

Christmas "ExTRAINaganza" at Model Railroad Club



Model train layouts will be decorated with winter and Christmas themes for this four-day family event starting Saturday, November 19.

The Great Falls Model Railroad Club will present its seventh annual Christmas "ExTRAINaganza," a unique family event running over two weekends, beginning on Saturday, November 19. Their handicapped-accessible club house, located across from the Barker Mill at 144 Mill Street in Auburn, will be decorated for Christmas, with trains of various sizes operating on six permanent layouts throughout the two-story building.

From the moment they walk through the door

and see long trains running on the multiple tracks and through the tunnels of the large G-gauge layout, depicting a winter scene complete with an interactive ski slope, children will be fascinated by the sights and sounds of this event.

As they enter the main room, guests will see brightly decorated Christmas trees with trains beneath them, all to be raffled off. Around the corner, where young children can operate Thomas the Tank Engine on a separate layout in the G-gauge room, ob-

servers will discover that the G-gauge layout has many unique features that were hidden from their initial vantage point. In the next room, interesting details have also been added to the club's permanent layouts for the smaller n- and z-scale trains.

The club's extensive HO layout downstairs is an engineering marvel, where club members continue to develop a variety of new scenery details. Long-time residents of the area will recognize many of the 1950s See **Trains**, page 4

Senator Susan Collins speaks to L-A Chamber



U.S. Senator Susan M. Collins was the guest speaker last Thursday at the Lewiston Auburn Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce. She said it is time to put the bitterness of the election behind us and focus on improving the nation's infrastructure, creating a more pro-growth tax code and rewriting Obamacare to lower costs. (TCT photo by Nathan Tsukroff/Bell Studios)

Center St. Dental displays artwork by Colleen Rioux

For the month of November, Center Street Dental will display works by local artist Colleen Rioux in their reception area gallery. Center Street Dental routinely invites local artists to



Painting by local artist Colleen Rioux

display their work as part of their "Artist of the Month" program. The works on display are also available for purchase.

Under the direc-

tion of well-known artist and teacher Mercedes Gastonguay, Rioux has learned techniques required to work with oils, pen and ink, pastels, sepiapencil, charcoal, and watercolor. In addition to painting, she is also passionate about photography. Her art often reflects the beauty of the natural world. Her most recent project, a series of "Family, Wedding, or Anniversary Thumbprint Tree" oil paintings, have been a big hit with brides and families.

See **CSD**, page 4

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Local attorneys speak at MSMA Conference



Bryan M. Dench

Three attorneys from Skelton Taintor & Abbott spoke at the 43rd annual Fall Conference of the Maine School Management Association recently at the Augusta Civic Center. The theme of the conference was “Maine Public Schools: The Gold Standard.” Attorneys Bryan M. Dench, Rebecca S. Webber and



Rebecca S. Webber

Theodore Small addressed legal issues of importance in today’s education landscape. Bryan Dench, chairman of Skelton Taintor and Abbott’s board of directors, led the clinic session “How to Work with Your School Board Lawyer.” Dench, whose diverse practice areas include schools and higher education, focused



Theodore Small

on helping boards and administrators make the best and most cost effective use of legal services. Rebecca Webber, a respected attorney in the field of employment law, civil rights and compliance, conducted the session “Reducing the Risk of Discrimination Claims with See **MSMA**, page 4

First Universalist welcomes new members



Here (l. to r., from front) are new members Valerie Davis, John Cavanaugh and Merry Carver, with Rev. Dr. Jodi Hayashida, Anne Kinney, and Membership Committee chair Peggy Cox.

The First Universalist Church of Auburn recently welcomed three new members. They are Valerie Davis and John Cavanaugh of New Gloucester and Merry Carver of

Livermore Falls.

In their new member session, the group learned about the history of Unitarian Universalism, as well as opportunities to minister within the church. Such

sessions are offered several times per year by the church’s Membership Committee. For more information, call 783-0461 or visit www.auburnuu.org.

Lisbon FCU supports Ending Hunger Walking Tour

The Maine Credit Union League’s 15th annual Ending Hunger Walking Tour began on Friday, October 20 at Maine State Credit Union in Augusta and will conclude with a visit to Bangor FCU on Monday, November 21.

Each fall, Brenda Davis, Executive Director of the BBC Opportunity Center in Old Town, partners with Maine’s credit unions to walk 20 to 30 miles per day to raise funds to end hunger in Maine. This year, she will visit a record 97 credit unions located in 90 different com-



Lisbon Community Federal Credit Union CEO George Roy presents donation checks to Brenda Davis during her visit as part of the Ending Hunger Walking Tour.

Owner cuts ribbon at Caribbean Life Grocery & Gift Shop



Helping owner Sophia Hewitt-Bailey (w. scissors) celebrate the store’s grand opening are (from l.) Matt Leonard, Karen Staples, Karleen Andrews, Everton Bailey, Johnneisha Williams, Jeff Bailey, Bill Card, Bob McDonald and Zakk Maher.

Community members gathered to celebrate at 940 Lisbon Street recently as owner Sophia Hewitt-Bailey, flanked by friends, family and representatives of the local business community, cut the ceremonial ribbon at Caribbean Life Grocery & Gift Shop.

The new store focuses on specialty foods representing the rich and varying tastes found around the island region that includes Jamaica, Puerto Rico, Trinidad, the Bahamas and

the Dominican Republic. Located on outer Lisbon Street, the shop offers an array of jerk sauces and marinades, fresh produce, including breadfruit and yellow yams, and specialty coffee.

Hewitt-Bailey is a graduate of New Ventures Maine’s Venturing Forth, a business development series taught by Karleen Andrews at the USM campus in Lewiston. After completing her business plan, Hewitt-Bailey worked with Zakk Maher of

Community Concepts Finance Corporation to secure the funding needed to put her plan into action.

Speakers at the event included Lewiston Mayor Bob McDonald, Karen Staples from Congressman Bruce Poliquin’s Office, Karleen Andrews from New Ventures Maine, Economic Development Specialist Bill Card from the U.S. Small Business Administration and LA Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce CEO Matt Leonard.

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Governor's Address: What's Next for the Referendum Questions

We have a lot of work to do in the upcoming Legislative session. If we are going to make progress, there must be a willingness to work together.

Dear Maine Taxpayer,

One of the first tasks the Legislature must deal with involves the citizen's referendums. Citizen initiatives certainly have a place in a democracy, but I strongly believe the process needs better checks and balances.

Several of the ballot questions put out to voters have serious, unintended consequences for the people of Maine. Some questions are clearly unconstitutional, one will chase successful people out of Maine and another will drive the elderly deeper into poverty.

Legalizing marijuana goes against federal law, and the question was so poorly drafted it will require millions of dollars and several legislative fixes before it can be implemented.

The Legislature needs to determine how to best implement these initiatives so they respect the will of the people, but don't harm our elderly or destroy Maine's economy. Furthermore, we may have to endure lengthy recounts in the weeks ahead on some of the referendum questions.

I will be submitting



Governor Paul R. LePage

a bill to create checks and balances on the citizen's referendum process. Right now, to get a referendum question on the ballot, about 61-thousand signatures are required. The Maine Constitution states that 10 percent of the total votes cast for governor in the most recent election must be collected.

The problem is that all the signatures can come easily from one part of the state—and it's usually Portland and Southern Maine.

I will offer a resolution proposing an amendment to the Maine Constitution that would require signatures to be gathered proportionately from each county in Maine. Our state is large and diverse, and we should have fair representation across our state. Residents in Southern Maine should not be able to control the citizen initiative process.

The biennial budget is a massive piece of legislation that our staff and administration have been working on for months. In it, there will be measures to reduce taxes, lower energy costs, help students reduce their debt burden and bring more accountability to government.

We won't agree on everything, but we should always put Mainers first. If the citizens disagree with the decisions made in Augusta, they have the right to speak at the ballot box. However, we must make sure out-of-state money pouring into one part of the state does not control our desired way of life. Citizens from every part of Maine should have a fair and equal voice in a process that could have a serious impact on their way of life.

Thank You,
Paul R. LePage
Governor

Maine Senate Republicans choose leadership

Newly elected Republican state senators have unanimously chosen Senator Michael Thibodeau (R-Waldo) to serve as Senate President for the 128th Maine Legislature. Following the recent election, Republicans will once again hold the majority in the Maine Senate by an 18-17 margin.

The entire Maine Senate will formally vote for senate president on Swearing-In Day, which is scheduled for December 7. It will mark the first time a Republican has served as senate president for consecutive terms since 1980.

Republicans also chose Senator Garrett Mason (R-Androscoggin) to serve again as senate majority leader and Senator Andre Cushing (R-Penobscot) as assistant majority leader. It will be the first time a Republican has served as senate majority leader for back-to-back terms since 1970.



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Soup, Chili & Chowder Challenge raises \$2K for AHCH



Rick Andrew's entry was one of twenty different offerings enjoyed at the third annual Soup, Chili & Chowder Challenge at Baxter Brewing Company.

Crisp fall weather provided a seasonal backdrop for the third annual Soup, Chili & Chowder Challenge, which took place recently at Baxter Brewing Company in Lewiston. More than 200 people sampled the offerings of 20 different cooks, voted for their favorites and enjoyed discounts on pints of beer, courtesy of Baxter Brewing. The event raised approximately \$2,100 to benefit patient care at Androscoggin Home Care & Hospice.

"Once again, members

of the AHCH family, their friends and the community came out to support a good cause," said Kenneth Albert, President and CEO of AHCH, who also served up his tasty Butternut Squash Soup. "The soups, chowders and chilis were amazing, and I suspect that it was difficult for people to decide which one was the best."

Serving as judges were Kevin Simoneau of the Fortin Group, Kelly Goodwin of Team AGF, Sue Ray of TD Bank, and Dan Campbell, chair of the Hospice House 5K and Remembrance Walk. They chose Theresa Stocklas' Four Bean Soup as their favorite. The People's Choice Award was a close competition, with Mary Lou Zahn's Seafood Chowder selected as the top choice. Winners received a prize basket, along with coveted bragging rights for the year.

The Challenge was organized by the Dream Team, one of several groups that raises money during the year and makes its final donation at AHCH's annual Hospice House 5K and Remembrance Walks, which will take place and on May 21, 2017 in Auburn and May 7, 2017 in Farmington.

A limited number of 2016 Soup, Chili and Chowder Challenge Cookbooks are still available for \$5. Please make checks payable to AHCH and send to Hospice House, 236 Stetson Road, Auburn, ME 04210.

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To receive a subscription, send name, address and payment of \$100 for 52 weeks or \$195 for 104 weeks to Twin City Times, 33 Dunn St., Auburn, ME 04210

Only Steps Forward

Mixed messages about how L-A can work together

By Jonathan P. LaBonté
MAYOR OF AUBURN

With the discussion of the merger of the cities of Auburn and Lewiston likely to be a major—and heated—topic in early 2017, as well as the recent news of the resignation of the president of the Lewiston-Auburn Economic Growth Council, messages continue to be mixed about how much the cities do and should work together.

Unfortunately, you only tend to read about the interactions of the two cities when there is disagreement. Or, in the case of the merger, there are some strong opinions on both the side of merging and opposing the merger.

With that said, it seems prudent to share some ways

the two cities, partners, are working together to advance economic opportunity and improved quality of life here in Maine's largest Twin Cities.

On the housing front, both cities have worked together for years to establish a joint program for the creation of affordable housing, housing rehabilitation and lead paint remediation. One specific program, known as the HOME Program, which is administrated by the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development, would not be available to either city individually. It was by creating a joint effort that the cities were able to access additional resources to help with local housing.

While it may not be self-evident, the planning process for Auburn's 21st-



Mayor Jonathan P. LaBonté

century Edward Little High School is certain to involve not only Lewiston, but also other neighboring towns and their high schools. As the career and technical education (CTE) needs of local businesses change, along with the changing career interests of students in the region, opportunities can present themselves to expand or add to the existing

offerings at the Lewiston Regional Technical Center. The construction of modern facilities at ELHS is the best time to leverage that state investment into facilities to meet regional workforce needs.

As the two cities seek to improve quality of life to attract more residents and spur new business development, Auburn and Lewiston both invested matching funds in a grant application for LA Arts into a program known as Creative Communities = Economic Development. The outcome of that process is now a detailed, multi-year strategy for how both cities, and more than a dozen partners, can invest in infrastructure and services to enhance economic growth.

For Auburn, this in-

cludes projects like the St. Louis Bells finding a permanent home, led by a neighborhood process, and engaging with Community Little Theater for the development of the Great Falls Arts Center into a place for people to work and perhaps live.

And for our shared riverfront, jointly adopted plans for recreational trails on land and water set us on a course to expand the greenway system and make downtown and extended corridors a destination for not just Maine, but also New England. The upcoming efforts by Lewiston for acquisition of the canals, and Auburn's efforts on the Little Androscoggin, could likely benefit from greater coordination, but the momentum of past efforts is what has positioned the

region to pursue these adjacent recreation development projects.

Housing, workforce, education, arts, culture and recreation are foundations on which economic growth is happening in places just like Lewiston-Auburn. And without the two cities becoming one, and in many ways without needing to subsidizing a third party to do the same, communication, coordination and collaboration is happening.

Auburn and Lewiston could and should seek to improve how we implement these shared efforts, but we also must consider which other cities or towns could partner with us to increase the probability of success for our citizens and the businesses based here.

Hunger

Continued from page 2

munities. By the time she finishes the tour, she will have covered more than 1,600 miles, approximately 800 of that on foot. Funds presented to Davis at each credit union go to a food pantry in the local community.

MSMA

Continued from page 2

that Legal/HR State of Mind." She gave attendees practical guidance on how to minimize the risk of claims while also protecting individual rights.

Theodore Small, whose practice areas in-



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clude business law, business litigation, construction law, and municipal law, addressed the topic "Construction Issues for Maine School Projects." This session included a comparison of construction delivery methods, specifically Construction Management vs. Design-Bid-Build.

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Trains

Continued from page 1

scenes reproduced in the Lower Lewiston section of the layout, including Bates Mill #5. Older children may sign up to be "Guest Engineers" and operate one of the HO trains.

Train-related items available for purchase in the club's store will include complete train sets, locomotives and rolling stock in a variety of scales, and railroad hats, whistles, t-shirts, and books. "Train Time" videos, produced by the Great Falls Model Railroad Club and seen on Time Warner Cable Channel 9 and many other local cable channels, will be shown continuously each

day and will also be available for purchase.

Children will enjoy decorating and eating gingerbread men and girls, creating Christmas ornaments to take home, and playing the special railroad games designed by the club. Younger children will have fun with the Brio set and other age-appropriate trains in the children's play area. While watching over these activities, parents can enjoy light refreshments at conveniently located tables and chairs in the craft area.

Winning raffle tickets for the train sets under the trees and for a complete HO layout with trains, buildings and scenery details will be drawn on the last day of the event.

are Saturday, November 19, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Sunday, November 20, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Friday, November 25, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; and Saturday, November 26, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Admission is \$3 for adults, free of charge for children ages 12 and under. Tickets to be an HO Guest Engineer, decorate cookies and ornaments, and play games with prizes are \$1 apiece or 7 for \$5. For more details, as well as photos of the event in previous years, see www.greatfallsmodelrrclub.org.

CSD

Continued from page 1

Rioux is a lifelong resident of the Lewiston-Auburn area and currently lives with her husband, Bruce, in New Auburn. She is employed by Cross Insurance in Lewiston.

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Enough is Enough

Therapy dogs, coloring books and the emperor’s new clothes

By Robert E. Macdonald
MAYOR OF LEWISTON

When Castro seized Cuba, transforming a prosperous island nation into a poverty-stricken, communist anti-paradise, Alabama’s Democratic Governor George Wallace would remind the press that while the U.S. government failed to realize Castro was a communist, “every cab driver in Alabama knew.”

Well, the nation’s hard-working, middle class that politicians, the press and the self-proclaimed nobility of Hollywood randomly dismissed as a “basket of deplorables” rose up in record numbers and redirected our country onto a road of old-fashioned normalcy.

The “peace-loving” Left has been exposed. Like the story of the emperor’s new clothes, they now stand naked before us. Evidently, love and peace only applies when the population is in

lockstep with their leftist beliefs. When President Obama was elected twice, people on the Right accepted the results. There were no protests or rioting. No damage amounting to millions of dollars was inflicted on small businesses, whose only fault was their owners’ trying to make a living for their families.

Those of us on the Right, no matter how distasteful we found the results of the last two presidential elections, accepted them. We did not make any attempts to change a document we hold very dear: the U.S. Constitution.

Compare this to former U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder. As I write, he is now attempting to change our Constitution by eliminating the Electoral College, giving progressives the chance to tinker with and fundamentally change a government structure that has sustained us and made



Mayor Bob Macdonald

us a country that all the world envies. This from a man who blatantly failed to do his constitutional duties of enforcing all U.S. laws, not the just the ones he liked.

A crying Hillary Clinton blames her loss on FBI Director James Comey, her staff and others, refusing to put the blame where it belongs: squarely on herself for disregarding rules expected to be followed by everyone else. It’s time to go back

to giving out trophies to winners, not just those who show up. This inculcated liberal policy is resulting in a surge of mental health issues for little Johnnies and Janes on our college campuses. They are unable to cope with being on the losing side, which has resulted in temper tantrums, noisy protests and riots. This has given an opportunity for rioters to supplement their income by looting area businesses.

These future (God forbid) leaders’ exposure to our current election has caused such trauma that classes and exams have been cancelled. The University of Kansas has made therapy dogs available to their stressed-out students. The University of Michigan has offered Play-Doh and coloring books to settle students down.

Cornell University held a “cry in,” handing out tissues and hot chocolate.

Tufts University offered craft sessions. If my kid went to a \$60,000-a-year school, I would be re-evaluating my financial options.

Emily Cain’s bid to defeat Second District U.S. Representative Bruce Poliquin met with the same margin of defeat as their last faceoff. After taking off the last two years to campaign, you would think she could come up with more substantive issues facing the district. Instead she campaigned on whether Poliquin supported Trump, her weight and her family from being away.

Finally, there is justice. Senator John Patrick, D-Rumford, lost his election and now goes from the public sector back to manual labor in the dreaded private sector. In the eleventh hour prior to last week’s election, Patrick and trust-funder Democratic Senator Justin Alford brought charges of corruption against Republican Senators Ron Collins

and Andre Cushing. Collins was acquitted; Cushing’s complaint is still being reviewed. Oh yes, both won re-election.

Lastly, this column mourns the passing of Gene Tardiff. Gene was a local political icon, activist and a great friend to those who knew him. Over the last several decades, many who have occupied Lewiston’s Mayor’s Office, held legislative seats in Augusta, the Lewiston City Council and the School Committee owed a large part of their success to Gene.

Gene was my campaign manager. But most of all, he was a loyal friend.

This past Election Day, I know Gene took time out from his Heavenly duties, looked down and was pleased at the election results. He then resumed organizing Catholic souls for Al Smith’s next run for office.

Gino, rest in peace.

Carpentier appointed vicar for priests

Bishop Robert P. Deeley has appointed Fr. Normand E. Carpentier as the new vicar for priests for the Diocese of Portland. Carpentier succeeds Fr. Paul A. Plante, who died on June 30. On behalf of the bishop, the vicar for priests communicates with priests around the diocese to express concern for their emotional, physical, and spiritual well-being. The vicar for priests regularly meets with the bishop to share the joys and concerns of the priests.



Fr. Normand E. Carpentier

Born in Quantico, Virginia, Fr. Carpentier attended schools in Lewiston,

Auburn, and Sherbrooke, Quebec, before completing his final preparation for the priesthood at St. Mary’s Seminary and University’s School of Theology, in Baltimore, Maryland, where he earned a master’s degree in divinity. He was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Edward C. O’Leary on May 29, 1971, at St. Louis Parish in Auburn.

Fr. Carpentier’s first assignment was as associate pastor at Holy Rosary Parish in Caribou. In May of 1972,

he was appointed associate pastor at St. Thomas Aquinas Parish in Madawaska, where he would serve until January 1977, when he was named associate pastor at St. Ignatius Parish in Sanford. In November of 1978, he was appointed associate pastor of Holy Family Parish in Lewiston. In June of 1981, he was named pastor of St. James Parish in Woodland.

Two years later, Fr. Carpentier was elected by his brother priests to serve as a representative on the

Diocesan Priests’ Senate. In September of 1983, he was appointed pastor for collaborative ministry at Sacred Heart Parish in Portland. In December of 1984, he was named diocesan coordinator of the institutional chaplaincy program, coordinating chaplains at several hospitals around Maine. In July of 1987, he was appointed pastor of St. John the Baptist Parish in Winslow. In 1993, he served as temporary parochial vicar at Holy Cross

Parish in Lewiston, before being named pastor of St. Margaret Parish in Old Orchard Beach. He would serve the parishioners at St. Margaret for ten years before being appointed pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Windham in 2003.

In July of 2009, Fr. Carpentier was named parochial vicar at All Saints Parish in Brunswick, where he served until he retired from active ministry on July 1, 2015.

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Chamber Toy and Gift Drive

After successful efforts in recent years, the L-A Metro Chamber of Commerce is working to brighten the holidays for local families in need. Once again, their goal is to donate as many gifts as they have members. All donations will be distributed by representatives of Androscoggin County Head Start, Advocates for Children, Tri-County Mental Health Services, and Safe Voices to local families in need within our community.

To team up with the chamber in this effort, volunteer your business or organization to be a “bus stop” and then set about collecting gifts. The chamber will list participating businesses and organizations on its website so citizens can visit and donate. To sign up, contact Deborah Carroll at 783-2249 or Deborah@LAMetroChamber.com.

Members of the community are invited to donate new toys and clothing appropriate for youths ages 0 to 18 at the following locations: the L-A Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, 415 Lisbon Street in Lewiston, until December 15; the Chamber Breakfast at the Ramada Inn of Lewiston on Thursday, December 8; the Chamber’s Business After Hours at Lost Valley on Thursday, December 15; or at a participating “bus stop,” to be listed on the chamber’s website, until December 15. To view the list of “bus stop” locations, see www.LAMetroChamber.com.

Hospice House video tour

Those interested in visiting Androscoggin Home Care & Hospice’s Hospice House on Stetson Road in Auburn can now do so from the comfort of their own home or anywhere there is a computer and internet connection. A seven-minute video tour of the Hospice House and its grounds is now available online.

Produced by Ian Clough, the video features a narrated tour of the facility, as well the creative use of drone technology for some stunning exterior footage. To take the tour, click on “Our Services” at <http://www.ahch.org>.

Send all items for **What’s Going On** to **Editor@TwinCityTimes.com**.

Deadline is **Friday by five**.

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Sportsmen's Club hosts
Thanksgiving Dinner

The Litchfield Sportsmen's Club will host its seventh annual Thanksgiving Dinner on Thursday, November 24 at 1 p.m. There will be no charge for the meal, which will include turkey, potatoes, gravy and beverages provided by the club, and side dishes and desserts contributed by those attending. All attendees are asked to bring a side dish or dessert, if at all possible. Doors will open at 11:30 a.m.

Everyone is welcome. Those attending in the past have included singles, those who don't have family in the area, and entire families who

don't have enough room in their home. There is no need to RSVP and there is no sign up for food, just show up with your favorite Thanksgiving dish or dessert. There will be a music jam after dinner, so musicians are asked to bring their voices and instruments. Those who don't sing may sit back, enjoy the music and have another piece of pie.

Litchfield Sportsmen's Club is located at 2261 Hallowell Road in Litchfield. The club is wheelchair accessible and has plenty of free parking. For more information, call Connie 536-9647 or Gary at 377-8035.

AHCH seeks volunteers

Androscoggin Home Care & Hospice is seeking volunteers who can commit to at least two hours per week for the next year to help with a variety of important tasks that impact the quality of life for its patients and support the agency's work.

Volunteer duties include transporting patients to medical appointments, picking up medications or groceries, assisting with meal preparation at the Hospice House, welcoming visitors to the Hospice House, making phone calls to home care patients and assorted office tasks like filing, word processing and data entry. Volunteer opportunities are available across the agency's service area, which includes all of Androscoggin, Franklin and Oxford Counties, Northern Cumberland County and parts of Kennebec, Sagadahoc and Somerset Counties.

"We hear every day about the difference that volunteers make in the lives of our patients, their families and our staff, but we also hear about the positive impact this work has on those who choose to volunteer for our agency," said Kristen McEvoy, Manager of Volunteer Resources. "We are fortunate to have many skilled and dedicated volunteers, but we are always

in need of more volunteers to keep pace with the growing demands."

AHCH provides training, a background check and TB testing at no cost to volunteers. In addition, mileage reimbursement is available for some services. If interested in any of the above-mentioned tasks, please call 795-9580 or 1-800-482-7412, extension 1280, to schedule a brief phone conversation to discuss your interests further. If it looks like this opportunity is a good fit, AHCH will invite you to attend volunteer training. There is still space available in the next training session scheduled for Wednesday, November 30.

Over the past 50 years, Androscoggin Home Care & Hospice has grown to become one of Maine's most respected home health and hospice care agencies. To learn more about AHCH, see www.ahch.org.

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What's Going On

Legion Post 135 issues
Blue Star Service Banners



Receiving Blue Star Service Banners in honor of serving family members were (l. to r. from front) Glen and Mary Ellen Allen of Sabattus, Julie Hobson of Monmouth, Dottie Bernier of Sabattus, Tonya Ross of Sabattus, Kaitlyn Ouellette of Sabattus, Jane Hinkley of Wales, Joshua and Jeff Bernier of Sabattus, Dan Pruitt of Sabattus, Don Caron of Sabattus, Elizabeth Ouellette of Harpswell, Addy Ouellette of Sabattus, and Carl Hinkley of Wales.

A Blue Star Banner Ceremony was held recently at the American Legion Harry J. Conway Post 135 in Sabattus. The Blue Star Banner is presented to families with members serving in the United States Military. Nine families from the local area received banners, along with American Legion Certificates of Recognition, in honor of their serving family member.

The Blue Star Service Banner was designed and patented in 1917 by World War I Army Capt. Robert L. Queissner of the 5th Ohio Infantry, who had two sons serving on the front line. It quickly became the unoffi-

cial symbol of a child in the service.

Today, Blue Star Service Banners are displayed by families who have a loved one serving in the armed forces, including the National Guard and Reserves of all military departments. The banner displayed in the front window of a home shows a family's pride in their loved one serving in the

Spaghetti Supper
for Larry Gordon

Friends and supporters will present a Spaghetti Supper for Larry Gordon on Saturday, November 19 from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Edward Little High School cafeteria. Proceeds will help offset expenses incurred by the longtime ELHS teacher and coach in his fight against cancer, which was recently diagnosed and entails frequent trips to Boston for ongoing care.

Gordon has served as the varsity hockey coach at ELHS, as past President of the Auburn Suburban Lit-

tle League, and as a board member for youth hockey. He currently coaches eighth grade baseball at Auburn Middle School, is a member of the EL Grandstand Club, and is involved in community events, such as Relay for Life.

The cost of the supper will be \$8 for adults, \$5 for children under 12, free for children under 5, or \$20 for a family of four. Tickets may be purchased at the door or in advance at the high school's main office.

military and reminds others that preserving America's freedom demands great sacrifice. The banner can be displayed by businesses and organizations as well.

The blue star represents one family member serving in the armed forces. A banner can have up to five stars, signifying that five members of that family are currently in military uniform on active duty. If the individual symbolized is killed or dies while serving,

the star representing that individual will have superimposed upon it a gold star of smaller size, so that the blue forms a border.

Blue Star Mothers and Gold Star Mothers organizations were established during World War II and remain active today. As the "War on Terrorism" continues, the Blue Star Service Banner tradition reminds us all that this new war touches every neighborhood across the land.

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What's Going On

Staffer honored at Work Opportunities Unlimited



Award recipient Aaron Stone (c.), with Work Opportunities Unlimited founder Joe Leddy (l.) and Auburn Office Director Michael Murtha

Work Opportunities Unlimited has presented its Roger LaChapelle Award to Aaron Stone of Auburn. Stone was selected for the honor in recognition of his excellence in creating quality job placements for agency clients, exemplifying how the world of work changes people's lives. Founded upon the

principle that all people can work, Work Opportunities Unlimited is a community-based employment service agency that specializes in placing those with disabilities or who experience other barriers to employment in competitive work environments. As a Career Resource Specialist, Stone spends his days working to break down barriers and open doors of opportunity for people with disabilities. He helps prepare clients for the workplace and supports them while on the job. "Aaron made 56 placements last year" says Mike Murtha, Director of Work Opportunities in Auburn. "That's an incredible body of work. His success is centered on his commitment to the people he serves; he makes every client feel that they are the most important person in the world."

"Aaron could probably make 300 placements a year, if it was just about the numbers," Murtha continued. "But it's not. His approach is personalized. He figures out the goals and aspirations of each client and then goes through exhaustive efforts to make a good match, to make work happen for the individual."

Stone's efforts have included placing a young man who is so painfully shy and withdrawn that

he had never held a job as a now full-time welder at Bath Iron Works, where "he is comfortable behind the mask," to finding a job for a young Somali refugee, now American citizen, who is deaf.

"I believe that all people can work and that work is a human right," said Stone. "Everyone should be able to access competitive employment. If people are asking for help to make that happen, they should get the help they deserve, and they should get my best. It's as simple as that."

"Employers are critical to our mission of community-based employment," says Murtha. "Aaron does an incredible job of fostering reciprocal relationships and, as a result, businesses love to help him. Consequently, they seek us out as a hiring resource in the Lewiston-Auburn area and beyond. Aaron does every-

thing so well, and he's a darn nice guy. This award couldn't go to a more deserving person."

With operations throughout the eastern United States, Work Opportunities Unlimited is a community-based employment service provider specializing in placing job seekers who experience barriers to employment. The company serves thousands of adults and students annually. In addition to private citizens, WOU serves individuals referred by school districts, vocational rehabilitation programs, development disability agencies, the Departments of Mental Health, Transitional Assistance, and Children and Families, and the U.S. Social Security Administration through its Ticket to Work program.

For more information, see www.workopportunities.net.

YMCA to honor 2016 Hall of Fame inductees

At its annual meeting on December 8, the YMCA of Central Maine will induct four new members into its Hall of Fame, now in its second year. They are Stephen B. Austin, Muriel Bureau, James Lawler and Pennell Woodard.

Stephen B. Austin is a former President of the YMCA Board of Directors, where he played a central role in establishing the YMCA endowment. In the 1980s, he shepherded the Y through a critical leadership transition, serving as mentor to a young executive director who is also being recognized this year, James Lawler.

Muriel Bureau has been a faithful YMCA volunteer for nearly 30 years. To this day, she arrives every Monday through Friday at 4:30 a.m. to open the Y and greet its most die-hard members. For thousands of people, Bureau is the face of the Y.

James Lawler began his more than 30 years of service to the Y in 1980 as Sports Director. He assumed the role of executive director in 1988 and oversaw the Y's evolution into the organization it is today. Widely recognized for his fiscal responsibility, his team is credited with strengthening the Y's endowment, introducing fitness and wellness programming, and starting early childhood and school-age curricula.

Pennell Woodard is a lifelong member of the YMCA and a tireless advocate for youth. He established the historic Biddy Basketball program, served as President of the Board of Directors and founded the YMCA NAPA Charity Golf Tournament. Since 2010, the tournament has raised more than \$250,000 for youth scholarships. Woodard was honored at this year's tournament on September 15 at Martindale Country Club.

"The Hall of Fame was established to remember the contributions of the many men and women who have carried the Y's torch since 1868," said CEO Steve Wallace. "This year's inductees represent over 150 years of combined service to Lewiston-Auburn youth and families. They have set the bar high for the Y's next 100 years."

"Our priority was finding people who had made extraordinary and tangible contributions to the YMCA," said 2016 Hall of Fame selection committee chair Elizabeth Shea. "Without a doubt, all four honorees represent the best of Y values, and each has done so in their own way."

The YMCA Hall of Fame was established in 2015. The inaugural class of honorees included Col. James Bouchles, Pauline Bourgoin, Richard Kendall and Malcolm Philbrook.

This year's Hall of Fame Celebration and Annual Meeting will take place on Thursday, December 8, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Martindale Country Club. The event is free and open to the public. Donations in honor of the 2016 Hall of Fame class are welcome.

Due to limited space, those attending are asked to register by November 23. To register, contact Victoria Stanton, Director of Marketing & Advancement, at 795-4095 or vstanton@alymca.org. Online registration is also available at www.alymca.org.



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What's Going On

New Ventures offers “Building Confidence” class

Has long-term unemployment or job searching got you down? Do you feel your confidence lagging? If so, New Ventures Maine invites you to attend its free, three-week class called “Building Confidence.” Meeting Wednesdays, November 30 through November 14, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at USM’s Lewiston-Auburn College, the

class will help participants assess their self-confidence and provide some concrete tools to keep confidence strong throughout a job search. For more information or to register, call Chris Davis at 753-6531. New Ventures Maine is a statewide non-profit organization committed to improving the economic lives of Maine men, women

and their families. The organization works with individuals “where they are” to provide the support, guidance, and tools needed to take the next steps toward a more promising future, including individual assistance and group training in the areas of building careers, starting and growing businesses, planning for financial security, and becoming community leaders. For more information, see www.newventuremaine.org.

Workshop tackles financial, legal issues for farmers

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a four-part workshop series focused on financial and legal issues for current and potential farmers. The first session will meet on Wednesday, November 30 at Coastal Enterprises Inc., 30 Federal Street in Brunswick. The remaining sessions will meet on December 7 and January

4 at the UMaine Regional Learning Center, 75 Clearwater Drive in Falmouth, and on December 14 at Shaw Brothers Construction, 341 Mosher Road in Gorham. All sessions will take place from 1 to 5 p.m. Topics will include farm transition, ownership and business planning, health and farm insurance, tax management, permits,

labor law and pesticide regulations. Presenters will include agricultural service providers who specialize in financial, legal, regulatory and risk management topics. The cost is \$10 per session, or \$30 for all four. To request a disability accommodation, call Lynne Hazelton at 781-6099. For more information or to register, see extension.umaine.edu/Cumberland.

7 Ways to Include Everyone In the Holiday Cheer

Holidays bring get-togethers filled with music, food and conversation. However, for those who experience hearing loss, the season often takes on a whole different sound. Those with hearing loss often end up feeling isolated from the festivities, but there are ways you can make sure they feel comfortable joining the fun. A survey* by Rayovac, which was conducted online by Harris Poll, found that 56 percent of Americans say talking and catching up with family members is their favorite part of family gatherings, but nearly one out of every five (19 percent) say they have experienced difficulty communicating with someone who is hard of hearing.

If you’ll be escorting a family member with hearing loss to a holiday event, be sure their hearing devices are in good operating condition with batteries that are able to power all of the device’s features, like Rayovac. The hearing aid battery company has also introduced the Gift of Hearing this holiday season, a campaign in which a portion of proceeds from its battery sales benefit the Starkey Hearing Foundation.

This holiday season, make the most of the opportunity to share quality conversations with loved ones who have trouble hearing by following these simple tips from Shari Eberts of livingwithhearingloss.com:

- * Get their attention before speaking by saying their name or tapping them on the shoulder.

- * Give some context as to the topic of the conversation to help them infer.
 - * Make sure they can see your lips. Stand in a well-lit area and be sure you are facing them directly, with your hand away from your face while talking.
 - * Know that background noise can provide difficult distractions. If you’re hoping for more than a passing greeting, find a quiet place where you can visit comfortably.
 - * Enunciate as you talk, but avoid the temptation to speak overly slowly. Instead, speak at a moderate but steady rate.
 - * Be patient and be prepared to repeat or rephrase your comments.
 - * Remember that if you are feeling frustrated, your partner in conversation may be, too. Keep your sense of humor so you can enjoy the holiday together.
- Learn more about The Gift of Hearing campaign, and find hearing aid batteries designed with the latest technology in mind, at Rayovac.com.

*All References: This survey was conducted online within the United States by Harris Poll on behalf of Rayovac from Aug. 26-30, 2016 among 2,025 U.S. adults ages 18 and older. This online survey is not based on a probability sample and therefore no estimate of theoretical sampling error can be calculated. For complete survey methodology, including weighting variables, contact kflehmer@lsb.com. (Family Features)

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TWIN CITY NIGHTS

Weekly Arts & Entertainment

Yuletide Harp Concert at St. Michael's Church



Folk duo Castlebay and members of the Maine Harp Circle will present a program of Celtic holiday music on Sunday, November 27.

St. Michael's Church of Auburn will be filled with the sparkling sounds of Celtic holiday music when folk duo Castlebay, featuring Celtic harpist and vocalist Julia Lane, and members of the Maine Harp Circle present a Yuletide Harp Concert on Sunday, November 27 at 3 p.m.

The sounds of the Irish flute, Celtic harp, fiddle and guitar will mingle to inspire revelry and wonder as the performers play joyous and

mysterious seasonal songs and tunes from Ireland, Scotland and the British Isles, as well as more familiar holiday favorites.

Castlebay has performed their Celtic-inspired folk music at arts centers, festivals, museums, churches and libraries across the U.S., Canada, the British Isles and Ireland for 25 years. The duo, who conduct archival research and maintain an exchange with musicians and

folklorists worldwide, includes story and myth in their personable presentations. They have provided soundtracks for numerous videos and documentaries and have released 27 recordings.

The Maine Harp Circle is a group of local Celtic harp enthusiasts led by Melanie Lee. The Celtic harp, ancestor of the orchestral harp, is one of the most venerable instruments of the British Isles. It has been used as a vehicle for musical expression for over a thousand years. Celtic harps were used by bards and minstrels from at least the 4th to the

The Gendron Franco Center will present one of Maine's most unique and magical experiences with the eighth offering of its Medieval Feast on Friday and Saturday, November 18 and 19, beginning at 6 p.m. Designed to provide unique, discretionary family entertainment, the event will recreate the traditional medieval gatherings in which royalty invited esteemed guests to a feast to watch knights compete on horseback - excluding the horses, of course.

Guests are encouraged to arrive by 5:30 p.m., when squires will open the castle "gates" and all will descend to the Great Hall, where they will join the king, queen, knights, minstrels, friars and wenches for an evening of magic, pageantry, and entertainment. The robust five-course feast -

early 18th century.

Admission for adults will be by a \$10 donation at the door; children will enter free of charge. The church is located at 78 Pleasant Street in Auburn. For more information, call 529-5438 or email castlebay@castlebay.net.

Franco Center hosts Medieval Feast



By decree of the king, the esteemed guests will eat their robust, five-course meal without utensils.

to be eaten, by decree of the king, without utensils - will include a creamy soup with parsley, a beef turnover, romaine lettuce with dipping sauce, "rustic" chicken breast, and a medieval surprise for dessert. Alcoholic beverages will be available at the king's cash tavern throughout the evening.

For the enjoyment of the guests, the Medieval Players will produce an original script entitled "Are You Serious? The Tale of Princess Butter-scotch," a comedic romp that recounts the misadventures of several characters from ancient times, complete with swords, arrows, pitchforks, and a wedding. The players will include Stan Spilecki as the king, Jenn McClure-Groover as the queen, Neal James as the

court musician, and Sean Wallace as the host. The costume designers for the production are Patti Gray and Debbie Mansur.

Once the Feast ends, guests will be welcome to remain for more social conversation and drink. Those who arrive in medieval fashion (optional, but strongly encouraged) may participate in a prize contest, to be judged by the King and Queen, and will receive discounts of a few farthings on their grog.

Tickets are \$40, which includes the cost of dinner, the show and parking at the site. Located at the corner of Cedar and Oxford Streets in Lewiston, the center is wheelchair accessible and has special parking available. To buy tickets, call 689-2000 or see www.francocenter.org.

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French Sing-Along



Leading the October French-Language Sing-Along at Lewiston-Auburn College are (l. to r.) Les Troubadours singing group members Gail Lawrence, Mary LeClerc, Jeannine Doucette, Jacynthe Jacques, Jeannette Gregoire, Doris Bonneau, Madeleine LeBlanc, and Aliette Couturier. The next Sing-Along will take place on Friday, November 18 at 1:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome and songbooks will be provided. 576-4109.

“Give Thanks” concert at Court St. Baptist Church

Phil House and vocalist Kathy Haley will help kick off the holiday season with a “Give Thanks” concert at Court Street Baptist Church on Sunday, November 20 at 6 p.m. The church is located at 129 Court Street in Auburn.

House is the organist at the First Universalist Church in Auburn. He has performed in venues as far away as Nashville TN and Vienna, Austria. Many CDs have recorded his piano and organ music. He is an administrator for the John F. Murphy Homes.

Haley is Minister of Music at Court Street Baptist Church and a piano accompanist for the Edward Little High School music program. She has been a church organist and pianist for many years. As a vocalist, she was a lead singer with the top-40 dance band “Good and Plenty.”

House and Haley have performed this concert annually for about twelve years. Performing as a duo, they have de-

lighted audiences throughout Central Maine at such venues as Sawyer Memorial in Greene and the All Souls Chapel in Poland Spring.

Among the other artists to appear will be Shawna Haley-Bear of Poland, Maine who grew up singing Christian songs. Of her CDs, Larry Bisso says, “She is the consum-

mate professional who captures the very essence of my inspirational messages.” There will also be other special guest performers.

The concert is free, but a love offering will be collected to benefit next summer’s youth mission trip.

For more information, call 784-6661.

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Twin City Nights

UU Gingerbread Fair features baskets, pies and wreaths

First Universalist Church of Auburn will hold its annual Gingerbread Fair on Saturday, November 19, from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event will feature its famous themed gift baskets, homemade pies, and a silent auction of antiques from Orphan Annie’s.

Available for sale will be custom wreaths, hand-made crafts, baked goods, jewelry, gingerbread houses and cookie kits, books and CDs. A luncheon with gingerbread dessert will be served from 11:30 a.m. to



The fair’s Book Room crew includes (l. to r.) Bob Bishop, Nancy Daniels, Anne Kinney, Leslita Williams and Sylvia McLeod.

1 p.m., with Phil House at the piano. Located at 169 Pleasant Street, the church is accessible from the Spring

Street parking lot. For more information, call 783-0461 or visit www.auburnuu.org.

TAM stages “Every Christmas Story Ever Told”

The Theater at Monmouth will usher in the holiday season with a two-weekend run of the hilarious holiday extravaganza “Every Christmas Story Ever Told... (and then some!),” starting with a special Thanksgiving Day performance at 7:30 p.m. All tickets for this performance will be just \$10, and non-perishable food items will be collected for See TAM, page 12



The play opens its two-weekend run with a special Thanksgiving Day performance at 7:30 p.m.

Save Time on Holiday Entertaining

With each holiday season comes joy, laughter and celebrations with family and friends. However, all that revelry takes time. Fortunately, there are ways to keep the planning and preparation for holiday entertaining from infringing on your enjoyment of all the holidays have to offer.

This year, make it easier to minimize your time spent preparing and maximize your time entertaining guests with these simple tips.

Clean efficiently. Get all hands on deck so you aren’t trying to clean the entire house alone. Whether you assign each person a task such as dusting or vacuuming that they do through the entire house, or each person tackles a room from top to bottom, the extra hands will make the worktime shorter. Before your big cleaning day, be sure to take inventory of your cleaning supplies and ensure you have everything you need on hand.

Menu shortcuts. A successful holiday host knows how to simplify meal preparation without sacrificing taste. Idahoan Signature Russets Mashed Potatoes – which can be made in only five minutes – are packaged mashed potatoes worthy of being served during a holiday dinner. With a



Photo courtesy of Getty Images

nice, smooth taste and just a hint of butter and cream, they taste as good as if you peeled, boiled and mashed them yourself.

Prep in advance. Rather than rushing around the morning of the get-together, take care of as much of the party setup as you can the night before. For example, you can set the table, put up decorations and adjust furniture for easier movement and conversation before the big day arrives. Pay attention to the details, too. Don’t wait until your first guest arrives to make space in the coat closet or figure out where the ladies can store their purses.

Keep decorations simple. It’s easy to get carried away in the holiday spirit, but less really can be more when it comes to decorating. Focus on your entryway so

guests arrive to a festive setting, but round out the decor with small touches that make a big impact, such as table centerpieces, mantle ornaments and seasonal bouquets or stacks of empty boxes wrapped in pretty paper scattered about the home. Another trick for trimming: elevate your look and make it pop by limiting your decorating theme to just one or two colors.

Create a staging area. As the party unfolds, you’ll undoubtedly need to access an array of items that you’d rather not leave sitting out. Designate a nearby area (such as the laundry room) where you can stash things like extra trash bags, stain remover for spills and other necessities.

Find more deliciously simple holiday entertaining ideas at idah oan.com. (Family Features)

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Twin City Nights

Bowdoin College Chorus presents “Harps of Gold”

Bowdoin College Chorus, a choral group that regularly changes its musical style each fall semester, will collaborate with harpist Virginia Flanagan in a program called “Harps of Gold” on Friday, November 18 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, November 19 at 3 p.m. Both performances will take place in Studzinski Recital Hall on the Bowdoin College campus in Brunswick. Anthony Antolini '63 will conduct.

The featured works will be Benjamin Britten's “A Ceremony of Carols,” written in 1942 when the composer was on board a ship in the north Atlantic en route to his native England as German U-Boats menaced travelers; a 2002 work by Chicago composer Frank Ferko called “A Festival of Carols,” which sets 19th-century American Christmas poetry to new music; and San Francisco composer Kirke Mechem's lively and entertaining “Seven Joys of Christmas,” composed



Virginia Flanagan
2271 Grafton Lane • North Wales, PA 19384
717-851-0260
Subj@harpslink.net

Harpist Virginia Flanagan accompanies the Bowdoin College Chorus in performances Friday and Saturday, November 18 and 19.

in 1966, with its settings of carols from England, Spain, France, Japan and Germany.

will also include Randall Thompson's “Alleluia” in an arrangement for chorus and harp and Michael Larkin's “Fantasy on Creator of

The performance

the Stars of Night,” which weaves two Christmas Gregorian chants together in an unexpected way.

All songs will be accompanied by harpist Virginia Flanagan of Alna. Flanagan studied harp with Flanagan enjoys being part of Maine's vibrant musical life as a freelance harpist, performing regularly with the Midcoast, Bangor and Augusta Symphonies, ensembles at Bates, Bowdoin and Colby colleges, Sheepscot Valley Chorus, and Penobscot Bay Singers. In addition to regular private lessons, she offers a new teaching program called “Hands-On Harp,” a beginner-level group introduction for those curious about the instrument.

The concerts are free and open to the public. Doors will open 30 minutes before each performance. For more information, email contact lrussell@bowdoin.edu.

MCMA presents Country Christmas Show

The Maine Country Music Association will present its annual Country Christmas Show at the Litchfield Sportsmen's Club on Sunday, November 27 from noon to 5 p.m. Live entertainment will be provided by Gary Leet & the Country Drifters, Tim Sprague & Murky Water, the Lost & Found Band, and Buzz & Kathy Vanadestine. There will be a bake sale, raffles, a 50/50 drawing, and concessions.

Doors will open at 11 a.m. Admission is \$8 for the general public and \$6 for MCMA members. Kids under 12 will enter free of charge. Those attending are asked to bring a new, unwrapped present to be donated to Toys for Tots.

Located at 2261 Hallowell Road in Litchfield, Litchfield Sportsmen's Club is wheelchair accessible and has plenty of free parking. For more information, call Gary Leet at 377-8035.

Chocolate Church presents evening of musical comedy



Christine Lavin and Don White mix music and comedy in their unique duo performances.

Christine Lavin and Don White will present their unique brand of clean and hilarious musical comedy on Friday, November 18 at 7:30 p.m. at the Chocolate Church Arts Center in Bath.

Christine Lavin's poignant lyrics and music, audience banter, and glow-in-the-dark baton-twirling come together to form a brilliant roller coaster ride of a performance, while Don White is equally at home delivering side splitting insights and heart wrenching songs. Together, this good-hearted duo employs their abundant talents to remind audiences that, as wary acrobats in the great human circus, we all have much in common.

Witty, insightful, and engaging, Lavin has established herself as a powerhouse entertainer since emerging, with Suzanne Vega, Shawn Colvin, and John Gorka, from the NYC singer-songwriter scene of the late 1980s. Co-per-

former Don White is the latest artist she has championed.

“Don's such an original,” says Lavin. “I sometimes call him a ‘blue collar intellectual.’ He has extremely high standards for what he does onstage, and he hits a grand slam every time.”

“It sounds like a comedy concert,” says White of his laughter-inducing co-bills with Lavin. “We rehearse and rehearse, and then, inevitably, just to see what will happen, she'll throw something at me that I have no idea about, with a mischievous grin that lets me know she's been thinking about it all afternoon. And she's taught me to do the same.”

Tickets are \$22 in advance or \$25 door. Chocolate Church Arts Center is located at 804 Washington Street in downtown Bath. To buy tickets, call the box office at 442-8455 or see www.chocolatechurcharts.org.

TAM

Continued from page 11

donation to the Monmouth Food Pantry.

The play begins as yet another version of “A Christmas Carol,” but quickly “takes a wrong turn in Albuquerque” when its three intrepid actors, dismayed at the prospect of performing Dickens' holiday classic for the umpteenth time, decide instead to perform “every Christmas story ever told.” The result is a fast, furious, and slightly irreverent romp through the holiday classics, incorporating a sprinkling of Christmas traditions from around the world, seasonal icons from ancient times to the present, and almost every Christmas carol ever sung, that will leave audiences laughing until the New Year.

Best suited for holiday revelers ages 13 and up, the production features actors James Noel Hoban, Ian Kramer, and Grace Bauer and is directed by Dawn McAndrews. The set

and lights are designed by Jim Alexander, with costumes by Elizabeth Rocha and sound by Elizabeth Nelson.

Tickets for the post-Thanksgiving performances are \$25. Shows will take place on 11/25, 11/26, 11/27, 12/1, 12/2, and 12/3 at 7:30 p.m.; and 11/26, 11/27, 12/3, and 12/4 at 1 p.m. For more information or to buy tickets, call 933-9999 or see www.theateratmonmouth.org.

Founded in 1970 and named the Shakespearian Theater of Maine by the State Legislature in 1975, the Theater at Monmouth's mission is to present innovative approaches to Shakespeare and other classic plays through professional productions that enrich the lives of people throughout Maine. TAM produces engaging, expertly crafted productions in its three-month Summer Repertory Season and provides Education Tours that reach more than 15,000 students statewide each year.

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Thursday, November 17

Van Trip. 10 a.m. Departs from Pettengill Park. The Auburn Rec. Dept. Seniors Program hosts a trip to the Christmas Tree Shop, with lunch (on your own) at Olive Garden; returns c. 4 p.m. \$5. Register at 333-6601, ext. 2108.

Great Falls Forum. Noon to 1 p.m. Callahan Hall, Lewiston Public Library. Bates College professor of rhetoric Stephanie Kelley-Romano presents "Post-Election Reflection: What Happened and Why." A Q-&-A follows. Free. Bring bag lunch. 513-3135; LPLReference@Gmail.com.

HR Thursdays Workshop. Noon to 2 p.m. Chamber of Commerce, 415 Lisbon St., Lewiston. This month's topic is "Criminal Backgrounds & Drug Screens." \$50 (Chamber members \$25; Central ME Human Resource Assoc. members free). 783-2249. Register at www.LAMetroChamber.com.

Marine Corps League Meeting. 6 p.m. Lewiston Armory, 65 Central Ave. All Marines, FMF Corpsman, and FMF Chaplains invited to attend as Central Maine Detachment 810 convenes; assoc. memberships available.

"What in Tarnation IS That?" 7 p.m. Andro. Historical Society, third floor, County Building (enter on Court St.; elevator avail.). Can you guess (or explain) the intended use of a variety of old gadgets presented by local collector Lew Alessio? Free. 784-0586.

Third Thursday Comedy Showcase. Bear Bones Beer, 43 Lisbon St., Lewiston. Host Mark Turcotte welcomes comedians Brian Plumb, Tuck Tucker, Jake Jacobson, Mike Gray, Noreen Lacey and Adam Johnson. Ages 21-plus. Free. 513-0742; mainevent-comedy@gmail.com.

Friday, November 18

Toy Drive. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Center Court, Auburn Mall. Bring your unwrapped toys for kids of all ages, collected by the Red Hatters and distributed to local children by the Salvation Army. 345-9047.

Calendar

See more Calendar at www.TwinCityTimes.com

French Sing-Along. 1:30 p.m. Rm. 170, L-A College, 51 Westminster St., Lewiston. Les Troubadours lead the singing of local Franco favorites at this free monthly event. Everyone welcome; songbooks provided. Free. 576-4109.

Medieval Feast. 6 p.m. Franco Center, 46 Cedar St., Lewiston. Join fellow knights, minstrels, friars, squires and wenches for entertainment, pageantry, and a robust, five-course meal without utensils. Costumes encouraged but not required; cash bar. Again 11/19. \$40. 689-2000; www.francocenter.org.

Concert: Christine Lavin and Don White. 7:30 p.m. Chocolate Church Arts Center, 804 Washington St., Bath. Two versatile performers present their unique brand of musical comedy. \$22 in adv.; \$25 at door. 442-8455; www.chocolatechurcharts.org.

Concert: Bowdoin College Chorus, with Harpist Virginia Flanagan. 7:30 p.m. Studzinski Recital Hall, Bowdoin College, Brunswick. This "Harps of Gold" program features works by Benjamin Britten, Frank Ferko and Kirke Mechem. Again 11/19 (3 p.m.). Free. lrussell@bowdoin.edu.

Saturday, November 19

Holiday Fair. 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. YWCA, 130 East Ave., Lewiston. Vendors, silent auction, rummage sale, children's activities; full breakfast avail. 795-4050.

Gingerbread Fair. 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. First Universalist Church, 169 Pleasant St., Auburn. Themed gift baskets, homemade pies, silent auction, custom wreaths, handmade crafts, baked goods; luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. 783-0461; www.auburnuu.org.

Holiday Craft Fair. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Gymnasium, Auburn Middle School, 38

Falcon Dr., Auburn. Over 40 crafters, bake sale, food concessions, raffles, children's entertainment area.

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish's 42nd annual Christmas by the Lake Fair will be held Saturday, November 19, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at St. Philip Church, 2365 Turner Road (Route 4) in Auburn. Featuring canned goods, baked goods, a sweet shoppe, hand-sewn items, wooden crafts, jewelry, a silent auction, and more.

Christmas Craft & Vendor Fair. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. High Street Congregational Church, 106 Pleasant St., Auburn. Homemade gift items, Cabot's Private Stock sharp cheddar, raffles, lunch items.

"Shop on Park Avenue" Fair. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. United Methodist Church, 439 Park Ave., Auburn. Homemade food items, baked goods, candy, craft items, holiday items, books, jewelry, Children's Workshop and luncheon.

Holiday Craft Fair. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oak Hill Middle School, 40 Ball Park Rd., Sabattus. Do your holiday shopping close to home at this event featuring numerous crafters and vendors.

Indoor Holiday & Craft Sale. from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Litchfield Sportsmen's Club, 2261 Hollowell Rd., Litchfield. Holiday items, wreaths, baked goods, crafts, jewelry, gently used items and more. Wheelchair accessible. 536-9647.

Christmas Craft Fair. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Holy Trinity Parish, 67 Frost Hill Ave., Lisbon Falls. Crafts, bake sale, raffles, and concessions.

Holly Fair & Chowder Luncheon. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. First Congregational Church, Parish House (behind McDonald's), Gray Center. Handmade gifts, bake sale, wreaths, Cookie Trail, kids' activities, and

luncheon. 657-4279.

ExTRAINaganza. 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Great Falls Model Railroad Club, 144 Mill St., Auburn. This family holiday event features six permanent model train layouts, kids' activities, sale items, refreshments and prizes. Again 11/20 (10-4), 25 (10-8), 26 (10-4). \$3 (kids 11- free).

Spaghetti Supper. 5 to 7 p.m. Cafeteria, Edward Little High School, Auburn. Proceeds will support ELHS teacher and coach Larry Gordon on his ongoing trips to Boston to battle cancer. \$8/5 (or \$20 for a family of four).

Theater: "Letters at Sea." 7 p.m. Freeport High School, 30 Holbrook St. The drama club debuts this original musical by teacher Simon Skold, based on the 1866 shipwreck of Freeport captain Josiah Mitchell. Again 11/20 (2 p.m.). For ticket info, see <http://our.show/lettersatsea>.

Maine Country Christmas Concert. 7 p.m. Augusta Civic Center. Maine entertainers and musicians, incl. Deb Morin, Malinda Liberty and Denny Breaud, perform to benefit programs for Maine's veterans. \$22/37. 626-2400; ticketmaster.com.

Sunday, November 20

Concert: Phil House and Cathy Haley. 6 p.m. Court. St. Baptist Church, 129 Court St., Auburn. The

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Bleed for This (R)	1:05..4:00..6:50	9:30
Arrival (PG-13)	12:50..3:50..6:55	9:35
Shut In (PG-13)	1:40..4:40..7:20	9:25
"Shut In" will not be playing on Sunday at 4:40 and 7:20		
Almost Christmas (PG-13)	1:00..4:10..7:30	9:55
Doctor Strange (PG-13)	12:30..3:30..7:05	9:40
Trolls (PG)	12:05..2:25	
	4:45..7:00	9:20
Hacksaw Ridge (R)	12:40..3:40..6:40	9:40

pianist and singer are joined by musical guests for this "Give Thanks" concert. Free. 784-6661.

Thursday, November 24

Thanksgiving Dinner. 1 p.m. Sportsmen's Club, 2782 Hollowell Rd., Litchfield. Turkey, potatoes, gravy and beverages provided; bring a side dish or dessert. A music jam will follow. All welcome. No reservations required. Free. 536-9647.

Theater: "Every Christmas Story Ever Told." 7:30 p.m. Theater at Monmouth. Three actors transform Dickens' "Christmas Carol" into a madcap romp through the holiday classics. \$10. Bring non-perishable food items for Monmouth Food Pantry. 933-9999 or see www.theateratmonmouth.org.

Friday, November 25

ExTRAINaganza. 10

a.m. to 8 p.m. Great Falls Model Railroad Club, 144 Mill St., Auburn. This family holiday event features six permanent model train layouts, kids' activities, sale items, refreshments and prizes. Cont. 11/26 (10-4). \$3 (kids 11- free).

Theater: "Every Christmas Story Ever Told." Theater at Monmouth. Three actors transform Dickens' "Christmas Carol" into a madcap romp through the holiday classics. \$25. Again 11/26-27, 12/1-4. For show times, see www.theateratmonmouth.org.

Saturday, November 26

Lady Black Bears Hockey. 7 p.m. Norway Savings Bank Arena, Auburn. The UMaine Lady Black Bears face off against NCHA Division I foes UNH. \$7. 333-6688; www.norwaysavingsbankarena.com.

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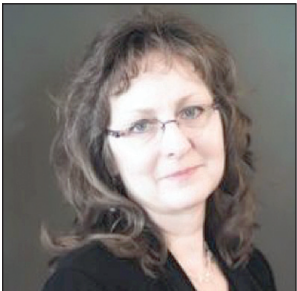
“Path of Enchantment,” by Brenda Giasson

Local photographer Brenda Giasson has received three merits from the judges of the Professional Photographers 2016 International Photographic Competition for her images “Al Capone’s Cell,” “Working Girl” and “Path of Enchantment.” A panel of 46 eminent jurors

from across the country judged the entries against an industry standard of excellence to select the top photographs from the nearly 5,700 submitted. Giasson’s work will be displayed at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center in San Antonio, TX, January

8 through 10 as part of the International Photographic Exhibition, held in conjunction with Imaging USA, an annual convention and expo for professional photographers. Giasson owns and operates the Maine Photography Studio at 145 Lisbon Street, Suite 604, in Lewiston.

CMHRA named finalist for national award



Mary LaFontaine

The Central Maine Human Resources Association has been selected as a finalist to receive the national Society for Human Resources Management’s 2016 Pinnacle Award. Winners will be announced at SHRM’s Volunteer Leaders’ Summit in Washington, DC. CMHRA was named a finalist in recognition of its HR Thursdays program

series, a partnership between the Central Maine Human Resource Association, the Maine Career-Centers, and the LA Metro Chamber of Commerce. A driving force behind the development of the series was Maine CareerCenter Regional Director and CMHRA Vice President Mary LaFontaine. Developed to offer

employers resources and tools to help combat the effects of the labor shortage, workshops in the series were designed to help businesses create meaningful recruitment, training, and retention strategies. In addition, the series has effectively increased access to programming and information relevant to the local HR community, including hiring managers and business leaders. For more information about CMHRA, see www.cmhra.org.

Game Day Fun: Football Party Tips

This football season, bring family and friends together for a day of festivities. Score a touchdown at the next game day gathering with simple and affordable party-planning ideas from the discount experts at Dollar General.

desserts, are available online at Dollar General Easy Meals at dollargeneral.com/easymeals. Keep food and drinks near the viewing area so guests don’t need to miss a moment of the game to refill their cups or plates.

Encourage game day spirit with your favorite team’s colors and football-inspired tablecloths, disposable paper products and posters. Get the kids involved by crafting foam fingers, or create garlands to hang around the rooms by cutting footballs out of construction paper and stringing them to green yarn. Make things easy for you and the guests by creating a buffet with iconic game day finger foods like wings, dips and sandwiches. Additional easy and affordable recipes, including tasty appetizers and

happy by planning ahead. Stock up on favorite game day food at a discount retailer like Dollar General and save on items including drinks, chips and snacks. Don’t fumble during the fourth quarter. Use disposable items to make cleaning up a breeze. The added bonus is that items like paper plates and plastic cutlery are affordable and easily found in your team’s colors. With a few easy preparations, you can be a star player at the next game day party. (StatePoint)

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