

Lewiston Police Chief David St. Pierre announces retirement

LEWISTON, ME – After more than three decades of service to the City of Lewiston starting as a police officer, Lewiston Police Chief David St. Pierre formally announced today his retirement, effective September 9, 2025.

A Lewiston native, Chief St. Pierre has served the city with distinction for 33 years, the last four as Chief of Police. Chief St. Pierre called the decision “a difficult one” made with the support of his family, adding, “Serving this City -- my hometown -- has been one of the greatest honors of my life.”

St. Pierre has led the department through some of its most challenging and transformative times. His leadership was instrumental in strengthening department morale, expanding community policing efforts, and building trust



with Lewiston residents. Known for his steady and humble leadership, Chief St. Pierre often credited the success of the department to the team around him. “I’ve never done this job alone,” he said. “Everything we’ve accomplished has been because of the dedication and professionalism of the incredible men and women of the Lewiston Police Department.”

“My 33-year career with the Lewiston Police Department has been nothing

short of fantastic, so very rewarding and challenging at the same time. I truly appreciate each and every one of my colleagues and will miss you all deeply. It has been a pleasure being your Chief,” said St. Pierre.

“Chief St. Pierre has served this community with integrity, compassion,



and professionalism,” said Bryan Kaenrath, Lewiston City Administrator. “I know firsthand how deeply

committed he is to Lewiston and how difficult it is for someone of his character, a true public servant, to step away. The heart of a police officer never stops protecting and serving, even in retirement. He has more than earned the time to focus on his family, especially enjoying special moments with his grandson, Ben. Lewiston is better because of his leadership, and his legacy will carry forward.”

“I deeply appreciate Chief St. Pierre’s steady leadership and unwavering commitment to our city. His decades of service have made Lewiston a safer, stronger community,” said Lewiston Mayor Carl Sheline. “In particular, his guidance and strength during the October 25 tragedy provided reassurance and clarity during one of our darkest hours. Lewis-

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ton owes him a profound debt of gratitude, and I respect him immensely for all he has given to this city.”

Chief St. Pierre’s leadership was perhaps most visible during the unimaginable tragedy of October 25, 2023, the deadliest mass shooting in

Maine’s history and, at the time, the nation. In the face of chaos, fear, and grief, he led with calm resolve and unshakable focus. As the city grappled with loss and uncertainty, he ensured a coordinated, disciplined response across local, state, and federal agencies, while

See St. Pierre, page 16

Seniors can get a “behind the scenes” look at LA’s TPT

LEWISTON, AUBURN, ME – Lewiston-Auburn Senior College is partnering with The Public Theatre to offer a unique opportunity for you to get a behind-the-scenes look at the first show of the 2015-26 season, *Misery*. You will see how much work and how many people it takes to produce a professional play. They will have unique access to the rehearsal process and the chance to ask questions and see how it all comes together. The course will meet October 8-26 (three sessions). The cost is \$25 for members which includes the price of the ticket to the Sunday performance. (Yearly membership for LA Senior College is \$35. One-day classes are free to members).

The best-selling psychological thriller and Oscar-winning film is now a

spine-chilling Broadway play by William Goldman. Truth is stranger than fiction when a famous romance novelist veers off the road in a winter storm and wakes up incapacitated in the home of his “number one fan.” Unexpected events turn his number one fan into his number one enemy and a heart-pounding life or death game of cat and mouse ensues.

You may have read the novel. You may have seen the film. But nothing compares to seeing the story play out live in the theatre.

Session One (At the Chamber of Commerce Conference Room (415 Lisbon Street, just up from the Public Theatre) October 8, 11 A two-hour discussion about the themes and content of the play. How does it differ from its source material? How are

the events from the book and the movie depicted on stage in front of an audience? How do we give a sense of time and place on the stage, without the book’s narration and the film’s ability to be virtually anywhere? We will also include a sneak peek of set and costume designs for the play.

After the discussion, we will travel over to the Public Theatre to see the set “in progress.” You will get to see up close the amazing craftsmanship of our designers and builders.

Session Two: October 15 (at the Public Theatre, time TBA)

A Rehearsal Sneak Peek: Attend a short piece of rehearsal to watch the script transition from page to stage. See the Director work with the actors to make the story come to

See Seniors, page 14

Horror Book Club at Lewiston Public Library this fall

LEWISTON, ME – Join us at the Lewiston Public Library this fall for Horror Book Club! We will meet monthly in the Couture Room from 5:30 to 6:30pm on the following Thursdays: September 18th, October 16th, and November 20th.

On September 18th, we’ll meet to discuss *Mexican Gothic* by Silvia Moreno-Garcia. A reimagining of the classic gothic suspense novel follows the experiences of a courageous socialite in 1950s Mexico who is drawn into the treacherous secrets of an isolated mansion.

On October 16th, we’ll meet to discuss *The Only One Left* by Riley Sager. In 1983, home-health aide Kit McDeere arrives at a decaying Hope’s End to care for Lenora Hope, helping her write about the events

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1st Floor Couture Room

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September 18th October 16th November 20th

Third Thursdays
5:30 - 6:30 PM

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leading up to her family’s massacre in 1929, and soon discovers this seemingly harmless woman could be far more dangerous than she first thought.

On November 20th, we’ll meet to discuss *The Only Good Indians* by Stephen Graham Jones. This novel follows four American Indian men after a disturbing event from their youth puts them in a desperate struggle for their lives. Tracked by an entity bent on revenge, these childhood friends are helpless as the culture and traditions they left behind catch up to them in a violent, vengeful way.

This book club is recommended for ages 18+. If you need help locating a copy of any of these titles, please contact our Lending Services Department at 513-3134 or visit the lending desk on the library’s 1st floor.

The Lewiston Public Library is located downtown at 200 Lisbon Street at the corner of Pine Street. More information on this program is available by contacting the Lewiston Public Library at 513-3135 or LPLReference@gmail.com.

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

High- & low-rope challenge course free to the public in August

CHERRYFIELD, ME – Every Tuesday and Wednesday through August, Maine Seacoast Mission welcomes the public to enjoy its new high- and low-ropes challenge course! Located at the Mission Downeast Campus at 6 Weald Bethel Lane in Cherryfield, the course will be open from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on August 19, 20, 26, and 27. This event is free and open to all ages.

For all ages, individuals and families can experience the course with the Mission’s trained and experienced staff. Featuring high and low elements, the Mission’s outdoor course offers a combination of horizontal challenges and vertical challenges using wood beams, poles, ropes, and cables. The Mission’s challenge course serves the organization’s education and community engagement programs as well as service tour volunteers in the Mission’s Housing Improvement program.

“When an adult or child tries our challenge course, it is more than an



opportunity to have fun in a safe environment” says Downeast Director Jenny Jones, “Participants also get to test their own perceived limits and work collaboratively with the folks who are also enjoying the course and staff who operate the course.”

Helmets, harnesses, and ropes are provided by the Mission as well as course-trained staff. Closed-toe shoes are required to participate. Crocs footwear is not allowed. Children under 18 must be

accompanied by an adult. Please direct questions to Challenge Course Manager Luke Kremer at lkremer@seacoastmission.org or call (207) 546-4466. Rooted in a history of compassionate service and mutual trust, Maine Seacoast Mission seeks to strengthen coastal and island communities by educating youth, supporting families, and promoting good health. For more information, please visit <https://seacoastmission.org/>

BBB: Tips for back-to-school shopping

As the back-to-school season approaches, parents and students are gearing up for the annual shopping spree. Whether you prefer in-person shopping or browsing online, staying informed and prepared can make this busy time more manageable and cost-effective. Better Business Bureau has tips to help you navigate back-to-school shopping.

Before determining what students may need for the year, set a budget. Planning ahead as much as possible will help keep expenses to a minimum and help everyone involved stay on task.

BBB recommends the following tips when looking for school-related items, either in person or online:

In-person shopping

Create a shopping list before heading to the store. This helps you stay focused and avoid impulse purchases.

Shop early. To avoid crowds and ensure you get the best selection, start your shopping early in the season.

Compare prices between retailers, save coupons, sign up for email alerts, and redeem any cash-back or rebate offers. This will help you get the best deals and stay within budget.

Check store policies. Be aware of return policies, especially for electronics and clothing, in case you need to make exchanges or returns.

Research big-ticket items

Read reviews. Look for reviews from credible sources to understand the pros and cons of different models.

Check specifications. When buying new equip-

ment, check with your child’s school to learn about any technical requirements and determine if any changes are necessary to the home’s high-speed internet. Before purchasing an expensive laptop, tablet, or computer accessory, research the brands, warranty, customer reviews, and prices at various stores to ensure the best deal. Also, look up the retailer’s reputation on BBB.org.

Look for student discounts. Many tech companies offer discounts for students. Verify eligibility and take advantage of these savings.

Shop smart with sales and tax-free weekends

Plan ahead. Mark your calendar for upcoming sales and tax-free weekends. These are ideal times to buy school supplies, clothing, and electronics without paying sales tax. Check out this resource from the Federation of Tax Administrators to see what your state offers.

Make a priority list. Decide which items are most crucial to purchase during these sales to maximize your savings.

Combine discounts. Look for opportunities to combine store sales with manufacturer rebates or coupons.

Asking for discounts. Don’t hesitate to ask.

When shopping in person, inquire if there are any available discounts, especially for bulk purchases or floor models.

Leverage loyalty programs. Sign up for store loyalty programs, which can offer exclusive discounts and points on purchases.

Use student IDs.

Some store discounts are available to students with either a “.edu” email address or a student ID. If you’re a student or have a student in your family, ask if there are any student discounts available.

Visit school supply drives. Many communities and organizations host school supply drives where you can either donate or receive supplies. Check with local schools, community centers, or non-profits.

Consider buying in bulk

Team up with other parents. Consider pooling resources with other parents to buy supplies (like paper towels, tissues, wipes, hand sanitizer) in bulk, which can be more cost-effective.

Warehouse stores. Check out warehouse clubs for bulk deals on school supplies and snacks.

Shop wisely and safely online

When shopping online, be wary of ads that feature items that imply that you may want or need them based on your search history. Scammers could be trying to drive you to a different website. Take note of the ad and go to the store’s website by directly typing into the search bar. Note the website’s privacy policy and contact information, and always use a credit card when purchasing.

Shop on reputable websites. Ensure you are purchasing from well-known and trusted websites. Look for HTTPS in the URL.

Use secure payment methods. Opt for secure payment methods like credit cards or payment services that offer buyer protection.

By following these tips, you can make your back-to-school shopping experience smoother, safer, and more economical. Whether you’re shopping for essentials or splurging on big-ticket items, a little planning and research can go a long way in ensuring you get the best value for your money.

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

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Court Street Baptist Church seeking restoration partners

AUBURN, ME – “The Beacon on Court Street,” the Court Street Baptist Church (CSBC), at the corner of Auburn’s Court and Pleasant Streets - darkened and silent for the past two years, is being restored, and the parishioners are inviting Twin Cities residents, businesses, and organizations to partner with us to complete the project.

Dual lightning strikes several years ago, followed by substantial water damage from the unprecedented summer rain storm of July 25, 2023 – and a then-dwindling group of attendees, led to a decision to sell the building. Subsequently, two scheduled sales-closings were canceled, and the number of parishioners stabilized, leading to a recent vote to repair and return to 129 Court Street. City of Auburn officials who have inspected the building expressed strong support for its restoration. While the reconstruction is being accomplished, the CSBC congregation is blessed to be meeting at the Grace Lutheran Church, 757 Summer Street, 8:30am, Sundays.

The estimated cost for reclamation is \$600,000 – daunting, but what we are being called to do. We will very much appreciate the prayers and tangible contributions by the Auburn-Lewiston community in completing this task. Checks may be sent to: Financial Secretary, Court Street Baptist Church, P. O. Box 1005, Auburn, Maine 04211-1005.

Foraging wild mushrooms: Avoiding toxic mistakes

AUBURN, ME – The Auburn Public Library will be hosting mushroom educator, Greg Marley, for a presentation on how to avoid toxic mistakes when foraging for wild mushrooms.

Foraging wild mushrooms for food and medicine is a great pastime but carries the risk of becoming sick from eating the wrong mushrooms or preparing them improperly. New England is seeing an increase in poisoning cases as a result of the significant increase in novices seeking and eating mushrooms without being fully aware of the risk.

This talk will review the common poisonous mushrooms sometimes confused with edibles as well as the range of toxins in New England mushrooms. Guidelines for foragers will be presented; the goal is ensuring safety while eating wonderful wild mushrooms.

Greg Marley is a wild mushroom expert teaching foraging skills across New England. He has consulted with Poison Centers across New England for more than 2 decades as an identification and content expert.

This program will take place in the Androscoggin Community Room at the Auburn Public Library.

For more information about this and other programs offered at the Auburn Public Library, visit their website at www.auburnpubliclibrary.org or call the Reference Desk at 207-333-6640, ext. 4

Rumford Hospital cardiac rehab team earns key certification



Members of the Rumford Hospital cardiac rehab unit, Krysty Tomkins, RN, Tammy Berry, RN, Dan Elliot, RN

RUMFORD, ME – Rumford Hospital’s Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation unit has been re-certified by the American Association of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation (AACVPR).



According to AACVPR, this certification is recognition of the team’s commitment to improving the quality of life of patients by enhancing standards of care.

To earn accreditation, the rehab program participated in an application process that requires extensive documentation of their practices. AACVPR Program Certification is the only peer-review accreditation process designed to review individual programs for adherence to standards and guidelines developed and published by AACVPR and other related professional societies.

“Achieving AACVPR Certification for our Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation program was no easy feat, but our patients in the River Valley are absolutely worth it,” said Michelle Radloff, who leads the cardiac rehab team. “We are proud of our rehabilitation program’s commitment to delivering high-quality care and service, and even prouder of our incredible team for all they’ve accomplished.”

Founded in 1985, AACVPR is a multidisciplinary organization ded-

Regency costume workshop at LPL



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Lewiston PUBLIC LIBRARY presents

REGENCY COSTUME WORKSHOP

in the COUTURE ROOM on MONDAY, the 8th of SEPTEMBER from 4PM to 6:30PM.

Prepare for October's Regency Ball by learning the basics of early 19th century fashion and how to thrift, sew, and DIY your own period-inspired look to wear to the ball. Ages 13+.

Contact 207-513-3134 for more details.

LEWISTON, ME – Join us on Monday, September 8 from 4-6:30pm in the Lewiston Public Library’s Couture Room for a workshop on creating Regency-style costumes. This beginner-friendly event will include a presentation of the basics of early 19th century fashion and ideas for thrifting, sewing, and otherwise DIY-ing a period-inspired outfit. It will also provide ample time for participants to ask questions, brainstorm as a group, and start planning and working on their costumes.

The purpose of this program is to prepare participants interested in dressing up for the library’s Regency Ball later in the fall. The Regency Ball, occurring October 18 at 7pm, will be Lewiston Public Library’s first literary ball and is inspired by Jane Austen.

The costume workshop will provide access to some basic tools and supplies, including sewing machines. It is a free program open to participants ages 13 and up. For more information contact Regan Flieg at 207-513-3004 ext. 3506 or rflieg@lewiston-maine.gov.

Norway Savings Bank donates \$20k to USM Foundation

PORTLAND, ME – Norway Savings Bank recently delivered a \$20,000 contribution to the University of Southern Maine Foundation, part of a multi-year commitment to support the McGoldrick Center for Career & Student Success, the new hub of the university’s Portland campus.

“We’re so pleased to have been designated a ‘Founding Sponsor’ of the center by USM,” said Dan Walsh, President and CEO of Norway Savings. “It is already such an incredible resource for students, faculty, staff, alumni, and the wider community, including the opportunity for business representatives to connect with students in building relationships and establishing the possibility of eventual employment.

NSB is thrilled to be associated with a building that is benefiting so many people today and holds limitless potential for the future.”

The McGoldrick Center’s second floor is home to USM’s expanded Career & Employment Hub, where the employer community intersects with students in the academic

See NSB donates, page 11

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Nominations open for 2026 Maine Women’s Hall of Fame

MAINE – Nominations for the 36th Maine Women’s Hall of Fame in 2026 are now being accepted to honor those who have made an outstanding contribution to improving opportunities for all Maine women. Deadline for nomination submissions is Nov. 1.

An organization or individual can nominate an outstanding woman whose achievements have made a significant statewide impact and improved the lives of women in Maine, and whose contributions have enduring value for women. Nomination requirements and submission information are online.

An induction ceremony in the spring, typi-

cally held during Women’s History Month in March, will honor the woman or women of achievement selected by an independent panel of judges.

Past inductees to the Maine Women’s Hall of Fame include authors, athletes, artists, activists, administrators, political and religious leaders, educators, doctors, lawyers, scientists and college presidents. Among the most recent honorees: physician Julia McDonald, community activist Nancy Fritz and astronaut Jessica Meir. A full list of inductees, starting with Sen. Margaret Chase Smith and women’s health advocate Mabel Wadsworth in 1990, is online.

Maine Business and Professional Women/Maine Futurama Foundation established the Maine Women’s Hall of Fame. The Bennett D. Katz Library at the University of Maine at Augusta has a collection of photographs, video recordings and other materials from the Maine Women’s Hall of Fame induction ceremonies, as well as a permanent public gallery of inductee portraits.

Maine BPW/Futurama Foundation, working with Maine Community Foundation, awards annual scholarships to outstanding and deserving Maine women to help them achieve economic self-sufficiency.

Join “Light the World in Teal” Alzheimer’s Awareness Campaign

MAINE – The Alzheimer’s Foundation of America (AFA) is inviting sites all over the world – from buildings, bridges, and stadiums to city halls and homes – to sign up for its global “Light the World In Teal” Alzheimer’s Awareness initiative.

Sites across the globe will be lighting up in teal—AFA’s Alzheimer’s awareness color—on November 3 as part of Alzheimer’s Awareness Month to spotlight the issue of Alzheimer’s disease and show support for all those affected by it.

“Whether it’s a sky-



scraper or a single-family home, every structure that signs up for this program helps to raise Alzheimer’s awareness, show support, and spark conversations about a growing, global public health crisis that currently affects 55 million people worldwide,” said Charles J. Fuschillo, Jr., AFA’s President and CEO. “We’re grateful to each site that has signed up thus far, and encourage those who haven’t to do so, and

help make the teal Alzheimer’s awareness spotlight as bright as possible.”

No registration fees are required to participate in the program. More than 1,300 sites in all 50 US states and 16 other countries/territories have already signed up to participate in this year’s program.

Sites interested in participating in AFA’s annual Light the World in Teal Alzheimer’s awareness program on November 3 can sign up by visiting www.lighttheworldinteal.com or contacting AFA at 866-232-8484.

August is Emergency Management Awareness Month

MAINE – The Maine Association of Local Emergency Managers (MALEM) is proud to join the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) in recognizing August 2025 as National Emergency Management Awareness Month. This nationwide campaign aims to raise awareness about the

emergency management profession and the critical role emergency managers play in keeping our communities safe and resilient.”

Whether responding to a natural disaster, coordinating a public health response, or planning for long-term recovery, emergency managers work behind the scenes every day to protect lives, property, and essential services. These professionals serve in every corner of Maine — from municipal and county emergency management agencies to tribal, state, and federal partners, as well as across sectors like healthcare, higher education, utilities, transportation, and private industry.

“Emergencies and disasters — whether natural, technological, or human-caused — can happen without warning,” said MALEM President Aaron Milroy. “This month is an opportunity for Mainers to get to know the professionals in their communities who work year-round to ensure we are prepared and

resilient.”

Throughout August, MALEM invites the public to take action:

Learn what emergency management is and why it matters

Find out who your local emergency manager is — in your town, county, workplace, school, or industry

Ask about existing emergency plans and preparedness initiatives in your area

Find out how you can support and partner with your local emergency management office

Whether you’re a resident, business owner, or part of a local organization, you have a role to play in community preparedness. Building relationships with emergency managers and understanding your local plans is the first step toward becoming a more informed and resilient community member.

To learn more about National Emergency Management Awareness Month, visit: <https://www.iaem.org/KnowYourEM>

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Seniors Not Acting Their Age Searching for Sturgeons on the Kennebec River

“The sturgeons are jumping,” my friend, Brent Elwell, reported. He was referring to a recent trip he had taken on the Kennebec River. Paddling the Kennebec is always a pleasure but doing so while watching the sturgeons jump is an exceptional experience.

When I remarked that I’d like to complete a trip on the river while the sturgeons were still running, he suggested an upcoming hot, sunny July day. We had a plan. Emails to the usual suspects resulted in six friends responding in the affirmative.

The sturgeons have been coming to Maine for at least several thousand years, probably much longer since fossils date them as far back as 100 million years. They were a source of food for Native Americans and early European settlers who began commercially harvesting them in the 1600s.

Overharvesting, poor water quality and dams likely caused their significant decline and they were declared an endangered species. In recent years, that has changed on the Kennebec River. Improved water quality and removal of the Edwards Dam in Augusta in 1999 have contributed to a substantial resurgence of the sturgeon population.

Our preferred sector of the Kennebec to paddle is an 9-mile stretch from Sidney to Augusta. There is a quality boat ramp in Sidney at the end of Recreation Drive with ample parking and an excellent takeout at East Side Boat Landing Park in Augusta.

Eight of us met at the boat landing in Augusta on a hot, steamy morning. We left a vehicle to shuttle drivers at the end of the day and drove to the Sidney facility.

The sky was clear and winds nonexistent when

we launched in calm water in a wide part of the river. Our entourage consisted of three solo kayaks, a solo canoe, and two tandem canoes. Shortly after embarking, a sturgeon jumped out of the water about 30 yards downriver. The search was on.

One of the first things that many paddlers notice when launching in Sidney is that most of the shoreline is undeveloped until reaching the outskirts of Augusta. The contrast with the takeout in downtown Augusta is striking.

Based on my experience, watching for the sturgeons to leap is a potentially frustrating process. When you’re alert and waiting, nothing happens. However, when distracted while in conversation with a fellow paddler, a huge sturgeon often jumps high out of the water and crashes back a few feet away. History repeated itself on this day.

Getting a photo of a sturgeon while still in the air is an even more exasperating undertaking. I’ve been trying for several years and have yet to even come close. That failure held true on this trip. I’ve resolved to take lots of photos and eventually one will jump into the picture – maybe.

Our sturgeon sightings continued as we progressed south past logging booms that are remnants of a bygone era when millions of logs were transported downriver. Birdlife abounds on this sector of the river. During our voyage, we enjoyed multiple sightings of eagles, hawks, herons, ospreys and ducks. Their presence is likely the result of a plentiful fish supply.

However, the most impressive and stimulating sightings were the perhaps two dozen leaping sturgeons we observed. The



A group of paddlers assemble on the Kennebec River in mirror calm water



Paddlers pass an old logging boom in Sidney

primitive appearing fish, many five to seven feet in length, blast completely clear of the water and land with an explosive crash.

Why sturgeons leap out of the water is an interesting question. Some recent research indicates they may jump to regulate their bladder pressure or to communicate with other sturgeon. Whatever the reason, they put on a spectacular show.

As we approached Augusta, the towering Route 3 Bridge materialized on the horizon high above the river. We stopped on exposed rocks on the left shore just above the bridge for lunch.

Soon after, while sturgeons were seen jumping in the area, we passed the remnants of Edwards Dam and paddled under the rusted remains of a no longer operating railroad bridge.

An outgoing tide increased the downstream current entering Augusta

where we disembarked at the landing completing a very entertaining day of paddling. Several sturgeon watchers were gathered along the shore.

My book, Maine Al Fresco: The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine narrates 17 exciting trips on Maine’s wonderful rivers and streams.

Ron Chase resides in Topsham. His latest book, “Maine Al Fresco: The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine” is available at

Canoeists watch for sturgeon while paddling the Kennebec River

countrypress.com/maine-al-fresco or in bookstores and through online retailers. His previous books are “The Great Mars Hill Bank Robbery” and ronchaseoutdoors@comcast.net.

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Arts & Entertainment

Bailey Library in Winthrop to host Paul Doiron

WINTHROP, ME – The Bailey Library in downtown Winthrop will host award-winning novelist and registered Maine guide Paul Doiron on Wednesday, August 27 at 6:30 p.m. as part of the Winthrop Lakes Region Forum.

Doiron will read from and discuss his latest book, “Skin and Bones,” which Publishers Weekly called “exciting,” “evocative,” and “clever.” This newest release is the sixteenth installment in his acclaimed Mike Bowditch series of crime novels set in the Maine woods.

The series began with “The Poacher’s Son,” which won both the Barry Award and the Strand Critics Award for Best First Novel. It was also a finalist for the Edgar, Anthony, and Macavity Awards, as well as the Maine Literary Award for Best Fiction of 2010. His follow-up novel, “Trespasser,” won the



Maine Literary Award, became an American Booksellers Association Indie Bestseller, and was praised by Booklist as a “masterpiece of high-octane narrative.”

Doiron is Editor Emeritus of Down East magazine and a native Mainer. He holds an English degree from Yale University and an MFA in creative writing from Emerson College. He is a for-

mer member of the Maine Arts Commission and past Chair of the Maine Humanities Council. He lives with his wife, Kristen Lindquist, on a trout stream along Maine’s coast.

The Winthrop Lakes Region Forum is sponsored by the Winthrop Public Library Foundation and the Town of Winthrop.

For more information, contact the Bailey Library at 207-377-8673.

Brews & Bites: A flavor-filled afternoon at Wolfe’s Neck Center

FREEPORT, ME – Wolfe’s Neck Center for Agriculture & the Environment is bringing a new twist to a familiar favorite with Brews & Bites, a tasting festival happening Saturday, August 16 from 3–6 PM inside the historic Mallet Barn.

A fresh take on the beloved Beers in the Barn, Brews & Bites brings together some of the best breweries, beverage makers, and food vendors from across Maine for an afternoon of bold flavor, good company, and late-summer charm. Set against the backdrop of a working farm and Freeport’s coastal landscape, it’s an experience that is relaxed and vibrant.

Twenty Brewing, Flight Deck Brewing, Foundation Brewing Company, Geary Brewing Co., Goodfire Brewing Co., Maine Beer Company, Mast Landing Brewing Company, Moderation Brewing Company, Orono Brewing, Rising Tide Brewing Company, Wild Maine Hard Seltzer, and Wicked Joe Organic Coffees.

Tickets include a custom tasting glass and unlimited craft beer samples, hard cider, kombucha, and other unique pours. Local food vendors will be on-site offering a variety of small plates for purchase, from fresh seafood to wood-fired comfort food, every bite is designed to pair perfectly with what’s in your glass.

Enjoy Maine’s Best in One Barn

Guests will enjoy unlimited tastings from a standout lineup of Maine beverage makers including Apres Beverages, Bellflower Brewing, Bissell Brothers Brewing, Eighteen

On the food side, expect bold, satisfying bites from local favorites including Gunnar’s Icelandic Hot Dogs, Jolie Rogers Raw Bar, Alchimia Authentic Italian, and Winter Hill Farm, with even more vendors joining the roster.

See *Brews*, page 14

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BY FRANK McCOURT

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SpongeBob SquarePants created by Stephen Hillenburg.

Lewiston-Auburn Balloon Festival is this weekend August 15-17

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Welcome!

Balloon: Last One
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Lewiston-Auburn Balloon Festival
RISE OF THE BALLOONS

Welcome!

Balloon: Serendipity
Pilot: Jason Boucher

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Balloon: Dog On It
Pilot: Mark Fitz

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Lewiston-Auburn Balloon Festival
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Welcome!

Balloon: Flower Power
Pilot: Derald Young

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Lewiston-Auburn Balloon Festival
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Welcome!

Balloon: Sky Patches
Pilot: Jim Rodrigue

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Lewiston-Auburn Balloon Festival
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Balloon: Sunrise Passion
Pilot: Andre Boucher

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Welcome!



Balloon Festival Parade has something for everyone

Lewiston-Auburn Balloon Festival
RISE OF THE BALLOONS



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www.laballoonfest.org

Everybody loves a parade! Whether you're for the music, the balloons, the vintage cars or just to see who's wearing the most sparkles, the Lewiston-Auburn Balloon Festival parade has something for everyone. Make sure to hunker down in your front-row seat on Sat., Aug. 16 at 10 AM.

Here's how the parade

will roll:

Kickoff at Elm & Main in Auburn
Cruise down Main Street through New Auburn – wave like you mean it!
Float over the Bernard Lown Peace Bridge into Lewiston via Cedar Street – keep it zen in the Quiet Zone (from Cedar in Auburn to Lincoln Street in

Lewiston).

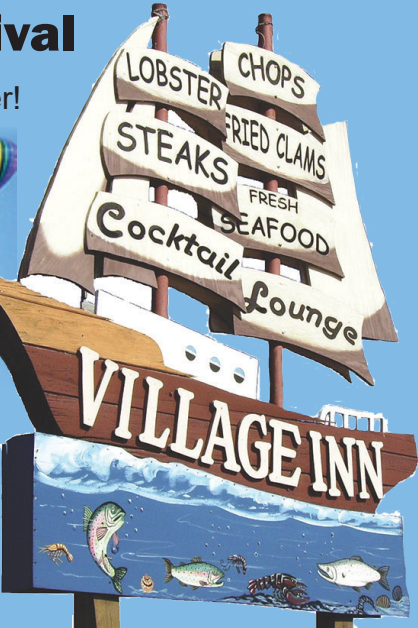
Trek on through to Lincoln Street
Wrap up at Beech Street or just keep rolling down Lincoln if the energy's too good to stop.
Wanna be in the parade instead of just watching? Drop a line to hamlyn300@gmail.com and join the fun!

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L-A Balloon Festival Schedule



Friday, Aug. 15
Balloon Launch, Simard Payne Park 6:00 AM
Food Vendors 4:00 PM–10:00 PM
Carnival, Lincoln St. Lewiston, near Station Grille 4:00 PM–10:00 PM
Artisan/Makers Fair

and Trade Show, Simard Payne Park 4:00 PM–8:00 PM. Hundreds of talented makers will feature crafted soaps, woodworking, crocheted plush pals, candles, jewelry, artwork, handcrafted baskets, stained glass, pottery, embroidery, and so much more!
Medieval Tent Activities, Simard Payne Park, Amphitheater 4:00 PM–8:00 PM. Join the Society for Creative Anachronism, an immersive his-

tory group where you can experience tournaments, royal courts, feasts, and dancing, and learn how to recreate crafts and skills of the pre-17th century world. Friday's Activities include fiber and arts displays and medieval caricatures.
Live Music: Country Roads, Main Stage at Simard Payne Park 4:30 PM – 6:00 PM. Hailing from Southern Maine, Country Roads delivers the best of today's modern country, covering hits from Luke Combs, Tim McGraw, George Strait, Jason Aldean, Johnny Cash, and more. Whether you're two-stepping, line dancing, or just singing along, this high-energy performance is all about great music, good company, and plenty of fun.
Balloon Launch, Simard Payne Park 6:00 PM

Balloon Tether Rides, Simard Payne Park 6:15 PM – 9:00 PM
Live Music: Violinist Mavy Ho-Le, Main Stage at Simard Payne Park 6:45 PM – 7:15 PM. At 21 years old, Mavy Ho-Le is undoubtedly an up-and-coming force to be reckoned with in the instrumental world. Her unique styles of performing combined with choreographed numbers makes her stand out from a traditional classical string setting.
Live Music: Traveller - The Chris Stapleton Experience, Main Stage at Simard Payne Park 7:30 PM–10:00 PM. Traveller is a music project dedicated to re-creating the music of Chris Stapleton. These A-list seasoned musicians got together and put together a show that will have you screaming for



more. From Alec Antobenedetto's uncanny vocal resemblance to Chris Stapleton, Tina Daurizio with her magical Morgane Stapleton background vocal harmonies, Leo Melanson's amazing pedal steel tapestries, Jay Tullio's whiskey-tinged guitar lines, Kyle Murphy's weaving of Acoustic Guitar; background vocals, Dave Hines velvety smooth bass lines to world-renowned drummer Joe Donnelly laying down the foundation of this band. This show will have you screaming for more long after it's over.
Moon Glow Primary, Simard Payne Park 8:30 PM–9:00 PM
Saturday, Aug. 16
Balloon Launch, Simard Payne Park 6:00 AM
Pancake Breakfast, Simard Payne Park – Big Tent 6:00 AM – 10:00 AM
Balloon Tether Rides,

Simard Payne Park 7:15 AM – 10:00 AM
Parade, Parade Route Coming Soon 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM
Medieval Tent Activities, Simard Payne Park 10:00 AM–7:00 PM. Join the Society for Creative Anachronism, an immersive history group where you can experience tournaments, royal courts, feasts, and dancing, and learn how to recreate crafts and skills of the pre-17th century world. All day activities include: Fiber and arts demonstrations; Youth activities; Medieval Caricatures; Forge demonstrations
Carnival, Lincoln St. Lewiston, near Station Grille 10:00 AM–10:00 PM
Food Vendors, Simard Payne Park 11:00 AM–10:00 PM
See Schedule, next page

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Schedule
Continued from previous page

Pups in the Air, Simard Payne Park 11:00 AM – 11:45 AM

Live Music: Jody Boys, Main Stage at Simard Payne Park 11:45 AM – 1:15 PM. Jody Boys is a fun party band who cover great hits from the 70’s, 80’s and 90’s with a few surprises from all over. If your looking to enjoy some good diverse music this band likes to rock!

Artisan/Makers Fair and Trade Show, Simard Payne Park 12:00 PM – 8:00 PM. Join us for an Artisan/Makers Fair & Trade Show presented by Maine Micro Artisans. Hundreds of talented makers will feature crafted soaps, wood-working, crochet plush pals, candles, jewelry, artwork, handcrafted baskets, stained glass, pottery, embroidery, and so much more!

Tour the Basilica, Pickup at LABF Entrance Oxford and Beech Sts. 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM

“Blue, Brews and Cruise” Classic Car Show, Festival Plaza and Main St. in Auburn 12:00 PM–5:00 PM. Join the City of Auburn for the 7th annual Auburn Blues, Brews & Cruise! Head to Main Street/Festival Plaza in the heart of downtown Auburn on Saturday, August 16 from Noon to 5:00PM. Enjoy incredible LIVE blues by Bad Daddy, Matt & The Barnburners, Kimball, Goodman & Miller, and Continental Shakedown. There will be food trucks, delicious local craft brews, a classic car show and fun for all ages! Admission is free. Learn more at: www.auburnblues.com

Pups in the Air, Simard Payne Park 1:00 PM – 1:45 PM

Live Music: Bazinga! Main Stage @ Simard Payne Park 2:00 PM – 3:45 PM. Bazinga! will energize the crowd with a dynamic mix of 90s hits to now hits, from alt-rock anthems

to smooth R&B grooves contemporary favorites. It’s the perfect recipe for a high-energy concert vibe to put your dancing shoes on!

Live Music: Ocean House Road Band, Main Stage @ Simard Payne Park 4:00 PM – 5:45 PM. Ocean House Road Band members grew up in the 1960’s and 1970’s. We witnessed the greatest evolution of music in the history of the western world; folk music, Motown, rock and roll, folk rock, blues and yep, blues rock. We saw the great ones perform.

Balloon Launch, Simard Payne Park 6:00 PM

Balloon Tether Rides, Simard Payne Park 7:15 PM – 9:00 PM

Live Music: Denny Breau, Main Stage @ Simard Payne Park 6:45 PM – 7:30 PM. Denny Breau legendary guitarist and singer/songwriter Denny Breau will mesmerize the audience with his flawless rhythm and stunning six-string guitar work, blending

folk, Delta blues, country, and jazz effortlessly.

Live Music: Motor Booty Affair, Main Stage @ Simard Payne Park 7:30 PM–10:00 PM. Motor Booty Affair has been lighting up stages across America with their 70’s extravaganza for several years, continually improving on the show that has been dubbed “The Ultimate Disco Party Band”. It is their mission to get the crowd groovin’ as they deliver hits from Earth Wind & Fire, The Bee-Gees, KC and the Sunshine Band, Chic, The Commodores, Barry White, Abba and more. They will create an event you will never forget. Make sure you bring your boogie shoes because no matter how big the dance floor is – it’s always packed from the first song to the last!

Sunday, Aug. 17
Balloon Launch, Simard Payne Park 6:00 AM

Pancake Breakfast, Simard Payne Park – Big Tent 6:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Balloon Tether Rides, Simard Payne Park 7:15 AM – 10:00 AM

Lewiston Farmer’s Market, Oxford St. & Cross St. 9:30 AM – 2:00 PM. The Lewiston Farmers’ Market offers visitors a chance to connect with one another and shop for a wide variety of fresh, delicious, local foods and goods while fostering a vibrant downtown and building a strong community and local economy.

Family Fun Day, Simard Payne Park 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Pups in the Air, Simard Payne Park 9:30 AM – 10:15 PM

Pony Rides, Simard Payne Park 9:30 AM – 6:00 PM

Food Vendors, Simard Payne Park 11:00 AM – 8:00 PM

Live Music: Camp of Rock, Main Stage @ Simard Payne Park 10:15 AM – 11:00 AM. Camp of Rock will start your Sunday with the youthful energy of Camp of Rock. These talented summer camp students will perform rock classics from Heart, The Kings, The Black Crowes, and Led Zeppelin.

Artisan/Makers Fair and Trade Show, Simard Payne Park 12:00 PM – 7:00 PM. Hundreds of talented makers will feature crafted soaps, wood-working, crochet plush pals, candles, jewelry, artwork, handcrafted baskets, stained glass, pottery, embroidery, and so much more!

Tour the Basilica, Pickup at Entrance 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Live Music: Maine’s Got Talent Top 3 Winners, Main Stage @ Simard Payne Park 11:15 AM – 12:00 PM

Pups in the Air, Simard Payne Park 12:15 AM – 1:00 PM

Live Music: Snarky Sisterz, Main Stage @ Simard Payne Park 1:00 PM – 2:15 PM

Diana Quinn and Lisa Ann Wright are the Snarky Sisterz, a DC-based duo that defies categorization!

The Snarky Sisterz play an eclectic mix of clever originals and covers, from bluegrass to the Beatles, 20s standards to punk, and on to roots rock, Americana, blues, 60s girl group songs, and even a smidgeon of jazz. www.snarky-sisterz.com

Live Music: Rumor Has It, Main Stage @ Simard Payne Park 2:30 PM – 3:45 PM. Rumor Has It are all about having fun, engaging the crowd and



playing music that everyone enjoys. They play a wide variety of music traversing decades and multiple genres!

Live Music: Taylor Hughes, Main Stage @ Simard Payne Park 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM. Taylor Hughes is a New Hampshire home-

grown country singer. He started singing when he was very young. His musical drive is to bring storytelling and traditional country music. He’s performed all around New England and has sold out performances at the Bank of New Hampshire stage.

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Whether you're snapping sunrise lift-offs, glowing evening skies, or joyful festival faces, we want to see your favorite moments from the Lewiston-Auburn Balloon Festival Aug. 15-17, 2025 at Simard-Payne Park in Lewiston!

Open to all amateur & professional photographers



Lewiston-Auburn
Balloon Festival

Picture This:

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Unlimited entries allowed

Digital photos only, JPEG, 300 dpi

For full contest rules, visit www.laballoonfest.org



Pups in the Air takes flight at L-A Balloon Festival 2025

Up, pup, and away! Get ready for tails waggin' and frisbees flyin'! Pups In The Air lands at the 2025 Lewiston-Auburn Balloon Festival!

These paws-itively amazing Disc Doggers and their talented four-legged friends will leap, spin, and soar on the Main Field at Simard-Payne Park, 46 Beech St., Lewiston. Catch their high-flying fun: Sat., Aug. 16 at 11:00 AM and at 1 PM Sun., Aug. 17 at 9:30 AM and 12:15 PM.

This year's "cast" is full of seasoned pros from national competition qualifiers to top notch disc champs from all over New

England.

Bring the kids. Bring your friends. Get ready to be fur-tunately amazed!

This year's "cast" is full of seasoned pros from national competition qualifiers to top-notch disc champs from all over New England.

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

Lewiston-Auburn Balloon Festival



Pups In The Air!



www.laballoonfest.org



2024 Balloon festival photo by Izzac MacDonald



2024 Balloon festival photo

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Rinck, Maine CDC win award for suicide prevention efforts

LEWISTON, ME – Rinck Advertising has been honored with a Silver Anvil Award from the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) for Filter Out the Noise, a youth suicide prevention campaign developed with the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Maine CDC). Widely regarded as the “Oscar” of the public relations industry, PRSA’s Silver Anvil Awards recognize outstanding strategic public relations programs that drive meaningful results and shape conversations on issues that matter most.

As a leader in behavior change marketing, the agency earned top honors in the “Social Media – Macro Influencer” category for its impactful work addressing youth and young adult mental health across Maine, specifically related to suicide prevention through education and provision of resources. Behavior change marketing entails using thoughtful, strategic communication to help people make choices and access resources that lead to healthier, safer, and better lives - for themselves and their communities. That’s exactly what this campaign achieved.

“Winning a Silver Anvil is such an incredible honor, and it means even more because it recognizes work that truly has the power to save lives,” said Nikki Jarvais, Senior Vice President at Rinck Advertising. “What makes the Filter Out the Noise campaign so powerful is how it uses influencer marketing to connect with young people in ways that feel real. It’s not just messaging, it’s meaningful, it’s authentic, and it creates a safe space for tough but necessary conversations. That kind of connection is what delivers critical support when it’s needed most.”

Maine Friday Art Group on display at WHA

LEWISTON, ME – Medical Center in Lewiston is delighted to display the works of seven local artists during the month of August. These artists are members of the Maine Friday Art Group which was organized by several local artists to make time to have fun while creating, learning and sharing art.

Among the exhibitors are:

- Linda DeSantis - A retired art teacher who organized the exhibit. “My focus is on observational drawing, exploring different techniques with watercolors, acrylics and paper”
- Cathy Chappell – “The intricate paper art form of iris folding has become a passion”
- Judy Hierstein – A retired art teacher, graphic designer and illustrator
- Joan Kelley – A graphic designer, “my art media is mostly watercol-



The exhibitors from left to right: Joan Kelley, Judy Hierstein, Sharon Poulin, Cathy Chappell, Linda DeSantis, Anita Poulin, Peggy Volock

- ors and colored pencils”
- Anita Poulin - Owner of Greenwood Gallery in Auburn, “I enjoy working and teaching in all mediums”
- Sharon Poulin – With family raised, “I’ve put my art degree back into use”
- Peggy Volock – Inspired by the natural world, “to me painting is an adventure”
- Displaying a wide

range of subjects and using a number of different mediums this exhibit has already drawn praise from both staff and visitors to the hospital.

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.

NSB donates

Continued from page 3

community. The third floor is dedicated to cultivating student leadership opportunities and connections with spaces set aside for USM’s Student Government Association, Diversity Center, and other organizations. The three-story center also features dining facilities, meeting and conference rooms, and student activity rooms.

The USM Foundation is an independent non-profit that works side by

side with the university to support the aspirations of students and the strategic vision of USM. For more information about its work and how you can assist, visit <https://usm.maine.edu/foundation>.

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I Screen, You Screen: Cancer pain awareness: Palliative vs. hospice care

By Ann Morrell RN, Health Writer

Chronic pain can impact our lives in so many ways. Who doesn't know someone dealing with physical/emotional pain or stress? The truth is that we can all benefit from alternative methods to deal with these issues. But the answer isn't always in pill form. Our past reliance on opioids for pain relief has taught us to look for natural ways to help relieve pain. Let's look at the difference between palliative care and hospice care relating to cancer treatment:

Hospice Care is used to increase quality of life and support caregivers when a prognosis of less than 6 months is given.

Palliative care can be used at any point in a serious illness to provide symptom relief and manage pain, as well as provide support with insurance forms or emotional needs.

What is Hospice care? While palliative care is available to anyone with serious illness, hospice care is focused on patients with incurable disease or when the challenges of treatment outweigh the benefits for those in the end stage of illness.

Hospice care works to enhance quality of life and



pain management with an understanding that no "curative" treatments are used. So, treatment for blood pressure or diabetes will be used to maintain quality of life, curative treatments like chemo or surgery will not. Hospice care has become an especially important tool for those facing incurable illness. It provides emotional support, medications and supplies, therapies and even coaching for caregivers. Hospice care specialists can create an environment of support that benefits patients and caregivers in the end of life process.

Who pays for hospice care

Private insurance, Medicare, and some state Medicaid plans cover hospice. There may be special funding through specific cancer groups and private partnerships.

What is Palliative Care

Palliative care is for anyone with a serious diagnosis, in any stage of the disease process, seeking relief of pain and discomfort, or assistance with care coordination with a focus on quality of life. Palliative care can be obtained alongside curative and therapeutic treatments such as dialysis, surgery or chemotherapy. Think of palliative care as a specially trained care team that works alongside your traditional medical treatment team. PC works very well with traditional medicine and can be received at home, in nursing homes, or outpatient clinics. Services include symptom and pain management, assistance with insurance forms, care coordination, and may also assist with advanced directives or spiritual care. You can use palliative care services for many reasons that are not "end of life" related.

Who Pays for Palliative Care

Many insurance companies pay for palliative care. Medicare, Medicaid and the Veterans Administration (VA) also cover palliative care in many situations.

Why Palliative Care Both hospice and palliative care use similar tools to ease pain, aid and support, and improve qual-

ity of life, but hospice care is focused on end of life and palliative care is used alongside curative treatments.

Palliative care is just another tool your medical team may utilize to bring relief of symptoms associated with cancer. The following link lists many types of alternative and complementary treatments that may be available to you or someone you know living with cancer.

<https://www.cancer.org/cancer/managing-cancer/side-effects/pain/cancer-pain/non-medical-treatments-for-cancer-pain.html>

Palliative care has grown in use and frequency in the recent decades. Treatments like acupuncture and massage have gained in popularity and Maine has so many excellent providers. Also, many insurance companies are paying some portion of care!

If you have questions about what palliative care is right for your situation please reach out to your healthcare provider.

And please see your provider to stay up to date on screenings for your age and sex.

About I screen, you screen...we all need to screen

Screening is a cornerstone of cancer control. Cancer screening tests increase the chance of finding cancer early, when treatment is likely to work best. With some types of cancers, early and regular screening can prevent the occurrence of cancer.

I SCREEN, YOU SCREEN is a monthly initiative of the Cancer Resource Center of Western Maine to share information with the public about the importance of early cancer detection and screening. Each month, there will be a focus on a different cancer, including some of the possible signs and symptoms that should prompt a conversation with your primary care provider.

About the author Ann Morrell is a practicing Registered Nurse and Health Content Writer. Her varied 12+ years of nursing experience ensure that her content provides technical information with practical insights.

Maxwell Close Collective delivers captivating performance



BOSTON, MA – Maxwell Close, a talented drummer and composer from Berklee College of Music, led his Maxwell Close Collective in a memorable concert at the Berklee Performance Center (BPC) on Thursday, July 17, 2025. The performance, a rare opportunity for a Berklee student to headline at the BPC, offered an evening of innovative music that also honored jazz icon John Coltrane on the anniversary of his passing. The event brought approximately 150 attendees to the Berklee Performance Center venue.

Close, 21, originally from Pennington, New Jersey, showcased his distinctive blend of jazz, funk, and fusion. The 16-musician ensemble included horns, strings, keyboards, a rhythm section, and world instruments, alongside special guest artists. The setlist featured primarily original compositions, with two pieces dedicated to Coltrane, demonstrating Close's broad artistic range.

Maxwell Close grew up in Pennington, NJ, and attended The Pennington School. Now a Massachusetts resident, Maxwell has enjoyed his musical journey in Boston and has fallen in love with his retreats to Rangeley, Maine.

Maxwell's new EP, Rangeley, was named after what he perceived as the best song on his new EP.

His grandparents, Donald (Skip) M. Sykes Jr. and Frances P. Sykes, purchased a vacation home in Rangeley, many years ago and Maxwell and his family would vacation there every summer throughout the course of his life.

"I have a personal

connection to Rangeley," says Maxwell. "I come to relax, embrace my artistry, and become inspired. It's so peaceful there."

Audience Reactions Highlight the Night's Impact

The performance struck a powerful chord with attendees, who praised the ensemble's musicianship and Close's artistic vision:

"A night of great music by some of the finest young, up-and-coming musicians, spearheaded by drummer Maxwell Close. Keep an eye—and an ear—out for these guys and girls!"

— Greg Saffares, Guilderland, NY

"I was mesmerized by the music. Ten out of ten—loved it!"

— Lourdes Ronquillo, Trenton, NJ

"I didn't expect 90 minutes of fusion jazz at that level. A truly wonderful performance."

— Ghahre Pascale, McKinney, TX

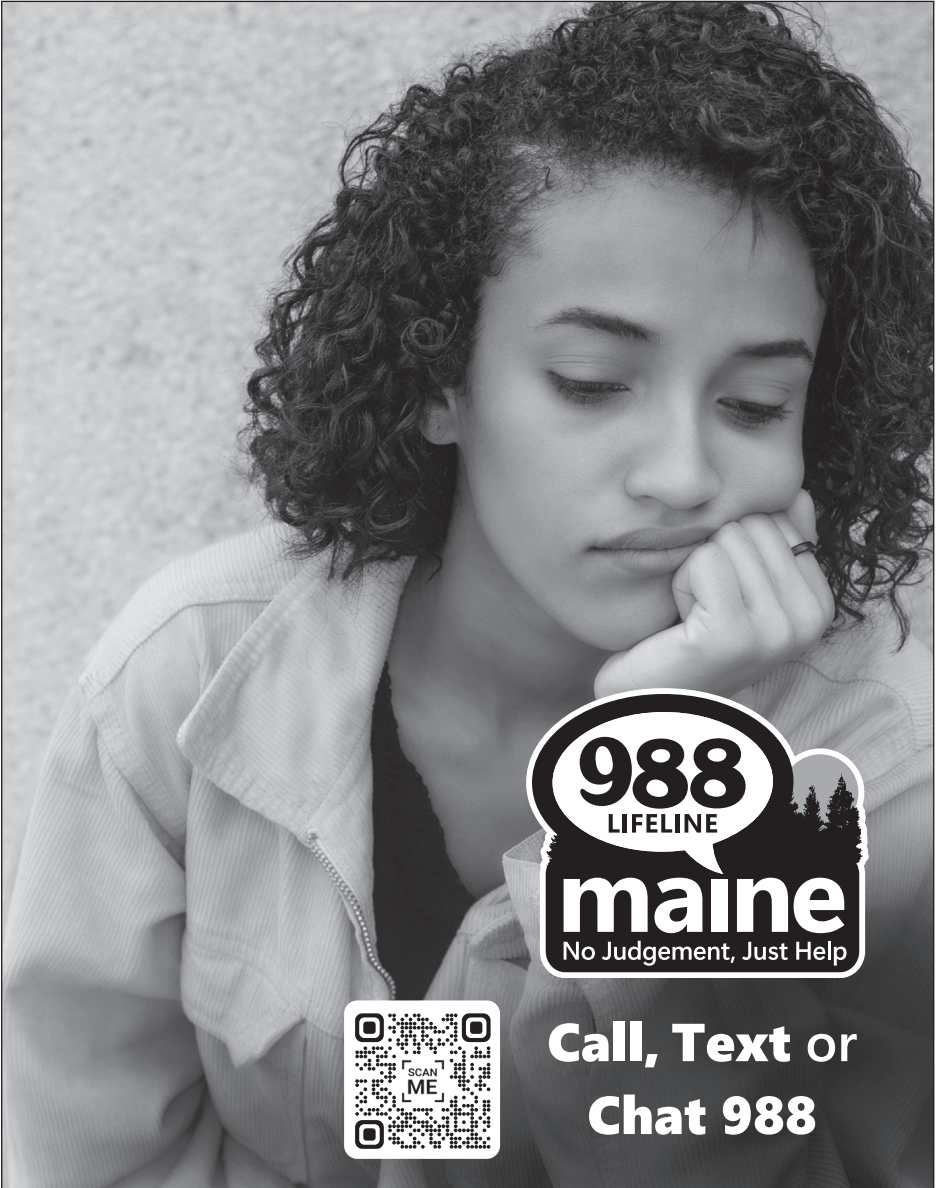
Explore Maxwell Close's Unique Sound on New EP

Close's BPC performance offered a glimpse into his evolving musical journey, which now includes the release of his new EP, Rangeley. Available now on all major streaming platforms, the EP offers listeners an even deeper exploration of his unique sound.

"I'm most proud of how honest and complete it feels," Close shared about Rangeley. "This EP is the best representation of who I am musically; it doesn't sound like anything else out there. Every track feels intentional."

Maxwell and three other members of the Maxwell Close Collective will be opening for "The Electric Alliance" on September 3rd at the Middle East Restaurant and Nightclub in Cambridge and on September 10th at the Lizard Lounge in Cambridge.

To stay updated on Maxwell Close's music and future performances, follow him on Instagram: @maxclose.




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Mondays through Aug 18
LEWISTON – The Lewiston Public Library, in partnership with ArtVan, will be offering art programs in the Children’s Department for children ages 5-14 every Monday from June 23rd-August 18th from 3:00PM-4:30PM. Children aged 5-8 must be accompanied by an adult.

Now through Aug 29
WEST GARDINER – Shop Maine Craft presents BIG, a collection of large-scale porcelain sgraffito sculpture and wheel-thrown forms by artist Tim Christensen, on view July 22 through August 29, 2025, at the Center for Maine Craft in West Gardiner.

Aug 15, 16
AUBURN – The Maine Franco-American Genealogical Society is holding a garage sale fundraiser on both Friday, August 15, and Saturday, August 16, from 9 am to 4 pm at 1313 Riverside Drive in Auburn.

Aug 15
AUGUSTA – Augusta Symphony Soirée, the only ticketed concert in the ASO schedule, which will help support the ASO’s mission and expenses. Held at Jewett Hall on the University of Maine at Augusta campus (46 University Dr.), this elegant

Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

evening will feature chamber ensembles drawn from ASO musicians, including Concertmaster Anne McKee. The program will culminate with the ASO’s own Maestro Jinwook Park leading a lively winds and strings nonet with his violin rather than his baton.

The evening will open with a welcome reception at 7:00 pm during which supporters can meet each other as well as orchestra members. The concert will begin at 7:30 pm.

Aug 15, 25
ARUNDEL – The Landing School of Boatbuilding and Design in Arundel, a non-profit marine trades school, is hosting open houses at our campus at 286 River Rd. on Aug 15 (2-4 PM) and Aug 25 (10AM-12PM).

Aug 16
FREEPORT – Wolfe’s Neck Center for Agriculture & the Environment is bringing a new twist to a familiar favorite with Brews & Bites, a tasting festival happening Saturday, August 16 from 3–6 PM inside the historic Mallet Barn.

Aug 16
ELLSWORTH – The Downeast Scenic Railroad

and New England Steam Corporation are thrilled to welcome families back for the much-anticipated Touch-a-Train event on Saturday, August 16, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Washington Junction rail yard.

Aug 17
LISBON FALLS – The 4-H Youth Development Program in Androscoggin and Sagadahoc counties, part of University of Maine Cooperative Extension, is hosting a drop-in Open House on Sunday, August 17 from 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. at the Androscoggin/Sagadahoc Extension office, 24 Main Street, Lisbon Falls.

Aug 18
AUBURN – Auburn Public Library: Foraging Wild Mushrooms: Avoiding Toxic Mistakes to be taking place on Monday, August 18th from 5-6:30 PM.

Aug 20
BRUNSWICK – Merrymeeting Bay Trout Unlimited to Speak at “Sustainable Brunswick” Lecture Series Wednesday August 20, 2025, Curtis Memorial Library, 6:00 pm -7:30 pm.

Aug 21
LEWISTON – Lew-

iston Public Library: Paint Night at the Library 5-7PM.

Aug 30
BUXTON – Try our delicious Haddock Supper Buffet - Saturday, August 30, 2025 - 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.

Sept 3
LEWISTON – The Oasis of Music Wednesday series opens its seventh season on September 3 with a performance by local legend Denny Breau. The Oasis of Music happens at Trinity Commons, 247 Bates Street in Lewiston, every Wednesday beginning at 12:30, from September through May. Attendees are treated to a short concert of music of many genres, from folk to pop to rock to jazz and classical and beyond, performed by many of our finest local musicians, in what is considered “an acoustic jewel” of a performance space.

Starting Sept 10, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays
LEWISTON – The Lewiston Public Library, in partnership with ArtVan, will be offering in-person art programs. Starting on September 10th, the programs will take place on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month from 3:30pm-5:00pm in the Children’s Department for children ages 5-14. Make Art with ArtVan is free, open to the public, and no registration is required. All art supplies will be provided.

Sept 12
LEWISTON – 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.

Oct 18
LEWISTON – Party like it’s 1813! Join us at the Lewiston Public Library’s Jane Austen Regency Ball, doors will open at 6:30pm, and the dance will run from 7 to 9pm. The ball will include English Country Dancing and light refreshments. This is the Lewiston Public Library’s first annual literary ball, commemorating Jane Austen’s 250th birthday.

Nov 15
LEWISTON – Prince of Peace Parish Christmas Craft Fair Saturday, from 9-3. Looking for crafters/artists at Holy Family

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Church Hall 607 Sabattus St., Lewiston. Prices for tables/spaces range from \$25-\$40! Contact Angela at adobson@une.edu.

1st, 3rd Wednesday of every month
LEWISTON – Join Lewiston Public Library for Bumps & Babies on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday every month starting June 4th from 10:30am to 11:30am in the Children’s Department.

Bumps & Babies is a support group that provides a safe, compassionate space for individuals navigating the emotional and physical challenges of pregnancy and the postpartum period. Members can share experiences, receive encouragement, and connect with others facing similar struggles, such as anxiety, depression, or the joys and adjustment to parenthood.

Wednesdays
GORHAM – Story Hour every Wednesday from 10:30 to 11:30 at North Gorham Public Library.

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.

Every Third Thursday
LEWISTON – The Lewiston Farmers’ Market is excited to announce the introduction of “Third Thursday” markets, which will take place every third Thursday of the month, June through September from 4:00-7:00 pm on the green space at 75 Lincoln St.

Brews

Continued from page 6

From freshly shucked oysters to savory snacks and creative comfort foods, there’s something for every palate.

Whether you’re catching up with friends, discovering a new favorite pour, or taking in the view from the barn doors, Brews & Bites is a celebration of what Maine does best — gathering, growing, and raising a glass together.

Event Details
Brews & Bites
Saturday, August 16
3 PM – 6 PM
713 Wolfe’s Neck Rd, Freeport, ME 04032

This event is strictly 21+. A valid form of ID will be required at the door for all guests. Children, including infants in carriers, will not be admitted.

Tickets are on sale now at www.wolfesneck.org/brews-and-bites.

Seniors

Continued from page 1

life. Session Three: October 26 (at the Public Theatre, 2pm)

Attend a matinee performance of MISERY, which will be followed by a post-show discussion with cast members, led by the Public Theatre’s Artistic Director, Janet Mitchko.

NOTE: A familiarity with MISERY is helpful, but reading the book or seeing the movie is not a prerequisite for participation. Participants will be asked to read the play script prior to the first session. It is available in one of four ways:

Participants will be expected to read the script before the first session. You can access the script in one of three ways:

You may purchase the script for \$13 at Dramatists <https://www.dramatists.com/cgi-bin/db/single.asp?key=5493>

You may read it free online at: <https://www.scribd.com/document/852716717/Misery-Script>

The Lewiston Library has ordered copies of the script for borrowing.

You can also sign out one of 2 or 3 copies for 3 days at the Public Theatre.



Finding a fulfilling career with flexibility and room to grow

Petra always knew she wanted to pursue a career that involved helping people. After studying nursing for a semester, and realizing that it wasn’t for her, she discovered her calling as a Mental Health Rehabilitation Technician/Community, or MHRT-C, was the perfect fit.

In that role, she works with individuals living with serious and persistent mental illness, helping them access support services in the community. That might include a wide range of tasks on any given day, from helping clients connect with food and childcare resources, to helping them enroll in college classes.

“I love getting to be a part of people moving forward in their lives,” she says. “I get to see people believe in themselves again.”

Petra is a part of the growing field of Behavioral Health, ensuring that Mainers with behavioral health needs have the support they need to stay safe, independent, and empowered to achieve their personal goals. There are thousands of openings with providers throughout the state. In addition to the rewarding nature of the work, Petra appreciates having flexibility with time to be there for her husband and two young children.

“I have a lot of control over my schedule,” she says. “I really do get to enjoy my kids’ childhood.”

Emily became a Mental Health Rehabilitation Technician-I, or MHRT-I, shortly after getting her associate’s degree, and her son was diagnosed with autism. “I wanted to be prepared to meet his needs and be as knowledgeable as possible,” she said.

The position, working with individuals’ serious mental illness in supported residential settings, turned out to be a gateway to a new path that she could never have imagined. Emily went on to become a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, get her Doctorate in Social Work, and teach college classes, all as a mother of three. Today, as the Principal Investigator for Behavioral Health Workforce Initiatives at the Catherine Cutler Institute at the University of Southern Maine, Emily oversees MHRT-related certifications and training initiatives across the state. As she reflects on her path, she sees her time as an MHRT-I as pivotal.

“It helped me truly understand the profound impact behavioral health work could have, not only on the clients I served, but also on my own sense of purpose and fulfillment,” she says. “To be able to see people have those light-bulb moments, really discover who they are and witness their resilience; it’s amazing.”

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.



“I love getting to be a part of people moving forward in their lives. I get to see people believe in themselves again.”



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SEPTEMBER 15 - 18, 2025 - THE GRAND CANYON OF PENNSYLVANIA - Trip includes 3 nights lodging, 3 breakfasts and 3 dinners including the historic Peter Herdic House and The Carriage House. Highlights of this tour are Susquehanna River Cruise, Pennsylvania Grand Canyon Wagon

Tour, Millionaires Row Tour, Thomas Taber Museum, Historic Rowley House and much more. A \$75.00 deposit is due upon signing up. Price of this trip is \$769.00 pp double occupancy and \$918.00 for a single. Final payment is due July 17, 2025.

OCTOBER 6 – 10, 2025 – ATLANTIC CITY, CAPE MAY, & PHILADELPHIA - Trip includes 5 days and 4 nights lodging, 4 breakfasts and 4 dinners and a free casino bonus for those who want to gamble. Guided tour of Philadelphia including Liberty Bell, Independence Hall, Betsy Ross House, the Federal Reserve and Mint. Then off to Cape May with a Trolley Tour of the Victorian Mansions of Cape May and a walking tour of a historic Victorian Home. We travel to Cape May Point and the famous Cape May Light-house. Our next day is a free day in Atlantic City to do as you please. Take in a show, do some gaming or just stroll down Atlantic City's Famous Boardwalk. A **\$75.00 deposit per person is due upon signing up. The price for this trip is \$849.00 per person double oc-**

cupancy. Add \$210.00 for single occupancy. Final Payment is due 7/30/25.

NOVEMBER 16-26, 2025 – CLASSICAL GREECE

- Price includes round trip air from Logan International Airport, hotel transfers and all transportation while on tour. Trip also includes 16 meals (9 breakfasts, 1 luncheon, and 6 dinners). Highlights of this tour are Athens, the Acropolis and Parthenon, Delphi, Olympia and Ancient Mycenae. You will visit a Greek Farm, have a Cooking Class, Greek Dance Class, and visit two remote monasteries. We will also have a tasting of local wines, olive oil and sweets.

APRIL 14 - 22, 2026 - HOLLAND AND BELGIUM SPRINGTIME CRUISE - Trip includes 9 days and 20 meals. Highlights are 7 Night River Cruise, Amsterdam with Canal Cruise, Keukenhof Gardens, Middelburg, Belgium Waterways, Scenic Sail, Bruges, Antwerp, Kinderdijk Windmills. Ship is the MS Amadeus Brilliant. Included in price is round trip air from Logan International Airport and all Hotel Trans-

fers. Deposit is \$898.00 pp plus \$699.00 if you want travel protection. Rates vary depending on the cabin category you choose.

SEPTEMBER 20 - 28, 2026 - DISCOVER PAINTED CANYONS OF THE WEST - Trip includes 9 days and 11 meals. Highlights are Colorado National Park, Wine tasting in the midst of Colorado Wine Country. Moab, Arches National Park, Canyonlands National Park, Dead Horse Point State Park, Capitol Reef State Park, Bryce Canyon National Park and Zion National Park all in Utah, last day in Vegas. Included in price is round trip air from Logan International Airport and all Hotel Transfers. Deposit is \$698.00 pp plus \$429.00 if you want travel protection.

If you are interested in any of these trips or for more information, please contact Claire at 784-0302 or Cindy at 345-9569.

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St. Pierre
Continued from page 1

also being present for his officers and the community. His ability to balance operational command with deep compassion helped guide Lewiston through one of its darkest chapters and brought a steady hand when it was needed most.

Chief St. Pierre is widely regarded as a cop’s cop who never forgot where he came from and remained deeply connected to the men and women serving on the front lines. Starting his career as a patrol officer and rising through the ranks to become Chief, he championed efforts to ensure officers had the equipment, training, and compensation officers need to serve effectively. He was a driving force behind the development of a new, state-of-the-art police headquarters, worked tirelessly to secure pay increases and retire-



LEWISTON ME

ment improvements, and regularly walked the halls and neighborhoods to meet with residents and officers. His commitment to leadership was also evident in his completion of the in senior leadership training program at the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia, which undoubtedly helped shape his calm, strategic approach during times of crisis, including the October 25 tragedy.

As the City looks to the future, Kaenrath noted that he will meet with senior leadership early next week to determine next steps for filling the Chief’s role. “Our priority will be maintaining the high standards of public safety and leadership that Chief St. Pierre established,” said Kaenrath. According to the City Charter, the City Administrator appoints the Police Chief.

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