

## A Christmas Carol one weekend only at The Public Theatre!

**LEWISTON, ME** – This holiday season, for one weekend only, The Public Theatre presents its acclaimed adaptation of *A Christmas Carol*, Dec 12-14. This inventive version, performed by six actors and a fiddler, was developed at The Public Theatre by former Executive/Co-Artistic Director Christopher Schario. It has since been published and performed by theatres around the world and is now a Lewiston/Auburn tradition.

With all the different versions of *A Christmas Carol*, The Public Theatre's adaptation remains many people's favorite.

This version begins with a child reading Dickens' novel as five actors and a fiddler suddenly appear to coax him into joining the story. Live music and sound effects create a magical atmosphere, bringing the story to life in a way you've never seen before.

Leading the cast is Broadway actor Dale Place in the role of Scrooge. Other cast members include Russell Ber-



rigan, Jared Mongeau, Sheila Stasack, McKenna Canty, local actor Simon Golob and fiddler Beck Welling.

Only \$15 for children – introduce a child to the magic of professional theatre and give them a gift that will last a life-

time. Ask about gift certificates for other plays too!

**A Christmas Carol:** December 12 at 7pm, Dec 13 at 2pm and 7pm and Dec 14 at 2 pm. Tickets at [ThePublicTheatre.org](http://ThePublicTheatre.org) or call 782-3200. The Public Theatre is located at 31 Maple St., Lewiston.

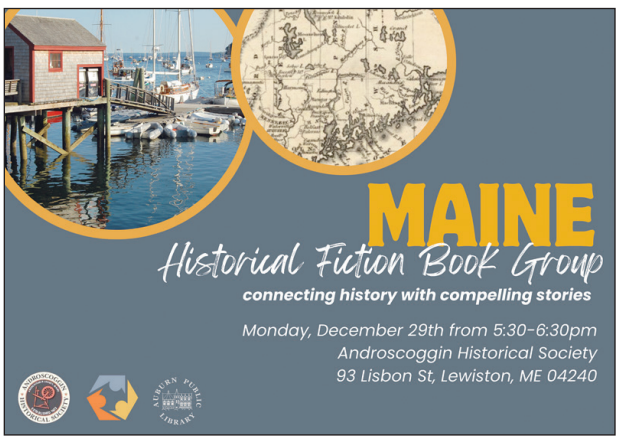
## December Special Section National Impaired Driving Prevention Month page 9

### Androscoggin Historical Society: Historical Fiction Book Group

**LEWISTON, ME** – Join the Androscoggin Historical Society, Auburn Public Library, and Lewiston Public Library as we partner to explore fiction with a historical twist. We will be meeting on the last Monday of each month from 5:30 – 6:30pm to discuss a historical fiction novel. Our next meeting will take place on December 29th @ 5:30pm, at the Androscoggin Historical Society, located at 93 Lisbon St., Lewiston, ME 04240.

We will be reading *The Eastern*. Book One: *The Early Years* by Deborah Gould.

"In the early 1800s, five families settle on the Eastern River in Pittston, Maine. Together, they build a strong and lasting neighborhood, an agricultural community based on New



England values of cooperation and reciprocity." Participants will be expected to obtain a copy of the book independently. You may place a hold on Minerva using your library card or contact either the Auburn Public Library or the Lewiston Public Library for assistance with how to borrow a copy of this month's selection.

Locations of future

gatherings will rotate between the Androscoggin Historical Society, Auburn Public Library, and Lewiston Public Library. Future readings to be determined by those who come.

Free to attend. No registration required at this time. No food provided, but feel free to bring your own. Recommended for ages 18+.

## EPA announces \$38M in grants to Maine Cleanup Communities

**BOSTON, ME** – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced the selection of \$38 million in Brownfields Grants to communities across Maine. These grants—which include Brownfields Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup Grants—put the agency's commitment to protect human health and the environment into action while remaining good stewards of tax dollars and advancing policies to energize the economy.

Brownfields Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup Grants in Maine include:

\$6.5 million for 10

selectees for Assessment Grants, which will provide funding for brownfield inventories, planning, environmental assessments, and community outreach.

\$22.21 million for eight selectees for Cleanup Grants, which will provide funding to carry out cleanup activities at Brownfields sites owned by the recipient.

\$3 million for three selectees for Revolving Loan Fund Grants that will provide funding for recipients to offer loans and subgrants to carry out cleanup activities at Brownfields sites.

Brownfields Supplemental Revolving Loan

Fund Grants in Maine include:

\$6.65 million for four high-performing recipients to help communities continue their work to carry out cleanup and redevelopment projects on contaminated Brownfields sites. Supplemental funding for Revolving Loan Fund Grants is available to recipients that have depleted their funds and have viable cleanup projects ready for work.

"Today's Brownfields announcement reflects EPA's commitment to clean air, land, and water for every American. From rural towns to urban centers, we are helping communities

across New England clean up contaminated sites and unlock new opportunities for economic growth and revitalization," said EPA Regional Administrator Mark Sanborn. "Through partnerships with states, local governments, and the private sector, we're returning blighted properties to productive use—and showing that a clean environment and economic development can go hand in hand."

"These investments in Maine's Brownfields sites will help clean up environmental hazards while laying the groundwork for future economic development," said U.S. Senator

Susan Collins. "By transforming blighted properties into sites ready for redevelopment, this funding will support jobs, attract new investment, and improve lands across our state."

"Cleaning up and rehabilitating former industrial sites is a win for everyone in Maine," said U.S. Senator Angus King. "This \$38 million investment from the Environmental Protection Agency represents a federal commitment to support us as we protect our state's natural beauty and the health of Maine people while also energizing our economy."

"This collaboration

with the EPA allows us to leverage public funding to unlock significant private investment in Cumberland County," said Kristina Egan, Executive Director of the Greater Portland Council of Governments. "We're committed to using these federal resources to jumpstart the redevelopment of properties that would otherwise remain out of reach for the private sector. This paves the way for transformative new projects and strengthens Maine's economy."

"This funding is essential to recapitalize SMPDC's Brownfield's RLF program that has re-

See EPA, page 14

Ready to take the next step in recovery?

The Center for Recovery at St. Mary's provides accessible, responsive care tailored to your unique journey. Whether it's your first time reaching out or you're returning for support, we're here to help.

Call 207-376-3419 to get started.

ST. MARY'S  
Center for Recovery  
A Member of Covenant Health



Professional & Reliable  
Cleaning Services

REAL CLEAN LLC

Over 20 Years Experience  
Commercial • Residential  
Serving Maine • New Hampshire

(207) 712-2765 - Stacy Mahonen - [www.RealCleanLLC.com](http://www.RealCleanLLC.com)

CLEAN BOOKS LLC

BOOKKEEPING  
SERVICES

207-370-9292  
[cleanbooksmaine@gmail.com](mailto:cleanbooksmaine@gmail.com)  
[www.cleanbooksmaine.com](http://www.cleanbooksmaine.com)

# Newsmakers, Names & Faces

## Norway Savings Bank names new Commercial Loan Officer VP



**PORTLAND, ME** – Norway Savings Bank is pleased to announce the appointment of Ryan Thompson (pictured below) as Commercial Loan Officer VP. Thompson has over 15 years of experience in commercial lending, consumer banking, and client relationship manager. Most recently, he was a Business and Community Banker at a Maine-based bank.

“Throughout his banking career, Ryan has built strong relationships with customers and provided effective and tailored financial solutions to meet the unique needs of clients,” said Rick Flagg, Senior Commercial Banking Officer EVP at NSB. “He was drawn to the bank because of NSB’s strong culture and

involvement in the community. We’re so grateful that he appreciates what makes NSB special and thankful that he’s here.”

The Winthrop native attended the University of Southern Maine in Gorham where he majored in Business Management.

Thompson will be based at Norway Savings Bank’s Auburn branch.

At NSB, we support each other to achieve great things. If building relationships, growing personally and professionally, and feeling fulfilled sounds good, NSB could be the place for you. Check out our current opportunities: [www.norwaysavings.bank/get-to-know-us/careers](http://www.norwaysavings.bank/get-to-know-us/careers).

## CBF raising funds for nutrition needs of cancer patients, families

**BANGOR, ME** – The Christine B. Foundation (CBF), a nonprofit dedicated to addressing the nutrition needs of cancer patients and their families, has launched a time-sensitive fundraising campaign to raise \$100,000 by the end of 2025. Funds will expand the foundation’s impact and deepen evaluation of how nutritious food supports patients experiencing a cancer diagnosis.

For nearly a decade, CBF has provided free healthy foods to every patient diagnosed with cancer and treated at Northern Light Health’s Cancer Care Center in Brewer and Mayo Regional Cancer Care Center in Dover-Foxcroft. The foundation now serves more than 1,500 people each year, many at higher risk of poor health outcomes due to rural isolation or financial hardship. More than 80% of participants are over age 55, and households engaged in the program for up to six months in 2024 saw an estimated \$3,000 in financial relief.

In September, CBF launched a long-awaited research initiative called Nourishing Hope. This trial integrates community services, academic research, and health care to evaluate how access to nutritious food and dietitian counseling affects treatment outcomes and the social, economic, and physical factors families face during cancer. In addition to ongoing distribution of fresh produce at partner hospitals, select patients will also receive tailored grocery deliveries and guidance from oncology dietitians to help patients manage symptoms, main-



tain energy, and enhance the effectiveness of treatment.

“What began as an effort to provide relief to families is evolving into a proactive approach to improving patient outcomes,” said Matt Dexter, CBF Founder and Executive Director. “Evidence shows that nutrition is an effective intervention strategy for a cancer diagnosis. Through Nourishing Hope we’re committed to ensuring every patient and family has the resources to face cancer with strength. In partnering with leading academic groups, other community services, and healthcare providers, we hope to better understand how food can act as medicine when paired with other critical

treatment options.”

Dexter emphasized the growing need for the foundation’s work. “A cancer diagnosis rains down uncertainty and strain that is unbearable to many, disrupting access to healthy food and community connections when they are needed most. More families than ever are seeking our help.”

In October, CBF held its first-ever pop-up fundraising dinner, “Dinner with Christine B.”, featuring four of the Bangor Region’s most celebrated chefs in a multi-course meal highlighting the connection between food and health. This event, along with other recent fundraising efforts, has raised more than \$70,000 toward the foundation’s goal.

CBF now invites the broader community to help close the Nourishing Hope fundraising gap and ensure the organization can continue expanding access to nutritious food and holistic support for Mainers facing cancer.

For more information on Christine B. Foundation, or to make a donation, please visit [Chrisbfund.org](http://Chrisbfund.org).

**Jason Hodsdon Masonry**

*We install stainless steel liners*

**215-3557**  
North Monmouth

[Jasonhodsdonmasonry@gmail.com](mailto:Jasonhodsdonmasonry@gmail.com)

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

# Injured on the job?

## We should talk.

(207) 333-5103

[Help@BilodeauLaw.me](mailto:Help@BilodeauLaw.me)  
[BILODEAULAW.ME](http://BILODEAULAW.ME)

## Save \$\$ on your business phone!

**Call today for a demonstration!**

## PROFESSIONAL COMPUTER SERVICES INC.

**207.784.6295**  
[buck@pro-pc.us](mailto:buck@pro-pc.us)

**Buck Buchanan**  
A+, MCP Certified Technician

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

# Newsmakers, Names & Faces

## HopSkipDrive partnering with Lewiston Public Schools



**LEWISTON, ME** – HopSkipDrive, a technology company solving complex transportation challenges with safety, access, and care, today announced its operations in Maine in partnership with Lewiston Public Schools and other local districts.

As school districts navigate transportation complexities, including a statewide bus driver shortage, HopSkipDrive is launching first in Lewiston to provide a safe and reliable supplement to traditional busing, one that is purpose-built to support students whose needs often fall outside the scope of fixed routes, including those students with disabilities, in foster care, or experiencing homelessness.

“Lewiston Public Schools is excited to partner with HopSkipDrive to provide safe, reliable rides to all our students. We are committed to ensuring our students have every opportunity to succeed, starting with a transportation option to and from school that can be arranged in as little as six hours,” said Alisa Roman, Director of Transportation and Nutrition at Lewiston Public Schools. “Our partnership with HopSkipDrive provides a much-needed supplement to our transportation options, giving our students and their families peace of mind and helping us ensure that every child can get to and from school safely and on time.”

HopSkipDrive will provide local schools and districts access to a new network of highly vetted drivers, known as CareDrivers, in small vehicles. These CareDrivers include parents, grandparents, nurses, babysitters, and other experienced caregivers - an approach designed to specifically meet the needs of children. CareDrivers leverage HopSkipDrive’s industry-leading safety approach is bolstered by its advanced Safe Ride Technology™, which includes over 50 safety products and features integrated throughout the ride experience.

To meet the needs of all students, HopSkipDrive offers a suite of specialized transportation solutions. For students with mobility challenges, the platform

provides access to wheelchair-accessible vehicles operated by specially trained local professionals known as CarePartners. For students who benefit from one-on-one support, often as part of an Individualized Education Program (IEP), Rider Assistants can be booked to join the ride, allowing the driver to focus on the road while the student receives dedicated attention.

“I just love the kids in my ride series. It makes me happy that I can be the one to see them everyday and I know that they enjoy my rides. They let me know in their own ways,” said a local CareDriver from the Pittsburgh area.

A parent in the Pittsburgh area recently commented on their experience: “Anytime I have an issue there is always someone available to help no matter what time of day it is. I never have to worry [my child] won’t have a ride and I like how they communicate when my rider is picked up and dropped off. Great job!”

Here’s how HopSkipDrive works:

- Our processes begin with a commitment to continuous refinement, informed by feedback from programs like the Caregiver Great Start Program, a new initiative dedicated to proactively engaging and educating caregivers of new riders with the tools and information they need from day one.
- This dedicated support program proactively engages and educates caregivers of new riders, giving them the tools and information they need from day one.
- School districts identify students to receive rides from CareDrivers and inform parents and caregivers.
- Transportation officials then arrange rides directly through RideIQ, HopSkipDrive’s online ride management platform.
- Once a ride has been booked, HopSkipDrive provides ride details to organizers, parents and caregivers. All details, and real-time ride tracking, is available in the HopSkipDrive app.
- Riders and CareDrivers verify one another using a multi-factor

verification system using birthdays, names, and code words, for an added layer of security before beginning the ride.

- Parents and caregivers of selected students will receive updates, including pickup times, live ride tracking, and CareDriver information, via text message and through the HopSkipDrive app.

“Transportation should never be a barrier to a child’s education or well-being,” said Joanna McFarland, Co-Founder and CEO of HopSkipDrive. “Our platform is built on industry-leading technology and a commitment to safety that’s reflected in our exceptional safety record, giving schools and families the transparency and peace of mind they deserve. We’re thrilled to partner with Lewiston Public Schools and other local districts to offer a powerful and flexible solution for arranging reliable transportation, helping ensure every student has access to the opportunities they need to thrive.”

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



Lewiston PUBLIC LIBRARY

# MAKER MONDAY

Winter Dates:  
Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>, Jan. 5<sup>th</sup>, &  
Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>

FIRST MONDAYS  
4 - 6:30 PM

Zara, Inc.

Fashion News

## Tias Prom Project

Dedicated to providing dresses & confidence to young women

The Tatiana Morrell Foundation was created to honor the incredible spirit of Tatiana Morrell — a young woman whose light, kindness, and heart continue to inspire us every day. One of the ways we carry her legacy forward is through something truly special: collecting prom dresses for students who may not have the means to purchase one. Tatiana believed deeply in making others feel seen, valued, and beautiful — and this mission reflects that love.

Through every dress given, every smile shared, and every moment of confidence created — Tatiana’s spirit lives on. Thank you for being part of this journey with us. 🌟



**The Story Behind Our Mission:**  
To better understand our mission, you must understand our reasoning:  
Tia lived with a heart led by kindness and intuition. When she noticed a new student struggling, she stepped in to make a difference—providing her with a beautiful dress and arranging for her mother to do her hair and makeup. That simple act of love gave the girl, who never imagined attending such an event, the night of her life.

Tia believed every young woman should feel confident, radiant, and celebrated during life’s special moments. In her honor, we are dedicated to continuing that mission—ensuring that no girl misses out on the magic of prom, homecoming, or a school dance because of financial hardship.

**How to Donate?**  
DM for pickup  
**Drop-Off Locations:**  
📍 8 Turning Leaf Drive, Windham, ME  
📍 781 Edes Falls Rd, Harrison, ME  
📍 780 Broadway St, South Portland, ME

Follow us on Facebook: Tias Prom Closet Project

## TWIN CITY TIMES

**TWIN CITY PUBLISHING, INC**  
Twin City Times • 89 Union Street, Suite 1014 • Auburn, ME 04210  
Gorham Weekly • 28 State Street • Gorham, ME 04038

Info@TwinCityTimes.com  
(207) 795-5017

**TWIN CITY PUBLISHING, INC. 2022®**  
All materials found in Twin City TIMES are copyrighted.  
All rights in those materials are reserved and permission to use them must be specifically granted by Twin City TIMES.

FREE e-subscriptions at  
[www.TwinCityTimes.com](http://www.TwinCityTimes.com)

**Advertising**  
For advertising information email  
[Laurie@twincitytimes.com](mailto:Laurie@twincitytimes.com) or call 795-5017.

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

**Press Releases**  
All submissions, including photos, must  
be emailed to [editor@twincitytimes.com](mailto:editor@twincitytimes.com).

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

# Seniors Not Acting Their Age

## Spectacular Hiking on the Cobscook Shores Trails

My wife, Nancy, and I were on the second day of a 3-day hiking vacation in Washington County. The primary focus of our excursion was to hike the trails along the spectacular Downeast coastline. Important for me was to select trails that were appropriate for rehabilitating my knee after a recent surgery.

On the previous day, we had completed a trek in the Great Wass Island Preserve near Beals. Now based in Machias, our plan for day two was to explore some trails in the Lubec region collectively called Cobscook Shores. Owned and maintained by Cobscook Shores, Inc., a family funded Maine charitable foundation, the network of trails consists of 20 separate parklands situated on the circuitous coastline of the bay. Based on our research, the trails at Race Point and Red Point Preserve were particularly appealing and appeared to meet my rehab needs.

Race Point is located in the northwestern sector of the park and at the northern end of Crow's Neck. The opportunity to view the famed Reversing Falls from the trails on Race Point was a compelling attraction. I had sea kayaked the area with friends a few years ago and wanted to view the narrow passage that forms the falls from land.

Race Point is reached by driving north from Route 189 in Lubec on

Crow's Neck Road to North Trescott. From there, take a right turn onto Kelley Point Road to a trailhead at the end where there is parking, a kiosk with trail information and toilets.

After a short walk on multi-use Race Point Trail, we turned left onto Reversing Falls Trail. The narrow twisting path closely hugs the rugged shoreline with multiple opportunities to stop at rocky viewpoints where we could see the tide racing in. Park literature states that each day massive amounts of water flows through the narrow channel in the short distance between Mahar Point and Falls Island creating a turbulent falls. Dangerous currents and whirlpools also occur in four nearby locations. Appropriately, the name Cobscook is a version of a Passamaquoddy word for tumultuous waters. I was reminded that our decision to err on the side of caution when kayaking this potentially perilous narrows was a wise one.

Near the end of Reversing Falls Trail, we encountered one of the ubiquitous Picnic Pavilions that populate Cobscook Shores' parklands. The wooden, screened and roof-covered shelters provide an excellent opportunity to escape inclement weather or pesky insects.

Completing Reversing Falls Trail, we followed a wide path to a Maine

Inland Fisheries & Wildlife trail network where a loop trail wraps around Race Point. The weaving path travels through the densely forested peninsula with several exceptional views of Straight Bay and surrounding waters. Returning from the point, we followed Race Point Trail back to the parking area.

Following a drive back to Route 189, we traveled east for a short distance to Red Point Nature Preserve where there is a large parking area next to the highway. The preserve consists of a tract of land that extends north out into South Bay and includes access to rockbound Red Point Island.

Red Point Preserve is situated on land farmed by the Knight family beginning in the early 1800s. The foundation of their farmhouse and an ancient apple tree remain. Four Picnic Pavilions are strategically located in the preserve.

We hiked easily on a crushed rock surface on South Bay Trail to a junction for Red Point Island Trail. A stepping stone path leads across a tidal zone to the scenic island. Since high tides flood the access trail twice daily, careful planning is essential. Only a 1.2 mile hike, we were confident adequate time remained for our excursion.

The hilly, circuitous island path that offers excellent views of South Bay and nearby coves was more time-consuming than anticipated. On our return, we had to wade through a couple of inches of water to avoid being temporarily stranded. Following our narrow escape, the rest of the hike on South Bay Trail to Red Point and back to the trailhead was uneventful.

Scenic hikes on Sun-

rise and Machias River Trails in Machias were completed on the final day of our vacation.

My book, Maine Al Fresco: The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine narrates the best hiking opportunities around the state including a trek to the summit of Duck Harbor Mountain on Isle au Haut during a multi-day sea kayak trip.

The author of "The Great Mars Hill Bank Robbery" and "Mountains for Mortals – New England," Ron Chase resides in Topsham. His latest book, "The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine" will soon be released by North Country Press. Visit his website at [www.ronchase-outdoors.com](http://www.ronchase-outdoors.com) or he can be reached at [ronchaseoutdoors@comcast.net](mailto:ronchaseoutdoors@comcast.net)



Wading was necessary when returning from Red Point Island



Race Point offers several views of Reversing Falls



Picnic Pavilions are common features of Cobscook Shores Trails

### Jason Hodsdon Masonry

Chimneys • Chimney Cleanings • Masonry Demo  
Repointing & Repairs • Culture Stones  
Restorations • Stainless Steel Liners  
*We install professional chimney caps!*

215-3557  
North Monmouth  
[Jasonhodsdonmasonry@gmail.com](mailto:Jasonhodsdonmasonry@gmail.com)



# ROOTED

hair studio



Courtney Michael

Accepting New Clients

214 Minot Avenue ~ Auburn ~ 689-3035



## Jay's

Lawn & Garden

207-713-6090

Delivery Available

Also offering  
residential & commercial  
lawn mowing services

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

1294 Sabattus Street  
Lewiston

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

# Fulfilling our nation’s promise: WWII Maine Airman accounted for

WASHINGTON – The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced today that U.S. Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. Merrill E. Brewer, 26, of Monticello, Maine killed during World War II, was accounted for Dec. 20, 2024.

Brewer’s family recently received their full briefing on his identification, therefore, additional details on his identification can be shared.

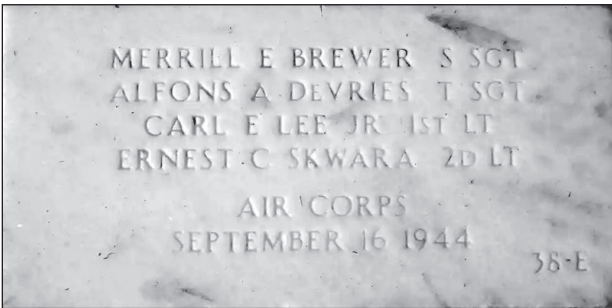
In the fall of 1943, Brewer served as the waist gunner aboard a B-24 Liberator bomber with 858th Bombardment Squadron, 492nd Bombardment Group, Eighth Air Force. The unit was engaged in Operation CARPETBAGGER, a series of secret missions in which several specially designated bomb groups dropped supplies, arms, equipment, leaflets, and U.S. Office of Strategic Services and French agents to resistance groups operating in northern France. On Sept. 16, 1944, Brewer’s crew was scheduled to fly its final mission to drop supplies to resistance forces 40 miles east of the Moselle River. 115th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Gun Battalion, an American artillery unit

stationed near Lebeuville, France, mistook Brewer’s B-24 for an enemy aircraft and opened fire upon it. Of the eight crewmembers aboard, two successfully parachuted to safety while the remaining six, including Brewer, died when the aircraft crashed.

On the morning of Sept. 17, 1944, American soldiers recovered remains



LEST WE FORGET  
Merrill Elwood Brewer, Killed in France, September 16, 1944



from the crash site, along with identification tags belonging to four of the crewmembers, including Brewer. They were subsequently buried in a common grave at U.S. Military Cemetery (USMC) Andilly, France. In 1949, official confirmed the group identification of the remains based on the presence of the identification tags and in 1951, they were repatriated to the U.S. and interred together in one casket at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery in St. Louis, Missouri.

In 2013, a DPAA investigative team visited Bainville-aux-Miroirs, France, where they gathered information from local informants and surveyed the area where the B-24 crashed. From Oct. 16 through Nov. 16, 2021, DPAA partner Geoscope Services, Ltd. excavated

the site and recovered new remains and evidence, all of which was accessioned into the DPAA laboratory.

To identify Brewer’s remains, scientists from DPAA anthropological analysis, as well as material evidence. Additionally, scientists from the Armed Forces Medical Examiner System used mitochondrial DNA, Y chromosome, and autosomal DNA analysis.

Brewer’s name is recorded on the Walls of the Missing at Lorraine American Cemetery, along with others still missing from WWII. A rosette will be placed next to his name to indicate he has been accounted for.

Brewer was buried in Bridgewater, Maine in September 2025. For family and funeral information, contact the Army Casualty Office at (800) 892-2490.

# Maine-ly Harmony performing Christmas show

GARDINER, ME – Maine-ly Harmony women’s barbershop chorus will perform a Christmas show - ‘Tis The Season - on Sunday, December

14th, at 2 p.m. at the Highland Avenue United Methodist Church, 35 Highland Avenue, Gardiner, Maine.

Please join us in sharing the songs of the season,

old and new, as well as a silent auction, refreshments and a visit from Santa. A suggested donation of a \$15 good will offering will be accepted at the door.

## “T’IS THE SEASON”

Sunday, December 14, 2025  
at 2 pm

Highland Avenue United  
Methodist Church  
35 Highland Avenue, Gardiner

### MAINE-LY HARMONY CHORUS

Please join us as we celebrate the start of the holiday season with some of our favorite holiday tunes, a silent auction, refreshments and a visit from Santa!

Suggested donation of \$15  
Good will offering  
accepted at the door.

## Follow us on Facebook

[www.facebook.com/twincitytimes](http://www.facebook.com/twincitytimes)

## 100% Financed Garages!

No money down.  
FREE estimates.  
Schedule your new  
garage install today!

# AMERICAN BUILDERS

Custom Building & Remodeling

(207) 500-8100 ~ [www.AmericanBuildersMaine.com](http://www.AmericanBuildersMaine.com)

# STAPLES COWORKING

## A NEW SPACE TO BREAK OLD RULES

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

---

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

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

# Arts & Entertainment

## Auburn Community Concert Band 44th annual holiday performance

AUBURN, ME – The Auburn Community Concert Band, under the direction of Milt Simon, will present its annual holiday concert on Wednesday, December 17 at the new Donald M. Gay Performing Arts Center, located at Edward Little High School in Auburn. The free, 75-minute performance will begin at 7:00 p.m.

This season's 53-member concert band is comprised of volunteer musicians from 14 central and western Maine communities, who range in age from 17 to 80-plus. The group will perform both traditional and contemporary songs celebrating the Christmas and Hanukah holiday seasons along with the customary audience sing-along.

Continuing a tradition which began over four decades ago, those attending the concert will have an opportunity to make a donation to a local nonprofit



organization. This year, all money collected following the concert will be presented to the High Street Food Pantry, which is held weekly at the High Street Congregational Church in Auburn.

Small's Greenhouse in Auburn is providing poinsettias to decorate the large stage. Immediately following the evening's performance, attendees will be able to purchase these plants with all proceeds also going to the High Street Food Pantry.

The Performing Arts

Center first opened its doors back in December of 2023. The auditorium can seat 1,200 attendees. This will be the community concert band's 2nd annual performance at this Auburn venue.

Edward Little High School is located at 77 Harris Street in Auburn. For questions regarding the Performing Arts Center, call the High School at 207-333-6652. For more information regarding the concert, visit the community band's web site at [www.auburncommunityconcertband.org](http://www.auburncommunityconcertband.org).

See Band, page 8

## The 'Rocky Horror Show' to be presented at CLT this weekend

AUBURN, ME – Rocky For Equality is thrilled to present Richard O'Brien's "The Rocky Horror Show" at Community Little Theatre (CLT) on December 12 and 13.

With high-energy choreography, a live rock band, and 19 local performers, this year's production - presented in collaboration with CLT - offers a rare opportunity for adults to enjoy a holiday-themed night out that's both daring and electric!

The cast features Jonas Maines as Brad Majors, Jordan Clatchey as Janet Weiss, Mikayla Jane as Frank-N-Furter, Anthony Delorme as Riff Raff, Hann Paulsen as Magenta, Emily Willett as Columbia, and Ray Woodworth as Rocky. Germaine Robinson appears as Eddie, Tony Roy as Dr. Everett Scott, Nicole Emery as the Usherette, and Michael Litchfield as The Narrator. The Phantom Ensemble includes Rachael Stetson, Hannah Stetson, Stormy Knowlton, Dakota Tibbetts, Archer Slater, Deston Rogers, Nex Staples, and Benjamin Simpson.

Shows are scheduled for Friday and Saturday, December 12-13 at 7:30 p.m. An additional late-night show will be held Saturday evening at 10:30 p.m. General admission tickets are \$25.00 and are available online at [rockyforequality.com/the-show/tickets](http://rockyforequality.com/the-show/tickets). Online ticket sales remain open until the day before each performance. While tickets will be available at the door, advance purchase is strongly encouraged.

Known for its devoted cult following, "The Rocky Horror Show" embraces audience participation—costumes, call-backs, and uninhibited celebration included. Each performance will feature a mobile bar provided by Burnt Ends Barbeque, a costume contest, a photobooth, and traditional "virgin" ceremonies for first-time attendees. Haze, strobe, and theatrical fog effects will be used. Outside props will



Jordan Clatchey and Jonas Maines play the protagonists Janet Weiss and Brad Majors in "The Rocky Horror Show" at CLT this weekend. A young couple in love, they innocently set out to visit an old professor. Unfortunately for them, this night out is destined to be one they will never forget!

**THIS WEEKEND!**

# A Christmas Carol

adapted by Christopher Schario

A story you know, told in a way you've never imagined.

**Dec 12 @ 7pm**  
**Dec 13 @ 2pm & 7pm**  
**Dec 14 @ 2pm**

**ALL KIDS \$15**

**Theatre Tickets Make Great Gifts!**

**ThePublicTheatre.org | 782-3200**

UNDERWRITERS Platz Associates, Sun Journal, WOXO & WIGY  
SPONSORS Andwell Health Partners, Dirigo Federal Credit Union, Uncle Andy's Digest

**the PUBLIC THEATRE**

31 Maple Street, Lewiston

Richard O'Brien's

# THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW

Book, music, and lyrics by Richard O'Brien

Special Holiday Edition!

**ROCKY FOR EQUALITY**

Fri, Dec. 12 at 7:30 PM  
Sat, Dec. 13 at 7:30 PM & 10:30 PM

Great Falls Performing Arts Center  
30 Academy Street | Auburn, Maine

\$25 General Admission  
[www.rockyforequality.com](http://www.rockyforequality.com)

Presented by Rocky For Equality in collaboration with LEWISTON-AUBURN COMMUNITY LITTLE THEATRE

For Mature Audiences | 18+  
Strobe, haze & fog in use  
Costumes and callbacks encouraged  
No outside props

THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals. [www.concordtheatricals.com](http://www.concordtheatricals.com)

not be permitted for safety reasons. Due to the mature content, this production is recommended for adults only.

Rocky For Equality is a Maine-based performance group committed to producing live annual stagings of "The Rocky Horror Show" that uplift community connection and bold creative expression. "The Rocky Horror Show" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals. For additional information, visit [rockyforequality.com](http://rockyforequality.com).

# Camden National Bank celebrates impact of board members

**CAMDEN, ME** – Camden National Bank is proud to announce the recipients of its 2025 Leaders & Luminaries Awards, recognizing exceptional nonprofit board members who demonstrate outstanding leadership in their communities. In celebration of the Bank’s 150th year of building a legacy of trust, innovation, and service, seven inspiring board members who share these values will be awarded a total of \$29,000 in unrestricted funding to the organizations they serve—celebrating their meaningful impact.

Since the program’s inception in 2011, Camden National Bank has awarded \$293,000 to 75 nonprofits through its Leaders & Luminaries Awards. This year marked the inaugural inclusion of both Maine and New Hampshire nonprofits, resulting in a record number of nominations, making the selection process more competitive than ever. The submissions reflected countless stories of dedicated individuals making extraordinary contributions as stewards of positive change in their communities.

“Nonprofits can only thrive if they have dedicated leaders who give their time, expertise, and unwavering dedication to drive the missions forward,” said Renée Smyth, Chief Experience and Marketing Officer at Camden National Bank. “We’re proud to celebrate our honorees who demonstrate how powerful board leadership can be when passion meets purpose, inspiring meaningful, lasting change.”

Camden National Bank’s independent selection committee narrowed the pool of over 120 nominations down to five Leaders & Luminaries Award winners. Each will receive a \$5,000 unrestricted grant for their nonprofit organization. Camden National Bank is also recognizing two Spotlight Award winners with inspiring stories, who will receive a \$2,000 grant. Donations were funded through the bank’s private charitable foundation, The Bank of Maine Foundation.

2025 Leaders & Luminaries Award Winners:

Kate Borduas, Board President, Scarborough Public Library (Scarborough, Maine)

Scarborough Public Library’s mission is to provide access to a broad and deep collection and high-quality services that promote lifelong learning in a welcoming, community-centered facility. Kate Borduas’s lifelong love of learning began in a small branch library in London, inspiring her decades-long



**Leaders & Luminaries Awardee, Jordan Stanwood, Board Member of Beth C. Wright Camden Resource Center, standing alongside representatives from Camden National Bank.**

commitment to the Scarborough Public Library (SPL). As a three-term Board President and longtime patron, she has championed the library as a vital community resource, ensuring access to books, technology, and programs for all residents. Even during personal challenges, Kate has remained dedicated to SPL, guided by her belief that libraries are democratic equalizers and essential connective tissue for the town’s diverse community.

Don House, President Emeritus, Belknap House (Laconia, New Hampshire)

Belknap House aims to provide homeless families in Belknap County with a safe place to stay while helping them gain independence and self-sufficiency through education and access to local resources. Don House, a retired program management and strategic planning professional, has dedicated his leadership and volunteer expertise to addressing homelessness in Laconia, NH. As a board member of Belknap House, he led the development of a strategic plan and authored an expansion business plan that secured the organization’s largest donation to date. This funding enabled the acquisition and renovation of a second facility, BH2, doubling the shelter’s capacity and providing families with a transitional, independent-living environment. Through his vision and hands-on leadership, he has helped Belknap House expand its impact, offering families the support and skills they need to achieve long-term housing stability.

Jordan Stanwood, Board President, Beth C. Wright Cancer Resource Center (Ellsworth, Maine)

The Beth Wright Cancer Resource Center offers hope, knowledge & support to cancer patients & families. Jordan Stanwood turned her experience as a young cancer survivor into impactful leadership. Her deep passion for this effort expanded access to care, strengthened the Center’s foundation, and guided initiatives like the opening of a new Washington County location, ensuring no one faces cancer alone. Jordan’s personal journey fuels her

dedication to the Center’s mission, inspiring hope, compassion, and support for patients and families throughout the community.

Kristin Valdmanis, Board Member, Children’s Museum & Theatre of Maine (Portland, Maine)

Kristin Valdmanis, with dual master’s degrees in early childhood education and extensive experience as a teacher and nursery school founder, brings deep expertise and passion for interactive learning to the Children’s Museum & Theatre of Maine (CMTM). Joining the Board in 2017, she quickly rose to Board President in 2020, guiding the organization through the construction and opening of its new \$15M Thompson’s Point facility amid the challenges of a global pandemic. Under her strategic and steady leadership, Kristin ensured financial stability, oversaw construction, and drove the creation of CMTM’s first strategic plan, mission, and values. Her dedication to inclusivity and access has helped the museum grow visitation from 100,000 to over 200,000 children and families annually, ensuring that every child can experience CMTM’s STEM, arts, and cultural programming.

Annie Watson, Board Member, Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (Unity, Maine)

Since joining the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association’s (MOFGA) Board of Directors in 2016, Annie Watson has championed farm viability, shaped strategic responses to industry challenges—including the 2021 Horizon Dairy contract crisis—and helped launch the Northeast Organic Family Farm Partnership. Annie has also served as President of the Maine Dairy Industry Association, contributed to numerous state and federal advisory committees, and delivered the keynote at MOFGA’s 2024 Common Ground Country Fair, inspiring the next generation of organic farmers. Her leadership combines practical farm experience with strategic vision, ensuring a sustainable future for Maine’s organic dairy industry.

# 5 tips for strengthening social bonds during the holidays

By Dr. Nicole Brady, Chief Medical Officer, UnitedHealthcare Student Resources

For many, the holiday season provides a unique opportunity to pause from daily responsibilities and focus on the people who matter most. While gift-giving and festivities are often the center of celebrations, the true value of the season lies in nurturing meaningful connections with friends, family, and community. Research shows that strong social ties are associated with improved mental and physical health, making connection a powerful and lasting gift we can share.1

Additionally, UnitedHealthcare’s recent College Student and Graduate Behavioral Health Report found that 60% of college students reported that they or a peer encountered a behavioral health concern over the past year, far more than most parents believe. This gap underscores why intentional connection may matter now more than ever.

Here are a few ways to help foster connection during the holidays:

**Engage in Intentional Conversations:** High-quality conversations, actively listening, asking open-ended questions, and validating feelings, may reduce stress and build resilience. Research finds that strong communication supports both emotional well-being and strengthens relationship quality.2 For young adults especially, data highlights that those who talk more frequently with their parents about mental well-being report feeling more supported, understood, and connected. Taking time to ask thoughtful

questions and truly listen may make a lasting difference this season.

**Revisit or Create Traditions:** Shared rituals and traditions, whether large or small, may help promote belonging and strengthening of family bonds as routines and traditions may provide structure, enhance resilience, and support children’s mental health. Therefore, consider reviving old traditions or creating new ones, such as cooking together, storytelling or neighborhood walks.

**Reach Out to Those Who May Feel Lonely:** Loneliness and isolation are linked to increased risk of depression and anxiety. The holidays can be particularly difficult for those living alone or far from friends or family. A phone call, card or small gesture of inclusion may help someone feel remembered and cared for.

**Move Together:** Physical activity supports both body and mind, and it’s even more powerful with friends. Research shows that exercise in general reduces stress, boosts mood, and strengthens focus, while group activities, such as walking with others, may also sharpen memory and thinking skills.3 Whether it’s a walk, run, or casual game, shared movement creates space for conversation, laughter, and healthy connection during the holiday season.

**Utilize Support Resources:** If you or a loved one finds the holiday season overwhelming, remember that help is available. Talking with a primary care provider or a mental health profes-

sional can be an important first step in addressing stress, loneliness, or other concerns. For everyday support, digital tools and virtual resources through your health plan may also provide convenient ways to help boost well-being. For example, some insurers such as UnitedHealthcare offer Calm Health, virtual behavioral coaching, and 24/7 in the moment support lines. Checking in with these resources can help you or your family members feel more supported and connected throughout the season.

The holidays are about more than gifts or busy schedules. They are a reminder of the power of human connection. Whether through meaningful conversations, family traditions or leaning on available resources, even small acts of connection can leave a lasting impact and help make this season brighter for ourselves and those around us.

For more health and wellness information, visit UHC.com

1 Holt-Lunstad J. Social connection as a critical factor for mental and physical health: evidence, trends, challenges, and future implications. *World Psychiatry*. 2024 Oct;23(3):312-332.

2 Hall, J. A., Holmstrom, A. J., Pennington, N., Perrault, E. K., & Totzkay, D. (2023). Quality Conversation Can Increase Daily Well-Being. *Communication Research*, 52(3), 291-315.

3 Mahindru A, Patil P, Agrawal V. Role of Physical Activity on Mental Health and Well-Being: A Review. *Cureus*. 2023 Jan 7;15(1):e33475.

## Maine Made Crafts

### 2025 ARTS & CRAFT SHOWS

**41st Annual Harvest Festival Arts & Craft Show**  
Augusta Armory– 179 Western Ave., Rt 202  
**October 25 & 26**

**22nd Annual Veterans Weekend Arts & Craft show**  
Augusta Armory– 179 Western Ave., Rt 202  
**November 8 & 9**

**Annual Makers Market Christmas Arts & Crafts Show**  
South Portland High School– 637 Highland Ave.  
**November 15 & 16**

**Santas Coming to Town Arts & Craft Show**  
Westbrook National Guard Armory– 120 Stroudwater St., Westbrook  
**November 22 & 23**

**46th Annual Thanksgiving Weekend Christmas in New England Arts and Craft Show**  
Augusta Civic Center– 76 Community Drive, Augusta  
**November 29 & 30**

**45th Annual Last Minute Arts & Craft Show**  
Augusta Armory 179 Western Ave., Rt 202, Augusta  
**December 13 & 14 + December 20 & 21**

**To join the Arts & Craft Fair season call Lois Taylor 706-843-9188**

**www.newenglandcraftfairs.com | 207-946-7079 | LTpromo@aol.com**

**Band**  
*Continued from page 6*

auburncommunityband.com

Current members of the concert band are:

FLUTE: Hannah Farley, Lily Gallagher, Susan Gayle, Olivia Grallert, Barbara Jabaut, Julie Mann, Barbara Odiorne, Carrie Palmer, Karen Potvin, Aimee Thi-beault

CLARINET: Steve Allman, Amy Cote, Mike Davis, Bill Galbraith, De-nise Leavitt, Deb Leonard,

Heidi McCarthy, Patti Pel-letier

BASS CLARINET: Eileen Messina

BASSOON: Hayden Pelletier

ALTO SAXO-PHONE: Justin Fortier, Dave Griswold, Colin Marquis-Boutin, Belinda Murchison, Taylor Rice, Nathan Titus

TENOR SAX: Ange-la Greenwald, Carol Lane, Annabeth Treadwell

BARITONE SAX: Meghann Bilodeau, Jason Toussaint

TRUMPETS: Domi-

nick Cammuso, Elliott Ep-stein, Josh Lampron, Nan-cy Morris, Ronald Seguin, Jameson Treadwell, Mike Truchon

FRENCH HORN: Stephanie Burke, Paul Mann, Denise Tabet

TROMBONES Son-ny Begin, Mark Jacobs, Noah Lampron, Chip Mor-rison, Tom Nelson

EUPHONIUM: Ja-cob Patton, Marsha Stone

TUBAS: Joshua Pat-ton, Duncan Webster

PERCUSSION: Keileigh Belanger, Laurie Swart, Mitch Thomas

# New photography on display at Rotating Art Gallery at CMMC

**LEWISTON, ME** – The Woman’s Hospital Association (WHA) Rotat-ing Art Gallery at Central Maine Medical Center in Lewiston is proud to dis-play the photographs of Heather Gould during the month of December.

When not at work at Central Maine Medi-cal Center where she has been employed for over 37 years, Gould spends time with her camera whenever she can.

She enjoys focus-ing her lens on the world around her whether it is wildlife, scenic views or



“Rising to the Heavens by Heather Gould (photograph supplied by photographer)

capturing the fleeting im-age of a rainbow. As any serious birder knows, one of the best places to cap-ture images of birds is in

cemeteries. Several pho-tographs on display this month confirm that places such as Evergreen Ceme-tery in Portland are often a birder’s paradise. Whether it’s taking a walk there or at other cemeteries in the region, she is always on the look-out for the ‘per-fect shot’.

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 pro-ceeds benefits patients of CMMC.

**Follow us on Facebook**  
[www.facebook.com/twincitytimes](http://www.facebook.com/twincitytimes)

**Of Stars EARTH & Sea**  
2025 - 2026 SEASON

**2025 - 2026 SEASON UNDERWRITERS**  
Hardy Wolf & Downing • Sun Journal

**ARTISTIC DIRECTOR**  
Dr. Richard Nickerson

**BENEATH the Winter Stars**

Saturday, Dec. 13 • 7:00pm  
Sunday, Dec. 14 • 2:00pm  
FRANCO CENTER • LEWISTON

For tickets call 207-333-3386 or visit [mainemusicsociety.org](http://mainemusicsociety.org)

Celebrate the season with this family-friendly holiday concert featuring John Rutter’s *Magnificat* and *Stars* by Ēriks Ešēvalds. The program will also include familiar works and the annual sing-along to bring out the memories, spirit, and magic of the holiday season.

**EVENT SPONSORS:** EMERSON CHEVROLET, MAINE CHEVROLET, MAPLE WAY DENTAL CARE

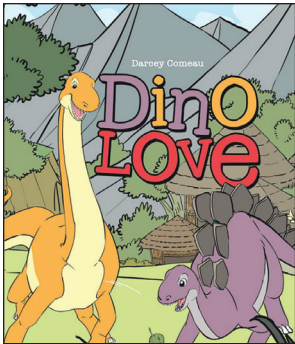
**EVENT SUPPORTERS:** Cornerstone Wealth Planning, Ouellette & Associates

**THOMASTON, ME** – An educator is teaching children and families a vital lesson on inclusion by reviving Dino-themed bed-time stories she once told her own children. Dino Love follows Nire and Noremac, a Stegosaurus and Brontosaurus, who dis-obey their elders’ admon-itions not to play with their Pterodactyl friends. In the end, ignoring the judgments of others by including dif-ferent dinos in their play saves the day, and all the di-nosaurs unite in celebrating new friendship. This book was written to echo sto-ries Darcey Comeau made up for her children when they were younger and struggling to fall asleep. Darcey’s career in Special Education gave her lots of material to work with, and the stories really stuck. When her youngest turned 18 and was asked what she wanted to do for her birth-day, she responded, “I want to get dinosaur tattoos.”

Darcey Comeau has worked in Special Edu-cation since 1999. She is currently the Director of Special Education for Vinalhaven School District. This is a unique experience



as the school is located on an island 15 miles off the Midcoast region of Maine. Being isolated has its chal-lenges as well as rewards. She takes a ferry to work, has her own “island car,” and loves being a part of the humble, quaint Vinalhaven community. Back on the mainland, Darcey enjoys hiking, kayaking, cooking, baking and spending time with her family including her husband, Michael and her two grown children, James and Erin, who both now have their own signed copies of the book that they had a huge part in creating.



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

**Water that just works.**

**GOODWIN**  
WELL & WATER INC.

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

**207.224.7861** [goodwinwellandwater.com](http://goodwinwellandwater.com)

**Local people. Local decisions. Local support you can count on.**

**DIRIGO**  
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

**1.800.281.5435**

Special section: National Impaired Driving Prevention Month

National Impaired Driving Prevention Month 2025: A Season for Safety

Authored by the MD Searchlight Team and Megan Hauber

December is a season of celebration—but it’s also a time to reflect on the choices we make behind the wheel. That’s why every year, the U.S. observes National Impaired Driving Prevention Month throughout December.

This nationwide campaign is a powerful reminder that impaired driving—whether caused by alcohol, drugs, or distractions—is 100% preventable. By raising awareness, encouraging smart decisions, and promoting safer roads, we can help save lives this holiday season and beyond.

What Is Impaired Driving?

Impaired driving means operating a vehicle while your ability to do so is compromised. This can include:

- Alcohol impairment
- Drug impairment (illegal, prescription, or over-the-counter drugs)
- Fatigue
- Distracted driving (texting, eating, adjusting GPS)

Even a small amount of alcohol or one missed night of sleep can affect reaction time, judgment, and coordination—putting everyone on the road at risk.

The Alarming Numbers

Every day, 37 people die in the U.S. due to drunk-driving crashes—that’s one life every 39 minutes. December sees a sharp increase in impaired driving incidents due to holiday gatherings. In 2022, 13,524 people were killed in drunk-driving crashes. Drugs other than alcohol (both legal and illegal) are involved in about 16% of motor vehicle crashes. These numbers aren’t just statistics—they represent real families affected by one preventable decision.

Why December Matters

During December,



people travel more frequently to:

- Holiday parties and gatherings
- End-of-year celebrations
- Shopping trips
- Long-distance family visits

Unfortunately, these occasions often involve alcohol, and with winter weather and shorter daylight hours, driving conditions are already more dangerous. That’s why National Impaired Driving Prevention Month serves as a timely call to action.

The Consequences of Impaired Driving

Impaired driving doesn’t just pose a safety risk—it can change lives forever. Consequences include:

- Legal penalties: Fines and legal fees
- Loss of driver’s license
- Jail time
- Permanent criminal record
- Personal and emotional toll: Injuring or killing others
- Guilt and trauma
- Lost employment opportunities
- Higher insurance costs
- Devastating loss: Families losing loved ones
- Communities grieving preventable tragedies

Prevention Starts With You

The most effective way to prevent impaired driving is to make a plan before you go out. Here’s how:

Designate a sober driver before any celebration

Use rideshare apps, taxis, or public transportation

Host alcohol-free events

Take keys away from someone who’s not sober

Stay overnight or offer a place to sleep for guests

If you feel different, you drive different. Even buzzed driving is dangerous driving.

Talk to Teens About Safe Driving

Young drivers are especially at risk. Inexperience + impairment is a deadly combination.

Start open conversations with teens about:

Never driving under the influence

Refusing to get in a car with someone who has been drinking or using drugs

Calling a trusted adult for a safe ride home

The dangers of vaping, cannabis, and prescription misuse while driving

Programs like Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) and MADD Power of Youth offer great resources for families and schools.

What Communities Can Do

Creating a culture of prevention takes a village. Communities can:

Host safe driving campaigns at schools and workplaces

Provide free or discounted rides during holidays

Support sobriety checkpoints and law enforcement efforts

Share educational materials on social media and community boards

See [Safety](#), page 10

Remember to plan sober rides during the holidays

Contributed by AAA, MADD and Waymo

WASHINGTON - AAA is joining forces with Mothers Against Drunk Driving® (MADD) and Waymo in a collaborative effort to prevent impaired driving, reminding families and drivers to plan safe rides home this holiday season during one of the most dangerous times of year on the road. December is Impaired Driving Prevention Month, serving as a timely reminder for everyone to make safe choices and stay vigilant about impaired driving.

Drunk driving claimed 4,931 lives during the December months of 2019-2023, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). MADD, AAA and Waymo together are encouraging everyone to take proactive steps to help keep the roads safe this holiday season.

“Impaired driving is a preventable crisis, and AAA remains dedicated to helping turn the tide to make roads safer,” said Gene Boehm, President

and CEO of AAA, Inc. “As holiday travel picks up and winter weather sets in, the roadways become even more dangerous—especially when impaired driving is added to the mix. Lives are on the line, and together with MADD, we are committed to saving them.”

AAA’s partnership with MADD stretches beyond Impaired Driving Prevention Month, marking the beginning of a larger, joint effort to reduce impaired driving deaths by 20% in the next five years.

“Ending impaired driving requires a collective movement, with each of us playing a part,” said Stacey D. Stewart, CEO of MADD. “AAA’s commitment to road safety and Waymo’s tech-forward approach align well with MADD’s mission to put an end to impaired driving for good, and we’re thrilled to join forces with both companies in our relentless march towards this purpose

As part of its partnership with MADD, Waymo is offering a \$5 ride discount for the first 2,500

redemptions of the code, “SAFEHOLIDAYS.” This discount will be valid now through New Year’s Eve in all current Waymo owned and operated markets: San Francisco, Los Angeles and Phoenix.

“The loss of life caused by impaired driving isn’t just a statistic, it’s families and communities forever changed,” said Suzanne Pillion, Chief Marketing Officer of Waymo. “At Waymo, we believe this is unacceptable, and we’re working every day to help prevent these crashes through safe, sober, autonomous driving.”

In 2023, more than 13,000 people were killed in drunk driving crashes across the U.S. for the second year in a row, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). MADD, AAA and Waymo together are encouraging everyone to take proactive steps to help keep the roads safe this holiday season, from helping guests plan a safe ride home to talking with children and teens about making safe choices.

Caring for your needs since 1970

Finley Funeral Home

15 Church Street, Livermore Falls, ME 04254

(207) 897-3588



Bragdon-Finley Funeral Home

707 Main Street Monmouth, ME 04249

(207) 933-4444

www.finleyfuneralhome.com

Member of International Order of the Golden Rule

The Maine Funeral Directors Association • The National Funeral Directors Association

Evergreen

Credit Union

egcu.org/auto

Auto Loans

Rates as low as 3.99% APR<sup>1</sup>



Start now. Local Financing Leader



Scan to apply or call 207-221-5000



Trustpilot Rated 4.8 Stars as of 11/10/25

<sup>1</sup> Annual Percentage Rate as of 11/7/2025. Rates subject to change without notice. Not all applicants will qualify for the lowest rate or be approved. Advertised rate is based on risk based & relationship pricing discounts. For more information, visit egcu.org/auto.

# cPort Credit Union opens Innovative Main Street branch

# \$3B in new funding for states to reduce lead in drinking water

**LEWISTON, ME** – cPort Credit Union is proud to announce the opening of its newest branch in Lewiston, located at 321 Main Street, on November 20, 2025. This expansion represents a significant milestone in cPort’s ongoing commitment to serve the Lewiston community by providing innovative banking solutions and enhanced member service to the area.

Local Partners  
Hebert Construction played a key role in bringing this project to completion, collaborating closely with cPort to build a space that reflects the organization’s values and vision for the Lewiston community. Their expertise and dedication were instrumental throughout the entire construction process. “We’re proud to partner with cPort Credit Union on their new Lewiston branch,” said Simon Hebert, COO of Hebert Construction. “This project is more than just a building—it’s an investment in the heart of our community. We believe it will be a valuable resource for Lewiston residents for years to come, and we’re honored to help bring this vision to life.”

Platz Associates served as the architect for the new Lewiston branch, thoughtfully designing a space that balances innovation with community warmth. Their creative vision and attention to detail ensured that every aspect of the building supports both member engagement and operational efficiency.

Leadership Perspective  
Kelsey Marquis, President & CEO of cPort Credit Union, shared her excitement about the opening of the new Lewiston branch, emphasizing its significance for both the organization and the community. “We are thrilled to expand our presence into Lewiston and fulfill the vision of cPort’s former CEO, Gene Ardito,” Marquis stated. “This new branch reflects our ongoing commitment to putting members first, providing innovative solutions, and investing in the communities we serve. We look forward to building lasting relationships and helping our members achieve their financial goals.”

Meet the Lewiston Branch Manager: Chris Mbalazamo  
cPort is proud to introduce Chris Mbalazamo as the Branch Manager for the Lewiston location. Chris started his career at cPort in 2020 as a teller at the Riverside branch and, prior to his new role, served as the Assistant Branch Manager at the Forest Avenue branch. Under his leadership, every member can expect personalized service and attention from day one. “The team and I are looking forward to providing outstanding service and building relationships within Lewiston,” stated Chris. “We’re excited to become a trusted resource for our members and help them reach their financial goals. As we settle into our new branch, we’re committed to creating a welcoming environment where every member feels valued and supported.”

Commitment to Community Involvement  
cPort Credit Union has a long-standing tradition of supporting local initiatives and strengthening community well-being. In Lewiston, the organization will continue this legacy by partnering with area nonprofits and volunteering at local events. cPort is already actively involved and forming relationships with several organizations in the area, including the LA Chamber of Commerce, Lewiston Public Library, Trinity Jubilee Center, LA Balloon Festival, Downtown Lewiston Association, and our neighbors, Central Maine Medical Center. The belief that a strong community forms the foundation of success remains central, and cPort looks forward to deepening its involvement in Lewiston.

Introducing Advanced Technology for Enhanced Service  
The Lewiston branch will feature state-of-the-art Video Teller Machines, allowing members to make certain transactions quickly and conveniently. Additionally, new Appointment Booking Kiosks will streamline scheduling for consultations and services, making it easier than ever to manage financial needs. These technologies reflect cPort’s commitment to innovation and member satisfaction.

cPort welcomes members and anyone interested in becoming a member to visit the new branch at 321 Main Street, which opened November 20th. Stop in and experience the new branch, meet the dedicated team, and discover the future of banking in Lewiston.

**BOSTON, ME** – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced \$3 billion in new funding for states through the State Revolving Fund (SRF) programs to reduce exposure to lead in drinking water. EPA conducted a thorough review of previously awarded funding and assessed updated lead service line data to increase accountability and ensure funds are properly distributed to achieve maximum impact in removing lead pipes and reducing lead contamination in drinking water systems. This funding will accelerate progress in finding and removing lead pipes (also known as lead service lines that deliver water to homes, schools, and businesses) as the agency also announces a new lead service line inventories dashboard with the latest information provided by states. Lead pipes are the key source of lead—a potent neurotoxin particularly harmful to children—in drinking water.

“This investment represents the EPA’s unwavering commitment to protecting America’s children from the dangers of lead exposure in their drinking water,” said EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin. “With our updated data, we can tackle this challenge more efficiently than ever before, and we’re ensuring every dollar goes directly toward replacing the lead pipes that threaten our communities. This is about giving parents peace of mind and securing healthier futures for the next generation.”

“Supporting drinking water systems as they work around the clock to provide safe water for all Americans is one of EPA’s top priorities,” said EPA’s Assistant Administrator for Water, Jess Kramer. “Today’s announcement is a win-win for drinking water systems and for the health and futures of our nation’s children. Not only are we providing \$3 billion in new federal assistance for replacing lead pipes, and \$1.1 billion in redistributed federal funding, but we also expect that this money will go farther because updated inventory data show far fewer lead pipes across the country.”

Reducing drinking water exposure to lead is a priority under EPA’s Powering the Great American Comeback Initiative. The Trump Administration’s commitment to tackling lead in drinking water is a throughline from the first term, when EPA issued the first regulation in 30 years to strengthen protections.

The agency is also releasing new information indicating that there are fewer lead service lines nationwide than previously estimated. EPA’s updated estimate is 4 million lead service lines, down from 9 million previously estimated. This significant reduction is driven by improved data provided by service line inventories required by the first Trump Administration’s Lead and Copper Rule Revisions. The agency is releasing a new dashboard highlighting information from lead service line inventories provided by states.

EPA’s goal is to ensure these funds are deployed where they are needed most. Therefore, funding allotments will be distributed based on the best available information locating the approximately 4 million active lead service lines. EPA gathered this information from states in a lead service line inventory.

EPA is also announcing the redistribution of an additional \$1.1 billion in previously announced DWSRF funding to address lead. These funds were made available to states but have not been used. Consistent with the Safe Drinking Water Act’s directive to re-allocate unused funds, these investments are now available to different eligible states with lead service line replacement needs.

States that have neither obligated or spent any awarded funds since at least fiscal year 2023 will be required to submit a plan to EPA detailing their strategy for expeditiously using funds to address lead before being eligible for new funding. EPA is committed to ensuring that the federal funding is used effectively and efficiently to address lead challenges facing local communities. The agency will proactively work with states to ensure they are expeditiously spending this funding by making awards to water systems for lead service line replacement projects.

These funds can be used for lead service line replacement (LSLR) and associated activities like identification, planning, design, and replacement. With this funding, EPA is issuing an Additional Eligibilities for State Implementation of the IIJA DWSRF LSLR Appropriation memorandum underscoring important flexibilities under this appropriation to ensure states can use the funding more efficiently and effectively.

For more information about the DWSRF program, visit <https://www.epa.gov/dwsrf>.

## “Yankee Swap” at Merrymeeting Bay Trout Unlimited

**BRUNSWICK, ME** – A holiday themed “Yankee Swap” will highlight the December meeting of Brunswick’s Merrymeeting Bay chapter of Trout Unlimited.

Members and the public are invited to attend the Merrymeeting Bay monthly meeting of this national cold-water conservation organization as we gather sportspeople and conservationists on Tuesday, December 16, 2025, at Sea Dog Brewing, 1 Bowdoin Mill Island, Topsham.

Social hour begins at 6:00 pm, the Swap starts at 7:00 pm. The event is free; dinner and drinks can be purchased.

The December meeting will feature a fun and traditional Yankee Swap and everyone is invited to participate. All participants are asked to bring a holiday-wrapped, new or lightly used fishing- or outdoor-oriented gift valued at \$15. Participants will pick, unwrap, and “swap” gifts according to game rules. It’s easy and fun for kids and adults

MMBTU monthly membership meetings are held at Sea Dog on the third Tuesday of each month, September through May.

No admission fee. Open to members and non-members alike.

Please join us.

Our mission is to conserve, protect, and restore our area’s cold-water resources and the watersheds on which they depend. Trout Unlimited is the nation’s oldest and largest cold-water fisheries conservation organization dedicated to caring for and recovering America’s rivers and streams so our children can experience the joy of wild and native trout and salmon. Across the country, TU brings to bear local, regional, and national grassroots organizing, durable partnerships, science-backed policy muscle, and legal firepower on behalf of trout and salmon fisheries, healthy waters, and vibrant communities.

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

### Safety

*Continued from page 9*

Encourage peer support programs in youth groups and colleges

Every conversation, poster, and shared post can make a difference.

Don’t Forget Drugged Driving

Prescription medications and even legal cannabis can impair your ability to drive. Read the label carefully and ask your doctor or pharmacist:

Can I drive while taking this medication?

Will it make me drowsy or slow my reaction time?

What should I do if I feel “off” after taking it?

The same rules apply—if you’re not alert and focused, don’t drive.

Make a Holiday Difference

This December, join the movement to stop impaired driving:

Share facts and stories online

Volunteer with local awareness events

Set a good example by being a responsible driver

Remember victims by supporting organizations like Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) and NOYS (National Organizations for Youth Safety)

Every life matters. By making safer choices, we protect our families, neighbors, and communities.

Final Thoughts

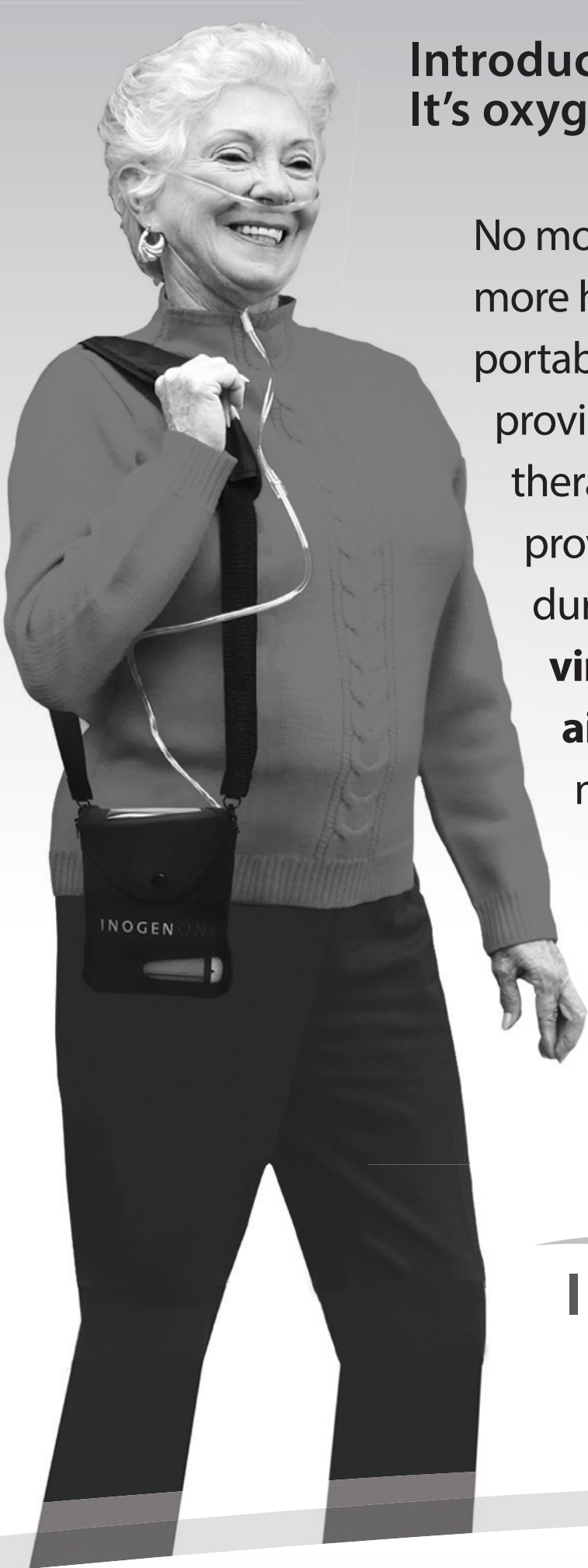
National Impaired Driving Prevention Month is more than a reminder—it’s a call to responsibility, awareness, and kindness. Before you drive this holiday season, pause and ask: “Am I in the right state of mind to protect everyone on the road?”

The best gift you can give this December is safety—for yourself and for others.

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

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

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



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

**Reclaim Your Freedom And Independence NOW!**



Call Inogen Today To  
Request Your FREE Info Kit 



**1-877-402-1909**



# Build now. Save now.

Call and schedule your  
new garage install today.  
**FREE** estimates.



No Money Down • Financing Available

**AMERICAN BUILDERS**  
*Custom Building & Remodeling*



(207) 500-8100 • [www.AmericanBuildersMaine.com](http://www.AmericanBuildersMaine.com)

# Business Directory

## ACCOUNTANT



AUSTIN ASSOCIATES  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

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

Your Financial Team

## FLOWER SHOPPE



**Sweet Pea Designs**  
FLOWER SHOPPE

**777-1520**

www.sweetpeafloraldesignsme.com

## PHOTOGRAPHY



Executive Portraits • Business photographs • Videos

Gray, ME  
(207) 657-6372

maine@portraitefx.com  
www.maine.portraitefx.com

## AUTO CARE

The Only Full-Service Gas Station in Auburn!

**Poisson & Sons**  
Auto Care Center, Inc.

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

**Dan & Don Poisson**  
dfpoisson@aol.com

260 S. Main St., Auburn • 782-9144

## MASONRY



**Jason Hodsdon**  
JasonHodsdonMasonry@gmail.com

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

Fully Insured  
Free Estimates  
20+ Years of Experience

North Monmouth  
(207) 215-3557

## PRINTING



RICK OSGOOD  
owner

207-782-0525  
phone

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

## SPACE AVAILABLE

Your ad  
**HERE!**  
Call 795-5017

## MARINE SERVICES

**BOAT REPAIR SHOP**

**PONTES**  
Marine Service

Power by  
**MERCURY**  
MerCruiser

**VOLVO PENTA**

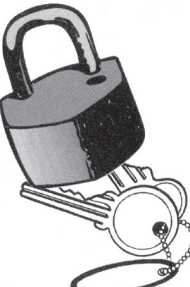
**OMC**

**Perkins**

**YANMAR**  
Velvet Drive

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

## SELF STORAGE



**AUBURN SELF STORAGE, LLC**

23 Goldthwaite Rd.  
Auburn, ME 04210

PO Box 715  
Lewiston, ME 04243

**PHONE 376-3325**

## CHIROPRACTOR

**Family Chiropractic Center**

Experience Life

1485 Lisbon Street, Lewiston  
207.783.0078  
www.familychirome.com

## PAINTING

Interiors • Exteriors  
Free Estimates

Drywall Repair  
Pressure Washing

**W.J. Libby**  
Painting Co.

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

## SHIPPING



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

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

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

## CONTRACTORS

Fully Insured • 5 Year Workmanship Warranty

**AMERICAN BUILDERS**

Custom Building & Remodeling



Call 207-500-8100  
For FREE Estimates

Quality Work with References Available

## PHOTOGRAPHY



**LAURA ELAINES**  
PHOTOGRAPHY

www.facebook.com/LauraElainesPhotography

(207) 212-5993  
LauraElainesPhotography@gmail.com

## WEB HOSTING



Web Hosting  
Web Design  
Web Promotion  
One Stop

207-442-9006

**MAINE HOSTING**  
SOLUTIONS

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

**Saturdays**  
AUBURN – Stock up on BOOKS at great prices — 50¢ to \$3! Shop Saturday mornings at the APL Bookstore 9:00-12:30 for gently used books, ever-changing inventory, wide selection of children’s, fiction and non-fiction books, plus DVDs and puzzles. Auburn Public Library, lower level, 46 Spring Street, Auburn.

**Dec 11**  
NEW GLOUCESTER – Free artist event at Unity Environmental University. Each event highlights a Maine-based artist with a pop-up exhibition, lecture, and catered reception. Our forthcoming event: Dean McCrillis: Reading Sign: Expanding on observations through process on December 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm, 70 Farm View Dr, New Gloucester, ME 04260.

**Dec 12, 13**  
BATH – Twisted Christmas: A Nice & Naughty Evening of Entertainment Friday December 12th and Saturday December 13th at 8:00 p.m. Longreach Kitchen & Catering 387 Whiskeag Road, Bath. \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. Tickets available online at [StudioTheatre-ofBath.com/twistedchristmas](http://StudioTheatre-ofBath.com/twistedchristmas)

**Dec 13**  
LEWISTON – Join us at the Lewiston Public Library for our next fundraising event to support the Children’s Department renovation, Chill Yoga Fest on Saturday, December 13th with classes going on from 9:30AM – 1:30PM in Callahan Hall. There will be four

# Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

45-minute classes- All Levels Hatha, Chair Yoga, Stretching, Breathing & Meditation, and Children’s Yoga! \$40 full pass, or \$18 per individual class. See LPL’s website to purchase tickets.

**Dec 14**  
GARDINER – Maine-ly Harmony women’s barbershop chorus will perform a Christmas show - ’Tis The Season - on Sunday, December 14th, at 2 p.m. at the Highland Avenue United Methodist Church, 35 Highland Avenue, Gardiner, Maine.

Please join us in sharing the songs of the season, old and new, as well as a silent auction, refreshments and a visit from Santa. A suggested donation of a \$15 good will offering will be accepted at the door.

**Dec 13 & 14**  
AUGUSTA – The Augusta Symphony Orchestra invites you to celebrate the magic of the holidays with two performances at South Parish Church, 9 Church Street in Augusta. Join us on Saturday, December 13 at 7:00 p.m. or Sunday, December 14 at 3:00 p.m. for a festive program filled with timeless classics and holiday favorites.

**Dec 15**  
LISBON FALLS – The Knights of Columbus Council 10019 will be sponsoring an American Red Cross Blood Drive at the parish hall of Holy

Trinity Church on 67 Frost Hill Avenue Lisbon Falls on Monday December 15th from 1:00 PM until 5: PM To make an appointment please call 1-800-733-2767, or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org): HTC Come to give from Dec. 8th to the 18th and receive a \$15 Amazon Gift Card by email.

**Dec 17**  
AUBURN – The Auburn Community Concert Band, under the direction of Milt Simon, will present its annual holiday concert on Wednesday, December 17 at the new Donald M. Gay Performing Arts Center, located at Edward Little High School in Auburn. The free, 75-minute performance will begin at 7:00 p.m.

**Dec 24**  
GORHAM – Christmas Eve Service: December 24, 6 pm HOPE SPRINGS CHAPEL at The Old Robie School, 668 Gray Road. Pastor: Bill Foss. FMI <https://www.hs chapel.org/>, [info@hs chapel.org](mailto:info@hs chapel.org), <https://www.facebook.com/hopespringschapel>

**Dec 29**  
LEWISTON – Join the Androscoggin Historical Society, Auburn Public Library, and Lewiston Public Library as we partner to explore fiction with a historical twist. We will be meeting on the last Monday of each month from 5:30 – 6:30pm to discuss a historical fiction novel. Our next meeting will take place on December 29th @ 5:30pm, at the Androscoggin Historical Society, located at 93 Lisbon St., Lewiston, ME 04240. We will be reading The Eastern. Book One: The Early Years by Deborah Gould.

**Jan 5 & Feb 2**  
LEWISTON – The Lewiston Public Library’s

monthly crafters’ meet up will continue into the winter. Maker Monday meets every first Monday of the month from 4-6:30pm in the Couture Room.

**Jan 16 & 17**  
SOUTH PORTLAND – South Portland High School, 637 Highland Avenue, South Portland on Friday, January 16, 2026 at 7:30pm and Saturday, January 17, 2026 at 3:00pm. This winter, we present a formidable choral program entitled “I Have a Voice.”

**Jan 22**  
NEW GLOUCESTER – Free artist event at Unity Environmental University. Each event highlights a Maine-based artist with a pop-up exhibition, lecture, and catered reception. Matt Russ: Moments of Clarity at 5:00 pm, 70 Farm View Dr, New Gloucester, ME 04260.

**Feb 26**  
NEW GLOUCESTER – Free artist event at Unity Environmental University. Each event highlights a Maine-based artist with a pop-up exhibition, lecture, and catered reception. Ian Trask: Art from the Waste Stream at 5:00 pm, 70 Farm View Dr, New Gloucester, ME 04260.

**Ap 9**  
NEW GLOUCESTER – Free artist event at Unity Environmental University. Each event highlights a Maine-based artist with a pop-up exhibition, lecture, and catered reception. Ben Potter: Pollen and Gatorade: Materials and Connotations in the Landscape, at 5:00 pm, 70 Farm View Dr, New Gloucester, ME 04260.

**May 28**  
NEW GLOUCESTER – Free artist event at Unity Environmental University. Each event highlights a Maine-based artist with a pop-up exhibition, lecture, and catered reception. Edwige Charlot: Artist talk, at 5:00 pm, 70 Farm View Dr, New Gloucester, ME 04260.

FLAGSHIP CINEMAS

Premium

Premium entertainment at affordable prices!

VISIT ONE OF OUR FIVE MAINE LOCATIONS!

AUBURN | FALMOUTH | WELLS | WATERVILLE | THOMASTON

WWW.FLAGSHIPCINEMAS.COM

**EPA**  
*Continued from page 1*

sulted in tremendous economic growth and jobs in our region. With housing affordability being such a challenge in our region and throughout the state, these funds are often the key to leveraging private investment in challenging sites, making them productive once again,” said Executive Director Stephanie

Carver, Southern Maine Planning and Development Commission.

“The City of Westbrook is extremely grateful for the resources that the brownfields program has infused into our local economy. This is a huge step forward in our mission to realize the full potential of our downtown Presumpscot River corridor,” said Mayor David C. Morse, City of Westbrook.

## Northeast Bank to renovate Augusta Banking Center

AUGUSTA, ME – Northeast Bank (the “Bank”) (NASDAQ: NBN), announced today it received City planning board approval to renovate its 235 Western Avenue banking center in Augusta, marking a major investment in the community and significant upgrade to the Bank’s ability to serve current and prospective customers. The redesigned banking center will feature state-of-the-art technology, improved customer service areas and a more welcoming, efficient design.

The new building will be designed and managed by NES Group of Mansfield, MA. Construction is expected to begin in early spring, with customers served by a temporary office on-site during the renovation process and a planned

re-opening the fall of 2026.

The renovation reflects the Bank’s continued commitment to providing exceptional service and competitive deposit solutions to the Augusta region.

“This project represents an exciting step forward for both our customers and our company,” said Robert Banaski, Chief Retail Banking Officer at Northeast Bank. “We’re proud to invest in the Augusta community by creating an improved space at the City’s gateway — one that combines an enhanced infrastructure with best-in-class service.”

More information regarding groundbreaking events and construction timeline will be released in the coming months.

LEGAL NOTICE

PETITION FOR A PARDON STATE OF MAINE

Augusta, January 15, 2026 - Notice is hereby given that a Petition for a Pardon for Katie R. Smith who was convicted of the crimes Theft by Unauthorized Taking or Transfer (E) Theft by Unauthorized Taking or Transfer (E)Theft by Unauthorized Taking or Transfer (E) PENCDCR-2013-00546, and Theft by Unauthorized Taking(C) Falsifying Physical Evidence (D) PENCDCR-2015-30129 is now pending before the Governor and a hearing will be conducted on Thursday January 15, 2026, at 9 A.M. Please visit the following link for Hearing details: <https://www.maine.gov/corrections/pardonboard>

GRIDIRON Restaurant

LEWISTON, MAINE

SCAN HERE!

The Place where every hour is happy.

OPEN DAILY 11AM-9PM

DINE IN - TAKE OUT 207-777-6353 207-777-6354

1567 Lisbon Street Lewiston, Maine

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

JUNCTION BOWL

ESTD 2019

American pub-style food and drinks.

7 Railroad Ave, Ste 102 Gorham, ME 04038

W www.jctbowl.com P 207.222.7600

We Deliver.

Uber Eats GRUBHUB Postmates DOORDASH

SUBWAY

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

# Classified Ads

## CAMPER FOR SALE

**Keystone campfire edition travel trailer.** New June 2018. 29.8 feet. Less than 500 miles on it. 12 foot slide out, large refrigerator, leather couch. Two gray water tanks, large closets, over \$9000 extras. AC/ furnace. Paid \$34,000 new. Must sell. Asking \$21,000. 207-310-0212.

**Keystone Sprinter 5th Wheel.** 2018, 31 feet, 2 super slides, large refrigerator, like new - hardly used. Full winter cover, super glide included. Asking \$25,500 - please call 207-754-2165

## CLEANING

**NORTHERN SUPREME CLEANING.** Junk removal • Yard cleanup. Everything & anything! Residential & Commercial Our team ensures spotless, refreshed spaces with eco-friendly practices and competitive pricing. \*Trust us for a superior cleaning experience!\* Call (207) 595-6347 or email Northernssupreme cleaning@gmail.com

**Commercial Office Cleaning.** 1st Choice Floor Care & Building Maintenance. Commercial cleaning company with 25+ years experience and fully insured. 1 day a week or more we can do it all. Call, email or text. (207) 956-3114 stephen@1stcoice floorcare.com www.1stchoicefloorcare.com

## EDUCATION

**Enjoy American History** Download free ebooks from Ebooksforstudents.org. Enjoy exciting narratives about World War II, Korea and Vietnam. Read about the Freedom Rides, the discovery of penicillin and how women won the right to vote.

## FOR SALE

All-in-one Dell printer and fax machine. \$495. Call 783-8327.  
Wood boiler – Must go! \$2,500. Alternate heating carbon steel wood boiler. Purchased in 1996 for

\$6,800. New door seal, bricks, blanket, and silicone card bead. Includes cycle timer and plumb fittings. 1,400#. Model E100 wood gun. Can be lifted directly into your trailer.

## HOUSE KEEPING

Housekeeping/ House Arranging small items to aid in mobility. Small jobs/spring cleaning and removal of unwanted items. Scheduled regularly and ongoing. (207) 705-7989

## LIVE & CODE IN MAINE

Maine cybersecurity start-up seeks local software engineer  
Defendify is looking for a senior full stack engineer to join full-time. Small team/ big results. Fun + flexible + always interesting. Come build our award-winning, all-in-one cybersecurity platform. Position information and to apply: [www.defendify.com/careers](http://www.defendify.com/careers).

**CLASSIFIED ADS  
\$25 PER WEEK**

## LOOKING TO DOWNSIZE?

This may be for you. Small Guest House To Rent. 1 1/2 blocks from Bates College, 300 FT from a neighborhood park and playground. Fully furnished or not if you have your own furniture. Off street parking and private. All utilities included. \$1400 per month. Tele 207-376-5492.

## REAL ESTATE WANTED

Seeking house , cottage, bungalow, two or three family property, we have sufficient ability to purchase quickly, no commissions. 207-749-1718 or [mainebuyers@gmail.com](mailto:mainebuyers@gmail.com)

## SEWING, MENDING

**CAN MAKE IT FIT** Sewing, mending: Shirts, pants, coats, nightgowns, curtains. Most anything that needs fixing. Buttons, T-shirts \$10 for machine sewn, \$20 for hand sewn. Call 929-1038

## SENIOR TRIPS

If interested in any of the following trips or upcoming trips, please contact Claire Bilodeau at 784-0302 or Cindy Boyd at 345-9569. If we are not available, please leave a message and we will call you as soon as we can.

**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.

**May 23-31, 2026 – BILTMORE ESTATE & ASHEVILLE, N.C.** - This trip includes 9 days and 8 nights lodging, 8 breakfasts and 6 dinners. You

will have a full day at the Biltmore Estate and experience the Biltmore House and Gardens. You will also visit the Antler Village and Winery. You will have a guided tour of Asheville and the magnificent St. Lawrence Basilica. We will experience a drive on the Blue Ridge Parkway (America's Most visited park unit). We also visit the Thomas Wolfe Memorial State Historic Site. These are the highlights of the trip and there is so much more that we will see. On our way home we stop at the Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University. Price for this trip is \$1,245.00 per person double occupancy. A \$75.00 deposit per person is due upon signing up. The trip includes the bus driver tip and all tour gratuities. Add \$349.00 for single occupancy. Final payment is due 3/16/26.

**OCTOBER 18-23, 2026 – SHIPSHAWANA, INDIANA** - This trip includes 6 days and 5 nights lodging, 3 breakfasts and 3 dinners. You will have a full day guided tour of Indiana's Amish Country with a tour of an Amish Homestead and an Authentic Amish Dinner. We will experience Cook's Bi-

son Ranch with a scenic Wagon Tour of their majestic ranch while seeing the bison up-close and even feeding them. We will spend time shopping and having lunch at Shipshewana Trading Place which is constantly ranked one of the top five Flea Markets in the Country. We will see the show "Loves Comes Softly" at the Blue Gate Theater. Price for this trip is \$865.00 per person double occupancy. A \$75.00 deposit is due upon signing up. Trip includes bus driver tip and all tour gratuities. Add \$305.00 for single occupancy. Final payment is due 8/11/26.

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

**CLASSIFIED ADS  
\$25 PER WEEK**

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

## Classified Ads UP TO 40 WORDS!

**\$25 PER WEEK**  
EACH ADDITIONAL WORD 25¢

Send payment with completed form to our bookkeeping office:  
89 Union Street, Suite 1014 Auburn, ME 04210 or email it to us!

<input type="checkbox"/> Visa		<input type="checkbox"/> Master Card	
Card #	<input type="text"/>	3 digits # on back	<input type="text"/>
Exp. date	<input type="text"/>	Signature <input type="text"/>	
Name & Address <input type="text"/>			
Phone: <input type="text"/>			
CATEGORY: <input type="text"/>			
HEADLINE: <input type="text"/>			
AD INFO: <input type="text"/>			
<input type="text"/>			
<input type="text"/>			
<input type="text"/>			
<input type="text"/>			
<input type="text"/>			
<input type="text"/>			
<input type="text"/>			
NUMBER OF WEEKS TO RUN: <input type="text"/>			



egcu.org/auto

# Auto Loans

Rates as low as 

# 3.99%

 APR<sup>1</sup>



Start now.  
Local Financing Leader



Scan to apply or call 207-221-5000



Trustpilot  
Rated 4.8 Stars  
as of 11/10/25

<sup>1</sup> Annual Percentage Rate as of 11/7/2025. Rates subject to change without notice. Not all applicants will qualify for the lowest rate or be approved. Advertised rate is based on risk based & relationship pricing discounts. For more information, visit egcu.org/auto.

## Follow us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/twincitytimes



### Insulate. Be comfortable. Save money.

Act now while rebates up to \$8,000 are available\*



Find an insulation professional at **efficiencymaine.com** or call **866-376-2463.**



\* All homeowners eligible for rebates up to \$4,000. Verified income-eligible homeowners qualify for rebates up to \$8,000. See efficiencymaine.com for details.

# YOU DESERVE AWARD-WINNING FIBER INTERNET

No contracts. No data cap.  
10x faster than cable.



Starting at\*  

## \$30/mo

Check availability  
1.888.805.5275  
FidiumFiber.com/GetFastFiber

IT FEELS LIKE FIDIUM



BEST OF

CNET

Best Internet  
Provider in Maine

2025

\*Offer available to residential customers only. Terms and conditions apply.