

Ready for Lift-off at GF Balloon Festival



Darth Vader gets ready to lift off beside Master Yoda on Friday morning at the Great Falls Balloon Festival. Pilot Benoit Lambert mans the burner as Auburn Mayor Jon LaBonte enjoys the ascent. Both balloons are from Belgium. (Tsukroff photo)

Dempsey Center unveils new brand identity

The Dempsey Center, formerly known as the Patrick Dempsey Center for Cancer Hope & Healing, is a leader in quality-of-life care for individuals and families impacted by cancer. They provide a personalized, holistic and integrated approach to cancer prevention, education and support. The Dempsey Center has seen dramatic growth since opening in 2008, and over the past

year, they've taken steps to begin exploring how to continue that growth. One of those steps is to expand its brand recognition to a wider audience.

"We believe it's time to build on our solid foundation and engage even more communities around Maine," says Wendy Tardif, executive director of the Dempsey Center.

The Dempsey Center's new brand identity is

based upon its "Community and Care Continuum" logo, a symbol that represents a community of empowerment, support and family. The Dempsey Challenge logo has also received a new look, which meant to better link the Center and Challenge with each other. Finally, the Center has introduced a new website, which can be found at dempseycenter.org.

The Dempsey Challenge presented by Amgen is the Center's primary fundraiser; every dollar raised through the Challenge directly benefits the Center. See *Dempsey*, page 4

Summer Block Party for Make-A-Wish Maine a success!



David Gagne, Mike Peters and Gerry Gagne of Mac's Grill (Photo by DeeDee Grant @ Captured Moments photography) More photos at facebook.com/TwinCityTimes.

The second annual Summer Block Party to benefit Make-A-Wish Maine took place on Saturday, August 13, outdoors at Mac's Grill of Auburn. Make-A-Wish Maine grants wishes to children facing life threatening illnesses, at an average cost of \$7,000 per wish. Uncle Andy's inaugural event last year raised enough money to fund two wishes. The goal of this year's event, presented by Uncle Andy's Digest, Mac's Grill and the LA Metro Chamber of Commerce, was to raise enough money to fund four wishes, to be granted to local children here in Androscoggin County.

With the support of many local businesses and the community, the 2017 event actually exceeded its

goal. With several hundred people showing up to support the vendors, the silent auction and to enjoy two live bands, this year's event raised enough money to fund 5.5 wishes. A check presentation to Make-A-Wish Maine will take place at the next Chamber break-

fast on Thursday, September 8 at Martindale Country Club in Auburn.

The third annual event is already scheduled to take place on Saturday, August 12, 2017, once again outside at Mac's Grill. For more information, see www.UncleAndys.com.



Jim Marston shares a hug with his family, (from l.) Courtney Marston, wife Sue Marston, grandson Caden Shaw and Jamie Shaw. (TCT photo by Matthew Shaw) More photos at facebook.com/TwinCityTimes.

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Dempsey Rides in TCT Media Balloon



Mary Dempsey of the Dempsey Center went up in the Twin City Times media balloon ride at the Great Falls Balloon Festival on Friday morning. Her ride and three other rides, one for a cancer survivor, their spouse and caregiver were donated by Twin City Times, a major media sponsor of The Great Falls Balloon Festival. Mary sent us this letter to share with you, our readers:

Dear Twin City Times,
Thank you very much for the opportunity to be among those who had the opportunity to be up in the sunny skies this past weekend. The balloon I rode in had three colors one of which was teal, mom's cancer color. I had a feeling of peace knowing the meaning behind this flight and color. Special thanks to the Re/Max crew Mom did get to have a balloon ride. It was on her bucket list, which she was able to fill before she passed in March 2014. I deeply appreciate the ability from Twin City Times to grant an amazing caregiver, their patient and

their patient's spouse a ride. We all enjoyed our rides, the expertise of the pilots, and especially the meaning for each one of us to ride high in the sky, enjoy the beauty and be closer to heaven to those we love and miss dearly. Thank you very much for this opportunity and your generous gift. The next big event will be the annual Dempsey Challenge, October 1 & 2nd, see you soon,
Hugs,
And in appreciation,
Mary
Mary Dempsey
dempseym@cmhc.org
207.795.8259
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CCU donates \$1,500 to Child Hunger Programs



Community Credit Union recently presented Good Shepherd Food Bank, Longley Elementary School, Washburn Elementary School and School District RSU #4 with a donation of \$1,500 to benefit their Child Hunger Programs.

Good Shepherd Food Bank's program provides children who are suffering the effects of chronic hunger with nutritious, easy to prepare food to eat during weekends and school vacations when those crucial school meals are unavailable. See **Donation**, page 3

CMCC receives million dollar grant from Haas Foundation



Gene Haas Foundation administrator Kathy Looman (c.) and Haas Automation vice president Peter Zierhut (r.) present a check for one million dollars to CMCC president Scott Knapp.

The Gene Haas Foundation has awarded a grant of one million dollars to Central Maine Community College to help fund the renovation and expansion of the college's Precision Machining Technology lab. The facility will be named the "Gene Haas Precision Machining Technology Center."

The college expects to begin work on the project in 2017. The first phase will involve an interior renovation of over 5,000 square feet, including the relocation of the quality control room, offices, computer class, and locker room to update and improve overall functionality. Phase two will be the construction of a 3,600 square foot addition to accommodate recent equipment acquisitions and improvements to existing electrical power distribution, lighting systems, and the mechanical ventilation

system. Founded in 1999 by Haas Automation founder and Stewart-Haas Racing co-owner Gene Haas, the Haas Foundation has granted more than \$12 million to institutions that champion advanced manufacturing education. The Haas Foundation has been a supporter of the PMT program and machinist-based continuing education at CMCC for many years. The formal presentation of the award was made at the annual Manufacturing Educators Conference, held at CMCC on July 18-21. In collaboration with the Haas Technical Education Center, the college hosted this international event, attended by almost 200 CNC (computer numeric control) precision machining instructors from across the United States, Canada, and South Africa.

Knight of the Year



The Knights of Columbus, Andy Valley Council 8742, recently selected Sir Knight Don Weeks as their Knight of the Year. Given to a knight who has assisted the council with various projects, the award was presented to Weeks at the council's annual summer picnic, held at the home of Knight Walter Levesque in Poland. Weeks is pictured here with Grand Knight Kenny Chamberlain.

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Governor's Address: Do not be fooled by another referendum that claims it will solve education funding in Maine

We all agree more money should go directly into the classroom to benefit students and teachers. But Question 2 on the November ballot won't do that.

Dear Maine Taxpayer, Question 2 is the latest in a line of ballot questions claiming to solve education funding in Maine. First they told us legalizing the lottery would be the silver bullet to fund education. Then it was the casinos, then it making the state pay 55% of education costs. Now, they're asking us to increase taxes on Maine families and small businesses to get more money for education.

The national teachers' association is funneling out-of-state money into Maine to fund this proposal. It was written by the union bosses at the Maine Education Association to put salary increases for teachers into Maine law.

I agree we should increase teachers' salaries. That's why we should have a statewide teachers' contract. Teachers in rural Maine would get the same pay as teachers in the wealthy cities and towns in Southern Maine. Let's work together to get that done.

Instead of spending \$1.4 million on political ads, I call on the teachers' association to partner with my administration to invest



Governor Paul R. LePage

in professional development for Maine teachers. But supporters of Question 2 want to impose a new tax on Maine households with incomes over \$200,000. They say this money will

go to education, but that is not true.

The money would be subject to the whims of the legislature's Appropriations Committee—and they could spend it however they wish. You should know by now you cannot trust legislators to put the money where it belongs. Any extra tax revenue would most likely go to expand welfare, grow government and fund pet projects for legislators.

Besides, this money would not be distributed to every community. It would be directed to many in Southern Maine. Schools that are already spending more than the state's Essential Programs and Services

would get even more money.

Portland already spends \$11.6 million over the state's EPS. According to the MEA, Portland would get an additional \$11.3 million. But 85 school districts representing more than 100 communities would get no extra money. Nearly 40 percent of school districts would get no additional funding. Towns like Acton, Blue Hill, Caratunk, Eustis, Lamoine and Greenville would get nothing. Fal-mouth and Cape Elizabeth would get millions more, but schools in Machiasport, Boothbay and York would receive zero.

Finally, this ballot question sends a terrible message. It says that if you

are a successful Mainer, the government is going to tax your income by more than 10 percent. That's the second-highest income tax in the country.

Maine's high tax burden makes it difficult to attract doctors, scientists, engineers and other professionals. Taxing their income at 10 percent will discourage them from coming to Maine—and encourage those living here to pack their bags and leave. Chasing high-income job creators out of Maine will not increase money for education. So don't be fooled by this ballot question.

Thank You,
Paul R. LePage
Governor

MainStreet Foundation awards grants

Androscoggin Bank's MainStreet Foundation has announced the recipients of its quarterly impact grants for the second quarter of 2016. Recognizing a need for at-risk kids in Maine to be safe, healthy, active, happy, educated and nourished, MainStreet Foundation awards impact grants four times each year to organizations actively working to help kids thrive. The grants vary based on need and are awarded in amounts up to \$5,000.

During the quarterly meeting of the MainStreet Foundation Board of Directors, the committee approved a total of \$13,510 in grants to the following organizations:

Lewiston Auburn Area Housing Development Corporation was awarded \$1,010 to support the social, educational and economic growth programs operated by Lewiston Housing Authority for the benefit of its low-income tenants. The grant will support the establishment of a summer literacy program

Check TCT every week for updated Calendar listings!

for children in grades K-3 at Lewiston Housing Authority's Hillview complex.

United Way of Androscoggin County was awarded \$2,500 to support the expansion its Backpack Project, which provides backpacks filled with school supplies to elementary students in 23 schools in Androscoggin County.

Goodwill Industries of Northern New England was awarded \$2,500 to

support its NNE's Take2 program, a youth resilience program that engages disconnected youth at risk of adjudication as participants in an education and job-training program.

Wayside Food Programs of Portland was awarded \$5,000 to support their mission of increasing access to food for those in need in Southern Maine by providing a system for community based volun-

teers who serve prepared meals and by collaborating with other hunger agencies in developing an efficient network for the collection and equitable distribution of food.

The No Limits Limb Loss Foundation of Wales was awarded \$2,500 to support its Camp No Limits, a targeted outreach initiative offering families of children with limb loss/limb differences a supportive, educational and therapeutic camping experience.

Donation

Continued from page 2

able. This program costs approximately \$225 per student per year. Many students are eligible, and without these donations, the students wouldn't receive nutritious meals each week. Every dollar donated to Good Shepherd Food Bank allows four meals to be distributed to food insecure people in Maine.

"The Child Hunger

Programs began in 2010 and has grown to serve 3,000 students and their families monthly," said Program Manager Shannon Coffin. "This year, Good Shepherd Food Bank has a goal of providing 500,000 meals to students across the State of Maine through their school partnerships."

If you would like to become involved with this program, please contact Shannon Coffin at 782-3554, ext. 1163 or scoffin@gsfb.org. www.gsfb.org.

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Only Steps Forward

Balloon Fest was a success—let's make it bigger, better

By Jonathan P. LaBonté
MAYOR OF AUBURN

Another third week-end of August has come and gone, and with it a hugely successful Great Falls Balloon Festival along the Androscoggin River in Downtown Lewiston and Auburn.

In the age of social media, you can get a much deeper perspective of how much time and energy goes into building and executing a festival of this size. We

should all offer our gratitude to the volunteer board of directors, the hundreds of volunteers that helped balloons launch or staffed a food booth or parking lot in support of the event and their non-profit.

Without question, this weekend's festival was one of the most successful to date. Mother Nature's cooperation is usually one of the biggest factors; only two launches were lost to weather with the rest of-

fering nearly perfect conditions.

From visual evidence, it appeared the typical lines out the door at Rolly's in New Auburn grew longer this weekend. The patio space at Rails, along the gateway to Simard-Payne Park, looked packed during their open hours. And long lines remained during the evening launch and moon glow hours at the various non-profit food and beverage booths.



Mayor Jonathan P. LaBonté

What could have been better?

Rightfully so, the community should first ask the Balloon Festival leaders to take a bow and be recognized for what their hard work delivered for both cities and for overall community pride.

But after that, I'd love to hear from the Balloon Festival board what could have been better. I'd like to hear from our hotels, bed and breakfasts, inns and restaurants. From residents, locally based musical acts and entertainers. And from the many non-profits that are involved in some way.

Is there a limit to how big and successful this event can be? If not, how can we, as a community, help to expand it and grow this year's success?

Could parts of the soon-to-be-constructed expansion of Little Andy Park be home to more entertainment or recreational events during the festival? What might draw foot traffic up to and around Lisbon Street in between launches?

Are there aspects of the logistics for the balloons as they launch or land or how visitors park and navigate the festival that could be improved?

Events of this size require year-round planning and fundraising, so the time to think about that is now. And I'm pledging to do what I can to help and convene as necessary.

The LA Metro Chamber of Commerce (formerly the Androscoggin County Chamber) has pivoted to publicly take on a role of tourism promoter. In a state like Maine that draws tens of millions of visitors in the summer to its coast, we should be considering how festivals like the Great Falls Balloon Festival can grow to attract more of those dollars.

While we don't have

miles of sand beaches with nearby restaurants offering the freshest seafood, we do have miles of canals, riverfront and lakefront with not only great seafood restaurants, but great everything restaurants.

Lewiston-Auburn is fortunate to sit in Southern Maine, not Central Maine, and we are about an hour's drive from the most heavily visited tourism regions of our state. Central Maine makes us sound remote and too far out of reach.

The reality is anything but that. We are a very accessible community with a growing list of amenities that can rival comparably sized cities in New England.

We now play host to a number of events, year-round, in Lewiston-Auburn that can help to build community for residents, but also attract dollars and visitors from away to sustain and grow our businesses and support our non-profits. The most significant of those events, however, remains the Great Falls Balloon Festival.

As we continue to glow with pride from last weekend, let's take that positive momentum and ask the Balloon Festival leaders what we can plan to do next year to take us to new heights.

Dempsey

Continued from page 1

ter. The 2016 Dempsey Challenge will take place on October 1 and 2 in Simard-Payne Memorial Park in Lewiston. This annual run, walk, cycle fundraising experience champions a spirit of celebration and a culture of paying it forward. For the accomplished cyclist, the event includes a 140-mile Two-Day Ride. To register, see dempseychallenge.org.

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Enough is Enough

Leadership, foreign policy, golf and capitulation

By Robert E. Macdonald
MAYOR OF LEWISTON

Growing up in a middle-class, working Irish neighborhood in Boston, we had a saying: "If you can't say something nice about a person, don't say anything about them at all."

Foolish me. I thought this was universal advice. But after listening to the vitriolic remarks coming from the mouths, press interviews, emails and editorials of Republican elected officials, party insiders and the party elite, it appears they have gone out of their way to unleash on Republican Presidential candidate Donald Trump.

This leads me to believe that the social etiquette, instilled in me as a child, was way off base.

I am not suggesting that people should vote in lock step for any candidate

or party. In my opinion, this kind of blind loyalty serves only to weaken our country. But the criticism against Trump by these Republican insiders looks more like an endorsement of Democratic Presidential candidate Hillary Clinton than a reason not to vote for Trump.

Trump represents the kid on the playground who watches out for and defends those on the playground who have neither the power nor the intestinal fortitude to stand up to the real playground bullies. Trump is the voice of blue-collar workers whom the elitists look upon as stupid and having no clue or solution to the perceived complex issues that are faced by our country.

They accuse him of ignoring "historical Republican values" and lacking the skills to heal



Mayor Bob Macdonald

and bring our country together. Apparently, we have forgotten the radical Republicans of the post Civil War, who instead of bringing unity to our country, decided to punish the South for starting the Civil War. These divisions still exist today.

They accuse Trump of disregarding common

decency for "rejecting the conventions of political correctness." Political correctness in today's world is neither a tradition nor etiquette. It is universally unaccepted by an overwhelming number of our population. It is used by a small portion of pseudo-sophisticates to bully the rest of the population into submitting to their off-the-wall values while attempting to suppress our right to free speech.

Then we have federal Judge Gonzalo Curiel. Trump is upset at some of his rulings on a case before him involving Trump University. The fact that he is a Mexican means nothing. The fact that he has ties to La Raza presents a poor optical. It's like an Irish judge who has ties to the IRA presiding over the case of an IRA boyo.

Republicans are upset about Trump's lack of foreign policy. What foreign policy? Do they mean the foreign policy where our President and Secretary of State go around the world apologizing to foreign leaders for perceived past grievances?

Nation building? We defeat the enemy, then—instead of pulling out—turn around and make that nation a U.S. clone. We pour money, equipment and troops into the country with the intent of it becoming stabilized and being our friend. But all that seems to happen is our enemies in these countries become stronger.

Trump is savaged for pointing out the treaties negotiated by inept officials, which send our jobs overseas, pay our enemies ransom and ensure that the

most radical and dangerous country in the Middle East gets stronger and is put on the road to becoming a nuclear threat.

Lastly, Republicans are very vocal in questioning Trump's ability to lead. Really? Where is the Republican criticism of President Barack Obama? Milwaukee erupts in riots and is burning. Much of Louisiana is being washed away by floodwaters.

California continues to burn, and President Obama continues his golfing vacation on Martha's Vineyard. Is this leadership in the minds of the Republicans who criticize Trump?

Capitulation has failed. It's time to head in a new direction, one of confrontation, and regain our status as the greatest Country in the World.

Kiwanis announce scholarship recipients

The Lewiston-Auburn Kiwanis Club has announced the recipients of its annual scholarship awards. The students were recognized during their respective high school awards nights at the end of the school year. Scholarships were awarded to the following high school seniors: Anthony DeGone of Leavitt Area High School, Emily Dumont of Lewiston High School, David Wesley Haire II of Saint Dominic Academy, Nicholas Huston of Lisbon High School, Abigail L'Abbe of Saint Dominic Academy, and Riley McCurdy of Edward Little High School.

Scholarship applications are distributed in April to local high schools, and club members evaluate all applicants for a combination of community service, extracurricular activities, academic grades and submitted

letters of recommendation. To be eligible, applicants must be members of their school's Key Club or have made significant contributions in their schools and/or communities through volunteer work.

Five scholarships of \$750 are awarded annually to one recipient from each school, and one \$1,000 scholarship is sometimes awarded to an exceptional candidate at the discretion of the club.

Kiwanis is a civic organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world, one child and one community at a time.

For more information about the club, email club president Paul Gauvreau at pgauvreau4@gmail.com or check out the club's Facebook page (Kiwanis Club of Lewiston-Auburn, Maine). The club's website is www.kiwanislewistonauburn-maine.org.

Barrett earns CENTURY 21 Quality Service Award

Century 21 Real Estate LLC has recognized sales affiliate Kelly Barrett of CENTURY 21 Advantage with the CENTURY 21 Quality Service Pinnacle Producer Award. The annual award is based on results from the CENTURY 21 Quality Service Survey, which is e-mailed to consumers immediately after the purchase or sale of a home. To earn the award, an agent must receive completed customer surveys for at least 30 percent of their transactions from January 1 through October 31, with an average survey score of at least 95 percent or better for 2 consecutive years.

"The Quality Service Pinnacle Producer Award is an integral part of our brand's commitment to excellence and recognizes Kelly's dedication to making each and every client interaction a positive one," said Rick Davidson, pres-

ident and chief executive officer of Century 21 Real Estate LLC.

"Kelly provides her

clients with knowledge and advice related to their real estate transaction and offers them confidence during what may be the most significant purchase of a lifetime," said Angela Mo-

rin-White, broker-owner of CENTURY 21 Advantage.

Barrett will receive a customized glass trophy and will be recognized at the CENTURY 21 Global Conference.

Community Credit Union hires Hogan as President/CEO

Community Credit Union has announced the hiring of Jennifer Hogan as its new President/CEO. Hogan previously



Jennifer Hogan

worked for Community Credit Union for five years as Marketing Director and four years as Executive Vice President. She also has experience in business-to-business sales prior to entering the Credit Union industry.

Hogan has an Associate's Degree in Communications from New England School of Communications. She is involved in her community, serving as a Board Member of the LA Metro Chamber of Commerce, as Co-Chair of its Education & Workforce Development Committee, and as Treasurer of the Turner

Parent-Teacher Committee. She was recently recognized by Uplift LA (formerly YPLAA) as a "40 Under 40" honoree for her dedication to improving education in the greater L-A area. She resides in Turner with her husband, Nick, and daughter, Chase.

Community Credit Union has branches at 144 Pine Street in Lewiston, 40 Stanley Street in Auburn and 1025 Auburn Road in Turner. For more information, see www.communitycreditunion.com.

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What's Going On

Hire a Veteran campaign set to kick off



Retired veterans Richard Kowalczyk (l.) and Mark Cater of the Lewiston CareerCenter review plans for Maine's upcoming Hire-A-Vet campaign, set to kick off on Thursday, September 1 at the Augusta Armory. The campaign will feature a network of state and federal agencies, recruiting resources, and non-profit connections deployed to facilitate the hiring of 100 veterans in 100 days. For more information on joining the campaign, contact coordinator Steven Roy at 624-5156 or MaineHireAVet.DOL@maine.gov. (Photo courtesy of Monica Millhime)

Alzheimer's Assoc. offers Volunteer Scribes Program

As our memories start to fade, so do the stories which have defined our life and who we are. Yet there is a way to preserve these memories, and a local organization is available to help. On Wednesday, September 7 from 2 to 3 p.m., the Maine Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association will be at Auburn Public to discuss its Volunteer Scribes Program. More than 5 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's, and someone in the United States develops the disease every 66 seconds. In the Volunteer Scribes Program, college students interview and write the life stories of persons living with dementia. In

turn, just by sharing their stories, participants help educate future health care professionals about Alzheimer's. Participation in the program is free of charge and completely confidential. For more information, contact Mark Pechenik at 772-0115 or mpechenik@alz.org.

Chamber workshop ponders "Quitting the Day Job"

The LA Metro Chamber of Commerce will host the next seminar in its "Mind Your Business Series for Business Development" on Thursday, September 1 from 8 to 9:30 a.m. In "Quitting the Day Job," facilitator Tim Cyr will review what to consider before putting your own money down to start a business.

Nearly everyone has dreamed about going into business, has a business plan in their head, or is convinced that they could "do it better." But when reality takes over, will you truly be ready? This workshop is for anyone who thinks they are ready to begin their entrepreneurial journey.

Tim Cyr has started and owned several successful businesses and even a couple of not-so-successful ones, but he has devoted a lifetime to "being on his own" as a business person. A founder of the Aspiring Entrepreneurs' Guild and Advanced Computing Techniques, he is eager to share what he has learned in working with closely held businesses and his own entrepreneurial ventures.

The workshop will take place in the chamber's conference room at 415 Lisbon Street in Lewiston. The cost is \$25 for members and \$50 for non-members. Registration is available at www.LAMetroChamber.com.

Optimist Club offers free Constitutions

A federal law passed in 2004 requires that all schools that receive federal funding provide a course to all students on the Constitution of the United States on Constitution Day, Sep-

tember 17. The Founding Fathers ratified the Constitution on this day in 1787.

The law, known as H.R. 4818, with text found in section 111(b), was passed with the urging of

Bishop invites teachers to special Mass

With the new school year about to start, Bishop Robert P. Deeley will celebrate a Mass for Educators on Sunday, August 28 at 11 a.m. at St. John the Baptist Church on 39 Pleasant Street in Brunswick. Teachers, professors, administrators, and staff from pre-kindergarten to the collegiate level, as well as teachers of religious education, are invited to attend with their families.

A reception will follow, providing an opportunity for

teachers from different settings to form relationships and share appreciation for their vocation. There will be a gallery of quotes featuring the reflections of prominent Mainers on teachers who made a significant difference in their lives. Special commemorative bookmarks created for the occasion will be issued to those in attendance.

"Teachers open the minds of our youngsters to the wonder of the world in which they live and open

their hearts to recognize that they are called to care for each other and all the creation that God has given us," said Bishop Deeley. "They help encourage and inspire our children to live in hope of a better world with greater possibilities for all. Our gathering will bless and honor those who form our young people in understanding our world and discovering how to live in it as individuals possessing spirit and knowledge."

The event is free and open to all. Teachers planning to attend are asked to register at www.portlanddiocese.org.

Literacy Volunteers director to address Rotary Club



Tahlia Chamberlain

Tahlia Chamberlain of Literacy Volunteers-Androscoggin will be the guest speaker at the next meeting of the Lewiston-Auburn Rotary Club on Thursday,

September 1 from noon to 1 p.m. at the Ramada Inn of Lewiston. Guests are welcome to attend.

Chamberlain is a lifelong Mainer and over-the-top fan of her three large dogs and her husband, Norm. Since graduating from the University of Southern Maine in 1985, she has had the privilege of working with thousands of people, from tots to teens, disabled adults and college

students, while wearing many hats as a social worker, teacher, and program manager. In 1996, she became the first paid employee of Literacy Volunteers-Androscoggin and quickly developed a passion for empowering adults through education. Twenty years later, the courage and tenacity of adult students and their volunteer tutors continue to inspire her.

For more information on the program or Rotary Club, contact Monica Millhime at 753-9040 or monica.milhime@maine.gov.

CCFC program will help families become homeowners

Community Concepts Finance Corporation of Lewiston has partnered with the Sandy River Charitable Foundation and Maine Community Foundation to pilot a new program to help underserved and first-time homebuyers in Maine. Sandy River and MaineCF will provide \$500,000 and the security required for CCFC to gain immediate access to funds from the Federal Home Loan Bank for the sole purpose of providing home loans to qualified Maine borrowers.

"Finding long-term capital that can assist customers to become home

buyers is a challenge for nonprofit lenders like Community Concepts Finance Corporation," said Dennis Lajoie, CEO of CCFC. "One-hundred percent of this new investment from the Sandy River Foundation and MaineCF will be used for home ownership." This money is expected to finance eight to 10 mortgages.

CCFC is a Community Development Finance Corporation certified by the U.S. Treasury to provide loans. As a nonprofit community lender, they are one of a few organizations to draw funds from sources

See **CCFC**, page 15

then Senator Robert Byrd (D-W. Va.), who is remembered for always carrying a copy of the Constitution in his pocket.

In conjunction with Constitution Day, the Optimist Clubs of Lewiston-Auburn, Gray-New Gloucester and Minot, Poland, and Mechanic Falls are making available to any interested schools or students free pocket-sized Constitutions that can be used in the classroom. Quantities are limited and will be given out on a first-come, first-served basis. To request copies, contact any Optimist Club member or call 783-5269.

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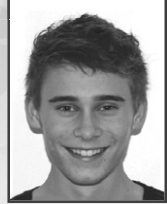
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Victoria from Australia, 17 yrs. Enjoys spending time with her family and younger siblings. Victoria plays volleyball and is excited to learn new sports while in America.



Giorgio from Italy, 16 yrs. Loves to play baseball and spend time with his dogs. Giorgio also plays the guitar, and his dream is to join a drama club at his American high school.

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(Photo by Chris Short)



Joe Hamilton directs Paul Colasante, from the Lewiston-Auburn area, on handling the crown line of the Six Pack balloon during inflation on Friday morning. The crown line is used to control the top of the balloon during inflation and deflation. (Tsukroff photo)



(Photo by Chris Short)



(Photo by Chris Short)



Sarah Clark mans the fan for the cold inflation of Windspirit on Saturday morning. (Tsukroff photo)



Crew members fire the burner to heat the air in the envelope of the Aerial Adventures balloon to bring it upright for lift off. (Tsukroff photo)



Hadleigh Arsenault, from the Lewiston-Auburn area, enjoys one of the donuts handed out by the Wonder Bread crew on Friday morning at Simard-Payne Memorial Park. Hadleigh's father, Christian, was a volunteer crew member for the balloon. (Tsukroff photo)



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Aya Wakita (left) and Owen Kennedy entertain visitors to Simard-Payne Memorial Park on Saturday morning at Great Falls Balloon Festival as part of the Maine Folque Coop, a community folk orchestra based in Lewiston-Auburn. (Tsukroff photo)



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Diana Thurston hands out staff and volunteer t-shirts from the souvenir booth early Friday morning as volunteer crew members started to arrive to assist with the balloon launches. (Tsukroff photo)



David Leclair of Lewiston pretends to hold up the Wonder Bread balloon on Friday morning at Simard-Payne Memorial Park. (Tsukroff photo)

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Magda Desperadel photographs balloons with her smartphone as she joins a crowd of onlookers at the balloon launch at Saturday morning from Simard-Payne Memorial Park in Lewiston. (Tsukroff photo)



William Colyer (left) pilot of Last Penny out of Fairfield, CT, gets help from Ron Gravel and Ricky Wells to place the burner on the basket, on Friday morning. (Tsukroff photo)



Volunteer crew member Gayle Johnson of Auburn (center) discusses how to follow the Windspirit balloon with Mark Clark and Donna Clark on Friday morning after balloon lifted off from Simard-Payne Memorial Park. The balloon has been coming to the Great Falls Balloon Festival all the way from Alabama for more than a decade, and was sponsored this year by Advance Orthotic Prosthetic Services of Auburn. (Tsukroff Photo)

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Auburn Mayor Jonathan LaBonte helps to unwrap the "envelope" of the Darth Vader balloon that eventually will be filled with hot air to lift the pilot and passengers off the ground on Friday morning. (Tsukroff photo)



Amelia Schaeffer of Bowdoin, wearing Yoda ears, enjoys the pancake breakfast that was served to visitors at the Great Falls Balloon Festival in Simard-Payne Memorial Park on Saturday morning. (Tsukroff photo)



The Tailwinds balloon from Androscoggin Balloon Adventures in Lewiston, returns to Simard-Payne Memorial Park after a shift in the wind circled balloons back to the launching site on Friday morning. (Tsukroff photo)

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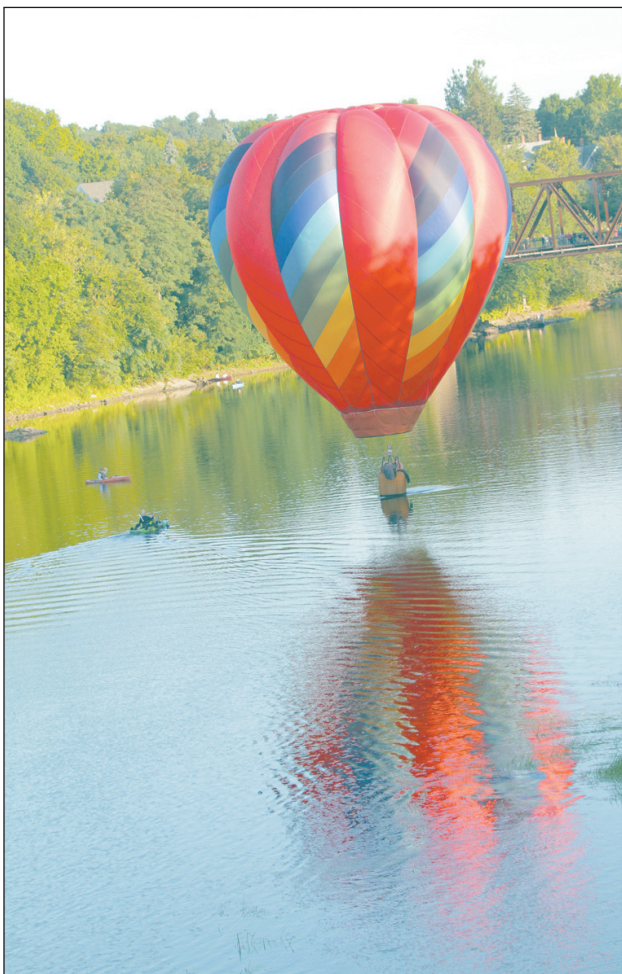
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William Colyer adjusts the mounting mechanism for the burner on Last Penny at the Great Falls Balloon Festival on Friday morning.



Joe Caputo pilots the Tittravate balloon past kayakers on the Androscoggin River as he does a splash and dash during the Great Falls Balloon Festival Saturday morning. Caputo, from Pittston, ME, flies the balloon as a hobby. (Tsukroff photo)

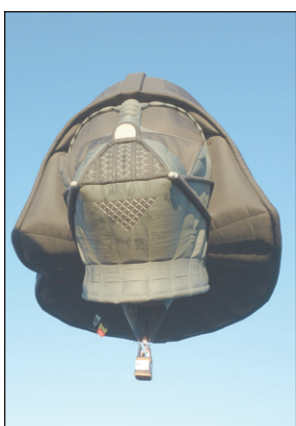


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The Mrs. Happy In Cognito Too balloon sails over the Androscoggin River alongside the Master Yoda balloon on Saturday morning. (Tsukroff photo)

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Fuel Restaurant up for grabs with winning essay



For \$150 and a 300-word essay, hopeful restaurant owners could land a successful restaurant and a place to live in one fell swoop by winning "Maine's Dream Restaurant Contest." Essays are now being accepted online at fuelcontest.com and by mail to Fuel Essay Contest, P.O. Box 591, Lewiston, ME, 04243, to win Fuel restaurant and a two-bedroom condo. Entries will be accepted online until October 17 at midnight and by mail until October 14.

Located at 49 Lisbon Street in the heart of downtown Lewiston, Fuel is a thriving modern French bistro with a lounge and event space called Sidecar. The restaurant, founded by owner and Auburn native Eric Agren, has been open for 10 years. Agren is also the developer of the eight new condominium units next door to Fuel.

"Whoever wins Fuel will immediately own a successful restaurant, a great place to live, an extensive wine cellar and everything in the restaurant - plus \$20,000 in the bank," said Agren. "I'm excited to hand over the keys to the restaurant to someone with energy and passion who has the drive

to write the next chapter of Fuel with its fantastic team." The contest includes the custom-built, 7,000 square foot commercial space and the recently built 1,600 square-foot two bedroom and two bathroom condo at 43 Lisbon Street.

Agren decided to offer the restaurant through an essay contest so anyone with passion can achieve their dream. "I know how hard it is to launch and develop a healthy business, and I'm happy to offer an opportunity like this - to own a successful restaurant and condo and to be able to share your love for good food and hospitality in a great Maine city," he said. A lifelong entrepreneur, Agren is frequently credited with assisting with the revitalization of downtown Lewiston. He is also the founder and former owner of Marche, a wine bar and restaurant also in Lewiston.

Selected by a panel of independent judges, excluding Agren, who will review the anonymously submitted essays, the winner will be notified after October 25. For more information

What's Going On

Veterans celebrate new Stolen Valor law



Among those who joined Senate President Thibodeau at the news conference were veterans from World War II and the Korean and Vietnam Wars.

Veterans from the Belfast, Maine, Veterans of Foreign Wars joined Senate President Michael Thibodeau (R-Waldo) recently to celebrate the enactment of new "Stolen Valor" legislation. The bill, LD 1642, "An Act

Regarding Stolen Valor," strengthens the current law against Mainers who make false claims about having served in the United States armed forces. Veterans from the Belfast VFW asked Senate President Thibodeau to sponsor the bill prior to

the beginning of the 127th Legislature.

Under the new law, anyone who makes such claims will be subject to the state law governing theft by deception. It also specifies that any fine imposed on such a person must be

deposited into the Maine Military Family Relief Fund. The bill passed unanimously in both the Maine House and Senate before being signed by Governor Paul LePage.

New Auburn trail opens with ribbon cutting

A ribbon cutting ceremony recently marked the completion of the Barker Mill Trail Extension. The new quarter-mile trail connects Downtown New Auburn to the Barker Mill Trail and provides a safe eight-foot-wide walking path for residents of New Auburn and the Barker Arms Apartments.

The project was funded through a Federal Highway Administration

or to enter Maine's Dream Restaurant Contest, visit fuelcontest.com.

Recreational Trails Grant, a program run by the Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands.

"We were fortunate to submit a good project that helps build Auburn's trail system and to have the support of local businesses and the United New Auburn Neighborhood Association," said City Planner and project manager Doug Greene. "We're seeing lots of users on the trail already!"

Health Affiliates ME joins Red Cross team in W. Virginia

Health Affiliates Maine of Auburn has joined with the American Red Cross of Maine to support relief efforts within the flooded areas of West Virginia. Three Health Af-

filiates Maine clinicians, Echo Dixon-LCSW, Karen Hardy-LCPC and Shannon Morris-LCPC, are currently in that state providing mental health support to indi- See **Red Cross**, page 16

CCFC

Continued from page 6

that have historically only been available to banks and other for-profit lenders.

CCFC has provided home loans to more than 75 families since it started offering the service in 2001. In addition to home loans, CCFC provides financial educational services, including statewide homebuyer education, credit counseling, and foreclosure prevention, with a focus on Androscoggin, Cumberland, Franklin, and Oxford counties. CCFC also provides loans to small businesses.

The Sandy River Charitable Foundation and Maine Community Foundation are both Maine-based organizations dedicated to investing in communities close to home by providing much-needed funding for social, economic, and educational programs.

CCFC is an affiliate of Community Concepts, Inc., a Community Action Agency and Maine nonprofit organization that provides needed resources to families and businesses to help them move forward.

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What's Going On

Norlands names Gammon Summer Fellow



A Spruce Mountain High School graduate and aspiring early childhood education major, Delilah Jordan is working this summer to create a child-friendly tour, with hands-on activities for each room, of the 1867 Washburn mansion.

The Washburn-Norlands Living History Center of Livermore has selected Delilah Jordan of Livermore as its 2016 Ethel "Billie" Gammon History Education Summer Fellow. Jordan is a graduate of Spruce Mountain High School in Jay and will attend the University of Maine at Farmington in the fall. The competitive fellowship includes a \$1,000 stipend.

This is the seventh year that Norlands has offered the award to a Maine High School Senior in honor of its founder, Ethel "Billie" Gammon, who had bottomless energy and enthusiasm for making history fun for people of all ages. As a summer fellow, Jordan will serve as a member of Norlands' staff, gaining valuable experience in living history education and museum operations. During open days at Norlands, she gives tours of the 1867 Washburn mansion, where she is working to create a child-friendly tour with hands-on activities for each room.

This is not her first venture into the Washburn Family's history. Last year, as a student in the hands-on-history class at Spruce Mountain High School, she scanned family letters and helped to write a soon-to-be published online exhibit about Elihu, one of the seven Washburn brothers. "Through my frequent visits to Norlands and an interactive class in high school, I developed a new found purpose in my life," she says. "I made the choice to major in early childhood education to make a difference in kids' lives and better their futures. I hope to find a career teaching at a school that promotes the importance of history and advocates for active learning of the past for their students." Norlands is open for tours on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays in July and August. For more information about tours and programs, visit www.norlands.org.

Poland Spring employees collect 7,000 lbs. of food for local pantries

Poland Spring employees recently donated to local food pantries over 7,000 lbs. of non-perishable goods collected during the company's spring food drive. In June, Poland Spring facilities in Hollis, Kingfield and Poland participated in the "Better Lives Food Drive" to help children eat well. Employees were encouraged to donate low-fat, low-

salt and low-sugar foods. These items were collected throughout the month at each Poland Spring location.

"Poland Spring and our employees are deeply committed to serving Maine communities, and we wanted to do our part to help ensure that no Mainer goes hungry this summer," said community relations manager Heather Printup

of Poland Spring. "As they often do, our employees went above and beyond to donate items during our food drive."

Employees at the Poland plant collected 2,003 lbs. of food, which was donated to the Poland Community Foodbank. The plant also made a \$1,000 donation to the MANNAFEED Backpack Program, which

helps provide nutritious foods for the weekends to children who may not have enough to eat when they are not receiving school lunches. Employees at the Hollis plant collected 4,906 lbs. of food for the United Methodist Economic Ministry Food Bank, and workers at the Kingfield plant collected 200 lbs., which was donated to the Salem Food Pantry. In keeping with the spirit of the food drive, Poland Spring also sponsored ex-

See **Pantry**, page 24

Red Cross

Continued from page 15

viduals within communities impacted by devastating floods.

Andrea Krebs, Executive Director of Health Affiliates Maine, has confirmed that the three clinicians have deployed to West Virginia and that a few others are waiting to deploy as well. "It is truly amazing how professionals in our field come together in times of crisis and willingly give of their expertise as volunteers," says Krebs.

Jan Frost, Disaster Mental Health Manager with American Red Cross of Maine, reached out to

Luanne Rhoades, Outpatient Therapy Program Director with Health Affiliates Maine, for volunteers. "The support of Health Affiliates Maine has made a great deal of difference on this operation," said Frost said. "Their efforts are getting qualified mental health providers to an area of great need."

Preliminary reports indicate that upwards of 2,000 homes could have been damaged or destroyed. Many areas are still inaccessible and the number of affected homes is likely to change. Since the flooding began, there have been more than 1,900 overnight stays in emergency shelters.

The Red Cross, in coordination with partner agencies, has served more than 113,800 meals and snacks and distributed more than 103,600 relief supplies, including cleaning supplies and comfort items. This is a difficult time for many families unexpectedly forced from their homes, and Red Cross disaster mental health workers and their partners are helping them to cope.

This is a large relief response, and the Red Cross needs the public's support. Those who would like to help people affected by disasters like flooding and countless other crises can make a donation to Red

Cross Disaster Relief. Donations can be made by visiting redcross.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS or texting the word RED-CROSS to 90999 to make a \$10 donation. These donations enable the Red Cross to prepare for, respond to and help people recover from disasters big and small.

Health Affiliates Maine is a statewide Substance Abuse and Mental Health Agency providing therapy, case management and psychiatric assessment and treatment services. Comprised of over 400 professional mental health and substance abuse treatment providers, the organization is focused on reducing the stigma and shame associated with having a mental health and substance abuse illness by providing increased access of confidential and quality treatment services in local communities throughout the state.




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Grants awarded to Women's Center

The Center for Wisdom's Women recently received a \$4,688 capacity building grant from the Androscoggin County Fund of the Maine Community Foundation. The grant will support a new and better website, along with expanded social media, marketing and networking capacity at the center. It will also provide for relevant skills training for the center's board and staff.

"This grant will, in turn, support the center's increasing efforts to fully fund the current day program and future expansion," said Executive Director Klara Tammany. "The new project, called Sophia's House, will create long-term, trauma-informed, community-based living and recovery support for women survivors of trauma. These capacity building funds will allow us to better reach out both to donors and volunteers for our ongoing and future needs."

The Center has also received a \$10,000 grant through the Direct Services Grant Program of the John T. Gorman Foundation. Based in Portland, the Gorman Foundation advances ideas and opportunities to improve the lives of disadvantaged people in Maine. The funding will be directed toward general operating support.

Earlier this spring, the Episcopal Diocese of Maine provided \$6,800 in funding towards the development

of Sophia's House and a related small social enterprise. A \$2481 program grant from the Simmons Foundation was awarded to support the monthly Art Van therapy program at the center. And another \$2000 capacity building grant was received from the Bingham Project to support the center as it begins to implement research on Adverse Childhood Experiences into its operations. This research will help the center's staff and volunteers in their work with women at the center and the future Sophia's House.

"These five grants together are building blocks" said Tammany. "At this transitional time in the center's life, we are grateful for these gifts. They will make it possible for the center to reach a higher level of sustainability, while also encouraging growth."

The Center for Wisdom's Women is a sacred and safe place that supports and empowers women. It functions as a collaborative of women who work to build community for the purpose of bettering and enriching their lives. The center offers warm hospitality, compassionate listening, personal and spiritual guidance that is respectful of all faith traditions, assistance in accessing local resources to meet needs, and encouragement toward healthy life choices. For more information, see www.wisdomswomen.org.

New Beginnings hires new Executive Director

New Beginnings' Board of Directors has selected Chris Bicknell to serve as the agency's new Executive Director. Bicknell will begin his tenure at New Beginnings the second week of August. An open house, where members of the community can meet and welcome him, will take place in September at the

Ann Geiger Center for New Beginnings in Lewiston.

Bicknell comes to New Beginnings from the Opportunity Alliance in Portland, where he most recently served at the Director of Access and Intake. He has more than 25 years of experience in the field of human services, including

See *Beginnings*, page 24

What's Going On

L/A Arts appoints new director



Louise Rosen

The board of directors of L/A Arts has confirmed the appointment of Louise Rosen as Consulting Director. Rosen has worked internationally in independent media and the arts for over 25 years and has extensive experience in business affairs, fundraising, programming, marketing and operations. As a longstanding figure in the international film community, she teaches and speaks at conferences and film festivals, including Toronto's Hot Docs Forum, DOK Leipzig and Sheffield DocFest.

In Maine, Rosen was the Founding Director of the Points North Documentary Forum, a professional development initiative for filmmakers at the Camden International Film Festival, and former Vice Chair of the Maine Film & Video Association. She serves on the Advisory Board of the Independent Feature Project/NY and is a Trustee of the Maine Media Work-

shops + College.

Rosen has served as Executive & Artistic Director of the Maine Jewish Film Festival for four seasons, growing the festival from a largely single-venue event to one with statewide status with cross-cultural community and financial support. In 2015, she was

profiled as one of Maine Magazine's "50 Bold Visionaries Defining Our State" and was a selected as speaker for Maine Live 2015, a day-long series of TED-style talks hosted by Maine Magazine and Bank of America. She lives in downtown Brunswick.

"Louise will work closely with the board and community members to assess and focus all activities of L/A Arts," said Board Chair Judy Vardamis. "In conjunction with the Lewiston Auburn Economic Growth Council, she will launch the important expanse of work funded through the prestigious National Endowment for the Arts' Our Town grant to begin development of an 'artist-maker economic model' for the L-A area. We are fortunate to have a leader of her caliber during this time and look forward to her in-depth association with L/A Arts and the cities of Lewiston and Auburn."

In addition, Rosen will direct the design for the implementation process of the new L-A Cultural Plan, funded through a Maine Arts Commission grant and matching support from the Auburn and Lewiston city

governments, and will be tasked with reshaping the agency's Arts in Education initiative and revamping its sponsorship and membership programs.

"The L-A community is wonderfully creative and diverse," said Rosen. "The area's combination of visionary, sustainable development initiatives, compelling preservation goals and a legacy of arts and artisanal endeavors makes for a tremendous range of opportunities in education and enterprise. I'm so pleased to be able to help support this community by working to amplify its rich cultural life as an economic driver and sharing it with a wider public."

Hampton Inn L-A receives TripAdvisor award

Hampton Inn of Lewiston-Auburn has received a 2016 TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence Award. Now in its sixth year, the achievement celebrates hospitality businesses that have earned great traveler

See *Hampton*, page 24

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TWIN CITY NIGHTS

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Fairies, "Enchanted Forest" at Wildlife Park



Meet and have your picture taken with "real" fairies and elves this weekend at Maine Wildlife Park.

On Friday and Saturday, August 26 and 27, from 9:30 a.m. to closing, visitors of the Maine Wildlife Park in Gray will be able to meet and have their picture taken with "real" fairies and elves in a beautifully hand-painted and decorated 10 ft. x 10 ft. fairy house, then make and take home their very own miniature version made of all-natural materials.

The brainchild of long-time park volunteers June and Paul Brown, "Enchanted Forest" has become a popular event with residents and tourists alike. The entire Brown family creates the fairy house, costumes and "make and take" fairy homes and then staffs the two-day event. Thistle, the now famous wildlife park fairy, will again join them for the occasion. Free with regular park admission, this is a great family event for all those young and old who still believe in fairies.

See *Fairies*, page 19

Franco Center presents free Frank Glazer Memorial Concert

Ksenia Kostelanetz will present her second annual "Frank Glazer Memorial Steinway Concert" at the Gendron Franco Center on Thursday, September 1 at 7 p.m. Her program for this special free event, which opens the center's 16th Piano Series season, will include the Rachmaninoff, Prelude op. 23 #6, the Brahms, Intermezzo op. 118, #2, and Beethoven's Tempest Sonata.

Frank Glazer, who played the inaugural concert on the Center's Steinway piano in 2006 and returned every year to present solo concerts, died in January of 2015, just weeks shy of his 100th birthday. Kostelanetz was his youngest student and took lessons from him over several summers.

The pianist, who spends summers with her

family in Greene, is only 15 years old, but an audience hearing her play might think they were listening to a seasoned virtuoso. She was born in Indianapolis to a musical family of immigrants from St. Petersburg, Russia, including renowned conductor Andre Kostelanetz, best known to modern audiences for a series of easy listening instrumental albums on Columbia Records from the 1940s through 1980. The family now lives in Wisconsin.

Kostelanetz began her piano lessons at age four and has studied with Sue Medford, Frank Glazer, Stephen Swedish and Chiharu Naruse, who also resides in Maine. She has had master classes with concert pianists Andre-Michel Schub and Alan Feinberg. In 2012, she received second place in the Wisconsin Music Teachers Association Competition and in the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music Scholarship Auditions. In 2013, she was a semi-finalist in the Wisconsin Youth Piano Concerto Competition, in which she performed Mozart's Concerto No.12 K.414.

Fluent in French and Russian, Ksenia has attended school in France and visited France and Russia several times. She recently returned from a family vacation to Switzerland and France, led by the Franco



Ksenia Kostelanetz

Center's own Edmond Gay. Now a high school junior in Milwaukee, she is learning Spanish and copy edits for her school newspaper. Next year, she will begin taking classes at Marquette University. She plans to become a neonatologist.

"We present this special season-opening free performance as a gift to the community and hope that everyone will attend," said Franco Center executive director Mitchell Clyde Thomas. "Miss Kostelanetz is a very special friend to the Franco Center and we are thrilled that she is willing to help us remember another great friend, Mr. Frank Glazer."

No tickets are required for this event. The doors and bar will open at 6 p.m. Located at 46 Cedar Street in Lewiston, the center is wheelchair accessible. For more information, call 783-1585.

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MSMT, Portland Stage team up for "The Irish... And How They Got That Way"



Cast members and musicians include (l. to r.) Peter Cormican, Charis Leos, Curt Dale Clark, Ernest Saucedo, and Cary Michele Miller. (Photo by Roger S. Duncan)

Portland Stage and Maine State Music Theatre have teamed up this summer to co-produce Frank McCourt's "The Irish... And How They Got That Way," now running at Portland Stage through September 11. The show, an uplifting musical celebration of all things Irish in the tumultuous 20th and 21st centuries, was written by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Frank McCourt ("Angela's Ashes," "Tis," "Teacher Man").

Underscoring McCourt's razor-sharp wit, trademark bitter irony and boundless love for his countrymen are a bounty of glorious songs, including such old-world standards as "Danny Boy," "The Rose

of Tralee," and "Harrigan," the patriotic Americana of George M. Cohan's "Give My Regards to Broadway," "You're a Grand Old Flag" and "I'm a Yankee Doodle Dandy," and modern classics by Irish rockers U2. Since opening at the Irish Repertory Theatre in New York in 1997, the show has played to sold-out audiences on extended runs across the country.

Under the direction of Marc Robin, the cast is comprised of actors and actresses who are well known on the Maine and national stages. Coming directly from Maine State Music Theatre's 2016 ensemble are Charis Leos and Curt Dale Clark. Joining them

on stage will be Broadway and regional theater veterans Peter Cormican and Cary Michele Miller. Serving as understudies to the leads and also appearing as bartenders are local actors Cameron Wright (Portland) and Emily Davis (Westbrook). Supporting the cast musically are conductor Edward Reichert on keyboard, Ernest Saucedo on violin, Jimmy Dority on guitar, banjo, and accordion, and Eric Landau on drums.

Portland Stage is located at 25A Forest Avenue in Portland. For show times and ticket information, contact their Box Office at 774-0465, boxoffice@portlandstage.org, or see www.portlandstage.org.

Rockhounds Gem and Mineral Show

The Kennebec Rocks and Minerals Club will present their annual Rockhounds Gem and Mineral Show on Saturday, September 3, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, September 4, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The

event will take place at the National Guard Armory on Western Avenue in Augusta.

There will be door prizes, demonstrations, displays, vendor sales, games for kids, a chance to meet "Rocky" the rock hound dog,

and information about rock hounding and how to join a club. Children will get a free stone just for entering and may win a mineral starter kit. For more information about the event, call 873-6270.

CLT plans open auditions for "Chicago"



Community Little Theatre will hold open auditions for its fall production of the hit musical "Chicago" on Monday and Tuesday, August 29 and 30, at 6:30 p.m. at Great Falls Performing Arts Center in Auburn. The sharp-edged, Tony Award-winning satire features a dazzling score by John Kander, lyrics by Fred Ebb, and a book by Fred Ebb and Bob Fosse.

CLT's production will run November 4 through 13.

Richard Martin will be the director, Paul G. Caron the music director, and Karen Martin the producer.

In roaring twenties Chicago, Roxie Hart murders a faithless lover and convinces her hapless husband Amos to take the rap... until he finds out he's been duped and turns on Roxie. Convicted and sent to death row, Roxie and rival "merry murderess" Velma Kelly compete for the

headlines and spotlight, ultimately joining forces in search of the "American Dream" - fame, fortune... and acquittal.

In addition to Roxie and Velma, other principle roles include jail matron Mama Morton, lawyer Billy Flynn, "sob sister" reporter Mary Sunshine, and Amos Hart. Several supporting roles and a strong ensemble will also need to be cast. All cast members for this production must be at least 18 years of age.

Those auditioning will be required to participate in all three units (vocal, choreography, dialogue) and should prepare a brief musical number from Chicago that demonstrates their vocal range. A piano accompanist will be provided. No a cappella singing and no prerecorded music will be allowed. Bring character or jazz shoes for the movement-dance audition.

For more information, including descriptions of all roles and a printable audition worksheet, see www.lact.com.

Twin City Nights

Sawyer Memorial to present "In the Blood"



This documentary film and multimedia presentation brings to life the 19th-century reality of Maine's lumbermen and river drivers.

The Araxine Wilkins Sawyer Memorial will present two performances of filmmaker and composer Sumner McKane's documentary film and multimedia presentation "In the Blood" on Friday, August 26 at 2 and 7 p.m. Both shows are free and open to the public.

The film illustrates the life, history and character of the lumbermen and river drivers of turn-of-the-century Maine by creating a virtual journey into the historic Maine woods. Lumbermen began living in logging camps in Maine in the early 1800s. These pioneers created successful, self-contained working communities in the woods, largely establishing

the state's economy and history in the process. Unique in their character, ethics, morals, strength, and skills, they epitomized Maine's gritty and resilient reputation.

"In the Blood" takes audiences into this rugged environment, comprised of camps, haul roads, landings, rivers and lakes, by combining archival film and photographs with oral histories told by the men themselves and live original music by Sumner McKane and Joshua Robbins, bringing to life the lumberman's 19th-century reality.

Sawyer Memorial is located at 371 Sawyer Road in Greene. For more information, call 946-5311 or see sawyer-foundation.com.

Chicken BBQ at Gray Congregational

The Congregational Church of Gray will present its 25th annual Chicken BBQ at its Parish House on Brown Street on Saturday, August 27, with seating from 5 to 5:45 p.m. The meal will be a half chicken, baked potato, and ear of corn, with homemade biscuits, deserts, and beverages. Take-out will be available. The cost will be

\$10 for adults \$5 for kids under 12. The building is wheelchair accessible. For more information, call Fran at 657-4338.

Fairies

Continued from page 18

Owned and operated by the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, the Maine Wild-

Maine Woodworking Expo

The Guild of Maine Woodworkers and the Kennebec Valley Woodworkers Association will present Maine Woodworking Expo 2016 on Saturday, August 27, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday, August 28, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Fort Andross-Cabot Mill Building at 14 Maine Street in Brunswick.

The event will showcase exceptional quality furniture and wood accessories produced by Maine craftsmen in 25 areas. On display will be a huge variety of items, including tables, desks, nightstands, beds, credenzas, caskets, chairs, dressers, stairs and hand railings, lamps, cabinetry, fine art, wood turnings, jewelry boxes, period reproductions and more. If you don't see what you need, nearly all woodworkers will make furniture to your specifications.

For more information, contact Frank Southard at 547-3054 or fesouthard@fairpoint.net.

life Park has over 30 species of native wildlife on display, plus wildlife gardens, nature trails, a fish hatchery and other interactive exhibits. Located at 56 Game Farm Road in Gray, the park is open for admittance each day April 15 through November 11 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with visitors allowed to stay until 6 p.m. Guests are encouraged to bring a picnic and spend the day.

Admission is \$7.50 for adults and \$5.50 for seniors and kids ages 4 through 12, or \$3.50 per person in groups of 15 or more. Available Family and Community. See **Faries**, page 20

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Fri: Aug 26 Andy Denk 8-11

Sat: Aug 27 Dum Bums 8-11

Twin City Nights

Photographers to host Open House



Jim Walker



Brenda Giasson

Award-winning photographers Jim Walker and Brenda Giasson will host an Open House at their photography studio during the August L/A Art Walk. The public is invited to meet the photographers and tour the studio on Friday, August 26, from 5 to 8 p.m. They are lo-

cated in the Professional Building at 145 Lisbon Street in Lewiston. Take the elevator to the sixth floor and go to Suite 604. Light refreshments will be served and visitors will be entered into a drawing for a free photo shoot.

Two great businesses in one great studio,

Jim Walker Photography specializes in portraits (personal, professional, and modeling), fashion, seniors, special events, and small weddings and elopements, while Brenda's Maine Photography specializes in maternity, newborns, children, portraits and seniors.

Artist to discuss upcoming Bates Mill installation



"Memory" will open in the Bates Mill Complex on Saturday, September 17.

Artist Amy Stacey Curtis will discuss her upcoming exhibit, "Memory," on Friday, August 26 at 7 p.m. in Lewiston Public

Faries

Continued from page 19

ty Season Passes are a great bargain for families and groups that visit the park several times over the summer. They can be purchased in the Department of Fish & Wildlife's Online store at www.mefishwildlife.com.

For more information about the Maine Wildlife Park, call them at 657-4977 or see www.mainewildlife-park.com.

Library's Callahan Hall. Set to open in the Bates Mill Complex on Saturday, September 17, "Memory" will be the ninth and final installment in a series of large, interactive exhibits the artist began creating in the vast, abandoned mill spaces of Maine in 1998.

Since then, over the course of eight solo biennial exhibits from 2000 to 2016, each one involving a 22-month process to create, she has installed 81 large-in-scope interactive works of art in nine mill buildings in eight Maine towns. With the installation of "Memory" this fall in the Bates Mill, the project will end in the same venue it began with



Amy Stacey Curtis her first biennial exhibition, "Experience," seventeen years ago.

The program is free and open to the public. For more information about the program, call 513-3135. For more information about the artist and her work, see www.amystaceycurtis.com.

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Book by Linda Woolverton

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SEASON OPENING CONCERT

Ksenia Kostelanetz **FREE**
Thursday, September 1

Ksenia will be presenting her second annual "Frank Glazer Memorial Steinway Concert" at the Gendron Franco Center

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Thursday, August 25

Rotary Club Meeting. Noon to 1 p.m. Ramada Inn, Lewiston. Eric Agren discusses entrepreneurship and his career working for various appliance-focused companies - incl. the family business. Guests welcome. 753-9040; monica.millhime@maine.gov.

Prediction Run-Walk 5K. 6 p.m. Oak Hill Middle School, Ball Park Rd., Sabattus. Those who come closest to guessing their finish times for this flat 3.1-mile course will win prizes; you don't need to be fast to win! \$5. Register onsite from 5 p.m. Pres. by Sabattus Rec Club. Running@sabattusrec.com.

Theater: Disney's Beauty & the Beast. 7:30 p.m. Great Falls Performing Arts Center, 30 Academy St., Auburn. Community Little Theatre presents this popular musical. Again 8/26-28 (Sun. at 2 p.m.) For ticket info, call 783-0958 or see www.laclt.com.

Friday, August 26

"In the Blood." 2 and 7 p.m. Sawyer Memorial, 371 Sawyer Rd., Greene. Sumner McKane's documentary film and multimedia presentation brings to life the 19th-century reality of Maine's lumbermen and river drivers. Free. 946-5311; sawyer-foundation.com.

Art Walk LA. 5 to 8 p.m. Multiple venues, downtown Lewiston and Auburn. This monthly event features exhibits by local artists, live entertainment, special events and special venues in Auburn. http://laarts.org.

Open House. 5 to 8 p.m. Suite 604 (take elevator), Professional Building, 145 Lisbon St., Lewiston. Photographers Jim Walker and Brenda Giasson invite visitors to tour their studio during the August Art Walk; have some refreshments, enter drawing for free photo shoot.

Used Book Sale. 5 to 7 p.m. Community Room, Auburn Public Library. Continues Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon. 333-6640; www.auburnpubliclibrary.org.

Red Table Picnic. 5:30 to 8 p.m. Festival Plaza, Auburn. In conjunction with the August Art Walk, the City of Auburn encourages residents to attend this second annual event; wear red clothes and bring your red table cloths, cups, foods, etc. 333-6601, ext. 2101.

Artist Visit. 7 p.m. Callahan Hall, Lewiston Public Library. Artist Amy Stacey Curtis discusses her upcoming large-scale exhibit, "Memory," opening in the Bates Mill Complex on Sep. 17. Free. 513-3135.

Saturday, August 27

Kora Kare for Kids Ride-In. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Twitchell's Airport. Turner. This family event for Shri-

Calendar

See more Calendar at www.TwinCityTimes.com

ners Hospital for Children features escorted motorcycle and ATV rides, a classic car show, BBQ contest, Gritty's Beer Garden, and Motor Booty Affair concert. Dry camping avail. Tix \$25/10. For schedule, see www.korashriners.org.

Maine Native American Summer Market. 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Shaker Village, Rte. 26, New Gloucester. The southern-most gathering of Wabanaki artists in the state features performances, demos, and high-quality traditional craft items for sale. Rain-or-shine. Free. 926-4597; www.mainesmakers.com.

Maine Woodworking Expo. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Fort Andross-Cabot Mill Building, 14 Maine St., Brunswick. Pres. by the Guild of Maine Woodworkers, this event showcases exceptional furniture and wood accessories made by Maine craftsmen. Cont. 8/28, 10-4. 547-3054; fesouthard@fairpoint.net.

Chicken BBQ. 5 to 5:45 p.m. Parish House, Congregational Church, Brown St., Gray. A half chicken, baked potato, and ear of corn, w/. homemade biscuits, deserts, and beverages. Take-out avail. \$10 adults, \$5 kids 11-. 657-4338.

Summer Saturday Concert. 6 p.m. Waterfront Park, Bath. This weekly series concludes with the rock music of Max Ater; bring your own blankets and chairs. Free. www.chocolatchurcharts.org.

Sunday, August 28

L-A Bridge Run 5K Race. Rolloodrome, Auburn. Event three in the Greater L-A Triple Crown 5K Series; chip timing, prizes, refreshments; free kids' fun run at 8 a.m. \$20 (\$25 on race day); free for kids ages 14-. www.triplecrown5k.com.

Lewiston Farmer's Market. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Municipal Parking Lot, corner of Lincoln & Main. Enjoy family-fun activities while buying fresh, local goods and products. Sundays through mid-October. 513-3848; lewistonfarmers-market@gmail.com.

Special Mass for Educators. 11 a.m. St. John the Baptist Church, 39 Pleasant St., Brunswick. Bishop Deeley celebrates this special mass for teachers and administrators of all levels; reception follows. All invited. Teachers pls. register at www.portlanddiocese.org.

Tuesday, August 30

Budgeting Basics. 10 a.m. to noon. New Ventures Maine, L-A College,

Lewiston. In this workshop, participants will learn about the basic components for building a budget. Free. Register at 753-6513.

Tuesdays at the Gazebo. 6:30 p.m. Village green, Rt. 117, Turner Center. Kevin Libby plays country. Suggested \$5-10 donations go to the musicians.

Wednesday, August 31

Guided Bird Walk. 8 to 11 a.m. This Stanton Bird Club trip to view birds at Cathance River Nature Preserve in Topsham car-pools from the Food City Shopping Center at 583 Lisbon Street in Lisbon Falls. Free; all welcome. 406-4741; jsmd@att.net.

Music on the Mall. 6 p.m. Town Mall (green), Maine Street, Downtown Brunswick. The Liz Lannon Band plays Chicago blues with rockabilly, jazz, and sixties soul influences. Free. Bring blankets, lawn chairs. Rain date is Thurs. when possible. www.brunswick-downtown.org.

Thursday, September 1

Mind Your Business Seminar. 8 to 9:30 a.m. LA Metro Chamber of Commerce, 415 Lisbon St., Lewiston. Tim Cyr of the Aspiring Entrepreneurs' Guild discusses "Quitting the Day Job." \$50 (members \$25). www.LAMetro-Chamber.com.

Rotary Club Meeting. Noon to 1 p.m. Ramada Inn, Lewiston. Program director Tahlia Chamberlain discusses Literacy Volunteers-Androscoggin. Guests welcome. 753-9040; monica.millhime@maine.gov.

Frank Glazer Memorial Concert. 7 p.m. Franco Center, 46 Cedar St., Lewiston. For this free special event, Glazer's youngest student Ksenia Kostelanz performs works by Rachmaninoff, Brahms and Beethoven. No tickets required. 783-1585.

Saturday, September 3

Gem and Mineral Show. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Nat'l Guard Armory, Western Ave., Augusta. The Kennebec Rocks and Minerals Club present displays, demos, door prizes, and kids' activities. Cont. 9/4, 10-4. 873-6270.

The Early Evening Show. 8 p.m. Celebration Barn, 190 Stock Farm Rd. (just off Rte. #117), So. Paris. Mike Miclon's late-night talk show spoof presents an all-new episode every first Sat. through Oct. \$14/12/8. 743-8452; www.CelebrationBarn.com.

Sunday, September 4

Lewiston Farmer's Market. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Municipal Parking Lot, cor-

ner of Lincoln & Main. Enjoy family-fun activities while buying fresh, local goods and products. Sundays through mid-October. 513-3848; lewistonfarmers-market@gmail.com.

Concert: DaPonte String Quartet. 3 p.m. First Baptist Church of Paris, 500 Paris Hill Rd., So. Paris. The Paris on the Hill summer concert series concludes with a return appearance by this popular ensemble. \$20 at door. 754-7970; mbcaffey@aol.com.

Tuesday, September 6

Tuesdays at the Gazebo. 6:30 p.m. Village green, Rt. 117, Turner Center. Turner Templetons with Tom Stevens perform. Suggested \$5-10 donations go to the musicians.

Wednesday, September 7

Volunteer Scribes Program. 2 to 3 p.m. Auburn Public Library. The Alzheimer's Assoc. discusses this program, in which college students interview and write the life stories of those living with dementia. Free. 333-6640, ext. 4

Saturday, September 10

Square-Round Dancing. 7 to 10 p.m. Oxford Hills Middle School, 100 Pine St., So. Paris. The Swingin' Bears kick off their season; door prizes, 50/50

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War Dogs (R)	12:50	4:00	7:00	9:45
Don't Breathe (R)	1:40	4:40	7:15	9:25
Sausage Party (R)	1:10	4:30	7:25	9:45
Suicide Squad (PG-13)	1:00	4:10	6:55	9:35
The Secret Life Of Pets (PG)	1:30	4:20		
Bad Moms (R)			7:20	9:40
Ben-Hur (PG-13)		12:30		6:45
Ben-Hur 3D (PG-13)			3:30	9:35
Jason Bourne (PG-13)	12:40	3:40	6:40	9:20

drawing, refreshments. \$7 (free for non-dancers). 782-4050; swinginbears.squared-anceme.us.

Sunday, September 11

Lewiston Farmer's Market. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Municipal Parking Lot, corner of Lincoln & Main. Enjoy family-fun activities while buying fresh, local goods and products. Sundays through mid-October. 513-3848; lewistonfarmers-market@gmail.com.

Tuesday, September 13

Tuesdays at the Gazebo. 6:30 p.m. Village green, Rt. 117, Turner Center. Mary Murphy performs. Suggested \$5-10 donations go to the musicians.

Wednesday, September 14

Concert at the Basilica. 7:30 p.m. Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul, 122 Ash St., Lewiston. This weekly concert series concludes with a performance by Randall Mullin (organ) and the Norumbega Brass Ensemble. Free. www.princeofpeace.me.

Sunday, September 18

Lewiston Farmer's Market. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Municipal Parking Lot, corner of Lincoln & Main. Enjoy family-fun activities while buying fresh, local goods and products. Sundays through mid-October. 513-3848; lewistonfarmers-market@gmail.com.

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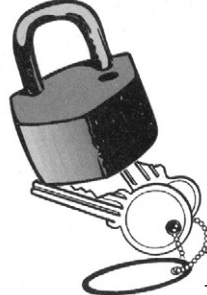
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What's Going On

Hampton

Continued from page 17

reviews on the online TripAdvisor site over the past year. To qualify, a business must maintain an overall TripAdvisor bubble rating of at least four out of five, have a minimum number of reviews and must have been listed on TripAdvisor for at least 12 months.

"We are proud to be recognized by TripAdvisor with a Certificate of Excellence Award," said Allison Beane, general manager of Hampton Inn Lewiston-Auburn. "This honor is a testament to our dedication to exceptional customer service. We appreciate our guests giving us excellent ratings on this site and helping us to achieve

this recognition."

Located at 15 Lincoln Street in Lewiston, Hampton Inn Lewiston-Auburn offers amenities including On the House breakfast each morning and Hampton's On the Run Breakfast Bags, available Monday through Friday. Additionally, it provides free Wi-Fi, a 24-hour business center with complimentary printing, and a fitness center.

Each guest room includes the brand's signature Clean and Fresh Hampton bed. Designed as an extension of the guest rooms, properties feature a Perfect Mix Lobby, with a variety of seating and lighting options for both leisure and business travelers. To make reservations, visit www.hampton.com.

Beginnings

Continued from page 17

as a consultant, trainer and presenter about working with high-risk youth, restorative justice, youth employment, harm reduction, and trauma-informed care.

A founding member of the Maine Homeless Youth Provider's Network, Bicknell coordinated Preble Street Teen Services in Portland for more than nine years and was instrumental in the design and opening



Chris Bicknell

of their \$4.5 million Joe Kreisler Teen Shelter in 2012. A passionate advocate for youth and creativity, he has a Master's degree in Art Therapy and has served as volunteer with the Telling

Room in Portland.

"After a very thorough search, the Board is excited to welcome Chris Bicknell to lead New Beginnings into the future," said New Beginnings' Board President Christopher Ferguson. "Chris brings extensive non-profit management experience to our agency, and I especially value that he has focused his career on our core population of youth at risk of homelessness."

"Becoming the Executive Director of New Beginnings is my dream job," said Bicknell, "I am looking forward to bringing my enthusiasm, fresh perspective, and experience to the dedicated team of staff and volunteers at New Beginnings. Together, we will continue and build upon New Beginnings' successful history focused on improving the lives of vulnerable young people in Maine."

Founded in 1980, New Beginnings each year provides 700 children, teens, and adults with opportunities for the safety, connection, and growth that all people need to thrive. The agency's spectrum of housing and services prevents young people from becoming homeless, supports families in crisis, and helps vulnerable youth grow into healthy and stable adults. For 24-hour referrals, call New Beginnings' youth shelter at 795-4070. For more information, call 795-4077 or see www.newbeginmaine.org.



Poland Spring employees (l. to r.) Mark Laplante, Ervin Walker (and son Matt), Sarah Cohen, Laura Keller, Shelly Pittman and Chris McKenna pose outside the Poland Community Foodbank.

Pantry

Continued from page 16

terior painting renovations at the Poland Community Food Bank.

"I am incredibly proud of our employees and their commitment to helping

others in their communities, particularly children," added Printup. "Since every 1.2 lbs. of food collected equates to one meal, I know this initiative will go a long way toward helping Maine families fight hunger this summer."

"Breakfast for the Kids"



Local photographer Jim Walker received his first Merit from the judges of the International Photographic Competition recently for his photo "Breakfast for the Kids." The IPC is the premier competition held by the Professional Photographers of America. Walker is a member of that organization and also serves on the board of the Maine Professional Photographers Association. He owns a photography studio at 145 Lisbon Street, Suite 604, and can be reached at walkerj@megalink.net.

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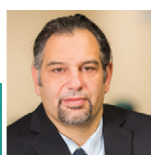
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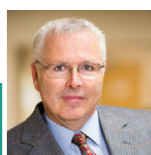
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