

"A Christmas Carol" returns to Public Theatre



Kristian Keef as Tiny Tim and Michael O'Brien as Scrooge in a scene from the Public Theatre's original adaptation of "A Christmas Carol," playing December 9 through 11.

For one weekend only, the Public Theatre will present its acclaimed version of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," followed by a holiday sing-a-long featuring Christmas Carol fiddler Jennifer Armstrong. Performances will take place Friday through Sunday, December 9 through 11. Developed and written for the Public Theatre by Artistic Director Chris-

topher Schario in 1993, this inventive adaptation has not only become a holiday tradition in the Twin Cities, but has been published by Dramatists Play Service and is now performed in theatres around the world.

"There's a great reason why this story never goes away," says Schario. "Sometimes it's easy to forget the meaning of the season amidst all the holiday shopping. Watching Scrooge's

journey always awakens my holiday spirit and gets my heart ready to celebrate Christmas."

Among the competing versions of this oft-told tale, the Public Theatre's has become a favorite for a simple reason. "We stay true to the heart of the story, while at the same time imaginatively rejuvenating it," says Schario, whose version *See Christmas, page 5*

LYAC helps "Lewiston Remembers Its Musical Eras"



Dance Line (See more photos on page 7)

The Lewiston Youth Advisory Council met its goals on Saturday, December 3 when it brought generations of Lewiston residents together, added to Lewiston's arts and cultural scene, and creatively took a trip down memory lane to revisit Lewiston's musical life from 1920 to the present.

The evening kicked off with a PAL HOP video followed by a slideshow with facts about Lewiston then and now. With displays, memorabilia, posters, dance demonstrations, food, and special guest Lewiston musical icon Carroll Poulin, the Lewiston Memorial Armory came alive as attendees enthusiastically reflected on memories and interacted with members of the youth

council. Demonstrations of period dances were presented by Stan Teixeira and the Swing Dancers and Sandy Arthur's School of Dance. Attendees of all ages also took to the floor for instructions on nostalgic dance moves. A musical finale was presented by local youth band Weatherhead.

Period food on tap consisted of root beer floats, popular in the 1950s; choc-

olate chip cookies that were invented in 1937; and whoopie pies that were invented in the 1920s. Attendees also participated in the placement of red or blue stars on a Lewiston timeline that indicated the year they were born in Lewiston or their favorite era in Lewiston. LYAC members also shared how much they've learned about Lewiston in planning for the event.

2016 Remembrance Ornament now available from AHCH



For the 11th year, Androscoggin Home Care & Hospice is offering a commemorative ornament to recognize a loved one while contributing to a good cause. The 2016 Remembrance Ornament measures 2.25 by 3 inches, is hand-cast in pewter and features holiday candles. The ornament costs \$20 and comes pre-wrapped in a silver bag suitable for giving. A tag personalized with the honored individ-

ual's name is included, and all proceeds are dedicated to home health and hospice services for patients who do not have resources to pay for care.

"We know that, for some families, purchasing the Remembrance Ornament has become a part of their holiday tradition," said Kenneth Albert, President and Chief Executive Officer of Androscoggin Home *See AHCH, page 3*

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Poland Spring employee honored for volunteerism



Shelley Pittman receives the 2016 Volunteer Coordinator of the Year award at Nestlé Waters North America's annual "Thanks for Giving" luncheon in Stamford, Conn.

Poland Spring employee Shelly Pittman was recently honored at the annual "Thanks for Giving" luncheon hosted by Nestlé Waters North America to commemorate employee volunteerism. Pittman was one of five recipients recognized at the event, which also honors nonprofits that serve local communities throughout the country, such as the American Red Cross and United Way.

Pittman, an administrative assistant at Poland Spring's Poland facility, attended the luncheon held in Stamford, Connecticut, where she received the 2016 Volunteer Coordinator of the Year award.

"I was thrilled to hear that Shelly was chosen for this special award," said Chris McKenna, Poland Plant Manager, Poland Spring. "She is deeply

committed to our employees as well as the local community.

Whether she's creating an employee events calendar or coordinating family-friendly functions for staff, she is always going above and beyond in her role and is a valued member of the Poland Spring team."

"I am happy to coordinate events for our employees and their families because it brings us all closer together," said Pittman after the event. "This special recognition means a great deal to me, and I share this honor with my co-workers in Poland. They make coming to work every day very meaningful."

Pittman has worked for Poland Spring for three years. She resides in Minot with her husband and two teenage children.

Rebekah Lodge #94 supports Good Shepherd



Noble Grand Kenny DerBoghossian and Chaplain Cindy Larrabee of Liberty Rebekah Lodge #94 of Auburn present a donation check to the Good Shepherd Food Bank to provide 200 meals to needy persons. Past Noble Grand Margaret Dix took the photo.

Norway Savings provides financial literacy program to middle schools

Norway Savings Bank is working with Banzai, an on-line financial literacy training program, to bring their curriculum to four Maine middle schools at no cost to the students or the schools. Banzai allows teachers to provide students with an interactive way of learning. Using online tools and printed workbooks, students are exposed to real-life scenarios where they learn to balance a budget, pay bills and more. Billie Brito, a teacher from Lewiston Middle School, appreciates the dynamics of this program. "This is a fantastic program that engages my students as they work through a challenging pro-

cess," she says. "Banzai has been the missing piece in my curriculum. Thank you!"

Banzai has been well received by students as well as teachers. Student feedback, since launching the program in October, is very positive. Typical quotes from students regarding what they have learned since the program launched in October have included "I learned that money isn't easy to save... things come and go unexpectedly and it always pays to be prepared" and "I learned about how you have to really watch how and where you spend your money... I knew before but this gave me a better realization."

CMCC staffers speak at National Workforce Ed. Conference



CMCC staff members Anne St. Pierre, Jennifer Gamez, and Emily Butterfield presented a session called "Let Your Past Meet Your Future."

Staff members from Central Maine Community College presented at the National Council for Workforce Education's annual conference last month in Atlanta, Georgia. The NCWE is an affiliate council of the American Association of Community Colleges that provides a national forum for administrators and faculty in workforce education.

One of the conference strands was focused on how best to sustain initiatives begun under TAACCCT, the Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training Grant Program. CMCC was the lead institution for the \$13 million TAACCCT grant that was awarded to the Maine Community College System in 2013 to address the growing need in Maine for skilled information technology workers across many industries. Known as Maine is IT!, this initiative has created new pathways for students to access courses and programs needed to acquire the information technology skills most in demand by Maine employers. The colleges have also expanded degree programs, one-year certificates, and short-term training in high-demand areas.

Associate Dean of Academic Affairs Anne St. Pierre, TAACCCT Student Navigator Emily Butter-

field, and TAACCCT Program Coordinator Jennifer Gamez presented a session called "Let Your Past Meet Your Future," which compared prior learning assessment practices with new strategies adopted during CMCC's project effort.

Director of Institutional Research Ronald Bolstridge and Maine is IT! Consortium Grant Project Manager Michelle Hawley led a second presentation called "Data Collection without Reinventing the Wheel," which outlined the implementation of a data collection process for the consortium, including the deployment of new data fields.

Monett Wilson, the former TAACCCT 3 Fiscal and Administrative Officer, now Dean of Finance and Administration at Kennebec Valley Community College, led a third presentation called "TAACCCT: More Lessons Learned, and What Happens after TAACCCT?"

Funded by a \$13 million grant from the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Maine is IT! is projected to serve nearly 2,100 Maine participants over a three-year period. This program is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action program, and adaptive equipment is provided to individuals with disabilities upon request.

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Governor's Address: Respect the will of the voters, but do no harm

When I swore in the 128th Legislature this week, I urged them to reduce the negative impact of two referendum questions that will cause significant harm to our economy.

Dear Maine Taxpayer,

All elected officials must respect the will of the people. However, the Legislature's first duty as elected representatives is to do no harm to our state.

Two questions will cause significant harm to our economy. They will hurt restaurant workers, small businesses, successful people and particularly

our elderly. They will drive away doctors, dentists, scientists, engineers and other much-needed professionals.

Question 2 hikes the income tax by 42% on successful Mainers, supposedly to boost funding for education. But it will punish high-earners by slapping them with the second-highest income tax in the nation. It will drive them out of our state. We already have examples of this.

These folks already pay the most in taxes. If they leave and take their income with them, it will result in even less money for education and less revenue from property tax, sales tax



Governor Paul R. LePage

and excise tax.

Question 4 raises the minimum wage too fast for local businesses to absorb. Combined with the higher income tax, small business

owners will face a financial death spiral. They will first get hit with a 10.15% income tax, then they will have to pay a significantly higher minimum wage.

On top of that, the minimum wage will automatically go up every year, based on the Consumer Price Index. Even during an economic downturn, small business owners would be required to raise wages.

Your friends and neighbors who own small businesses may close up shop and go to New Hampshire or another state with low or no income taxes. Then their employees will be out of a job, and the state

will lose their tax revenue, too.

We must slow down the rate of increase to the minimum wage, and we must not eliminate the tip credit so restaurant workers can continue making \$25 to \$30 an hour.

But those who will get hurt the worst are the elderly. 5,900 Mainers who now earn minimum wage will get a \$4-an-hour increase, but 325,000 Mainers won't get a raise. Those on Social Security will get an average increase of just \$4 a month.

As labor costs rise so fast, small businesses will have to lay off workers and

raise prices. The elderly will be left out in the cold. They will have to spend more of their fixed income on higher prices on everything they buy. This will push them even deeper into poverty.

I have asked the Legislature to delay implementation of these bills so we can work together to improve them. We can respect the will of the voters, but we must do no harm to our economy, our small businesses and, most importantly, our elderly.

Thank You,
Paul R. LePage
Governor

Optimist Club welcomes new members



Jeremy Gatcomb (c.) and Melodie Cyr are welcomed into the Lewiston-Auburn Optimist Club by Club President George Mathews. The club meets for lunch monthly at Chopsticks Restaurant in Lewiston and sponsors service projects focusing on area youth.

AHCH

Continued from page 1

Care & Hospice. "The ornament is a nice way to keep the memory of a loved one alive while helping to ensure that those who don't have the ability to pay will still receive the care they need."

Ornaments may be picked up after December 8 at AHCH's Lewiston Office at 15 Strawberry Avenue. A \$3 mailing fee is required for all orders

needing shipment. Please allow two weeks for delivery. Order forms are available at AHCH's Lewiston office, at AHCH's Hospice House on Stetson Road in Auburn, and at all locations of ornament sponsor Mechanic Savings Bank, including 100 Minot Avenue in Auburn, 664 Main Street in Lewiston, and 3 Drive-In Lane in Windham. Ornaments can also be purchased by calling 795-9428 or online at www.ahch.org.

Pine Tree Soc. expands children's services to Auburn

Pine Tree Society, a statewide organization serving Maine children and adults with disabilities, has announced the expansion of its Children's Case Management services to Auburn. This expansion follows the agency's January 2016 acquisition of the Auburn-based non-profit, Pathways, Inc. By bringing Children's Case Management to Auburn, the agency plans to strengthen the spectrum of care it offers to local clients from early childhood through senior years. Children's Case Managers focus on forming relationships to get to know the unique needs of each child and family to identify resources and solutions. They provide stability and support while helping the child reach his or her goals.

"Pine Tree Society has been providing Children's Case Management services in our Scarborough location for 16 years, and I am ex-

cited that we now have the opportunity to provide the same quality services with dedicated staff to the Auburn area as well," said Julie Brennan, LMSW, Director of Case Management Services. Pine Tree Society is now accepting new Children's Case Management clients who live within an hour of the Auburn office. Parents and caregivers may self-refer for this service. For more information, contact Julie Brennan at 386-5952.

What started as a bold new idea in 1936 continues today: with a spirit of innovation and the desire to discover new ways to break down barriers that many find insurmountable, Pine Tree Society helps people in Maine with disabilities lead richer, more socially connected lives. For more information, call 443-3341 or see www.pinetreesociety.org.

Downeaster expands service to Freeport and Brunswick

Local citizens, Amtrak and Downeaster officials, U.S. Senator Angus King and state business leaders came together recently to celebrate the launch of Amtrak's new schedule, which includes the addition of a third daily round-trip from Boston to Freeport and Brunswick.

Currently, the Amtrak Downeaster makes five round-trips each day between Portland and Boston. Since November 2012, two of those round-trips have extended to Freeport and Brunswick. Beginning on November 21, the frequency of service to Freeport and Brunswick has increased to three round-trips each day with the addition of a new late-morning southbound departure and new evening arrival times. The increased service will provide more options to southbound

travelers and enable weekend day-trips to sporting events at Boston's TD Garden. The schedule changes also provide more convenient options for business travelers by introducing an early afternoon northbound departure from Boston.

"The Downeaster is one of the best trains in the Amtrak system, and from my time as Governor to today, it's been incredible to witness its continued growth and success," said Senator King. "Not only does the Downeaster connect Maine to the greater Boston area, but it also links us to the rest of the nation, and the addition of this third daily round-trip will only help strengthen those connections by making travel options more convenient for passengers." See Service, page 5

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Only Steps Forward

Concerns over funding the Lewiston Auburn Railroad Company

By **Jonathan P. LaBonté**
MAYOR OF AUBURN

With absolute confidence, I can state that those of you reading this know Auburn and Lewiston have an issue with high property taxes. Not just the rate we charge, but the total burden, in particular for residential property owners.

Both cities need to focus on growing existing real estate values and attracting investors and on reducing costs wherever possible.

The decades of stagnant growth has made it difficult to cut budgets to achieve prosperity, but there's definitely inefficient use of local financial resources. In addition to continuing to highlight ways we can support existing businesses and lure new investment, it's important to highlight in real time the places where we can and should save money.

Just this week, the board of directors of the Lewiston Auburn Railroad Company (LARC) met to vote on a contract for administrative support for a few board meetings a year and to handle book-keeping. Sadly, the Auburn directors were outvoted on two occasions by the Lewiston directors as we

sought to reduce the cost of administration for the LARC.

For brief background, in the 1870's the two cities came together to create a railroad company. The purpose was to advance further industrial development along the Androscoggin River, specifically the canal and riverfront mill area of Lewiston, by increasing freight-shipping competition between the long-standing Maine Central and the Grand Trunk Railroad.

Because the industrialists of Lewiston saw the need for the asset and that it would add the most value on their side of the river, they facilitated a deal that led to Lewiston making 75% of the initial investment and Auburn pitching in the other 25%. That has translated into Lewiston having six of the nine seats on the board, with Auburn holding the other three. The board members are chosen by each city council to serve three-year terms.

The company has evolved since those early days, where a long-term lease to the Grand Trunk/Canadian National Railroad meant the directors of the company only really needed to meet to vote a



Mayor Jonathan P. LaBonté

dividend to both cities. The Lewiston Auburn Railroad Company no longer cuts a dividend to each city as a non-property tax revenue source; it has instead invested revenues into buying real estate, at times taking out loans to do so, and owning and leasing parking lots and commer-

HR Thursdays presents "Creative Strategies for Attracting Employees"

The LA Metro Chamber of Commerce will host an HR Thursdays panel discussion on "Creative Strategies for Attracting Employees from Various Talent Pools" on Thursday, December 15 from noon to 2 p.m. Presented in partnership with the Central Maine Human Resource Association and the Lewiston CareerCenter,

cial property in downtown Lewiston.

Since being elected to a three-year term this spring, I have asked some standard, simple questions to fully understand the operation of LARC and what role it can play in reducing the tax burden locally. First, I asked to obtain a copy of the annual budget. I knew the answer, but wanted it documented: LARC doesn't create a budget or financial plan; it simply spends money as it comes in. How many of you can afford to do that in your households?

Second, I asked for details on the administrative contract with the Lewiston Auburn Economic Growth Council (LAEGC). The

previous contract was for \$20,000 and, given the hours worked for LARC, it came out to about \$125 an hour.

To pay so much above-market rates for administrative support is a cause for concern, as is the fact that this joint agency operates unlike others that utilize the capacity of existing city staff to handle routine financial activities.

And if the \$125-an-hour rate wasn't already excessive, the now-outgoing president of LAEGC had proposed a 25% increase in fees. He justified the increase on the basis of additional work being requested, namely the involvement of LAEGC in a passenger rail

study. With confirmation that LAEGC will not be directly involved in any passenger rail study, the Lewiston directors shifted their argument for the 25% rate increase to some obligation LARC has to help make up for Auburn's reduction in funding to LAEGC.

If those elected by Lewiston have such a strong commitment to subsidizing government agencies and feel it is unwise to pay a reasonable rate only for the work they need, we have much larger problems on the horizon. With many of these same voices also championing a merger of the two cities, Auburn taxpayers better hold on tightly to their wallets.

How to Give Holiday Gifts That Won't be Forgotten

If your holiday shopping list is focused on all the latest trends, remember, the hottest items are not always the most cherished. Sometimes it's the warmest gifts that are the most unforgettable.

"The holidays are times of nostalgia and remembrance, from stories of when we were children to the smell of cookies baking in the oven," says Christopher Warnack, vice president of marketing and visual at Things Remembered, a leading personalized gift retailer. "Likewise, the gifts you give are not just objects to enjoy now; they should create a joyful memory that can be cherished for years."

To this end, Warnack recommends personalizing gifts with a loved one's name, a monogram, a shared memory, a thoughtful message or an inside joke. "Something that makes it just for them, and only from you," he says.

For a seasonal gift to mark the passing years, consider a personalized ornament or snow globe. Your gift recipient can look back on the ornaments received each year and be reminded of those holiday memories. Above all,

remember to take into consideration the style, hobbies and favorite colors of your gift recipient. You can customize a gift for anyone on your list.

Scarves or jewelry personalized just for her can be enjoyed for years, and with her monogram, become a real statement piece. For him, consider mugs, apparel and other gear that commemorates his favorite sports team, and are sure to become part of his game-day traditions and celebrations. Personalized toys, stuffed animals and other snuggly gifts are great for kids.

Seek out gifts at retailers that specialize in customized items, such as Things Remembered, which can create one-of-a-kind gifts in an about an hour (and a little longer for embroidery and other specialized techniques). For more unforgettable gift inspiration, visit ThingsRemembered.com. "Everyone remembers the best gift they ever received," says Warnack. Make someone's season by giving gifts that create new and happy memories with the people you care about the most. (StatePoint)

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Enough is Enough

Higher institutions have evolved into nursery schools

By Robert E. Macdonald
MAYOR OF LEWISTON

Last week while at breakfast, I had a conversation in which the following was related to me. A breakfast buddy gave his car keys to his kids, instructing them to unlock the car door and wait for him in the vehicle.

They went to the car returning a minute or two later. They told him they could not unlock the vehicle door. It turned out that the car battery was dead, thus rendering the remote door opener inoperable. It apparently never entered the kids' minds to use the attached key to manually unlock the door.

Once the word of the incident got out, the family was overwhelmed by big-name college recruiters. They felt the lack of traits shown by these youngsters reflected what they were looking for in their college

students.

Okay, the preceding paragraph never happened. But would you be surprised if it did?

Today many college students run amok on campuses throughout this country. They are allowed to dictate policies they have concluded, from watching "Sesame Street" and "Dora the Explorer," will meet the needs of other like-minded students.

But what is most alarming is that the "adults," a.k.a. the school administrators, hired to preserve order and decorum at the institutions sorrowfully failed to fulfill their duties. They act and resemble mothers and fathers who are eager to be their child's friend—not their parents.

College is touted as a place where parents send their mushy-brained child in order to have their young



Mayor Bob Macdonald

minds gel, not liquidize. In the past, college and universities introduced students to ideas found on both sides of the coin. These would be debated, thus allowing students to examine and process each side in order to arrive at a conclusion.

But with progressive academia in control, these institutions now resemble the Fidel Castro Cuban-style educational system

in which the state controls which ideas are presented. This is known as the "The Art of Persuasion" or in everyday street and coffee shop language: brainwashing.

Without institutions of higher learning, our country would have never obtained or achieved our current place in the world community. But over the past seven years, many of these institutions have evolved into the equivalent of nursery schools where students are treated like children, not young adults. They have anxiety attacks, excessive absences from class and cannot deal with basic daily problems.

When parents continue to fork over excessive tuition while their child does a "Benjamin Buttons," it causes you to wonder if this could be a long-term effect of past drug use.

Several years ago, Sec-

retary of State John Forbes Kerry addressed a group of college students. Sounding and doing his best to convey the persona of a Boston Brahmin from Beacon Hill, he imparted the following advice to those assembled: "You know education if you make the most of it, you study hard, you do your homework and you make an effort to be smart, you can do well. If you don't, you'll get stuck in Iraq."

Thus we find ourselves facing a conundrum. Do we want a society made up of high school graduates that keep our cities and businesses running? They are the fire, police and military personnel that provide the security that keeps us safe. Or do we want a society of whiney, Play-Doh-wringing, hot chocolate-sipping, flag-burning, Safe Space-seeking neurotic adolescents who fold under the least bit

of pressure?

If memory serves me, when the Vietnam War was raging and colleges and universities were busting at the seams with males trying to avoid military service and the Vietnam War, Kerry ended up in the Navy and also Vietnam. Thus apparently proving in his own words he definitely was not the brightest bulb from the 1960s on.

This year, the annual college spring event known as graduation will see two changes. First, all parents will be presented with a "Grateful Appreciation Certificate," noting the amount of money donated to the college in order to get their child to graduation.

Second, the graduates will line up to receive from the faculty a hardy congratulatory handshake and a certificate of participation in lieu of an academic degree.

Christmas

Continued from page 1

begins with a child reading a copy of Dickens' novel. In a marvelous metaphor for the way literature grabs and transforms us, five actors and a fiddler then magically appear to slowly coax the child into joining the story to become the character of Tiny Tim.

While the production uses much of Dickens' original text, the narration is shared by six actors, who also portray the various characters in the story with the aid of a simple costume piece. A live fiddler underscores the tale with traditional Christmas music, and a hand-cranked wind machine and a thunder sheet create a delightfully theatrical atmosphere. Uncluttered by spectacle, the audience's imagination is free to soar, allowing the classic story to come vividly to life.

Leading the cast in the role of Scrooge will be Michael O'Brien, a familiar face to Maine audiences following a long history onstage with the Theater at Monmouth and previous appearances at the Public Theatre. Also returning to the Public Theatre will be Russel Berrigan as Marley and Sheila Stasack as Mrs. Cratchit. Newcomers to this year's production include local sixth grader Kristian Keef in the role of the child, New York actress Kelsey Foltz in the roles of Belle and Fan and Nicholas Perron in the role of Fred. Returning as the fiddler will be acclaimed musician and storyteller Jennifer Armstrong.

Helping to make

the production accessible to families is the Public Theatre's youth ticket price of only \$5 for those ages 18 and under. "We pride ourselves on offering quality family entertainment to which people can actually afford to bring their families," said Schario "With our \$5 ticket, we hope to give local youth a gift they'll have for the rest of their lives by introducing them to the magic of professional theatre."

Performances will take place on Friday, December 9 at 7 p.m., Saturday, December 10 at 2 and 7 p.m., and Sunday, December 11 at 2 p.m. The top ticket price for adults is \$20, and all tickets for children ages 18 and under are only \$5. Gift certificates for any production throughout the remainder of the season are available for the holidays. To buy tickets, call the Box Office at 782-3200 or visit publictheatre.org.

Service

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The Amtrak Downeaster set ridership and revenue records for the first quarter of its fiscal year 2017 (July to September 2016) and continues to have one of the highest customer satisfaction ratings in the Amtrak network.

Since service operation began on December 15, 2001, the Downeaster has transported more than 6 million passengers the equivalent of 500 million passenger miles and has generated more than \$90 million in ticket revenue.

Learning About Promising Advances in Alzheimer's Research

By Sen.

Susan M. Collins

Biomedical research is changing lives and changing the world. During my time in the Senate, I have made it a priority to visit labs, equipment manufacturers, and educational institutions - here in Maine and across the country - that are on the cutting-edge of science and technological innovation.

Recently, a Maine resident with ties to the University of Pennsylvania invited me to tour a research lab there and to speak with scientists who are conducting exciting studies of the human brain that may one day lead to a cure or effective treatments for devastating diseases like Alzheimer's.

During my visit, I peered inside a brain ravaged by Alzheimer's disease and a brain that was not. The difference was striking. The disease-riddled brain had shriveled to half its original size, and the ventricle had enlarged to what looked like a gaping hole in the brain. Many families are familiar with the tragic symptoms of Alzheimer's: memory loss that disrupts life, confusion with time and place, trouble understanding, difficulty completing tasks, social withdrawal, changes in mood and personality, and inability to recognize loved ones. But seeing the signs in the brain demonstrated clearly the destructive nature of the disease and the promise of the research underway.

I have served as Co-Chair of the Congressional Task Force on Alzheimer's since I founded it in the Senate in 2004. Earlier this year,

I helped secure nearly \$1.4 billion in federal funding for Alzheimer's research that is included in the bill that would fund the National Institutes of Health. That's a \$400 million increase over last year and would build on the \$350 million increase that I successfully advocated for in 2015. If enacted, this funding will represent significant progress toward the goal of providing \$2 billion per year for Alzheimer's research, the amount experts say is needed to find a means of prevention or effective treatments by the year 2025.

At the Center for Neurodegenerative Disease Research at the University of Pennsylvania, and in research centers like The Jackson Laboratory here in Maine and others, NIH funding is making a difference. The Penn researchers with whom I met described promising trials that are underway to solve the mystery of Alzheimer's.

The research is exciting; clinical trials are underway, and new developments are happening every day. Scientists are beginning to conduct randomized controlled trials on lifestyle factors, including the impact of diet and exercise on cognitive health. The researchers at Penn told me that changes to our lifestyles could potentially reduce or delay the onset of Alzheimer's disease in people who do not have the gene associated with early-onset Alzheimer's.

I also had the opportunity to learn more about cutting-edge biomedical research being conducted at Harvard University, where researchers are examining

the role of a gene regulator that helps protect aging neurons from stress, like the toxic effects of abnormal proteins, and whether this protective regulator can be stimulated to prevent or delay Alzheimer's and other dementias. Currently, most of the Alzheimer's drug candidates under development seek to reduce Alzheimer's disease pathologies. If the research at Harvard proves successful, however, it might open entirely new avenues in Alzheimer's research and development related to this protective mechanism in the aging brain.

The stakes are high. Alzheimer's is ravaging brains and lives at an alarming rate - every 66 seconds, someone in the United States develops the disease. Approximately 5.4 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's disease

today, including 37,000 in Maine, and that number is soaring as our overall population grows older and lives longer. In addition to the devastating human cost, this escalation has dire implications for the federal budget. The United States currently spends more than \$236 billion per year on Alzheimer's treatment and care, including \$160 billion in costs to Medicare and Medicaid, making it our nation's costliest disease.

With historic increases in funding, and continued top-rate research, we are poised to finally make progress. But this is no time to take our foot off the accelerator. We must continue at full speed to advance this shared goal for families who have been touched by Alzheimer's and for those who are at risk. One discovery at a time, we will find ways to re-shape aging, preserve brain health and well-being, and find that elusive cure.

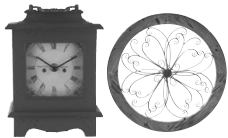


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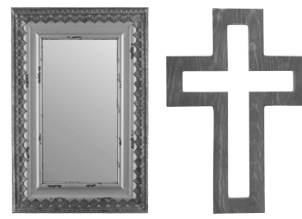
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City of Auburn offers Sand Buckets for Seniors

For the third year in a row, Auburn Public Services will offer Sand Buckets for Seniors, delivering a free bucket of sand to senior citizens living in Auburn for use on their walkways, steps and driveways this winter. Auburn homeowners ages 65 and older who wish to receive a free bucket of sand to use on their steps and walkways should contact Auburn Public Services by December 16 at 333-6670.

"This program is a way for the City to show our appreciation and respect for the seniors in our community and to help keep them safe," said Public Services Director Dan Goyette. "Our employees really enjoy connecting with residents in this way." The program is made possible through the support of Home Depot and Lowe's of Auburn, who are partnering with Auburn Public Services to reach out to local seniors to show them that their community cares.

Bean Supper

Calvary United Methodist Church in Lewiston will present a home cooked Bean Supper on Saturday, December 10 at 4:45 p.m. Please enter at the Garden Entrance on Bartlett Street.

The meal will include baked beans, hot dogs, casseroles (including vegetarian options), salads, biscuits and home-made pies. The cost is \$7.50 for adults and \$3 per child.

DAR invites prospective members to Christmas party

The Mary Dillingham-Burnt Meadow chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution are extending an invitation to ladies of the Lewiston-Auburn area who would like to learn more about the DAR to join them at their annual Christmas Party on Wednesday, December 14 at 11 a.m. at the home of member Carol MacNeill in New Gloucester.

All are welcome to join in the gift exchange by bringing a small gift with a maximum cost of \$10. A festive lunch will be served at no cost. If you have any questions or need the address, call Beverly Robbins at 577-0706.

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What's Going On

Tommy's Feral Felines plans Bake Sale & Bottle Drive

Tommy's Feral Felines will hold its annual Holiday Bake Sale & Bottle Drive on Saturday and Sunday, December 17 and 18, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day at Chapter 11 on Main Street in Lewiston, next to Cumberland Farms and across from Burger

King. At the event, Tommy's will collect bottles and cans and offer a variety of delicious baked goods for sale. If you are a baker and would like to help fill their tables with yummy treats, please deliver your items directly to the sale, wrapped and priced.

Tommy's Feral Felines is an all-volunteer, no-kill organization that relies solely on donations and income generated by its fundraising events to support abandoned cats that live a feral existence throughout the year in Maine. In addition to feeding and sheltering the cats, Tommy's provides spaying and neutering, vaccinations, and other medical care to

the animals, many of which have become too feral to be adoptable. Tommy's has faced several crises in recent times that have left them in dire financial need, so any and all support is greatly appreciated.

For more information or to donate, contact Norm Blais at 240-8767, P. O. Box 274, Greene, ME 04236, or normblais@yahoo.com.

Androscoggin Readers Theater



The Androscoggin Readers Theater enjoyed an End of the Season Luncheon November 30 at the newly remodeled Chick-A-Dee Restaurant in Lewiston. L to R, are Bob Gardner; Judy Webber, Treasurer; Linda Jackson-Washburn, Naomi York, Director; Terry Bazinet, Curt Webber and Joel Goodman. Absent is Nancy Daniels. (Photo by Rachel Morin)

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Marine Corps League meeting

The Marine Corps League's Central Maine Detachment 810 will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, December 15 at 6 p.m. at the Lewiston Armory at 65 Central

Avenue.

All Marines, FMF Corpsman and FMF Chaplains are invited, as is anyone else interested in joining as an associate member.

Ann's Flower Shop president to address Rotary Club



Cheryl McKeone

The guest speaker at the next meeting of the Lewiston-Auburn Rotary Club on Thursday, December 15, from noon to 1 p.m. will be Cheryl McKeone, president of Ann's Flower Shop. The meeting will take place at the Ramada Inn of Lewiston. Guests are welcome to attend.

The McKeone Family has proudly served Lewiston and Auburn families and businesses at Ann's Flower Shop, located at 36 Millett Drive in Auburn, for over 50

years, and Cheryl has been with the business her entire life. A third-generation florist who has experienced numerous changes in the floral industry, she is a past president of the Maine Teleflora Unit and a member of the Maine State Florist Association the Society of American Florists.

For more information about this or other Rotary programs, contact Monica Millhime at 753-9040 or monica.millhime@maine.gov.



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Maine Women's Network meeting

The Androscoggin Chapter of the Maine Women's Network will meet on Wednesday, December 14, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn of Auburn. Members, guests and the general public are invited. The December luncheon will celebrate the Trinity Jubilee Center and its contribution to the community for the past 25

years. Executive Director Erin Reed will speak about the center's mission and work and MWN will raffle a beautiful basket supplied by Mainely Gift Baskets to benefit the center.

The cost is \$17 for members and \$25 for non-members, which includes lunch. To attend, register online at www.mainewomensnetwork.com.

CMHRA meeting offers resources for employee retention

In the current job market, employers need to minimize turnover and the loss of good employees. But how do they do this when struggles with transportation, home heating costs, health issues, or education can derail even the most dedicated employee?

At its next meeting on Tuesday, December 13, from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. at the Carriage House in Lewiston, the Central Maine Human Resource Association will present a panel of speakers from agencies who can provide services that can, at no charge, help employers keep their employees at work. These agencies include Community Concepts, 211, College for ME, and the Maine Medical Department of Vocational Services. Learn more about

what services they have to offer and then meet with them afterwards as time permits.

At the meeting, CMHRA will also collect donations for a food drive to help meet the needs of local school kids. A list of suggested food items to donate is posted on their website. For more information or to register for the meeting, see www.cmhra.org.

Whether you are an HR professional looking for education and networking, a small business owner, or an administrator who has been handed the task of "doing HR," CMHRA has what you need. For more information about programs or membership, see their website, or contact Cindy Letourneau or Lori McRae at membershipchair@cmhra.org.



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What's Going On

Out & About with Rachel Morin

Poetry writing students read their work at LASC



Poetry Writing Workshop Class at USM Lewiston Auburn Senior College at their Poetry Reading for family and friends in December. Seated L to R, Harolyn Zaldumbide, Linda DeSantis, June Spear, Marguerite Stapleton, Bill Frayer, Instructor; Standing, L to R, Adria Hahnel, Carol Hanscombe, Anita Poulin, Nancy Orr, Teri Latlippe, Diane Clay, Chris Decker, Darlene Glover, Kathryn Tracy. Absent were Nancy Duplisea, Connie Lecompte and Brigitte Whiting. (Photo by Pixie Frayer)

Story and photos by Rachel Morin

I joined family and friends of Bill Frayer's Poetry Writing Workshop Class at USM's Lewiston Auburn Senior College on December 1 for a delightful afternoon of Poetry Reading. Over the eight week fall semester course, the students learned the fundamentals of poetry writing with specific prompts and wrote eight poems. Suggestions and feedback were given for each poem during class. Students read two of their original poems from a collection they had written in the fall semester.

Students reading were

as follows with the titles of their selected poems in parentheses. Diane Clay (The Centerpiece; The Joy of a February Evening), Chris Decker (Murphy's Law; Twas the Week Before Christmas), Linda DeSantis (It's Not November Yet; Domestic Grace), Darlene Glover (Sister Song; The Pi-eta), Adria Hahnel (George;

A Loving Mother Has Passed), Carol Hanscombe (The Curse; The Seascape), Teri Latlippe (Hairs (Heirs) Unique; Camp), Nancy Orr (On Seeing a Sketch of a California Condor; The Lesson Fall is Not Resignation), Anita Poulin (Why Do I Love You?; A Special Time), June Spear (Sounds of Silence; Do You Remember?), Marguerite Stapleton (Fourteen; Run, Jane, Run), Kathryn Tracy (At the Farmers' Market; September), Harolyn Zaldumbide (Legacy; Uncertainty). Poetry students unable to be present were Nancy Du-

plisea, Connie Lecompte and Brigitte Whiting.

Instructor Bill Frayer earned a B.A. in English Literature from Brown University and an M.A. in Adult Education from USM. He has published four collections of poetry and has participated in writing workshops in Maine and Mexico. His latest poetry book "Anatomy of Time" was published this year and is available at Amazon for \$5.99. Frayer read two of his poems at the conclusion of the readings: "Icarus Chasing Camelot" and "Darwin Redux."



Refreshments prepared by the students were enjoyed after the Readings.

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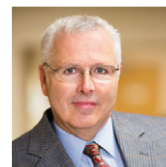
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Gingerbread Day at LPL

Marking winter in C.S. Lewis's Narnia, Gingerbread Day will return to Lewiston Public Library on Saturday, December 10, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. This family event

will take place in the library's Callahan Hall, where participants will find hot cocoa, snacks, raffles, scavenger hunts, snowflakes, gingerbread people to decorate,

Narnia-themed crafts and photo opportunities. Then event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 513-3133 or email lpkids@gmail.com.

Swingin' Bears host annual Teddy Bear Dance



Last year's event collected over 200 stuffed toys for Community Concepts' Right Start for Kids program in the Oxford Hills area.

The Swingin' Bears Square Dance Club will host its annual Teddy Bear Dance on Saturday, December 10 at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Oxford Hills Middle School at 100 Pine Street in South Paris.

Those attending are

asked to bring donations of new or gently used stuffed toys to support Community Concepts' Right Start for Kids program in the Oxford Hills area. Club Caller Ray Hilton will call alternating class-, mainstream-, and plus-level dances and

Carol Arsenault will cue the round dances. There will be refreshments, door prizes and a 50/50 drawing. Admission will be \$7 for dancers and free of charge for non-dancers.

For more information, call 892-6971 or 864-5933.

MCP seeks performers, skit for upcoming show

Monmouth Community Players is seeking talented performers and an original skit for their original 1940's-style radio variety show "When Radio was King." Auditions will take place Sunday and Monday, December 11 and 12, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Cumston Hall in downtown Monmouth. Directed by Linda Duarte of Lewiston and produced by Cindy Dunham of Winthrop, the show will be performed February 16 through 19, Thursday through Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m., at historic

Cumston Hall.

Though several skits have already been chosen for the production, a spot has been reserved for an original work by a local playwright. If you have ever dreamt of writing your own play and seeing it performed live, dust off your computer keyboard and get to work. Entries must be 10 to 15 minutes in length and submitted no later than December 21. If your script is chosen as the winner, you will receive two tickets to the show. Send entries to linda.duarte@spi-global.com

Those interested in auditioning should prepare 16 bars of a song to be performed with accompaniment. The production is looking for actors, musicians, singers and others to make this a truly unique experience for everyone involved. Please attend auditions if you are interested in being a part of the show. If you are unable to attend, contact Linda Duarte directly to make alternative arrangements. For more information about the production, call (800) 838-3006 or see www.monmouthcommunityplayers.org.

New Ways to Create Ambiance at Your Holiday Party

Hosting a party this yuletide? These days, there are new and innovative ways to set the tone for festive holiday cheer.

High-Tech Lighting ~ Holiday decorations aren't what they used to be. Now you can control your decorative lighting with app-enabled technology, controlling color combinations, speed and direction of light patterns, even connecting your light scheme to music right from your phone or computer.

DJ Apps ~ When you are rushing around making sure everyone is fed and having a good time, you likely don't have time to actively curate your party's music selection.

Consider downloading a DJ app in advance of



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your party, which can draw from your existing playlists, automatically make well-informed selections as to what to play next based on matching beats, and even mix the transitions for you. This can mean more attention paid to guests and less focus on your playlist.

Sing-a-Long ~ Want

to make your own music? Even with limited space, you can make caroling and holiday sing-a-longs at your party better with an electronic keyboard that provides the same key weight and resistance of an actual grand piano. For example, Casio's CGP-700 Com-
See Party, page 15

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Gawler Family to perform at Phippsburg Congregational

The Gawler Family will present a holiday concert at the Phippsburg Congregational Church on Friday, December 9 at 7:30 p.m. A Maine musical institution, the Gawlers will perform an eclectic assortment of old and new songs from many folk traditions, including songs celebrating Christmas and winter. They accompany their warm interweaving harmonies with fiddles, banjo, guitar, flute, and ukulele, as well as a few surprises. Whether crooning a quiet ballad or delivering a rollicking fiddle tune, their unique arrangements are accompanied by anecdotes both historical and humorous.

While best known for their extensive collection of tunes in the Scots-Irish and French Canadian traditions, their extensive travels have added to the scope of their material and musical influences. Ellen Gawler is a celebrated Maine fiddler conversant in many styles, including Maritime, Quebecois, Irish, New England and Shetland. She began fiddling at a young age, traveling to Ireland and the Shetland Islands to collect tunes and study with the masters. She has performed with a number of groups, including the Pineland Fiddlers, Ladies of the Lake, Childsplay, and the



The Gawlers will perform an eclectic assortment of old and new songs from many folk traditions, including songs celebrating Christmas and winter.

Maine Country Dance Orchestra, and has been a Suzuki violin and fiddle teacher for two decades.

Playing guitar and banjo, John Gawler has been a member of the Maine Country Dance Orchestra, the Pine Hill String Band, the Moosetones, Project Troubadour, and Childsplay. With the group Old Grey Goose International, he has shared his music with the people of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Algeria, Benin, Poland, and Cuba.

In addition to playing fiddle and singing, Molly Gawler has been a featured dancer with the internationally celebrated dance company, Pilobilus. She has recorded an album of lullabies called "Honey

Dreams" and is a member of the Boston-based fiddle orchestra Childsplay. Performing as the Gawler Sisters, she and her sisters Edith and Elsie have recorded their first album as a trio, "Home Again, Home Again." Playing the Bodhran and flute, Molly's husband, Lao Gillam, brings a new dimension to the Gawler Family sound.

Admission at the door is \$15 for adults, \$8 for students, and free for those ages 7 and under. Advance tickets are \$12 for adults, available at BrownPaperTickets.com.

Phippsburg Congregational Church is located at 10 Church Lane, at Parker Head Road, in Phippsburg. Doors will open at 7 p.m. and refreshments will be served. For more information, call 389-1770.

Twin City Nights

CÒIG to play Celtic Christmas Concert in Bath

By popular demand, the Chocolate Church Arts Center in Bath will welcome back the driving, vibrant sounds of CÒIG (pronounced "Ko-ig"), one of Cape Breton Island's most captivating young bands, for a Celtic Christmas Concert on Saturday, December 10 at 7:30 p.m.

With a collective total of over 30 nominations and awards and command over a dozen musical instruments, the band's four members - Chrissy Crowley (fiddle and vocals), Rachel Davis (fiddle, viola, and vocals), Jason Roach (piano), and Darren McMullen (guitar, mandolin, mandola, banjo, bouzouki, whistles, flute and vocals) - each toured and released successful albums before teaming up to form this exciting super group. Influenced equally by traditional Celtic music and Cape Breton's own musical traditions, the band easily shifts between traditional and century-old tunes and original and contemporary compositions. Their much-anticipated debut album, "Five," was released in 2014 to rave reviews and won the 2014 Canadian Folk Music



Cape Breton Island super group CÒIG returns by popular demand to Chocolate Church Arts Center for a special holiday performance on Saturday, December 10. (Photo by Corey Katz)

Award for Traditional Album of the Year. Tickets are \$25 at the door or \$22 in advance. Chocolate Church Arts Center is located at 804

Washington Street in festive downtown Bath. To buy tickets, call the box office at 442-8455 or see www.chocolatechurcharts.org.

Country Sunday

Country Fest Maine will present a Country Sunday on December 11 from noon to 4:30 p.m. at the Litchfield Sportsmen's Club. Live entertainment will be provided by the Route 17 Ramblers, Burt Ayotte, Dona Wittemore, Jack Duggins, and Randy & Travis

Pinkham. There will be door prizes, a 50/50 drawing and concessions. Doors will open at 11 a.m. Admission is \$5 and children under 12 will be admitted for free. The club is located at 2261 Hallowell Road in Litchfield. For more information, call Connie at 536-9647.

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Holidays at the FrancoCenter.org

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Twin City Nights

“Keeping Christmas at Norlands” December 10



The 1867 Washburn Family mansion will be elegantly decorated for the holidays.

The Washburn-Norlands Living History Center in Livermore will open for an interactive, family-friendly Christmas celebration called “Keeping Christmas at Norlands” on Saturday, December 10, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Visitors will have an opportunity to experience a variety of 19th-century Christmas and winter activities, including horse-drawn wagon rides, caroling, period crafts, storytelling, parlor games, cooking in the farmer’s cottage, and learning in the one-room schoolhouse. Tours of the Washburn Family’s Italianate 1867 mansion, now decorated for the holidays, will be offered, and mulled

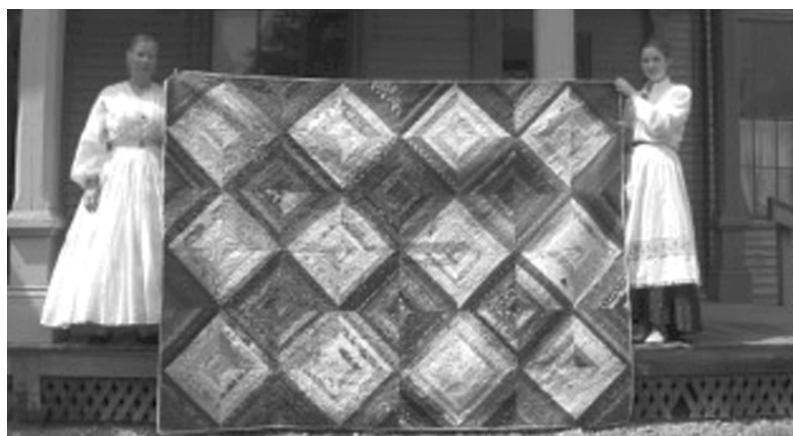


Neil Adam James will play period music on the lute.

maple syrup, old-time toys, books, prints, cards, mop caps, old-fashioned stick and rock candy, and more, will be open to meet guests’ holiday shopping needs, and an available Cookie Walk fundraiser to benefit the New Barn Fund will allow visitors to fill a bag with delicious homemade cookies to take home for only \$5.



A Cookie Walk fundraiser to benefit the New Barn Fund will allow visitors to fill a bag with delicious homemade cookies to take home for only \$5.



This beautiful quilt by the Livermore Village Scrappers will be raffled at the event. Tickets are \$3 for one, \$5 for two, or \$10 for ten, available by calling 897-4366. You need not be present to win.

5 affordable ways to connect with family without breaking the bank

Ready or not, the holidays are fast approaching. While it’s a season known for celebrating family and friends, the stress of gift-giving and holiday planning can make people lose sight of what’s really important.

Here are five ways you can easily connect with your family without breaking the bank.

Take a family “staycation” ~ Making time for your family during the holidays doesn’t have to mean splurging on a trip across the world. Instead, opt for a cheaper alternative and spend time in your area. Take time to explore neighborhoods or attractions nearby. You never know - you might find a new favorite place right in your own hometown.

Simplify communication ~ Not everyone can celebrate with family in-person over the holidays. Not to worry: a simple and

affordable way to stay in touch with loved ones is just what you need. TracFone has you covered with amazing smartphone and feature phone deals, to help you connect for moments that matter this season. TracFone now offers a 30-day smartphone-only plan with talk, text and data for just \$15 on America’s largest and most dependable networks with 4G LTE nationwide coverage - so you can easily share photos, videos and more. For more great deals and information on affordable, no-contract plans, visit www.TracFoneSwitch.com.

Repurpose a recipe ~ The holiday season means lots of meals and entertaining - and one of the best parts of this time of year is also leftovers! Rather than simply re-heating, look up some recipes you and your family can make to spice up extras from your holiday meal. This way, you can

not only spend time in the kitchen together, but enjoy the meal you made around the table.

DIY decorate ~ This year, instead of buying generic (and expensive) decorations, get creative by making your own! Get the entire family involved and create decorations that will forever have a special meaning in your home. You can also get help thinking outside the box by turning to Pinterest, craft bloggers or YouTube tutorials for inspiration.

Give back ~ It can be easy to forget that the holidays are a time to remember to give to those in need. Take some time with your family to volunteer for an organization you feel strongly about. Volunteering is a great way to not only remind your family of what the holidays are all about, but a way for you to bond over an unforgettable experience. (BPT)

cider and other refreshments, made fresh on the woodstove, will be available while supplies last.

Participants may also learn about how the Washburns and their neighbors, the Bradfords, anticipated Christmas and prepared for the holiday; how the holiday evolved over the course of the 19th-century; and how members of the Washburn Family who lived in cities such as Chicago and Washington D.C. during the 1800s would have celebrated differently from those living at Norlands.

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Thursday, December 8

Rotary Club Meeting. Noon to 1 p.m. Ramada Inn, Lewiston. Bill Grant, who in February was named Director of Adult Education for both Lewiston and Auburn, discusses trends in adult education in Maine. Guests welcome. 753-9040; monica.millhime@maine.gov.

YMCA Hall of Fame Celebration & Annual Meeting. 5 to 7 p.m. Martindale Country Club, Auburn. The Y inducts new members Stephen B. Austin, Muriel Bureau, James Lawler and Pennell Woodard. Free. Register at 795-4095 or www.alymca.org.

Lewiston Republicans Meeting. 7 p.m. Lewiston Armory. Following the meeting will be the caucus for the District 2 County Commissioner. For more information, contact Secretary Matthew Roy Secretary at matthewproy@gmail.com.

Friday, December 9

Food for Thought Luncheon. 11:30 a.m. Room 170, Lewiston-Auburn College. State Archivist David Cheever discusses the challenges facing records managers in the digital age and how his department is preparing for Maine's 2020 Bicentennial. \$7/8, incl. lunch. For adv. price, register by noon on 12/7 at 753-6510.

Holiday Spectacular. 7 p.m. Great Falls Theater, Auburn. Community Little Theatre's family-fun fundraiser features songs and dance from many holiday favorites; Santa will be available for photos after the show. Again 12/10. \$15. 783-0958; www.laact.com.

Theater: "A Christmas Carol." 7 p.m. The Public Theatre, 31 Maple St., Lewiston. For one weekend only, the Public Theatre presents its original adaptation of Dickens' holiday classic. All tix for those ages 18- are \$5. Again 12/10, 11. For show times, ticket info, call 782-3200 or see publictheatre.org.

Concert: The Gawler Family. 7:30 p.m. Phipps-

Calendar

See more Calendar at www.TwinCityTimes.com

burg Congregational Church, 10 Church Lane, Phippsburg. This musical family performs an assortment of songs from many folk traditions, including songs celebrating Christmas and winter. Admission \$15/12/8 (kids 7- free). 389-1770; BrownPaperTickets.com.

Saturday, December 10

Gingerbread Day. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Callahan Hall, Lewiston Public Library. Marking winter in C.S. Lewis's Narnia, this family event features Narnia-themed activities, crafts, refreshments, and photo opportunities. Free. 513-3133; lplkids@gmail.com.

Keeping Christmas at Norlands. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Norlands Living History Center, 290 Norlands Rd., Livermore. Tour the decorated 1867 mansion while experiencing a variety of 19th-century Christmas and winter activities. \$10/6 (family rate \$25). 897-4366; www.NORLANDS.org.

Bean Supper. 4:45 p.m. Calvary United Methodist Church, Lewiston (use garden entrance on Bartlett St.). Baked beans, hot dogs, assorted casseroles (incl. vegetarian), biscuits, salads, home-made pies. Adults \$7.50, children \$3.

Square & Round Dancing. 7 to 10 p.m. Oxford Hills Middle School, 100 Pine St., So. Paris. The Swingin' Bears host their annual Teddy Bear dance; bring a new or gently used stuffed toy to donate. \$7 (non- free). 892-6971; swinginbears.squaredance.us.

"Celebrating A Heritage Christmas." 7:30 p.m. Gendron Franco Center, 46 Cedar St., Lewiston. The Maine Music Society Chorale presents a program of Christmas songs from the

United States, incl. many holiday favorites. Again 12/ 11 at 3 p.m. \$22/20/10. 782-7228; www.mainemusicsociety.org.

Concert: CÒIG. 7:30 p.m. Chocolate Church Arts Center, 804 Washington St., Bath. This Cape Breton Island super group returns to the Chocolate Church for a holiday performance. \$22 in adv., \$25 at door. 442-8455; www.chocolatechurcharts.org.

Sunday, December 11

Country Sunday. Noon to 4:30 p.m. Litchfield Sportsmen's Club, 2782 Hallowell Rd., Litchfield. Country Fest Maine presents an afternoon of live country music; door prizes, raffles, concessions. Doors open at 11:00. \$5 (kids 12-free). 330-0545; 536-9647.

Tuesday, December 13

Central ME Human Resources Assoc. Meeting. 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. Carriage House, 1119 Lisbon St., Lewiston. Panelists from local agencies discuss free services they can offer to help your employees through a variety of situations - so they can stay on the job. Register at www.cmhra.shrm.org/ events.

3D Printing Workshop. 1:30 p.m. Androscoggin Comm. Room, Auburn Public Library. Explore the basics of 3D printing and learn how to search for printing projects for the library's new 3D printer. 333-6640; www.auburnpubliclibrary.org.

Shoulder Pain Seminar. 6 to 7 p.m. ABC Conf. Rm., Central Maine Medical Center, 12 High St., Lewiston. Dr. Paul R. Cain, MD discusses various types of shoulder pain and treatments. Free. Refreshments. Register at 835-2860; jseas9@spectrummg.com.

Wednesday, December 14

Maine Women's Network Meeting. 11:30 a.m.

Hilton Garden Inn, Auburn. Executive Director Erin Reed speaks about the mission and work of the Trinity Jubilee Center. \$25 (members \$17), incl. lunch. Register at www.maine-womensnetwork.com.

Thursday, December 15

HR Thursdays Workshop. Noon to 2 p.m. Chamber of Commerce, 415 Lisbon St., Lewiston. This month's topic is "Creative Strategies for Attracting Employees from Various Talent Pools." \$50 (Chamber members \$25; Central ME Human Resource Assoc. members free). 783-2249. Register at www.LAMetroChamber.com.

Rotary Club Meeting. Noon to 1 p.m. Ramada Inn, Lewiston. Cheryl McKeone, third-generation florist and president of Ann's Flower Shop, discusses the business's history. Guests welcome. 753-9040; monica.millhime@maine.gov.

Marine Corps League Meeting. 6 p.m. Lewiston Armory, 65 Central Avenue. Central ME Detachment 810 holds its monthly meeting. All Marines, FMF Corpsman and FMF Chaplains invited, as is anyone interested in joining as an assoc. member.

Theater: "It's a Wonderful Life." 7 p.m. Chocolate Church Arts Center, 804 Washington St., Bath. Frank Capra's classic holiday film is staged in

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Bad Santa 2 (R).....	1:30	4:40	7:30	9:45
Fantastic Beasts (PG-13).....	12:15	3:15	6:55	9:50
Arrival (PG-13).....	1:20	4:30	7:20	9:55
Hacksaw Ridge (R).....	12:20	3:50	6:45	9:40
Monday, December 12th :Hacksaw Ridge" will not play @6:45 & 9:40				
Doctor Strange (PG-13).....	12:30	3:30	7:05	9:40
Trolls (PG).....	12:05	2:25
.....	4:45	7:10	9:25
Moana (PG).....	1:00	4:20	7:00	9:35

a live theater production. Again 12/16-18. \$12/15. For show times, ticket info, call 442-8455 or see www.chocolatechurcharts.org.

Saturday, December 17

Christmas Bird Count. 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Stanton Bird Club members and volunteers work with an assigned leader in one of six sectors to count species as part of a larger No. American survey. www.StantonBirdClub.org.

Holiday Bake Sale & Bottle Drive. 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Chapter 11, Main St. (across from Burger King), Lewiston. Proceeds support Tommy's Feral Felines, which works to support local feral cats. Again 12/18. FMI

or to donate, call 240-8767 or email normblais@yahoo.com.

Tuesday, January 10

Multi-Faith Roundtable Discussion. 12:30 p.m. Auburn Public Library. In this series, a panel of area clergy discuss various topics from the perspectives of different faith traditions. Concludes 2/7. Free. For topics, call 333-6640, ext. 4.

Tuesday, February 7

Multi-Faith Roundtable Discussion. 12:30 p.m. Auburn Public Library. A panel of area clergy discuss various topics from the perspectives of different faith traditions. Free. For topics, call 333-6640, ext. 4.

Brakey receives record number of votes for District 20

State Senator Eric Brakey (R-Androscoggin), who was recently elected to serve his second term in Maine Senate District 20, received a record number of votes in his district. Brakey won his bid for re-election in a 24-point landslide with 62% of the vote, increasing his 2014 margin of victory by 3%.

It is uncommon for a Republican candidate not only to garner such a large share of votes but also to win this district in a presidential election year. In the past two

presidential election years (2008 and 2012), the incumbent republican senator was defeated. Brakey is the first Republican to win this district with more than 60% of the vote since Peter Whitmore in 1988 and Olympia Snowe in 1976.

Brakey was also the top vote-getter of all items on the ballot in his district. He won the City of Auburn with 58% of the vote, which was also won by congressional candidate Emily Cain with 51% of the vote. Overall, Brakey polled 9 points ahead of all

State House and congressional Republican candidates, suggesting strong crossover support from Democrat voters in the district.

"Our victory would have never been possible without the support of each person who supported our campaign for 'Maine People, not Politics,'" Senator Brakey said. "Thank you to the people of Auburn, New Gloucester, Poland, Minot and Mechanic Falls for putting your renewed faith in me to continue serving as your State Senator in Augusta."

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Boys & Girls Club serves up Thanksgiving dinner

For more than 10 years, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Southern Maine's Auburn-Lewiston Clubhouse has served up Thanksgiving dinner for the local kids and teens who make up its membership. Thanksgiving dinner at the Clubhouse is especially important for those who might not have a holiday dinner at home. Often, a healthy meal or snack at the Boys & Girls Club is the last nourishment of the day for many of its members. Last year, the Clubs served more than 91,000 daily



For the eighth year in a row, the L-A Rotary Club helped serve Thanksgiving dinner at the Auburn-Lewiston Clubhouse.



The nearly 100 members in attendance enjoyed a hearty holiday feast.

What's Going On

meals and snacks to members in Southern Maine, representing a 19% increase from the prior year.

For the eighth year in a row, the Lewiston-Auburn Rotary Club was on hand to help serve the hearty potluck meal, supplied by Club parents and supporters, to the nearly 100 kids and teens who attended. "We are really happy and proud to participate," said Don Fournier, President of the

L-A Rotary Club, which recently awarded the Auburn-Lewiston Clubhouse with more than \$5,000 in proceeds raised at the inaugural Criterion, held at Kennedy Park in Lewiston in July.

The mission of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Southern Maine is to inspire and enable all young people, particularly those who need it most, to realize their full potential as

responsible, productive and caring citizens. The Clubs serve 2,850 youth, ages 6 to 18. Their five locations in Lewiston-Auburn and Greater Portland are safe places for children and teens to learn, have fun and develop skills and interests that last a lifetime.

To learn more about the organization or the Auburn-Lewiston Clubhouse, see www.bgcmaine.org.



Rotarians serve up the numerous potluck offerings.



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<p>2008 Jeep Wrangler X 4X4 #W60786B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3.8 L V6 • 5 Spd Manual • AM/FM/CD • A/C • Soft Top • Running Boards • Power Windows <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">15,000 MILES!</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">\$18,995</p>	<p>2014 Ford E-150 Cargo Van #W6064A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4.6L V8 4 Spd • Auto w/OD • AdvancedTrak • Cruise • A/C • Tilt Steering • Power Windows, Locks & Mirrors <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">23,000 MILES!</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">\$20,995</p>	<p>2013 Ford F-150 KING RANCH 4X4 #A5071</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3.5L Turbo EcoBoost w/NAV • Fiberglass Cap • Chrome Wheels • Moonroof • RearSlider • Heat/Cool Seats • Backup Camera <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">23,000 MILES!</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">\$30,895</p>	<p>2006 Ford F-350 King Ranch 4X4 #W60927A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5.4L V8 • Bed Liner • Fiberglass Cap • Leather • SYNC Voice • 6 Disc CD • Heat/Cool Seats • Trailer Brake Cont. <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">62,000 MILES!</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">\$18,995</p>												
<p>2016 Ford Transit Wagon 250 #A5031</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3.7L V6 6 Spd • Auto w/OD • 12 Passenger • Cruise & A/C • Tinted Priv. Glass • AM/FM CD • Power Windows, Locks & Mirrors <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">4,000 MILES!</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">\$27,995</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">WHY PAY MORE?</p> <table style="margin: auto; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Doc Fee</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">\$399.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Westbrook, ME</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">\$399.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">South Portland, ME</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">\$389.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Bangor, ME</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">\$349.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Saco, ME</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">\$189.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">York, ME</td> <td style="padding: 2px;"></td> </tr> </table> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.1em; color: white; background-color: blue; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;">NEVER PAY A DOC FEE AT WISCASSET FORD</p>		Doc Fee	\$399.00	Westbrook, ME	\$399.00	South Portland, ME	\$389.00	Bangor, ME	\$349.00	Saco, ME	\$189.00	York, ME		<p>2015 Ford Expedition XLT #A5128</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3.5L 4 Cyl EcoBoost • Tow Package • Navigation • Backup Camera • SYNC Voice • Touchscreen • Leather <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">34,000 MILES!</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">\$36,995</p>
Doc Fee	\$399.00														
Westbrook, ME	\$399.00														
South Portland, ME	\$389.00														
Bangor, ME	\$349.00														
Saco, ME	\$189.00														
York, ME															
<p>2014 Ford Mustang Convertible #W60208A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3.7L V6 • Power Soft Top • Limited Slip Differential • Alluminum Alloys • 6 Disc CD • SYNC Voice • Bluetooth <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">21,000 MILES!</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">\$17,995</p>	<p>2013 Lincoln MKZ #A5002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.0L 4 Cyl w/ EcoBoost • Backup Camera • Premium Wheels • Touchscreen • Leather Heat Seats • SYNC Voice • Remote Start <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">21,000 MILES!</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">\$18,595</p>	<p>2015 Hyundai Tucson AWD #A5127</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.4L 4 Cyl • Alloys • Power Seats • Keyless Entry • Backup Camera • AM/FM/CD • Bluetooth • Cruise • A/C <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">13,000 MILES!</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">\$23,995</p>	<p>2015 Ford Taurus Limited #A5094</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3.5L V6 Auto • Leather • Power Seats • Heated & Cooled Seats • Backup Camera • Remote Start <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">27,000 MILES!</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">\$19,995</p>												

Pictures may vary. We reserve the right to correct typographical errors.

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