



TWIN CITY TIMES

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Your Hometown Newspaper Since 1999

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Community Little Theatre announces 85th season lineup

AUBURN, ME -- The L/A Community Little Theatre (CLT) has announced its 85th season will open on October 25th with the Tony Award-winning musical 1776. That will be followed in March 2025 with audience favorite Nunsense, the timeless and endearing tale of The Little Prince in May, and the dynamic and whimsical The SpongeBob Musical in August.

The Founding Fathers come alive in the classic American musical 1776. Winner of three Tony Awards, including Best Musical, 1776 tells the story of John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, and Thomas Jefferson as they fight for independence against a deadlocked Continental Congress in a show filled with humor, romance, and tension. Witness the birth of a nation as our forefathers struggle to craft the Declaration of Independence! Directed by Celeste



CLT will open its 84th season with the musical comedy 1776.

Philippon, 1776 will run from October 25 to November 3.

An international phenomenon with more than 5000 productions worldwide, Nunsense is a zany and hilarious musical about the misadventures of five nuns who have discovered that their cook has accidentally poisoned all the other sisters in the convent. In dire need of funds to bury the dearly departed nuns, the sisters decide that the best way to raise the money is to put on a talent show, and thus begins a hail of fun and frolic! Jackie Ahlquist

will direct this "heavenly delight" that will run March 7-16, 2025.

In the beloved tale of The Little Prince, we meet a world-weary pilot whose plane has just crashed in the Sahara. A mysterious boy appears and asks him to draw a sheep. Distracted from his crisis, the aviator joins this young prince on an intergalactic journey of imagination and transformation, coming to terms with loneliness, friendship, and loss. Adapted from the book by Antoine de Saint Exupery, The Little Prince is full of whimsy and wonder. Directed by Britny Anderson, The Little Prince

Dempsey Challenge 2024 Special Section Pages 8-9



will run May 9-18, 2025.

Who lives in a pineapple under the sea and becomes the hottest star on Broadway? Why, SpongeBob SquarePants, of course! CLT will close the season with The SpongeBob Musical, a delightful show featuring irresistible characters and magical music. Based on the beloved animated series, this "deep-sea pearl of a show," is sure to make a splash with audiences young and old. Brandon Chaloux will di-

rect The SpongeBob Musical, which will run August 8-17, 2025.

Subscribers to CLT's 85th season can enjoy savings of 20 percent, priority seating, and one free flex pass. CLT is also offering a three-show flex subscription that enables purchasers to select any three shows to attend. Season subscriptions are now available online at www.lact.com. Individual show tickets will be available starting October 1st. For more in-

formation, contact the box office at boxoffice@lact.com or leave a message at 783-0958.

L/A Community Little Theatre is located at 30 Academy Street in Auburn. A volunteer, non-profit organization, CLT has produced live theatre since 1940, with the goal of providing affordable and quality entertainment in the performing arts as well as education, training, and experience in theatre for area youth.



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Hebert Construction named one of Maine's Best Places to Work

LEWISTON, ME -- Hebert Construction LLC is thrilled to announce its recognition as one of Maine's Best Places to

Work. This prestigious award highlights employers who prioritize employee well-being, foster a positive work environment, and demonstrate a commitment to creating a thriving workplace culture.

"This award is particularly meaningful because it reflects the direct impact of our team's feedback," says Tim Hebert, CEO of Hebert Construction. "Last year, we took our employee survey results to heart and implemented significant changes to address the areas identified for improvement."

Over the past year, Hebert Construction has focused on enhancing

communication, increasing accountability, investing in training and development, and upscaling employee benefits. Key initiatives include:

Enhanced Communication: Implementation of quarterly company-wide meetings to foster transparency and open dialogue.

Increased Accountability: Strengthening collaboration and follow-through on projects.

Investment in Training: Launching a focused training program to provide hands-on learning experiences, and leadership development initiatives for project managers and superintendents.

"We believe that investing in our employees is an investment in the future of Hebert Construction," continues Hebert. "We are committed to creating a workplace where everyone feels valued, supported, and empowered to contribute their best. This recognition is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our exceptional team."

Hebert Construction is incredibly proud to be recognized as one of Maine's Best Places to Work. The company remains dedicated to fostering a culture of continuous improvement and creating a workplace where its employees can thrive.

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

Newsmakers, Names & Faces

AmeriCorps members recognized for distributing food

MAINE -- Maine Governor Janet Mills recognized AmeriCorps members serving in the VISTA program for their efforts working with the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry's Maine Ending Hunger Corps for the AmeriCorps VISTA Food Security Initiative.

These 23 members recruited nearly 3,000 volunteers and distributed nearly 1,147,000 pounds of food to people in Maine. As part of the Food Security Initiative they participated in a knowledge sharing community, connecting with organizations increasing food security across the country.



Call for submissions for veterans' art exhibition

AUGUSTA, ME—The Maine Arts Commission is honored to announce a call for submissions for the upcoming Maine Veterans Art Exhibition, set to be displayed at the State Capitol Complex in Augusta. This significant exhibition provides a unique and powerful platform for Maine Veterans to showcase their artistic talents and share their personal experiences through visual art with the wider community.

Togus Theater in Chelsea. This special event will honor the selected veteran artists and feature speeches, artistic performances, and an award ceremony presented by the Quilts of Valor Foundation. Veteran artists who have not been awarded a Quilt of Valor, will receive a custom-made quilt as part of the ceremony. The event will also include a panel discussion featuring veteran artists. The ceremony is a collaboration between the Maine Arts Commission, the Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services, Togus VA, and the Quilts of Valor Foundation.



Heather Hancock, (Air Force) receives a Quilt of Valor at the 2023 Veterans ceremony in the Hall of Flags at the Maine State House.

Veterans across Maine are invited to submit their visual artwork for consideration in the 2024/2025 Veterans Art Exhibit. Selected pieces will be prominently exhibited at various prestigious locations within the State Capitol Complex, including the second floor of the Burton M. Cross Office Building, and the Maine Arts Commission offices. The exhibition will run from October 8, 2024, through February 28, 2025.

Submission Guidelines and Deadlines: The submission deadline for artwork is September 28, 2024, by 5:00 PM EST.

be notified of their selection status by September 30, 2024. The Maine Arts Commission will coordinate with selected artists for art drop-off and other logistics.

matted as "Title / Year / Size of Work / Medium / Price" (up to 2,000 characters).

In recognition of National Veterans and Military Families Month in November, the Maine Arts Commission will host a celebratory ceremony on November 13, 2024, from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM at

Each Maine Veteran artist may submit up to two pieces of two-dimensional, mounted or framed visual art. The artwork should be ready for display, securely framed, or professionally mounted with appropriate picture wire, and should not exceed 20 pounds in weight.

All applications and required materials must be submitted through the online Application Portal. Applicants are encouraged to review the details thoroughly and reach out to the Commission with any questions before submission.

This project is inclusive and open to all veteran artists, regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, age, military status, sexual orientation, marital status, or physical ability.

Submissions will be reviewed on September 29, 2024, and artists will

Application Requirements:

A brief Bio and/or Artist Statement, describing the artist's background, medium, typical subject matter, and themes (up to 1,300 characters).

The Maine Arts Commission is proud to provide this opportunity to honor the artistic achievements of Maine's Veterans and to celebrate their contributions to the cultural fabric of our state. We look forward to showcasing the powerful and evocative works in this important exhibition.

A list of works, for-

For more information and to submit your work,

THE MAINE ARTS COMMISSION PRESENTS

A CALL FOR VETERAN ART

For a special exhibition to honor the art and creativity of Maine Veterans.

Featuring a celebration at Togus Theater, artistic performances, and a Quilts of Valor ceremony.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
SATURDAY
SEPT. 28, 2024
5:00 PM

Submit online:
WWW.MAINEARTS.MAINE.GOV




please visit the Maine Arts Commission's website or contact Program Director Khristina Kurasz at 207-287-2713.

The Maine Arts

Commission fosters and encourages public interest and participation in the cultural heritage and artistic expression in our state. We pursue our mission through partnerships and collaborations, initiatives, advocacy, and grants for organizations, individual artists, communities, and schools throughout Maine.

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Sen. Rotundo attends meeting on mental health services in Lewiston

AUGUSTA, ME — On Monday, August 26 Sen. Peggy Rotundo (D-Lewiston) attended a meeting at St. Mary's Hospital in Lewiston for an update on the hospital's plans to enhance behavioral health services in the area.

"I enjoyed learning how St. Mary's staff will expand on their excellent work to treat people with mental health needs in the Lewiston/Auburn region," said Sen. Rotundo. "As Chair of the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee, I was pleased to see that funding was in-

cluded in the supplemental budget to address mental and behavioral health needs in the wake of the October 25 tragedy. I look forward to keeping in close contact with hospital administration on how this increase in capacity is helping more Mainers."

Sen. Rotundo sponsored a bill — LD 2105, "Resolve, to Protect and Enhance Access to Behavioral Health Services in Androscoggin County and Surrounding Communities" — this year to bolster mental health services at St. Mary's Hospital in Lewiston to help manage



Left to Right: Brad Coffey, Esq.; Representative Margaret Craven; Doug Smith, MD; Mark Anthoine; Cindy Seagar-Miller; Ted Walworth, MD; Senator Peggy Rotundo; Charles Dingman; Greg Bowers; Karen Sullivan; Jayne Van Bramer; Steve Grubbs; Aaron Landry; Deb Anthoine

mental health issues "upstream", before they may become violent episodes. The bill passed both hous-

es of the Legislature and was placed on the Special Appropriations Table to await funding. Given the urgent need for these services, however, this funding was included in the state budget.

The supplemental budget, LD 2214, includes \$8.5 million for St. Mary's Hospital and an additional \$1.9 million to ensure that Tri-County Mental Health will be able to continue to provide badly-needed counseling services for those with mental health needs. It also includes \$5 million to establish a Maine Mass Violence

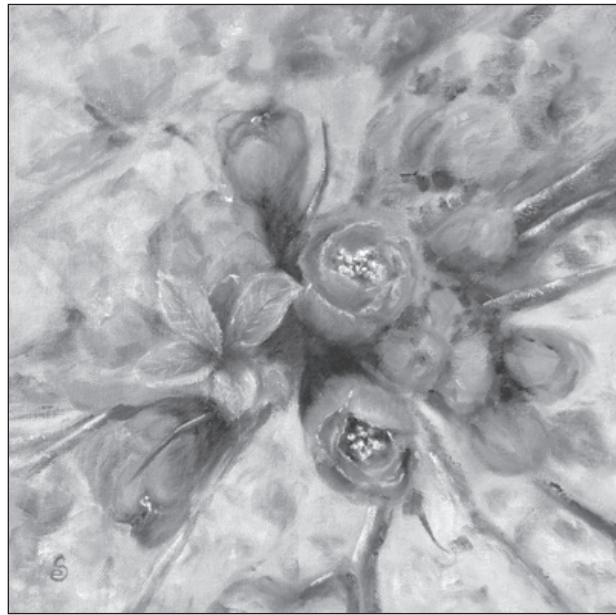
Care Fund, to provide coverage in the future of physical and mental health expenses not covered by insurance for Maine people impacted by mass violence.

St. Mary's plans to open its Day Hospital Program by January 2025, renovate its Chemical Dependency Unit by mid-2026 and expand its Behavioral Health Emergency Department by mid-2027. To learn more, please go to <https://stmarysmaine.com/services/behavioral-and-mental-health-services/>.

New paintings on display, for sale at WHA's Rotating Art Gallery

LEWISTON, ME -- The Woman's Hospital Association (WHA) Rotating Art Gallery at Central Maine Medical Center in Lewiston is proud to display the paintings of Elisabeth Salberg and Mariah Pfeiffer during the month of September.

Salberg began painting in 2013 after retiring from a 34-year career as a Registered Nurse. She has exhibited her paintings in Bath, Belfast, Brunswick, Falmouth, Hallowell, Kennebunkport, Norway, Portland, Sanford, and Yarmouth, as well as locally in Auburn and Lewiston. "Nature, light, color, form and texture have always fascinated me, and the beauty of Maine constantly confronts me, encouraging me to turn what I see into a painting



"Spring's Early Flowers" by Elisabeth Salberg (photo supplied by artist)

that others might enjoy." A member of Maine Women in the Arts, her website is: oilpaintingsofmaine.com.

Mariah Pfeiffer is a printmaker, watercolorist, and nurse. She believes that there is always some-



"287 Turner St" by Mariah Pfeiffer (photo supplied by artist)

thing beautiful and inspiring to notice if you pay attention, and that focusing on small details can help us stay present to the constant

rhythm of change. In this series of paintings, she was inspired by moving back to the Lewiston/Auburn area and noticing the deep his-

tory of our area as reflected in its architecture, and the changes of our community shown in how buildings are updated or fall into disrepair. At least one of these buildings has been demolished since it was painted, and others have been restored to their full glory. She hopes these paintings serve as a record of change and a reminder of beauty in the details.

The works on display may be purchased through the WHA Gift Shop located adjacent to the main lobby at Central Maine Medical Center. A percentage of sale proceeds benefits patients of CMMC.

Comedy hypnotist coming to Great Falls Comedy Club

AUBURN, ME — Make laughter a priority this week at Great Falls Comedy Club on Friday and Saturday night with Comedy Hypnotist Bob Lauver.

Lauver, a veteran of the comedy club circuit, comes to town this weekend to entertain and put you under his spell for three shows: Friday at 7:30 and Saturday at 7:30



and 9:30 for an extreme late night experience.

Tickets can be found at [https://www.great-](https://www.greatfallscomedyclub.com)

fallscomedyclub.com or purchased at the door. Great Falls Comedy Club is located inside Craft Brew Underground at 34 Court Street, Auburn, under the red awning.

For more information contact the club at info@greatfallscomedyclub.com or by phone at 207-200-5366.

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Get ready for emergencies with National Preparedness Month

PORTLAND, ME — The American Red Cross of Northern New England is encouraging everyone to take critical actions during National Preparedness Month this September to be ready for worsening disasters. Deadly storms and floods, raging fires and extreme heat are becoming more frequent and intense due to the climate crisis and families are experiencing the effects.

“Disasters can happen at any time, often without warning, changing lives forever in just minutes,” said John Montes, Red Cross regional disaster officer. “As our climate changes, it’s critical to help protect your loved ones and National Preparedness Month is the ideal time to get your household ready for emergencies.”

HOW TO PREPARE
Get ready for disasters by

making a plan to stay safe, gathering important supplies and knowing how you’ll stay connected. Follow these steps to prepare for emergencies:

Depending on the emergency, you may need to stay where you are or go somewhere else to stay safe. If you may need to leave, think about where you will go, how you will get there, where you will stay and what you’ll take with you. Plan well in advance if you’ll need help leaving or use public transportation.

Next, gather and organize critical supplies — like food, water and medicine — into a go-kit and a stay-at-home kit. Your go-kit should include three days of supplies that you can take with you. Your stay-at-home kit should have two weeks of food and water, and a one-month



supply of medications, if possible.

Customize your kit to meet your household’s specific needs. If you have young children, don’t forget formula and diapers. If you have pets, include leashes, carriers, food, bowls, litter and a litterbox.

Make a plan to reconnect with loved ones if you are separated or if the phone or internet is down. Write down important phone numbers on a contact card and carry it with you.

Finally, download the free Red Cross Emergency app for real-time weather alerts and expert advice in both English and Spanish.

And don’t forget to sign up for free emergency alerts from your local government to get critical information during local emergencies.

CLIMATE CRISIS EFFECTS This year, experts forecasted active hurricanes and wildfires — predictions that are proving to be true. In July, Hurricane Beryl broke records as the earliest Category 5 storm ever recorded and in early August, Hurricane Debby brought widespread flooding to much of the East Coast. So far in 2024, 2.7 million more acres of land have been burned by wildfires compared to all of 2023. Plus, 2024 is on track

to be the hottest year on record according to experts. Altogether in 2024, the U.S has experienced 19 climate disasters, each with losses of over a billion dollars — more than double the average from the last 40 years.

Locally, the Red Cross of Northern New England responded to 35 weather-related disasters in Maine since last September, assisting 350 people. Most notably, was our response to catastrophic flooding in the mid-coast area last December. During that response, the Red Cross supported four emergency shelters serving more than 100 residents; served more than 600 meals and distributed more than 800 disaster relief supplies to those in need.

When these disasters happen, the Red Cross is there providing food, shelter and comfort to ensure

no one faces such a difficult time alone. To help families better cope with this worsening climate crisis, the Red Cross is also enhancing our support for those who need it most and increasing our capacity to respond to non-stop disasters.

“The best defense during an emergency is to be prepared, and that’s true for both our individual families and our entire community,” said Montes. “During National Preparedness Month, consider donating to help people affected by disasters big and small, or making an appointment to give blood. If you have the time, take a first aid class or put on a red vest and join us as a volunteer.”

Visit redcross.org or call 800-RED CROSS (800-733-2767) to learn more today.

Great State of Illustration in Maine shines at UMA

AUGUSTA, ME - The Illustration Institute, based on Peaks Island in Maine, brings their energetic, multifaceted exhibition The Great State of Illustration in Maine to its first educational venue, the Charles Danforth Gallery at the University of Maine at Augusta. The exhibition, which includes the work of more than eighty pub-

lished Maine illustrators, will be on view September 3 through October 18 with a reception September 12 at 4 p.m.

The Great State of Illustration in Maine includes works by time-honored Maine talents like Dahlov Ipcar and Ashley Bryan and many emerging artists, and in media like watercolor, pen and ink, and woodcuts.

The diversity of methods, subjects, and artists charge the exhibition with energy, humor, and emotion, transforming the space of the Danforth Gallery into a glittering showcase of some of Maine’s most talented and creative artists.

The exhibition will include four events open to the public: a reception September 12 at 4 p.m.; a

talk by Scott Nash about Getting Started as an Illustrator on October 1 from 12 - 1 p.m.; a panel discussion on Women in Illustration moderated by Jess Esch on October 8 from 12 - 1 p.m.; and an artist presentation by Steve Constanza on October 17 from 4 - 6 p.m. The public are welcome and invited to all these events.

The Great State of

Illustration in Maine is on view from September 3 - October 18, 2024, and the public is welcome to visit the gallery in Jewett Hall, which is open on Mondays through Fridays from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Follow the Danforth Gallery on Instagram and Facebook @UMADanforth and on their website: danforth.uma.edu.

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Friends of Feral Felines holding used book sale

WESTBROOK, ME -- Friends of Feral Felines is holding a used book sale on Saturday, September 21 from 9am to 2pm at the Westbrook Community

Center, 426 Bridge St. in Westbrook.

F of FF is a nonprofit supporting abandoned cats in southern Maine with veterinary care, food, and

housing. Sales help both the homeless cats and the community by reducing the numbers through trapping, neutering, and homing. FMI www.feralfelines.net

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Deadline is Friday by five pm.

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Seniors Not Acting Their Age

Kayaking during the Campobello Fog Fest



A tandem kayak team paddles next to Sugarloaf Rock at Liberty Point on Campobello Island



Paddlers navigate through narrow channels on the east side of Campobello



Campobello Island is famous for its rugged cliffs

Campobello Island in New Brunswick is located across the International Bridge from Lubec. Its rugged spectacular coastline seems like a continuation of the Bold Coast which extends north from Cutler to West Quoddy Head in Lubec.

According to the book *Moondoggle*, were it not for a historical happenstance, Campobello would likely be part of the United States. When inspecting the area during boundary negotiations, American diplomat, Daniel Webster, got seasick and declined to sail around the island. With his blessings, the Webster-Ashburton Treaty in 1842 established the international border west of Campobello even though it was a few feet from Lubec and miles from Canada.

Recently, a large group of Mainers traveled to Campobello for six days of kayaking, biking and hiking during the annual

Fog Fest. Campobello has a Fog Fest for a good reason: fog is very common. While camping at Herring Cove Provincial Park, we experienced a steady diet of soupy haze throughout our stay.

Sea kayaking the Campobello coastline was a primary goal for most of the group with the rugged east side of the island our top priority. During our first full day, dense fog precluded a safe kayak trip, so we biked and hiked the Roosevelt Campobello International Park (RCIP) trails.

The sun was shining when we arose the following morning but patchy fog persisted along much of the coastline. Twelve kayakers in eleven kayaks decided to organize a shuttle in hopes of completing a journey along the east shore if the foggy conditions improved.

Since light to moderate winds were predicted

out of the southwest, we planned a traverse south to north. Two vehicles were left at Mill Cove in the northeastern corner of the island for a return shuttle. While leaving the cove, one vehicle was temporarily stuck in sand, causing a short delay and a strenuous workout for three members of the party.

The entire group met at a gravel beach on the southern shore of RCIP called Lower Duck Pond. Fog still lingered along the coast but appeared to be lifting. We prepared for potential foggy paddling by consulting our maps, taking a compass bearing, and placing fog horns and fog lights on our kayak decks. The trip was on.

Not only was the fog a concern, but rounding sometimes treacherous, Liberty Point, was a matter to be reckoned with. Located about a mile east of the put-in, we hoped to minimize any risk by arriv-

ing at about high tide.

Fog diminished as we approached the formidable promontory. Massive Sugarloaf Rock marks the extreme end of the point. Calm seas allowed for safe passage on both the inside and outside of the impressive monolith.

The fog was moving offshore as we turned the point and the magnificent coastline was visible facing north. However, nearby Grand Manan Island remained enveloped in fog throughout the day.

Our hardy band progressed north with the assistance of a light tailwind. In a couple of locations, the high tide allowed paddlers to negotiate through narrow channels between the coast and offshore boulders. We stopped at picturesque Raccoon Beach for some boat adjustments and a snack.

After passing boulder-strewn Con Robinson Point, twelve kayakers tra-

versed expansive Herring Cove to prominent Eastern Head at the far end. From that escarpment, the dazzling cliffs continue almost unabated to Mill Cove.

Most of the remaining journey along the bluffs was in calm water. However, we encountered tricky unpredictable currents next to some headlands. Not far offshore the powerful Fundy Bay tides were causing turbulent seas; an added incentive to stay close to the cliffs. Shortly before entering Mill Cove, we passed an immense fish weir that appeared to be operational.

The tide was flowing out when we entered Mill Cove. After landing on the rocky beach, an extended carry was required to reach the vehicles.

A handful of intrepid paddlers opted to lengthen their day by kayaking to Head Harbor Lightstation at the northern terminus of the island. Most of us

were satisfied with a truly exceptional paddling experience. For many, the lighthouse was an objective for another day; hopefully from the west side of the island.

My book, *Maine Al Fresco: The Fifty Finest Adventures in Maine* narrates eight sea kayak trips in Maine including an exciting foggy expedition along the entire Bold Coast.

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

OUT Maine receives grant from Jane's Trust Foundation

ROCKLAND, ME — OUT Maine has received a sizable grant from Jane's Trust Foundation, which will be used to develop and implement a multi-year approach to address the critical need for affirming mental health re-

sources for LGBTQIA2S+ youth and families in Maine.

The grant itself will fund OUT Maine's curriculum development, training programs, support groups, and provider networking opportuni-

ties, with a strong focus on evaluation to assess effectiveness and impact. The nonprofit will be partnering with local universities to train new mental health professionals in supporting and affirming the LGBTQIA2S+ com-

munity.

"Especially in rural parts of the state, queer youth can feel extremely isolated, and experience higher rates of depression and suicidal ideation than their peers," says OUT Maine's Executive Direc-

tor Sue Campbell. "This grant from Jane's Trust Foundation will help us educate the next generation of therapists and counselors to give these kids and their families the support they need."

Jane's Trust Founda-

tion is "a family foundation dedicated to creating a more socially just and environmentally sustainable world in which all people thrive through education and deep connections with family, community, and the natural world."

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Arts & Entertainment

La Rencontre features Broadway show performances tonight

LEWISTON, ME—The Franco Center opens its La Rencontre series Thursday, Sept. 12. Doors open at 10:30 a.m. for socializing. Lunch is served at 11:30 a.m. followed by performances from the Center's Best of Broadway season opener.

This event is open to everyone including the community of Franco-American and French-speaking families in the area. It is an opportunity for everyone to connect with each other and with their neighbors of diverse cultures, languages, and backgrounds. Meals and stories will be shared, friends will be reunited, and memories will be made.

The menu includes pot roast, squash, rolls, and carrot cake.

For more information, call the box office at 207-689-2000.

The La Rencontre series is sponsored by TV5 Monde and the Quebec Delegation Boston. Season underwriter: Maple Way Dental. Media sponsors: Turner Publishing; Sun Journal; Uncle Andy's Digest; Bennett Radio Group; WIGY 105.5/95.7; WOXC 92.7/100.7.

The Franco Center offers tours of the former St. Mary's Church with stories and exhibits about the French-Canadian immigrants; miscellaneous French entertainment throughout the performance year; a French library with diverse resources including oral histories; and an escape room adventure that uses history displays to find clues.



Part of the Best of Broadway cast and crew include, from left: Torrey Gimpel, music director; Bette Sanborn, assistant director; Jake Hodgkin, director; and Samantha Herriot, choreographer. Emily Jancauskas photo.

The Franco Center is at 46 Cedar St., Lewiston. Parking is in the Oxford Street mill lot. Handicap access in on the Lincoln St. Side of the building.

UUCB Concerts for a Cause presents Pousette-Dart Duo

BRUNSWICK, ME -- Jon Pousette-Dart, best known as leader of the classic 70's folk rock group, the Pousette-Dart Band, will be performing with bandmate Jim Chapdelaine at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Brunswick on FRIDAY, September 20th, 2024 at 7:30 pm as part of the UUCB Concerts for a Cause. All proceeds from the concert will be donated to the Brunswick Area Teen Center and Maine Family Planning.

The Pousette-Dart Band was a mainstay of album radio, a favorite on the college circuit and became one of the busiest touring groups in the US working with such acts as The Byrds, Bonnie Raitt, Little Feat, The Eagles, James Taylor, The J. Geils Band, and many more. They released 4 albums of harmony-filled,



country-tinged folk-rock, and got plenty of radio play with songs including "Amnesia," "What Can I Say," and "Freezing Hot."

Although the band formally broke up in 1981, Jon Pousette-Dart continued writing and producing and recording again on his own. He's turned out five solo albums. The band members reunited in 1991 for a series of concerts, and a "Best Of" album was released in 1994. Since then, collaborations among various former personnel have continued,

Jon is back on the road with his longtime fellow bandmate, Jim Chapdelaine on guitar/vocals, who co-produced several of Jon's records. As a Duo they perform decades of music from the Capitol years up to the latest solo releases. Jon Pousette-Dart DUO has become one of the top Country and Folk artists in the 2024 music scene. These long-touring musicians will perform the music known by heart by a whole generation.

Please note that this concert is on a FRIDAY, which is a departure from most of the other Concerts for a Cause.

Tickets: \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door, \$10 Students/Children. Available at the church office, Gulf of Maine Books, or online at <https://ticketstripe.com/pousette>.

Auburn, Great Falls Construction break ground at 186 Main Street

AUBURN, ME – The City of Auburn, in collaboration with JCS 18, LLC and Great Falls Construction held the official groundbreaking for a state-of-the-art mixed-use building at 186 Main Street.

A construction ceremony took place on Tuesday, September 10, marking the launch of a project that will contribute significantly to the vibrancy and growth of Auburn's downtown area. This develop-

ment, designed with sustainability at its core, will feature 18 market-rate residential units and two commercial spaces, including 5,000-square-foot restaurant and a 1,200-square-foot retail space.

The building will celebrate both riverfront and Main Street frontage and will be heated and cooled via environmentally friendly electric systems, supporting Auburn's vision for a greener, more sustainable

future. Auburn Mayor Jeffery D. Harmon expressed his enthusiasm for the project, saying, "This project marks a significant milestone for our city. It not only enhances our downtown area but also aligns with our vision for a sustainable, thriving community. We are excited to see the positive impact this will have on Auburn."

Great Falls Construction, the contractor leading the project, has al-



ready commenced work, with completion expected in approximately 12 to 14 months. Once finished, the building will offer a unique blend of modern living spaces and commercial opportunities, enhancing the downtown experience for residents and visitors.

"We're excited to see this project come to fruition here at 186 Main Street. After a couple of years of thoughtful planning and coordination with the City of Auburn, we're happy to get this project started and add a great building to Auburn's Main Street for the commu-

nity to enjoy," said Cindy Smith, Member of JCS 18, LLC and Vice President of Great Falls Construction.

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UMA drones provide photography for airport cleanup

AUGUSTA, ME – Drones from the Uncrewed Aircraft Training program at the University of Maine at Augusta (UMA) have been engaged in cleanup efforts at the Brunswick Executive Airport since approximately 1450 gallons of aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF) mixed with 50,000 gallons of water was released from Hangar 4 on August 19, 2024. The AFFF is of particular concern as it contains poly-fluoroalkyl substances, commonly known as PFAS, which are considered “forever chemicals”. Though these chemicals have been used in consumer products worldwide since about the 1950s, according to the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, they are difficult to break down and can adversely affect health.

UMA drones have been monitoring the environment from the air, searching for evidence of foam and providing important information about its possible spread in nearby waterways. The Mid-coast Regional Redevelopment Authority contacted Dr. Daniel Leclair, Assistant Professor of Aviation/



Mere Creek snakes through a flatland of dense woods

Uncrewed Aircraft Systems at UMA, to participate in the cleanup efforts. Tasked with monitoring the environment, including tidal marshes, between the airport and Casco Bay, Dr. Leclair, Assistant Professor of Aviation/Uncrewed Aircraft Systems at UMA, has conducted vital daily aerial photography, looking for evidence of the foam spreading. “The foam is fluffy and very light. The wind can easily carry it. When it dissipates in water, it creates a surface sheen like gasoline but is not as colorful. It can also re-foam and expand if the

water gets stirred up,” Dr. Leclair described. The drones are invaluable for quickly accessing areas that would otherwise be time-consuming and difficult to reach. Instead of hiking through dense forests or tangled grassland, through underbrush, mud, and rocks, the drones can be flown high above or close to the surface. They can record video and take still shots with powerful zoom lenses and image stabilizers. Dr. Leclair is an experienced uncrewed aircraft pilot, having flown multiple missions, including recording the extent of dam-

age from Hurricane Sandy for FEMA in 2012. He uses different drones for specific purposes. For this mission, he employs the small but powerful Parrot ANAFI USA, initially designed for the U.S. Army, which is particularly good for flying along the waterways under tree canopies. He is also using two larger drones, the DJI Matrice 210 and the fast-moving, long-range DJI Inspire 2, which are better for more open areas and locations farther away. These drones have up to seven cameras, some for recording images and others for navigational functions. Not all foam

on these waters is AFFF; some can be from biological sources resulting from natural processes. All potential areas of interest are photographed, and the locations recorded are reported directly to the Coast Guard to evaluate and triage for further study. By assisting in the monitoring and cleanup efforts, UMA is helping research efforts at the University of Maine PFAS+ Research Initiative and other researchers studying AFFF behavior in waters and tidal marshes. “UMA is proud of what we do to help our community with this unfortunate incident. This work not only assists in cleanup efforts but also in research to learn how to mitigate future incidents, create safer products, and improve our ability to recover from incidents when they occur,” said Dr. Leclair. For more information about UMaine’s PFAS+ research, visit umaine.edu/pfas/resources/. To learn more about sampling and remediation efforts, visit the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) web page for the Brunswick site at maine.gov/dep/projects/bnas/index.html.

UMA is the only university in Maine that has an Uncrewed Aircraft Systems (UAS) pilot training program. UMA has trained over 500 students in the introductory Commercial Drone course. The program has expanded, and students can now earn a UAS bachelor’s degree in Applied Science. A UAS minor is also available in combination with any major. To learn more about this and UMA’s other aviation programs, visit uma.edu/aviation. In addition to the Uncrewed Aircraft program, UMA offers aviation programs in Flight Instruction and aviation maintenance and is planning an Air Traffic Controller program for next year. UMA transforms the lives of students of every age and background across the State of Maine and beyond through access to high-quality distance and on-site education, excellence in student support, civic engagement, and professional and liberal arts programs. For more information, please visit uma.edu.

Health and Human Services Committee honored

AUGUSTA, ME – Members of the 131st Legislature’s Health and Human Services Committee were collectively recognized as the 2024 Legislators of the Year by the Maine Council on Aging (MCOA) for advancing laws and policies to improve the health and wellness of older Mainers. Over the past two years, the committee has advocated for expanding eligibility for the Medicare Savings Program, which assists older Mainers in paying for some or all of their out-of-pocket costs for Medicare pre-

miums, deductibles and copayments. Additionally, the committee defended against attempts to repeal the increased eligibility, ensuring its continued support for older Mainers. House Democrats on the committee, led by House chair Michele Meyer, D-Eliot, have also advocated for legislation to provide funding for Meals on Wheels, direct care services, and other caregiver support. “Everyone deserves to age with dignity,” said Meyer. “I am so proud of the work conducted by the 131st Legislature’s Health

and Human Services Committee over the last two years and our efforts to advocate for legislation that supports a healthy, age-integrated Maine. We could not conduct this important work without the educational resources and expertise provided by the Maine Council on Aging.” House Democrats on the Health and Human Services Committee include: Rep. Michele Meyer, D-Eliot; Rep. Margaret Craven, D-Lewiston; Rep. Anne Graham,

D-North Yarmouth; Rep. Colleen Madigan, D-Waterville; Rep. Dan Shagoury, D-Hallowell

Rep. Sam Zager, D-Portland; Members will receive their awards at MCOA’s annual

CHANGE AGent Summit, which will be held at Pineland Farms in New Gloucester on Sept. 25, 2024.

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Rally together: Run/walk, Ride, Duathlon, Virtual, Spinathon

RALLY TOGETHER: 5K RUN/WALK PRESENTED BY UNUM

Join us for an inspirational 5K that starts and ends at the Festival in the Park. Presented by Unum. Feeling ambitious? Join our Dempsey Duathlon featuring a 4.5 mile run and 21.5-mile ride DOUBLE the fun!

In-person event located in Lewiston, Maine featuring run/walk and ride events on Saturday, September 21st.

Register at Dempsey-center.org

RALLY TOGETHER: RIDE EVENTS

Choose your own adventure! Join us on Saturday, September 21st for a 15-, 25-, 35-, 50-, 65-mile metric century bike ride or Wendy's Way - a family-friendly out-and-back ride 5-mile ride with an epic rest stop.

Feeling ambitious? Take on the Dempsey Duathlon featuring a 4.5 mile run and 21-mile ride DOUBLE the fun!

In-person event located in Lewiston, Maine featuring run/walk and ride events on Saturday, September 21st.

RALLY TOGETHER: TAKE THE CHALLENGE

Back again this year - the ultimate challenge for your inner athlete. Register for our take on a Duathlon, presented by Geiger, and crush 2 events in 1--a 4.5-mile run followed by at 21.5-mile ride!

About the challenge The Dempsey Duathlon is a 25-mile course that you'll split into a 4.5-mile run to a rest stop where you'll change your gear and finish the remaining 21.5 miles in a challenging ride to the finish.



General Information: Event is limited to 150 participants - so register today!

Must be at least 15 years of age to participate 4.5 mile run must be completed in 1-hour (roughly a 12 minute/mile pace)

Bag and bike drop off at designated rest stop to take place early Saturday morning (details to come)

Bag Valet will be available

Personal items left behind for the ride portion will be bagged and labeled

Bagged items will be transported and available for pickup at the Bag + Bike Tent at the finish line

In-person event located in Lewiston, Maine featuring 5K run/walk and 21-mile ride on Saturday, September 21st.

DEMPSEY CHALLENGE REGISTRATION INCLUDES:

Participant t-shirt; Fundraising Incentives; Fundraising Guide to help you achieve your fundraising goals!; Beverage ticket to enjoy a Maine craft beer, mimosa or bloody Mary; Maine-inspired finisher meal in the Food + Beverage Tent

VIRTUAL DEMPSEY CHALLENGE

It's easy to participate as a Virtual Challenger! On September 21st, pin on your bib, snap a selfie while you complete your activity and submit your results. All Virtual Challengers who raise at least \$300 and complete the Virtual Dempsey Challenge will receive an exclusive Virtual Challenge Finisher patch.

Register by 9/1 to receive t-shirt and official bib by Challenge weekend.

On September 21st, complete your activity from wherever you are in the world.

Take a picture as you participate in the Global Challenge.

Submit your results by 5:00 PM ET on 9/21 to receive an exclusive Global Challenge Finisher patch.

All virtual challengers receive: Participant t-shirt and bib shipped to you; Fundraising Incentives shipped to you; Fundraising Tool Kit to help you achieve your fundraising goals!

Virtual Challengers who raise at least \$300, complete and submit their activity will receive an official Global Challenge Finisher patch

2024 JIBE CYCLING STUDIO SPINATHON

Saturday, September 21st

CLASS TIMES: 7am | 8am | 9am | 10am | 11am



LOCATION: Sismard-Payne Police Memorial Park, 46 Beech St., Lewiston, ME 04240

We can't WAIT to bring our 5th (can you believe it?) Annual Spinathon to the DEMPSEY CHALLENGE for 2024!

So gather your teams of 2 to 3, or get ready to ride as an individual and join one of the biggest and most impactful events of the year. 100% of the funds raised by YOU help provide personalized, holistic services at no cost to cancer patients, their loved ones, and care partners.

Teams of 2-3 will collectively cycle for 6 consecutive hours, and if you ride as an individual, you can participate in any (or all) of the 6 classes during the day!

Individual and Team Registration is NOW OPEN!

About the event The Spinathon has

quickly become a premier annual fundraising event for Jibe Cycling Studio and its community. Over the past 4 years, the event has raised over \$175,000 for cancer organizations. This year's event will benefit the Dempsey Center as an official fundraiser for the 2024 Dempsey Challenge.

Once you register online, your team fundraising page will automatically be created for you! Every single dollar you raise will help the Dempsey Center provide personalized, holistic services at no cost to cancer patients, their loved ones and care partners.

BONUS! As an official fundraiser and extension of the Dempsey Challenge, all Spinathon participants will receive: Official Spinathon Hat Adult Beverage ticket in the Maine Craft Beer, Wine + Mimosa Tent; Access to all Dempsey Challenge Fundraising Incentives

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Dempsey Challenge schedule

Honor together

DEMPSEY CHALLENGE

DempseyChallenge.org

THURSDAY, SEPT. 19

PACKET PICK UP + OPEN HOUSE

4:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Dempsey Center - Lewiston
29 Lowell St., 5th Floor | Lewiston, Maine
Pick up your packets + bibs and tour the Dempsey Center's Lewiston location. Discover all the services that the Dempsey Center provides at no cost to people impacted by cancer.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 20

PACKET PICK UP + OPEN HOUSE

10:00 AM - 7:00 PM
Dempsey Center - Lewiston
29 Lowell St., 5th Floor | Lewiston, Maine
Pick up your packets + bibs and tour the Dempsey Center's Lewiston location. Discover all the services that the Dempsey Center provides at no cost to people impacted by cancer.

CHAMPIONS FOR HOPE

7:00 PM - 8:30 PM
Hilton Garden Inn - Auburn, ME
Honor cancer survivors and celebrate this year's top fundraisers. By invitation only.

FESTIVAL IN THE PARK

SATURDAY, SEPT. 21
8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

CHALLENGER FOOD + BEVERAGE TENT

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM - Breakfast
11:00 AM - 3:30 PM - Lunch

MAINE CRAFT BEER + WINE GARDEN

Featuring local breweries: Baxter Brewing, Lost Valley Brewing, Side by Side, Gritty McDuff's, and Lone Pine

BLOODY MARY + MIMOSA BAR

Featuring Ice Pik Vodka

FOOD TRUCK COURT

Opens at 7:00 AM

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Poland Spring Brand 100% Natural Spring Water Entertainment Stage

DEMPSEY CENTER + CHALLENGE MERCH

DEMPSEY CENTER MISSION TENT

KIDZ ZONE

Dempsey Dog Meet + Greet, Read Alouds, and Activities for All Ages



SATURDAY, SEPT. 21

VENUE OPENS TO CHALLENGERS

6:15 AM
Simard-Payne Park - 46 Beech St. Lewiston
Register for Challenge, turn in any last-minute donations, and get your questions answered!

OPENING REMARKS

7:00 AM
Poland Spring Entertainment Stage - Simard-Payne Park

JIBE CYCLE SPINATHON

7:00 AM - 1:00 PM

CHALLENGE EVENTS

Please arrive at least 15 minutes before your event start time for staging.

65-MILE RIDE START

7:30 AM

50-MILE RIDE START

7:45 AM

35-MILE RIDE START

8:00 AM

DEMPSEY DUATHLON START

presented by Geiger
8:15 AM

25-MILE RIDE START

8:30 AM

5K RUN START

presented by Unum
8:45 AM

5K WALK START

presented by Unum
9:05 AM

WENDY'S WAY FAMILY RIDE + 15-MILE RIDE START

9:30 AM

KIDS FUN RUN

presented by TD Bank
11:00 AM

Register at the tent near the start line beginning at 10:30 AM

SURVIVOR WALK

1:00 PM
Simard-Payne Park

If you are a cancer survivor, are in active treatment or are honoring a loved one, please join us for the Survivor Walk.

FUNDRAISING AWARDS

1:15 PM
Poland Spring Entertainment Stage - Simard-Payne Park

CHALLENGE AFTER PARTY

6:00 PM - 9:30 PM
Lost Valley Brewpub
200 Lost Valley Rd. Auburn, ME



Patrick Dempsey with his mother, Amanda Dempsey

Throughout the Dempsey Challenge event, we'll take time and space to HONOR TOGETHER: the friends, family, and loved ones whose lives have been impacted by cancer.

Amanda Dempsey Award

2023 AMANDA DEMPSEY AWARD WINNER: TONY ACHILLE

Named in memory of Patrick Dempsey's mother Amanda Dempsey, the award is presented to a cancer survivor who has a passion for helping Mainers with cancer. Although Amanda was reserved and humble, she had a warm presence, and was passionate about giving back to her community.

Past winners include Trevor Maxwell (2022), Sue Craib (2021), Jon Henry (2020), Priscilla "Pat" Rollins (2019), Barbara Deschenes (2018), Christina Parrish (2017), Brooke Ismail (2016), Dr. James Campbell (2015), Nel Bernard (2014), Hailley Sontag (2013), Kristen Short (2012), Laura Davis (2011), Scott Thomas (2010), and Carlene Sperry and Allen Lariviere (2009).

Signs of Hope +

Healing

At the Dempsey Challenge, you'll see wonderful messages of support and love lining the Riverwalk and portions of the run/walk and ride routes. Signs of Hope + Healing are an important reminder of what the Dempsey Challenge and Dempsey Center are all about - showing support for those impacted by cancer.

Dempsey Challenge participants, spectators, volunteers - anyone impacted by cancer - are invited to create a sign for display throughout Dempsey Challenge weekend.

IMPORTANT: Signs must be received by the

following time in order to guarantee placement:

Dempsey Center, Lewiston: Friday, September 20, 7PM ET

Dempsey Center, South Portland: Thursday, September 19, 7PM ET

Please refer to the Submission Packet (see button below) for instructions and submission form. You'll include it along with your sign and mounting bracket one of two ways:

Mail to: Dempsey Center, 29 Lowell St. 5th Floor, Lewiston, ME 04240

Drop off at the Dempsey Center in Lewiston or So. Portland during normal business hours.



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Analysis finds rising seas could threaten Maine infrastructure

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Climate change is rapidly worsening tidal flooding and escalating risks to essential and valuable coastal infrastructure that millions of people depend on. According to a new analysis by the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) titled “Looming Deadlines for Coastal Resilience,” nearly 1,100 critical infrastructure assets along the U.S. coastline would flood 12 times per year on average, or the equivalent of once a month, by 2050, assuming a medium rate of sea level rise. That number could jump to more than 5,300 critical infrastructure assets at risk by 2100. The more than 1,700 U.S. communities with at-risk critical infrastructure assets between now and the century’s end are currently home to nearly 7.4 million people, with Maine’s communities and infrastructure exposed. As tidal flooding risks to expensive, long-lived infrastructure grows rapidly in the decades ahead, policymakers and decision makers from every sector of society must take urgent actions to prepare communities and sharply curtail the use of fossil fuels driving the climate crisis.

The results for Maine

are below. Assuming a medium sea level rise scenario (3.2 feet globally, on average, by 2100) and bearing in mind that the amount of sea level rise experienced along U.S. coastlines by century’s end is less certain as it is largely dependent on heat-trapping emissions released in the coming decades:

As many as 17 of today’s critical infrastructure assets would be at risk of being flooded, on average, twice annually by 2050. Of those assets, 15 would be at risk of flooding the equivalent of once each month and 14 the equivalent of once every other week.

By the end of the century, as many as 48 of today’s critical infrastructure assets would be at risk of flooding, on average, twice annually by 2100. Of those assets, 40 would be at risk of flooding the equivalent of once each month and 28 the equivalent of once every other week.

The critical infrastructure most at risk of disruptive flooding includes industrial contamination sites, government facilities, and public health and safety buildings in 2050 and 2100.

In 2050, there are 15 communities with at-risk critical infrastructure. By

2100, it jumps to 25 communities.

The number of critical infrastructure assets at risk of disruptive flooding is expected to increase 13% by 2050 and triple by 2100, as compared to a 2020 baseline.

Using a combination of data from National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) tide gauges, U.S. government agencies, and three sea level rise scenarios developed by a U.S. Interagency Task Force—referred to as high, medium, and low in the report—UCS determined when critical infrastructure assets along the entire coastline of the contiguous United States, as well as Guam, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, would be at risk of being routinely flooded by high tides at least two, 12 or 26 times per year, on average, in the coming decades. Critical infrastructure is defined in the analysis as assets and facilities that provide functions necessary to sustain daily life or that if flooded could impose societal hazards. The analysis includes results for 2020, 2030, 2050 and 2100 for six types of critical infrastructure: educational institutions, energy infrastructure, government facilities, industrial contamination sites,

public health and safety buildings, and subsidized housing. It also utilizes the White House Council on Environmental Quality’s Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool to ascertain if the infrastructure at risk of flooding is located in “disadvantaged” or “non-disadvantaged” communities, as defined by the tool. Factors that contribute to a community being considered disadvantaged include burdens they face related to health, housing, climate change and income. This analysis only considers present-day infrastructure and population data, which means the results may be conservative.

Due to a variety of factors—coastline length, sea level rise rate, land subsidence and zoning laws—some states have more critical infrastructure assets exposed to disruptive tidal flooding in the coming decades than others. The analysis finds that California, Florida, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, and New Jersey have the highest numbers of critical infrastructure assets that will need to be made more resilient or be relocated to safer ground. Meanwhile, because of longstanding racial and socioeconomic inequities, disadvantaged

communities that already carry heavy burdens have, on average, more infrastructure at risk of flooding and fewer resources to address this challenge. According to the analysis, about one-third of coastal communities are currently designated as disadvantaged, but they are home to more than half of the critical infrastructure at risk through 2050. Disadvantaged communities with infrastructure at risk have higher percentages of Black, Hispanic or Latino, and Native American residents and more infrastructure at risk per capita than non-disadvantaged communities. Public and affordable housing represents the single most at-risk category of vital infrastructure.

The report offers a range of recommendations for policymakers and public and private decision makers to ensure communities are adequately prepared for the risks and challenges that lie ahead. The recommendations include using the best available science to inform near- and long-term risk planning and scaling up public and private funding—beyond allocations in existing policies such as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act—to

increase the climate resilience of coastal infrastructure. The report also encourages implementing policies to reduce historical inequities and prevent future harms, protecting subsidized housing when possible, opening just opportunities for people or communities that opt to relocate, and planning for a wide range of possibilities that could occur as sea level rise rapidly accelerates.

Even if all global heat-trapping emissions ceased today, much of the expected sea-level rise between now and midcentury is already locked in due to insufficient efforts to reduce emissions by policymakers to date, and the obstructive and damaging actions of fossil fuel companies. However, the amount of sea level rise that occurs between 2050 and 2100 depends on global heat-trapping gases released over the next several decades and Earth’s physical response—namely the extent of land-based ice loss and ocean warming—caused by those emissions. This is why sharply curtailing heat-trapping emissions, phasing out fossil fuels and ramping up clean energy solutions must also be cornerstones of actions to help protect coastal communities.

Elder fraud program launches at Maine Hannaford pharmacies

PORTLAND, ME -- The U.S. Attorney’s Office for the District of Maine today announced an innovative new elder fraud awareness program that will utilize the inherent relationships of pharmacists and their customers to reach older Mainers. The Maine Rx Elder Fraud Program is a collaborative effort between the U.S. Attorney’s Office, AARP Maine, and the Maine Council for Elder Abuse

Prevention.

“Pharmacists are consistently ranked among the most trusted health care providers, and with approximately 9 out of 10 people over age 65 having at least one regular prescription, pharmacists will be a key partner in our efforts to inform this population,” said U.S. Attorney Darcie N. McElwee. “That trust and regular contact makes pharmacies an ideal conduit to reach older Mainers, as well as their family members or caregivers.”

The program, which is designed to educate Mainers on common signs of scams and how to report elder fraud, will begin at Hannaford Supermarkets’ 60 in-store pharmacies across Maine. Informational brochures will be attached to prescription bags for distribution to

Hannaford pharmacy customers.

“We recognize older individuals, as well as their caretakers, make up a large portion of our customer base, and that we are uniquely positioned to help reach this audience directly through our pharmacy services as a trusted source for health and safety information,” said Sara Lane, Manager of Pharmacy Clinical Services, Hannaford Supermarkets. “We are always looking for opportunities to make a positive impact in the communities we serve and by making this information available to our pharmacy customers in all corners of our state, our goal is to help reduce the number of elder fraud incidents in Maine.”

Elder fraud is a growing problem across the nation. Last year, more than 101,000 Americans aged

60-plus were defrauded out of \$3.4 billion through an ever-growing variety of scams. According to the FBI, that number included 397 Mainers who filed fraud complaints last year for losses totaling more than \$7.1 million, and many others go unreported. While some scams can have negligible losses, recent sophisticated scams have robbed victims of their life savings.

“There are so many different types of scams in circulation, it can be difficult to recognize them all. Add in technology, and it becomes even more difficult,” said Jane Margesson, Communications Director for AARP Maine. “Increasingly, the scams are more sophisticated and with multiple layers, even multiple scammers playing different roles. As the schemes have become more complex, the potential losses have increased as well. Those losses can be especially devastating

for victims nearing or in retirement. Some of the stories we hear are absolutely heartbreaking.”

“The actual losses are likely considerably higher than reported,” said Andrew McCormack, Assistant U.S. Attorney and Elder Justice Coordinator for the District of Maine. “For a variety of reasons, older individuals are often hesitant to report when they’ve been scammed. While it is normal to feel embarrassed when you’ve been tricked, it is important to remember that the criminals who take advantage of people are absolute pros at what they do. Older Americans are not the only victims – people of all ages and backgrounds fall prey to scams every day – but after a lifetime of saving and perhaps not being online as often and therefore as current on recent scams, they are a common, and frankly favorite, target for some of the most insidious types of fraud.”

The informational materials were created by the U.S. Attorney’s Office with assistance from the Maine Council for Elder Abuse Prevention. The materials will include common signs of scams as well as information about the National Elder Fraud Hotline.

“We are grateful to all the organizations that have worked together to make this program possible. Our collective aim is to reduce the number of people in Maine who are victimized by these cruel schemes,” said U.S. Attorney McElwee. “Sadly, there are always going to be criminals who try to take advantage and steal your hard-earned money. Recognizing red flags can help prevent you, or someone you love, from becoming a victim.”

For information about the Maine Rx Elder Fraud Program, email usame.outreach@usdoj.gov or call the U.S. Attorney’s Office at 207-780-3257.

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Maine Justice Foundation awards Access to Justice Tax Credit

AUGUSTA, ME -- The Maine Justice Foundation is pleased to announce the 2024 recipients of the Access to Justice Tax Credit Program. In an effort to encourage lawyers to provide services to underserved areas of our State, the Legislature enacted the Access to Justice Tax Credit Program. Starting in 2022, the program authorized five lawyers who practice in underserved areas. Now in its third year, the program will authorize up to five additional eligible attorneys to receive a \$6,000 tax credit in 2024 and in each year thereafter through 2027.

36 M.R.S. Section 5219-ZZ provides that the Maine Supreme Court or its designee shall certify up to five qualified attorneys

annually for participation in the Access to Justice Tax Credit Program. The Court has designated the Maine Justice Foundation to administer the program and established a Standing Committee to assist and advise the Foundation in the process. The Standing Committee includes representatives of the Maine Justice Foundation, the Maine State Bar Association, and the Maine Trial Lawyers Association.

The Foundation accepted applications from eligible attorneys from June 1-17, 2024 and received submissions from several eligible applicants statewide representing underserved areas in Penobscot, Kennebec, Knox, Aroostook and Cumberland counties. The Founda-



ation has recertified the 2022 and 2023 applicants for their second- and third-years representing applicants from Penobscot, Hancock, Waldo, Aroostook, Somerset, Androscoggin, and Cumberland counties.

To be eligible, attorneys must commit to practicing law in an underserved area for at least five years, must be rostered by the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services

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

The new attorneys selected through this process for 2024 include Sarah Catherman of Waterville, Benjamin Fowler of Bangor, Andrew Catherman

of Waterville, Adrienne Fernstrom of Rockland, and Jeremiah McIntosh of Washburn. The attorneys who have been recertified include Cassandra Rogers and Benjamin Everett of Presque Isle, Taylor Kilgore of Turner, Gregory LeClerc of Standish, Ryan Rutledge of Skowhegan, Britany Sawyer of Arundel, Shamara Bailey of Patten, Lynn Madison of Rockland, and Stephen Smith of Augusta. "The Access to Justice Tax Credit is a phenomenal way to incentivize attorneys to represent clients in underserved areas throughout the state. The need for these legal services is substantial and this tax credit is exactly the type of tool that should be broadly implemented to support

lawyers who do the important work of helping Mainers in need access the justice system," says Michelle Draeger, Executive Director of the Maine Justice Foundation. "We look forward to reporting the success of this program to the Legislature in 2027 with the goal of increasing the number of attorneys who can be eligible annually. Doing so will ensure that more people in need receive the justice they deserve," adds Draeger.

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

Make-A-Wish Maine celebrates most wishes granted

MAINE -- Make-A-Wish Maine ended their fiscal year 2024 on August 31st with 89 wishes granted—the most wishes granted in a single year by the chapter since its founding in 1992. This averages one wish every four days right here in Maine.

The 89th wish of the year hit another milestone for Make-A-Wish Maine as it was also the chapter's 1,900th wish granted to a Maine child!

Wish kid Natalie Anton is 12 years old and lives in Somerset County and has the honor of being the 1,900th wish granted by Make-A-Wish Maine. Natalie's wish to see a black sand beach was granted in

Hawaii just last week.

"My favorite part [of Natalie's wish] was the constant smile on her face," says wish mom Katie Corson. "Natalie thoroughly enjoyed snorkeling. She was so excited to see animals in the ocean she had never seen before."

"We are thrilled to celebrate a record-setting year in creating hope for Maine's wish kids," says Make-A-Wish Maine Board Chair John Stibal. "As the Chair of the Board of Directors, I've seen firsthand the impact of a wish come true for kids like Natalie. With a dedicated Board of Directors, volunteers and staff who go above and beyond, and medical partners who believe in



our mission, we are excited to continue to deliver transformational wishes in the upcoming year."

From trips to Walt Disney World to meet their

favorite characters to one-of-a-kind experiences in Hawaii, wish kids in Maine have imaginations that take them all over! Other wishes granted this year include a

wish for a shopping spree, a wish to meet a YouTube star, a fly-fishing trip to Montana, a wish to meet a sloth, and a wish to attend the NBA All-Star Game. Each wish is personalized, taking the wish child's interests into account and being sure to include the entire family, including siblings.

Make-A-Wish Maine grants wishes to children 2.5 to 18 at referral who have been diagnosed with a critical illness. In a national 2022 Impact Study, a large majority of Make-A-Wish alumni, parents, and medical providers overwhelmingly agree that the wish experience contributes substan-

tially to physical, mental, and emotional health. They found the wish experience was a necessary part of the medical treatment journey, improved the odds of survival, provided a support system and better health outcomes, and gave the child a better chance of recovering from their critical illness.

This same study found that 90% of wish parents said the wish experience helped relieve their family from traumatic stress and that 100% of medical providers said the wish experience improves a child's emotional well-being. Source: Make-A-Wish 2022 Wish Impact Study (Rounded Figures).

Collins, King announce \$500K to improve rural healthcare

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Senators Susan Collins and Angus King announced that the Maine Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is being awarded grant funding to help improve rural healthcare. The Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Program award, totaling \$504,176, will support Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs) in quality

improvement, and establish or expand rural health emergency medical services. The program is funded through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

Critical Access Hospitals are designations given to eligible rural hospitals by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The CAH designation was created in 1997 in response to over 400 rural hospital closures during the 1980s and early 1990s. Maine has 16 CAHs located across the state.

"As one of the most rural states in the nation, Maine people already face many challenges when accessing affordable, quality healthcare," said Senators Collins and King. "This grant will help our rural healthcare systems provide better care, and work to ensure we do not lose these critical facilities and services to preventable closures. We welcome this funding and are grateful for the continued federal support to help keep Maine people safe and healthy. By investing in the health and

well-being of our rural communities, we are making an investment in the future of Maine."

Senators Collins and King have been staunch supporters of bolstering rural healthcare across Maine. Last summer, they joined bipartisan legislation to expand telehealth access through Medicare, making it easier for patients to connect with their providers. They also have advocated on behalf of rural seniors' access to care and introduced the Protecting Rural Seniors' Access to Care Act.

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Thursdays

LEWISTON -- Baby Sensory Playtime in the Lewiston Public Library's Children's Department every Thursday morning from 10am to 12pm.

Drop-in and join us for Baby Sensory Playtime! Babies and their caregivers will have the opportunity to interact with a variety of sensory toys and socialize with other families with young children. Playtime with sensory toys contributes to a baby's cognitive development, fine motor skills, social and emotional development, creativity, and language development.

Recommended for babies ages birth-18 months and their caregivers. Siblings are always welcome. This program is free, open to the public and no registration is required.

Sept 13

ONLINE -- The University of Maine Cooperative Extension's Summer Equine Speaker Series. Three events, all of which will start at 6 p.m., will be held on the following days:

Sept. 13: Elissa Ballman will review various insect pests, ways to mitigate bugs and new research. Registration is required to receive the webinar links for this free series. For more information and to register, visit the program webpage.

Sept 14

LEWISTON -- From

Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

12 noon to 3 PM 4th Annual Rally for Recovery hosted by the Lewiston Area Public Health Committee in Kennedy Park

Sept 14

STANDISH --- The Standish Community Dog Park will be hosting their Pups in the Park event to benefit the dog park. The event is free and fun for all, well-behaved dogs on a leash, and will be held on Saturday, September 14, 2024 (rain date 9/15). It will be at 670 Ossipee Trail West, Standish on the multi-purpose fields at Memorial Park. The event is from 10 am-1 pm. The Fun Dog Show registration starts at 10 am and the show will start at 10:30 am. Trooper Hinck and K9 Berry will do a demonstration at noon. Raffle prize drawings will be at 1 pm. We will have Sponsors and give-a-ways, vendors, non profits, a chill zone, fun agility area and more!

Standish Parks and Recreation operates the dog park with support from volunteers. The money raised with help add benches and a shade structure.

Sept 14

Join the DaPonte String Quartet with new violinist, Philipp Ellsner in

a performance of Mozart's Quartet in Bb Major, K. 589 and Beethoven's epic Quartet in Eb Major, Op. 127

Saturday September 14 at 4:00 Great Cranberry Island Church

Tickets and additional information at dapontequartet.org

Sept 15

AUBURN -- 10am. Water Communion Service, First Universalist Church of Auburn, 169 Pleasant St. FMI auburn.org or call 783-0461.

Sept 17, 25

LEWISTON -- The Oasis of Music begins its 2024-25 season on Wednesday September 4 with a performance by Denny Breau. Doors open at noon for a 12:30 start.

9/17 (Tuesday!) Chris Lansley, flute and piano

9/25 Barry Lawson, mandolin and guitar

The Oasis of Music is a weekly music series held at Trinity Commons, 247 Bates Street in Lewiston. Music begins at 12:30 and continues for 30 or 40 minutes. Admission is free, with donations accepted. For more information call 344-3106.

Sept 18

LEWISTON -- The Ladies of St Anne Sodali-

ty, Prince of Peace Parish will be holding their General Membership Meeting September 18, 2024 at the Holy Family Parish Hall. A Casserole Supper will be served at 6PM. Tickets are \$5.00 and are available by contacting any of the officers or by calling 782-4516. The Meal ticket must be purchased by September 9, 2024.

Installations of Officers, Counselors and Honorary Members will take place.

Sept 20

LEWISTON -- Friday, September 20th at 10am the Lewiston Public Library Children's Department will be offering the program Baby Footprints Keepsakes. Caregivers and their infants will be able to create a baby footprints keepsake using the imprints of their children's feet on salt dough.

This activity is recommended for caregivers with children ages 0-24 months old. This program will take place in the Children's Department on the third floor of the library. The activity is free and there is no registration required.

Sept 20

BRUNSWICK -- The 2024-25 UUCB Concerts for a Cause Series season will include folk, jazz, blues, celtic, and choral singing for justice. This season's charities receiving 100% of the profits from the concert are Brunswick Area Teen Center and Maine Family Planning. For further details about the concerts, go to <https://www.uubrunswick.org/events/>.

Pousette-Dart DUO - FRI, Sept 20, 2024 at 7:30 pm. Doors open 7:00 pm.

The first concert of the series will be the Pousette-Dart DUO (Jon Pousette-Dart and Jim Chapdelaine), formerly of the folk-rock group Pousette-Dart Band.

Pousette-Dart band was a mainstay of album

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radio in the 70's and a favorite on the college circuit. circuit becoming one of the busiest touring groups in the US working with such acts as The Byrds, Bonnie Raitt, Little Feat, The Eagles, James Taylor, The J. Geils Band, and many more. They released 4 albums of harmony-filled, country-tinged folk-rock, and got plenty of radio play with songs including "Amnesia," "What Can I Say," and "Freezing Hot." As a Duo they perform decades of music from the Capitol years up to the latest solo releases. Jon Pousette-Dart DUO has become one of the top Country and Folk artists in the 2024 music scene. These long-touring musicians will perform the music known by heart by a whole generation.

Tickets: \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door, \$10 Students/Children. Available at the church office, Gulf of Maine Books, or online at <https://ticketstripe.com/pousette>.

Sept 21

WESTBROOK -- Friends of Feral Felines is holding a used book sale on Saturday, September 21 from 9am to 2pm at the Westbrook Community Center, 426 Bridge St. in Westbrook. F of FF is a non-profit supporting abandoned cats in southern Maine with veterinary care, food, and housing. Sales help both

the homeless cats and the community by reducing the numbers through trapping, neutering, and homing. fmi.... www.feralfelines.net

Sept 21

GORHAM -- Bean Supper featuring "George's Baked Beans" at Cressey Road Christian Church, 81 Cressey Road, Gorham, Maine on September 21 at 5 PM. Adults \$10, Ages 5-12 \$5, Under 5 FREE. Come early to secure your seat at this delicious dinner.

Sept 25

WINTHROP -- Award-winning author Sarah Braunstein will discuss her latest novel "Bad Animals" at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, September 25 at the Bailey Public Library in Winthrop. The New York Times described the book as a "sharp-witted, ravishing novel."

Sept 28

GRAY -- First Congregational Church of Gray Saturday Night Church Supper held on Saturday, September 28, 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 kidney, red hot dogs, breads & assortment of desserts & beverages.



Rewarding work, with work-life balance built in

By the time she was in her mid-twenties, Gail True had achieved success by most conventional measures. She was working a retail job, managing a team of younger associates, and earning plenty of money to cover expenses. But something was missing.



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"My whole purpose in life was making money for the company I was working for," Gail says. She longed for more satisfying work, but needed a position that would give her the flexibility to raise her young kids.

Gail made a career pivot and became a Direct Support Professional, providing support for activities of daily living for adults who are living with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.

That work entails a wide range of tasks that varies on a regular basis. One day it might mean helping a client trim that hard-to-reach spot on his beard, so he can feel the confidence that comes from going out into the world looking his best. Another day it might mean supporting a client as he navigates the grocery store aisles. Yet another day it might mean helping a die-hard football fan figure out the logistics to fulfill a lifelong dream of visiting the New England Patriots Hall of Fame.

"I'm doing something that matters."

"I'm doing something that matters," Gail says. "And I love making a difference."

What's more, the career change provided Gail with the work-life balance she needed. She worked the night shift, so she could be there every day when her kids came home from school. She was there to lead Girl Scout meetings, and she was there to cheer them on at every dance recital and football game.

"I didn't miss anything," Gail says.

Gail is one of scores of people who has found rewarding work in the field of Direct Support, ensuring that Mainers with age-related, physical, behavioral, intellectual, and cognitive health needs have the support they need to stay safe, independent, and empowered to achieve their personal goals.

There are many full-time, part-time, or per-diem positions available, which offer the flexibility to juggle work with other family and life responsibilities. The work is done outside a hospital or nursing home. Training opportunities are widely available and easy to complete. The vast majority of positions do not require advanced degrees.

As Gail discovered, making the career pivot was well worth the effort. "It's just remarkable," she says, "to feel good about what you do every day."

To learn more about full-time, part-time, and per-diem opportunities in your community, go to Mainecareerswithpurpose.org. Follow @MaineCareerswithPurpose on Facebook and Instagram.

Letter to the Editor:

Medicare expansion will help lower costs for older Mainers

By Rep. Michel Lajoie

Every Mainer deserves to be able to age with dignity. But when I speak with many older constituents in our community, I often hear from people who are struggling to make ends meet. They're worried about affording to age in their own homes, paying for groceries and keeping up with their monthly bills. One of the biggest concerns I also frequently hear from folks is about the exorbitant prices of the medication they need.

In the Legislature, we've made it a priority to do everything we can to provide relief and lower these costs. This includ-

ed passing legislation to expand eligibility for the Medicare Savings Program (MSP), which helps older people with lower incomes pay for some or all of their out-of-pocket costs for Medicare premiums, deductibles and copayments. It can also pay for the Part B premium, which is usually deducted from Social Security – putting real money back into people's pockets.

This expansion is expected to affect more than 45,000 Mainers. While the amount of the benefit varies depending on the individual, it typically averages around \$7,300 – which has the potential to be a lifeline that provides substantial

relief. It won't solve all of the concerns about costs, but it can hopefully help alleviate some of the anxiety that older people are experiencing.

Making these changes to MSP was more than just good policy – it was simply the right thing to do. To learn more, you can reach all of the local Area Agencies on Aging by calling 1-877-ELDERS-1.

Rep. Michel Lajoie is serving his fifth non-consecutive term in the Maine House of Representatives and represents House District 96, which includes a portion of Lewiston. He is a member of the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee.

Skelton Taintor & Abbott welcomes Alexandra W. Winter

LEWISTON, ME – Skelton Taintor & Abbott is pleased to welcome litigation attorney Alexandra W. Winter to the firm. Alexandra is joining the firm’s litigation group as an Associate Attorney. After graduating from Brandeis University and earning a Juris Doctor degree from the City University of New York School of Law, Alexandra began her career at the Law Offices of Thaddeus Day before joining the District Attorney’s Office in Maine’s District III. Alexandra served in the District Attorney’s Office for more than 9 years, with more than 8 years as the Assistant District Attorney and an 8-month period as the Inter-

im District Attorney. Alexandra’s practice at Skelton Taintor & Abbott will focus on commercial and business litigation, general civil litigation, probate litigation, creditor representation and collections, and foreclosures and repossessions. Firm President, Sarah Mitchell, stated, “We are excited to welcome Alex to the Skelton Taintor & Abbott team. She is a successful and well-respected attorney and will be a key addition to our litigation practice.” Skelton Taintor & Abbott is a full-service trial and general practice law firm representing clients throughout Maine. With the

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

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NSB appoints Frank Farrell as ITS Director VP

NORWAY, ME--- Norway Savings Bank is pleased to announce that Frank Farrell has been appointed Information Technology & Systems (ITS) Director VP. Most recently, Farrell served as Information Systems Manager.



The Monmouth native and Minot resident joined NSB in 2013 as a Software Support Specialist in the IT Department and quickly demonstrated a commitment to superior customer service and operational excellence. In 2018, he was promoted to Systems Administrator and Assistance Manager, overseeing mainframe operations

and several critical core information systems. In 2021, he was appointed Mainframe Manager VP before being named to his current position as Information Systems Manager VP. “During his entire tenure here, Frank has

embraced every new challenge as an opportunity for growth and displayed a natural ability to lead,” said Dan Walsh, President and CEO of Norway Savings. “Frank will now be more focused on management of the ITS team, ITS operations, and working closely with all business lines to improve how ITS supports the organization moving forward. We’re grateful for Frank’s many contributions to the NSB team.” Farrell earned a bachelor’s degree in Industrial Technology with a minor in Computer Science from the University of Southern Maine.

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