/2024: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Oak Hill HS, 56

- School Rd
Cumberland
Brunswick
1/19/2024: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., American Legion Post 20, 1 Columbus Drive
- 1/24/2024: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Elks Lodge, 179 Park Row
- 1/30/2024: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Brunswick Hotel and Tavern, 4 Noble St
- Cape Elizabeth
1/25/2024: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Saint Bartholomew Church, 8 Two Lights Rd
- Freeport
1/30/2024: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Hilton Garden Inn Freeport, 5 Park Street
- Harpswell
1/27/2024: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Elijah Kellogg

- Church, 917 Harpswell Neck Road
- Portland
1/31/2024: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Canopy Hotel, 9 Center St
- Scarborough
1/30/2024: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Saint Maximilian Church, 150 Black Point Rd
- South Portland
1/31/2024: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Eastpoint Christian Church, 345 Clarks Pond Pkwy
- Westbrook
1/26/2024: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Westbrook Community Center, 426 Bridge Street
- Yarmouth
1/26/2024: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., American Legion Post 91, 196 Main St

Scholarships open for adults pursuing certificates, credentials

PORTLAND & ELLSWORTH — Adults considering career changes or advancement in their field could be eligible for scholarships from the Maine Community Foundation (MaineCF).

Short-term scholarships are available for adult learners pursuing career changes or earning

workplace credentials for programs including Certified Nursing Assistant, phlebotomy, coding, cosmetology, and commercial drivers' licenses. Scholarship amounts are determined based on individual need up to \$1,500.

“These short-term awards are a great way for adults who are pur-



suing career changes or want to earn credentials in their workplace,” said Jackie Shannon, MaineCF scholarship manager. “We

encourage adult learners to take advantage of these scholarships.”

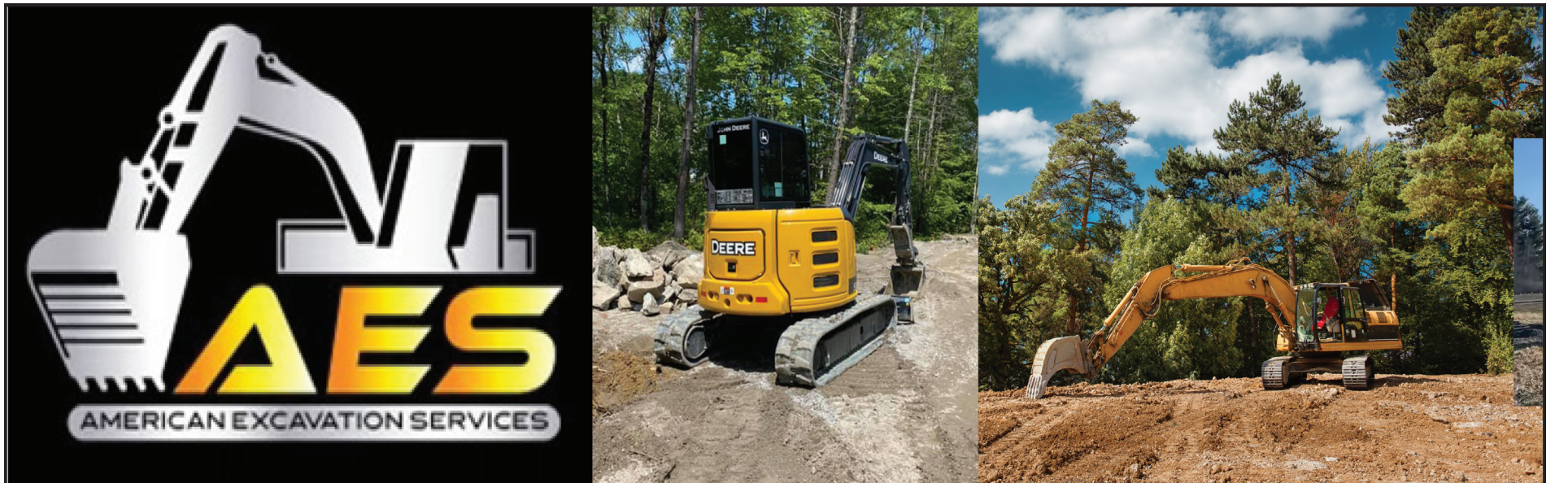
Scholarships are available to adult learners

including including new Mainers, students either returning to educational programs or enrolling for the first time, and those who are residents of the state corrections facilities.

Applicants are eligible for a short-term award if the program lasts less than a full semester and will earn a certificate or

credential at the end of the program, not a degree. Short-term scholarship applications are accepted on a rolling basis and considered as they are received. Decisions are typically made within three weeks of submission.

Visit www.maine.cf.org/scholarships for more information and to apply.



**Lot Clearing • Excavating Foundations
Septic Systems & Design • Driveways & Roads
Tree Removal • Culverts & Ditching**

**No Money Down
Financing Available**

**CALL TODAY FOR A
FREE ESTIMATE
(207) 500-8100**

A division of **AmericanBuildersMaine.com**

Give your Christmas tree a second life and new use at Popham Beach



POPHAM BEACH -- Last winter, the protective sand dunes along Popham Beach State Park were flattened by high water levels and large, erosive waves. The dunes are a front-line defense to protect adjacent upland pitch-pine habitat and park infrastructure. Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry is teaming up with the Maine Geological Survey for this pilot project using recycled Christmas

trees to rebuild the dunes. Why Christmas trees? Undecorated Christmas trees are perfect for this purpose, as their multiple branches and needles quickly catch windblown sand and have been used successfully in many other coastal states to help rebuild eroded sand dunes. And Popham Beach, with its exposure to daily onshore and side-shore winds, is the perfect location to use trees to trap

sand. How does it work? The Christmas trees will be placed in several rows along the upper portion of the beach to strategically trap windblown sand into multiple dune ridges. Over time, these ridges will stabilize further as dune grass regrows and expands, trapping even more sand. The pilot project, once permitted, will hopefully be constructed in February 2024.

Undecorated Christmas trees are needed to battle dune erosion. Take a stance, and turn your tree into a chance! Deliver your tree(s) to Popham Beach daily through January, from 9 AM - sunset, to the drop-off spot near the West bath house, located on the right side of the parking lot. You will see signage as you enter the park. Imagine your tree resting in the salty air. It's a symbol of love beyond compare.

Maine's all-original jam band Merther performs in Portland

PORTLAND, ME -- Hoboe Productions presents a Maine-grown original psychedelic fusion specialty, Merther, playing at Portland House of Music and Events on Thursday, Jan. 25, 2024.

Formed in 2012, Merther has played across New England, and extensively in Maine, growing a loyal following along the way. Merther's unique blend of psychedelia, funk fusion, rock and jamtronica places the band as one of the most original in Maine's "jamband" community.

Their debut album, "Long Time Coming," was released in 2018. The performance will showcase Merther's dynamic catalog of material, featuring 100% original music. Merther's lineup will include Josh Bowden (drums), Cam King (guitar, vocals), James Morang (bass, vocals) and Devin

Ryan (keyboards). The show will also feature Lee Ross, formerly of The Hornitz. Ross is well known in the New England jam circuit for his party-inspiring brand of solo funk and dance electronica.

Ross is a one-man-party act featuring saxophone, flute, big hair, cookies and a bunch of keyboards coming together with funk, reggae and a universe of music to dance to.

Ross will perform a short solo loop set with his setup to kick off the evening, and then perform with Merther for a few songs during the night.

On how Merther got its name, King said merther is a word that's used to describe a type of trance that one goes into while listening to music -- "a type of expanded state".

The band took a hiatus in 2023, only playing



one show in July, but is returning to the stage in 2024 with renewed vigor.

"Merther has morphed and changed throughout the years," said King. "Now is the most exciting time."

"The hiatus helped us all remember how special this thing was and still

is. How boundless and fun and epic the experiment that is Merther can be."

On reuniting with his bandmates, Ryan said playing with the band is about "playing good music with my really good friends. It feels good to be playing with my musical brothers again."

King said, "We are excited for this next chapter and aim to have tons of fun with as many people as possible in 2024."

According to the band's Facebook page, Merther will introduce a number of new songs to their catalog and revisit their older songs in a new light.

Enter the merther, Jan. 25.

TICKETS:
<https://www.premerther.com/event/89848-merther-portland>

EVENT INFO:
<https://www.facebook.com/events/259801687112876>

Best Source for Arts, Music and Theater!

Your Hometown Paper.

Follow us on Facebook!
Don't miss our giveaways!



Insulate. Be comfortable. Save money.

Incentives up to \$9,200 for income-eligible households.



Start today by scanning this QR code and see if you prequalify.

It takes less than 5 minutes.



Visit efficiencymaine.com for program details or call 866-376-2463.

Water that just works.



GOODWIN
WELL & WATER INC.



Maine's leader in water well drilling, pump installation, and geothermal installation.

207.224.7861 goodwinwellandwater.com

Gorham storyteller Chris Newcomb entertains with OTHER

GORHAM, ME -- Ever feel a bit other than those around you? Do you find yourself doing things other than what's expected of you? Do you process information in ways others don't? Can't seem to follow prescribed pathways? Are the words 'different' or 'creative' sometimes used to describe you? This 90-minute show is for you.

"OTHER" runs January 30 through February 4. It will be an evening of entertaining and thought-provoking stories by Gorham

storyteller, Chris Newcomb. A memoir, of sorts, Other will have you laughing, thinking, and pondering about what's normal and acceptable.

In 2022, Chris's show, "Think You Might Be Wrong," ran to full and sold-out houses. "Think You Might Be Wrong" is available to watch for free on Chris's YouTube Channel: Thanks for Thinking with Chris Newcomb. There are lots of other videos there as well. Take a gander and get to know

Chris's style.

About Chris
Chris taught gifted & talented students in Maine Public Schools for 30 years. He retired in 2020. He also has a degree in fine arts and currently produces woodblock watercolor

prints from his home in Gorham. The artist works primarily with abstract images. His work was featured at Sullivans Bakery last spring.

Previously, he produced interesting steel sculptures for the garden.



OTHER
A MEMOIR
of sorts . . .

An evening of entertaining and illuminating stories written and told by master storyteller

CHRIS NEWCOMB

Stories that challenge our assumptions of what's normal or acceptable.

ODD WEIRD DIFFERENT CREATIVE

Can't seem to follow prescribed pathways? You'll love this show

Footlights Theatre
190 US Route 1
Falmouth, ME 04105

Box office
(207) 747-5434
footlightsinfo@aol.com

Jan. 30th thru Feb 4th 2024
Tues- Fri 7pm
Sat. 2pm and 7 pm. Sun 2 pm only

For those who live in the village you may be familiar with his work as his yard is full of interesting and quite unique sculptures, trellises, and odd figures. A few of his "aliens" are found on Brighton Ave and a bright orange butterfly can be found at Baxter Library's Butterfly garden.

You can see some of his prints and steel on his website: www.chrisnewcombart.com

If you're interested in the creative process, Chris will be teaching a woodblock watercolor

printmaking class through Gorham Adult Ed. February 7 through March 6. See www.gorham.maineadult-ed.org for more information.

Chris invites you to come enjoy an evening of storytelling at its best.

"OTHER" runs:
January 30 through February 2 at 7 pm.

February 3 at 2 pm and 7 pm.

February 4 at 2 pm.

Falmouth Footlights Theatre, 190 US Route 1, Falmouth, ME. (207) 747-5434 for Tix. (\$20)

Donate your Christmas trees, help local wildlife

LIMINGTON, ME -- Saco River Wildlife Center is seeking Christmas tree donations for our over-winter patients. Please help us make sure they are ready and safe for our patients by removing any and all tinsel, decorations, lights, etc. Thank you in advance. You can drop them off anytime between 9 am - 5 pm any day of the week at our center! We are located at 238 River Rd, Limington, 04049.

Thank you in advance for spreading some Holiday cheer to our patients.

Interested in supporting our organization in another way? Donate today to help us save lives! Give-Butter.com/sacoriverwildlifecenter

PayPal: paypal.me/sacoriverwildlife

Venmo: @sacoriverwildlifecenter

Amazon wishlist: <https://a.co/6M8iezG>

Saco River Wildlife Center is a 501(c)(3) non profit organization whose mission is to provide rehabilitative care to Maine's ill, injured, or orphaned wildlife and to promote compassion and awareness through educational resources and programs.

Find us on Tiktok and Instagram: @sacoriverwildlifecenter

Want more info? Check out our website: sacoriverwildlifecenter.org

Life happens at home.

That's why we bring health care to you.
Skilled medical care in the comfort of your own home

- + Recovery from illness or injury
- + Chronic condition management
- + Navigating emotional wellbeing
- + Hospice care + Hospice House

ANDROSCOGGIN
Home Healthcare
+ Hospice

207.777.7740 | Androscoggin.org FOR Health. FOR Life.

Up to **6% APY¹**

Rise High-Yield Checking

Open NOW

OR Call 221-5000

Evergreen Credit Union

¹ APY = Annual Percentage Yield as of 9/1/23. Rates subject to change without notice. Federally insured by NCUA. Transaction requirements apply, visit egcu.org/rise for details.

\$10M in literacy grants for Maine schools

AUGUSTA, ME— The Mills Administration announced a \$10 million literacy grant opportunity for schools to support the development, expansion, and enhancement of evidence-based core literacy instruction and targeted interventions for Maine students. These literacy grants through the Maine Department of Education (DOE) are intended to build the capacity of year-long, core literacy instruction for all students and support core literacy instructional components, including phonics, phonemic awareness, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension.

Grant funds can be used by schools to compensate educators for participating in evidence-based literacy professional learning opportunities and internal instruction and program review processes, for professional learning opportunities on evidence-based literacy practices, to train instructional coaches, and to purchase evidence-based literacy materials.

“Literacy is a foundational skill that enables students to thrive in school, work, life, and as citizens in our democracy. This investment in literacy will help schools and educators provide all

students in Maine with evidence-based core literacy instruction and interventions. It’s an investment in the future of our state,” said Maine Education Commissioner Pender Makin.

The grants were developed following the work by a Maine DOE workgroup of literacy specialists to analyze early literacy programs in Maine to understand better which assessment measures, programs, resources, evidence-based practices, and educator supports have yielded strong student growth. The Maine DOE workgroup created recommendations, which were provided to the Maine Legislature in December 2022. This \$10 million grant initiative was designed out of LD 1526, which was passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor, to increase student reading proficiency in Maine.

“The literacy grant the DOE is providing is giving schools the opportunity to participate in the much needed and requested professional development around the science of reading. These funds will allow us to provide vital training in this area and the opportunity to purchase classroom materials

for literacy instruction. In RSU14, this means we can train more staff than we budgeted for using local funds. We are grateful to have this opportunity to support our staff,” said Christine Hesler, Director of Curriculum for RSU14.

“The Maine DOE literacy grant is a great opportunity for many districts to reach their goal of all students becoming readers. Through providing professional development, purchasing additional resources and materials that are focused on research-based literacy strategies, this goal is attainable. These funds will supplement the financial investment districts already commit to literacy instruction,” said Deb McIntyre, Executive Director of the Maine Curriculum Leaders Association.

The grants also build off extensive efforts by the Mills Administration to strengthen child literacy skills in Maine, including investing \$10 million through the Governor’s Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan to create and expand pre-k programs across Maine. In 2022, the Maine DOE released, Literacy for ME 2.0, a revamped state literacy plan grounded in research-based literacy practices and organized around key components

central to building comprehensive literacy programs.

Recognizing the vital importance of foundational literacy development and in response to school system inquiries related to early literacy program development, the Maine DOE and a team of Maine educators and educational partners, developed guidance to support School Administrative Units in designing and implementing systematic and explicit early literacy instruction. This guidance is designed as a supportive tool for early elementary educators, administrators, and literacy leadership teams to reflect on current practices and to potentially adjust educational design to support high-quality and evidence-based early literacy learning for all PreK to Grade 3 students. The Maine DOE also provides interdisciplinary instructional programming and resources around literacy for pre-K, kindergarten, and first grade.

The Maine DOE has obtained a preschool development grant through the federal government to support professional learning in birth through grade three literacy practices grounded in science and the Department is working to secure access to on-demand literacy modules that

cover a wide variety of literacy content grounded in science for elementary educators, including content related to brain development, instructional practices connected to the essential components of reading and writing, dyslexia, and multilingual learners.

Last month, the Mills administration expanded the state’s partnership with Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library, with 4,500 eligible Maine children currently receiving free, high-quality, age-appropriate books through the program. The Maine DOE recently announced a partnership with I’m Your Neighbor Books to provide Welcoming Libraries to 16 schools across Maine, with each library containing 60 books featuring stories of immigrant families and the diversity of America. The Maine DOE also hosts the Read to ME Challenge every February to encourage adults to read aloud to children and Read to Ride Summer, a contest that qualifies students who read at least 500 minutes over the summer a chance to win one of 48 donated bikes and helmets.

The DOE has also created several literacy-related educator groups, for educators and education organizations across Maine to share and devel-

op resources and guide the state’s literacy work, including the State Literacy Team, Maine Association for Improving Literacy (MAIL) Network, State Dyslexia Advisory Group, Screening Project & Dyslexia Plan, and the Higher Education Pre-Service Literacy Faculty Group. These groups also share information, facilitate text studies, and offer training related to dyslexia awareness, the Science of Reading, the neuroscience of the reading brain, systematic and evidence-based Tier I instruction to lower special education referral rates, support for striving readers, alignment and collaboration between general and special education for IDEA, and inclusive literacy instruction for students identified as having specific learning disabilities.

Literacy grants will be allocated to school administrative units (SAUs) and Education in Unorganized Territory (EUT) schools based on a formula model and the Maine DOE will be contacting SAUs & EUT directly through the Grants4ME platform with more information about their participation in the literacy grant program. Federal emergency relief funding was used to support these grants.

E-bike rebate pilot launches with limited scope and funding

PORTLAND, ME -- The Efficiency Maine Trust released the details on a new electric bike (e-bike) rebate pilot program yesterday. This program is in response to a bill passed last year by the Maine legislature to include e-bikes in the Efficiency Maine rebate program. The intent of the bill is to lower the barrier for purchasing e-bikes for lower income persons by providing a rebate on their purchase similar to the incentive for electric cars currently provided by Efficiency Maine.

The Bicycle Coalition of Maine (BCM)

is glad to see Efficiency Maine launch the program and appreciates the hard work that went into developing it. However, we are disappointed by the limited scope and funding of the program and the missed opportunity to provide more people in the state with access to this form of alternative transportation.

The use of electric-assist bicycles, commonly known as “e-bikes,” is one of the fastest growing transportation trends in the world today. Limited to a top speed of 20-28 mph, e-bikes provide effective, reliable transportation

within a 5-10 mile range, which is what 75% of trips in Maine fall within. Cargo e-bicycles permit groceries, goods, and children to be easily transported, and commuter specific models provide a great workforce option.

The bill (LD 256) stipulated that e-bike rebates should be made available to “recipients who are low-income and moderate-income individuals and to entities that serve those individuals.” The BCM has argued since the conception of this bill that the rebates should be available to individuals, similar to

the successful and very popular programs managed in Maine by South Portland, Portland and Freeport, as well as programs in Denver, CO, Vermont, and others around the country.

Efficiency Maine chose to only make the rebate available to “public housing agencies/authorities, community action agencies, or nonprofit organizations serving low- to moderate-income individuals” and only as pilot projects. Furthermore, the funding of the pilot is limited to \$50,000, which greatly limits the number of eligible groups. We en-

courage any entities who meet those requirements to review the call for proposals and apply to the program by the March 7, 2024 deadline.

The limited nature of this program denies individuals who meet the income eligibility criteria from accessing a lower cost transportation option (including those living in rural Maine) compared to gas-powered or electric vehicles. E-bikes provide a reliable form of active transportation to get to work, visit a doctor or pharmacy, run errands, and more, especially for

those who are unable to afford a car or have limited transit options. They also help Maine achieve its Climate Action Plan goals by reducing reliance on gas-powered cars, lowering vehicle miles traveled, and improve the health and quality of life of many Mainers by providing an alternative to automobiles.

We look forward to learning more about the uptake on this program and will continue to work with Efficiency Maine and others on implementing an individual rebate so more people can access e-bikes in Maine.

Agriculture education scholarship available

PORTLAND & ELLSWORTH — Graduating seniors from Maine high schools who are Na-

tional FFA Organization (Future Farmers of America) members and interested in pursuing a career

in farming, agriculture or natural resources are invited to apply for a Ronald P. Guerrette FFA Schol-

arship through the Maine Community Foundation (MaineCF).

The Guerrette FFA

Scholarship Fund provides one, \$1,000 scholarship per year. The application deadline is March 15. To learn more and to apply, visit www.mainecef.org/scholarships.

The fund was created in 1998 by friends and family of Ronald P. Guerrette of Caribou to honor his life and work.

The Maine Community Foundation brings people and resources together to build a better Maine through strategic

giving, community leadership, personalized service, local expertise and strong investments. To learn more about the foundation, visit www.mainecef.org.

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

Jason Hodsdon Masonry

We install stainless steel liners

215-3557
North Monmouth

Jasonhodsdonmasonry@gmail.com



THE DUMP GUY

Basement, Attic, Garage & Apartment Cleanouts

JUNK REMOVAL

Boat, Vehicle & Camper

(207) 450-5858 • www.thedumpguy.com Fully Insured



One solution for oxygen at home, away, and for travel

Introducing the INOGEN ONE It's oxygen therapy on your terms



No more tanks to refill. No more deliveries. No more hassles with travel. The INOGEN ONE portable oxygen concentrator is designed to provide unparalleled freedom for oxygen therapy users. It's small, lightweight, clinically proven for stationary and portable use, during the day and at night, and can **go virtually anywhere — even on most airlines.** Inogen accepts Medicare and many private insurances!

Reclaim Your Freedom And Independence NOW!



Call Inogen Today To Request Your FREE Info Kit 

1-877-402-1909



\$15M grant for Maine EV charging network development

WASHINGTON, ME – The Biden-Harris Administration today announced a \$15 million grant to the Maine Department of Transportation to fund the installation of 62 DC Fast Charger ports and 520 Level 2 charging ports in more than 70 cities and towns statewide. The award is one of 47 projects in 22 states and Puerto Rico selected to receive a total of \$623 million in funding to help build out an electric vehicle (EV) charging network under the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Discretionary Grant Program. This means EV drivers in Maine and across the country can charge their electric vehicles where they live, work, and shop.

The grants are a critical part of the Biden Administration’s goal of building out a convenient, affordable, reliable and made-in-America national network of EV chargers, including at least 500,000 publicly available chargers by 2030 ensuring that EV’s are made in America with American workers.

Under President Biden’s leadership, EV

sales have more than quadrupled, the number of publicly available charging ports has grown by nearly 70 percent, and more than 4 million EV’s are now on the road. Spurred by the President’s historic investments, private companies have announced more than \$155 billion in the EV and battery supply chain under the Biden-Harris Administration. EV’s are critical to our rapid and equitable transition to clean transportation systems, producing zero tailpipe emissions, reducing air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions – major contributors to climate change and key contributors to respiratory ailments.

“America led the arrival of the automotive era, and now we have a chance to lead the world in the EV revolution—securing jobs, savings, and benefits for Americans in the process,” said U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg. “This funding will help ensure that EV chargers are accessible, reliable, and convenient for American drivers, while creating jobs in charger manufacturing, installation, and maintenance for American work-

ers.”

The grants being announced today are made possible by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law’s \$2.5 billion Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Discretionary Grant Program, a competitive funding program, that includes construction of approximately 7,500 EV charging ports. The CFI program complements the \$5 billion National Electric Vehicle (NEVI) Formula Program to build the “backbone” of high-speed EV chargers along our nation’s highways. Thanks to the NEVI program, new charging stations in Ohio and New York have opened, and states like Pennsylvania and Maine have broken ground.

“Every community across the nation deserves access to convenient and reliable clean transportation,” said U.S. Secretary of Energy Jennifer M. Granholm. “The Biden-Harris Administration is bringing an accessible, made-in-America charging network into thousands of communities while cutting the carbon pollution that is driving the climate crisis.”

In Maine, the \$15

million grant will be used to fund the installation of 62 DC Fast Charger ports and 520 Level 2 charging ports in more than 70 cities and towns statewide. The project will serve urban and rural areas and encompasses disadvantaged communities.

“From my time working at the local level, I know that finding electric vehicle charging in a community is different from finding charging along highways,” said U.S. Transportation Deputy Secretary Polly Trottenberg. “USDOT is proud to make an investment that will provide Americans with convenient, straightforward charging options in their communities.”

“The Federal Highway Administration is pleased to announce this grant in Maine that will bring EV charging to people and communities all across the nation,” said Federal Highway Administrator Shailen Bhatt. “These investments through the CFI Program will grow our national EV charging network, support President Biden’s goals of achieving net-zero emissions for the nation by

2050 and promote opportunity for all Americans to enjoy the benefits of EV charging.”

As part of today’s announcements, the Federal Highway Administration is awarding \$311 million in funding to 36 “community” projects, including two Indian Tribes in Alaska and Arizona. These projects invest in EV charging and hydrogen fueling infrastructure in urban and rural communities, including at convenient and high-use locations like schools, parks, libraries, multi-family housing, and more.

Another \$312 million in funding will go to 11 “corridor” recipients whose projects are located along roadways designated as Alternative Fuel Corridors (AFCs). These projects will fill gaps in the core national charging and alternative-fueling network.

The CFI Program advances President Biden’s Justice40 Initiative, which set a goal that 40% of the overall benefits of certain federal investments flow to disadvantaged communities that are marginalized by underinvestment and overburdened by pollution.

More than 70% of the CFI funding announced today will support project sites in disadvantaged communities.

To provide a consistent charging experience for users that ensures a convenient, affordable, and reliable national charging network, EV chargers constructed with CFI funds must adhere to the same minimum standards established for NEVI-funded chargers. FHWA is working closely with the Joint Office of Energy and Transportation, which provides technical assistance on planning and implementation of a national network of electric vehicle chargers and zero-emission fueling infrastructure.

For a full list of grant recipients, visit: https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/cfi/grant_recipients/

For more information on President Biden’s Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and investments in electric vehicles, please visit FHWA’s BIL web site.

Information on technical assistance from the Joint Office is available at [DriveElectric.gov](https://www.driveelectric.gov).

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, immigrant, 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.

Legislative leaders welcome Sen. Mark Daly of Ireland



Left to right: Rep. Kristen Cloutier, Sen. Mark Daly of Ireland, Rep. Mo Terry and House Speaker Rachel Talbot Ross.

Majority Leader Mo Terry, D-Gorham, Assistant Majority Leader Kristen Cloutier, D-Lewiston, and Speaker of the House Ra-

chel Talbot Ross, D-Portland, welcomed Senate Chair Mark Daly of Ireland to the State House on Thursday. Daly presented members of

the American Irish State Legislators Caucus with a certificate recognizing the continuing relationship between the United States and Ireland.

Follow us on Facebook!
Don't miss our giveaways!



207-713-6090

Delivery Available

Also offering residential & commercial lawn mowing services

- MULCH
- LOAM
- COMPOST
- GRAVEL
- STONE
- SAND

1294 Sabattus Street
Lewiston

Loading Hours:
M-Th by appointment
Fri - 8 am to 5 pm
Sat - 8 am to 2 pm
Sun - 8 am to Noon



- Landscaping
- Hardscape
- Drainage Installs
- Retaining Walls
- Mowing
- Snow Plowing
- and more!

207-344-5212

Business Directory

ACCOUNTANT



AUSTIN ASSOCIATES
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Auburn 207-783-9111 Norway 207-743-7777
AustinPA.com

Your Financial Team

FLOWER SHOPPE



Sweet Pea Designs
FLOWER SHOPPE

777-1520

www.sweetpeafloraldesignsme.com

FREE DELIVERY L/A

PHOTOGRAPHY



PortraitEfx of Maine
Bell Studios, Inc.

Executive Portraits • Business photographs • Videos

Gray, ME (207) 657-6372
maine@portraitefx.com
www.maine.portraitefx.com

AUTO CARE

The Only Full-Service Gas Station in Auburn!

Poisson & Sons
Auto Care Center, Inc.

Computer Diagnostics • Yokohama Tires
Repairs • Alignments • Inspection Station
Gas • Clear K1 • Tune-ups • Brakes • Batteries

Dan & Don Poisson
dfpoisson@aol.com

260 S. Main St., Auburn • 782-9144

MASONRY



Jason Hodsdon
JasonHodsdonMasonry@gmail.com

Masonry • Culture Stones
Chimneys • Chimney Cleaning
Repointing & Repairs
Restoration
Stainless Steel Liners

Fully Insured
Free Estimates
20+ Years of Experience

North Monmouth
(207) 215-3557

PRINTING



EVERGREEN
CUSTOM PRINTING, INC.

2 Great Falls Plaza, Suite 1B
Auburn ME 04210
info@evergreencustomprinting.com

RICK OSGOOD
owner
207-782-0525
phone

Full Service Commercial Printer
Color & B/W Printing & Copying
Large Format • Posters
Booklets • Carbonless Forms
Letterheads • Envelopes
Business Cards • Labels • Tags
Design Service • and More!

CD'S

Discover The Truth About CDs!

CD Interest Rates Are At An All Time Low.
There IS A Safe, Guaranteed Alternative To
Increase Your Income.

Call now for a **FREE Guide:**
"10 Secrets Your Banker Doesn't
Want You To Know"

Call Our 24 Hour Order Line @782-3800

MARINE SERVICES

BOAT REPAIR SHOP

PONTES
Marine Service

Power by
MERCURY MerCruiser
OMC **VOLVO PENTA** **Perkins** **YANMAR** Velvet Drive

237 Lewiston Road • Topsham, ME 04086 • (207) 725-5997
www.pontesmarine.com

SELF STORAGE



AUBURN SELF STORAGE, LLC

23 Goldthwaite Rd.
Auburn, ME 04210

PO Box 715
Lewiston, ME 04243

PHONE 376-3325

CHIROPRACTOR

Family Chiropractic Center

Experience Life

1485 Lisbon Street, Lewiston
207.783.0078
www.familychiro.me.com

PAINTING

Interiors • Exteriors
Free Estimates

Drywall Repair
Pressure Washing

W.J. Libby
Painting Co.

WADE J. LIBBY
WJLibbyPainting@gmail.com CELL: 207.210.0605

SHIPPING



GOIN' POSTAL
Your Friendly Neighborhood Shipping Center

- Shipping
- Packing
- Receiving
- Copies
- Fax Service
- Mailbox Rentals
- Mail Order Fulfillment

Bring in this ad for 10% off UPS or FedEx Shipping!

UPS **UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE** **FedEx** **DHL**

9 N. River Road in Auburn ~ www.AuburnGoInPostal.com ~ 784-9900

CONTRACTORS

Fully Insured • 5 Year Workmanship Warranty

AMERICAN BUILDERS
Custom Building & Remodeling

Call 207-500-8100
For **FREE Estimates**

Call Tyler 500-8100
Finish Carpenter

Quality Work with References Available

PHOTOGRAPHY



Laura Elaines
PHOTOGRAPHY

www.facebook.com/LauraElainesPhotography
LauraElainesPhotography@gmail.com
(207) 212-5993

WEB HOSTING



Web Hosting
Web Design
Web Promotion
One Stop
207-442-9006

MAINE HOSTING SOLUTIONS

CONTACT US TODAY FOR POSSIBLE OPENINGS FOR YOUR AD IN OUR BUSINESS DIRECTORY!

Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

Jan 20, 21

LEWISTON, TOP-SHAM -- "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

Libertango - Astor Piazzolla

Huapango - José Pablo Moncayo

Old American Songs - Aaron Copland (with Philip Lima, Baritone)

Thunder and Lightning Polka - Johann Strauss, Jr.

Three Songs from Des Knaben Wunderhorn (The Boy's Magic Horn) - Gustav Mahler (with Philip Lima, Baritone)

Symphonic Dances from West Side Story - Leonard Bernstein

Tickets are \$25 in advance for adults; \$30 at the door. All concerts are free for students 18 and under or college students with identification.

A limited number of free tickets for parents accompanying children under 18 are available - call 481-0970 for more details

For more information visit MidcoastSymphony.org, call 207-315-1712, or e-mail info@midcoastsymphony.org

Jan 23

AUBURN -- from 4 PM - 5 PM - Teen Space, Auburn Public Library

Whether it be cro-

cheting, drawing, origami or something else entirely, The Teen Space Craft Club serves as a time to work on any arts and crafts related projects, share advice and learn something new. Crafters of any experience are welcome!

Jan 24, 31

AUBURN -- Anime & Manga Club from 4 PM - 5 PM - Teen Space, Auburn Public Library

Join us in the Teen Space to watch anime, read manga and share your fanart with fellow fans. While we have plenty of manga in the stacks, feel free to bring some of your own to share with the group!

Jan 25

LEWISTON -- THROWBACK THURSDAY MOVIE MATINEE

Our fifth event is Thursday, January 25, 2024, from 4 to 6 p.m. in Callahan Hall and will feature a movie open to all age groups. Come enjoy the sequel to the 90s classic that got us all quacking on ice and rooting for Team USA. Some snacks will be provided but patrons are welcome to bring their favorite movie treats along with them. 513-3135; www.LPLonline.org

Jan 26

AUBURN -- Think- ing in the Box: Let's Make

Comics! from 3 PM - 4 PM - Teen Space, Auburn Public Library

Have you ever wanted to make your own comic? If you're unsure what to write, not sure how to produce your comic or if you're interested in how comics are made, stop by the Teen Space and get some ideas!

Jan 27

GRAY -- First Congregational Church of Gray Saturday Night Church Supper on Saturday January 27, 2024 @ 5:00 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

Jan 27

BUXTON -- Try our delicious Haddock Supper Buffet - Saturday, January 27, 2024 - 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.

Jan 27

LISBON FALLS -- Dine In/Take Out Bean Supper Saturday, January 27th from 4:30pm - 5:30pm or SOLD OUT at Lisbon United Methodist Church, 14 School Street, Lisbon Falls, ME. Sponsored by the Methodist Women;

Adults \$9.00. Menu: Pea Beans, Hot Dogs, Potato Salad, Cole Slaw, dinner roll and a slice of pie!

FMI-Gwen Rioux 353-6814

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.

Feb 5

LEWISTON -- TAROT 101 WORKSHOP AT LPL

The Lewiston Public Library will host a Tarot 101 Workshop on Tuesday, February 6, 2024, from 5 to 6:30 pm in The Jeanne Couture Room. The Tarot 101 Workshop will feature the return of Kate Sheridan, a.k.a The Laundress. This workshop is free and open to both teens and adults.

FLAGSHIP CINEMAS
Premium

Premium entertainment at affordable prices!

VISIT ONE OF OUR FIVE MAINE LOCATIONS!

AUBURN | FALMOUTH | WELLS | WATERVILLE | THOMASTON

WWW.FLAGSHIPCINEMAS.COM

Registration is required and the link to sign up can be found on the Lewiston Public Library's website under events.

Please bring your own 78-card deck and something to take notes with you to the program. 513-3135; www.LPLonline.org

Mar 23, 24

LEWISTON, TOP-SHAM -- "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, TOP-SHAM -- "Cityscape, Seascape, Soundscape" Saturday, May 18, 2024, 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 -- PRO-

GRAMS 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

GORHAM LITTLE LEAGUE

Field Funding Campaign

The Gorham Youth Baseball & Softball Association is making a large capital investment to provide updates and add fields to accommodate practice and game schedules:

- Develop 2 fields at White Rock
- Purchase seasonal fence for Shaw Park
- Repair dugouts and fencing, build storage centers
- Add infield mix and relevel current fields
- Acquire tarps and field maintenance equipment
- Add scoreboards

VISIT: GYBSA.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION, INCLUDING DONATION LEVEL REWARDS

DONATE TODAY!

VISIT: tinyurl.com/GYBSA-DONATE or
MAIL TO: GYBSA, PO Box 176, Gorham, ME 04038

GYBSA is a non-profit 501(c)(3) tax deductible contribution

aginginbuxton now an AARP Age Friendly Community

BUXTON, ME -- On December 13, 2023, Buxton's aginginbuxton group was formally accepted into Maine's network of AARP's Age Friendly Communities.

"Buxton will be a strong addition to the net-

work. We have been inspired by their approach of 100% inclusive community participation," stated Patricia Oh and Karen Campbell of the University of Maine's Center on Aging in Augusta.

AARP's network

helps communities to become more livable and age friendly by improving the safety of streets, housing conditions, transportation, access to needed services and increased community participation. Buxton is now providing month-

ly USDA food boxes and fresh produce, driving people to medical appointments, cleaning yards and snow, and connecting people to county resources.

As an official Age Friendly Community, Buxton will have more access

to resources and research from a national network. We will have access to grants to expand upon our work and to possibly add services.

What do you think? Please join us to mingle, enjoy refreshments and

share your ideas! Saturday January 27, 2024 10 am - noon, at the Saco River Theater Salmon Falls Road, Buxton. (snow date Saturday February 3, 2024).

Or call us at 579-0854.

Create memories at Father-Daughter, Mother-Son Dances

TURNER, ME – The Leavitt Area High School Project Graduation committee is hosting two dances in the coming months: a Father-Daughter Dance on Saturday, February 10, and a Mother-Son Dance on Saturday, March 16. Both events will be held from 6 – 8 p.m. in the cafeteria at Leavitt Area High School in Turner.

Adults in the community are invited to take their children out for a memora-

ble evening full of music, food, and fun. These events are wonderful opportunities to dress up, bond, and create lasting memories. These are inclusive events open to all adults who want to bring a child dancing.

Tickets are available online for both events at a rate of \$35 per adult & child pair and \$5 for each additional child. Ticket includes admission, light refreshments, and a small gift bag for each child. If tickets



are still available, they will be sold at the door for \$45 per pair and \$5 for each additional child. All children must be accompanied

by an adult. Photos will be available for purchase separately.

For more information and to purchase tickets, vis-

it:

<https://bit.ly/Father-DaughterDance24>

<https://bit.ly/Mother-SonDance24>

Proceeds from both dances will benefit the Leavitt Area High School Class of 2024 Project Graduation. Project Graduation is a non-profit organization that coordinates an overnight event for graduating seniors on the night of commencement to enjoy a post-graduation

evening together without alcohol, drugs, or driving. Project Graduation events across the U.S. have greatly reduced the number of youth-involved vehicle accidents causing death or injury over the past three decades. Fundraising supports the cost of venue rental, activities, food, prizes, and transportation.

For more information on LAHS Project Graduation, please contact lahspjgrad@gmail.com.

Rocky's Ace Hardware 'Round Up for Kids' raises more than \$41K

BATH, ME – Rocky's Ace Hardware, one of the country's largest family-owned Ace Hardware dealers with 48

locations in nine states, kicked off the season of giving with its semi-annual "Round Up for Kids" fundraiser, raising a grand total

of \$41,376.96. Throughout the campaign, which took place during the month of November, customers rounded up their purchase



The difference was donated to the Children's Miracle Network (CMN) Hospital nearest to each store.

"More than decking our stores in garland and lights, it's this Round Up event that marks the beginning of the holiday season for us," said Rocky's Ace Hardware President Rocco J. Falcone II. "We are proud to support CMN in helping more than 10 mil-

The funds raised at the Bath store support Barbara Bush Children's Hospital in Portland. This is the second "Round Up for Kids" fundraiser Rocky's 48 stores have held this year, with 100 percent of the money raised going to benefit CMN hospitals.

"It is our honor to support CMN and the important work they do for children in our communi-

grateful for our customers — without their generosity, this campaign wouldn't be possible."

Since 1983, CMN Hospitals have helped fill funding gaps by raising more than \$7 billion. Its various fundraising partners and programs support the nonprofit's mission to save and improve the lives of as many children as possible.

Haddock supper buffet to be held in Buxton

BUXTON, ME -- Try our delicious Haddock Supper Buffet - Saturday, January 27, 2024 - 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.

STAPLES COWORKING

A NEW SPACE TO BREAK OLD RULES

COME TRY OUR NEW COWORKING AND MEETING SPACE IN AUBURN FOR FREE!

MENTION THIS AD AND GET 1 FREE WEEK OF OPEN SEAT COWORKING AND 1 HOUR OF MEETING ROOM USE.

OFFER VALID ONLY AT OUR 89 UNION ST. AUBURN, ME LOCATION

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.

HAVE YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO LEARN ABOUT PLAYING RPGs?

CHILDREN, TEENS AND ADULTS ARE WELCOME!

JOIN US THE 4TH SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH FROM 11-12:30 FOR RPG CLUB

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT YOUTH SERVICES OR CALL US AT 222-1190