FREE • Vol. XVI, No. 37

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December 22, 2016 • FREE



Red Cross urges blood donation this holiday season

It can't be wrapped or placed under a tree, but the perfect gift can help save patient's lives this holiday season. The American Red Cross urges eligible donors to give the lifesaving gift of a blood donation in December, a time when donations decline but the needs of patients remain steady.

Barbara Coger will never forget the donors that gave the blood that her husband received during the holidays. "I have been donating blood for some time, but really started encouraging others to do so after my husband received a donation on Christmas Eve," she said. "He had not been doing well and would

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not survive much longer, but with that extra boost, he was able to share a big smile with me on Christmas morning, something I will always cherish."

Donors of all blood types are needed this holiday season to help ensure a sufficient supply for hospital patients. To encourage donations, all those who donate from December 22 through January 8 will receive a longsleeved Red Cross T-shirt while supplies last.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities include: Friday, December 23, from noon to 5 p.m. at Mason United 8, 65 Baribeau Drive in Brunswick; Tuesday, December 27, from

unch, Monday-Friday

Music Line Up Thursdays 7-9pm

\$4 Crazy Sushi Rolls

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December 22nd

Josh Hatfield

December 31st

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noon to 5 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn of Auburn; Tuesday, December 27, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Flagship Cinemas, 206 US-Route 1 in Freeport; Wednesday, December 28, from 1 to 6 p.m. at Bath Middle School, 6 Old Brunswick Road in Bath; and Thursday, December 29, from noon to 5 p.m. at Freeport Community Center, 53 Depot Street

To make an appointment to give blood, download the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). A blood donor card or driver's license or two See Red Cross, page 4

Mechanics Savings supports High St. Food Pantry



Business Services Specialist Sonia Theberge (l.) and Retail Banking Officer Nancy Richard present a \$1000 donation check to Lee Upton of High Street Food Pantry.

Mechanics Savings Bank recently donated \$1,000 to High Street Food Pantry, a coalition of five Auburn churches that has been serving those in need for approximately 20 years. In the past year, High Street Food Pantry distributed more than 150,000 pounds of food to over 3,000 families living in Lewiston, Auburn and surrounding towns.

"High Street Food Pantry finds success through the generosity of our volunteer staff, support from the affiliated churches and especially

the financial contributions from local businesses," said High Street Food Pantry coordinator Lee Upton. "This donation from Mechanics Savings Bank will allow us to purchase over 5,000 pounds of food to provide festive meals for families in need during the holidays."

Founded in 1875 as a mutual savings bank, Mechanics Savings has branches in Auburn, Brunswick, Lewiston and Windham. The bank remains committed to giving back to the communities it serves through charitable giving and volunteerism, supporting education, social welfare, arts, and community events that positively impact and benefit the residents of Androscoggin and Cumberland

St. Dom's hockey team hosts Christmas Classic

The boy's hockey program at St. Dominic Academy will host the 2016 St. Dominic Academy Christmas Classic invitational hockey tournament at the Norway Savings Bank Arena in Auburn from Tuesday, December 27 through Thursday, December 29.

Competing with St. Dom's for tournament honors will be state rivals Edward Little and Bangor High School, along with Notre Dame Fairfield of Fairfield, CT; Northwest Catholic of West Hartford, CT; Bishop Brady of Concord, NH; St. Thomas Aquinas of Dover, NH; and Smithfield High School of Smithfield, RI.

The following matchups will take place on Tuesday, December 27: at 1 p.m., Bishop Brady vs. Edward Little; at 3 p.m., Notre Dame Fairfield vs. Smithfield; at 5 p.m., Bangor vs. St. Dom's; and at 7 p.m., St. Thomas Aquinas vs. Northwest Catholic

Games on Wednesday, December 28 will also begin at 1, 3, 5, and 7 p.m., with match-ups determined by the prior day's results. Day three of the tourney will utilize both rinks of the Norway Savings Bank Arena to feature championship and consolation games at 11 a.m. and 1:10 p.m.

"The goal of this event is to provide a high caliber and unique hockey experience to our student athletes," said tournament director See Hockey, page 4



Movie Listings Every Week! Only in TCT. See page 13. www.FlagshipCinemas.com

See all of this week's stories and ads online. Free!

www.TwinCityTimes.com

Newsmakers, Names & Faces

WHA, Spruce Bay Landscaping support CMMC



Pictured here (l. to r.) are Glenn Bolduc and Erin Jones of Spruce Bay Landscaping, with WHA president Sharon Poulin, Dempsey Center Community Services Coordinator Mary Dempsey, WHA vice-president June van Mourik, CMHC VP for Public Affairs Ericka Dodge, and WHA members Denise Cloutier, Susan O'Byrne, and Dinie Dunham.

The Woman's Hospital Association at CMMC, with the help of Spruce Bay Landscaping of Poland, raised over \$1400 in four hours recently at the WHA's annual Wreath Sale. Owner Glenn Bolduc donated 35 wreaths, which were then decorated by WHA Board members and sold in the hospital's 60 High Street lobby to raise funds for Arbor House.

Spruce Bay Landscaping was also instrumental in the WHA's Memory Mum Project that raised over \$3200 for three different funds that provide services for CMMC cancer patients. In September, Bolduc and his crew planted 500 mums on the CMMC grounds at the 60 High Street entrance, where supporters then purchased placards dedicating a mum to a loved one. The proceeds were divided equally among the Dempsey Center's Maine Fund for Cancer Patients, the Cynthia Rydholm Center's

Cancer Care Immediate Needs Fund, and the Bennett Breast Care Center's Patients' Needs Fund. The Memory Mum Project was established in 2015 in honor of Amanda Dempsey.

Rinck adds three to social, account positions

Veronica Beaudoin of Gray, Iodi Connors of Kennebunkport and Heather Cyr of Lewiston have joined the team at Rinck, a fullservice marketing, promotions and public relations agency in Auburn.

As a social media manager, Beaudoin strategizes and creates social content across all social media platforms for Rinck clients. She also works as the assistant agency producer managing

small and large-scale projects, organizing content and conducting research while coordinating between multiple departments at Rinck.

Prior to joining Rinck, Beaudoin worked at NL Partners and VIP Tires & Service. In her most recent role at VIP Tires & Service, she assisted in creating social media strategies, grew the VIP social media following, and analyzed, evaluated, and reported on the company's online presence.

Beaudoin graduated magna cum laude with a bachelor's degree in communications with a concentration in public relations and marketing from Thomas College in 2015. She also studied abroad at the University of Stirling, in the United Kingdom, where,

Munster Abbey
Boarding and Breeding Kennels LLC

New Gloucester was among the five Maine Game Wardens who graduated recently from the Maine Criminal Justice Academy's 18-week Basic Law Enforcement Training Program (BLETP) in Vassalboro. Among the many topics they studied were crime scene processing, emergency vehicle operaproblem solving. tion, firearms proficiency, traffic and criminal law, do-

assault. The wardens will

Taylor Valente, 24, of

through a class, she worked with an international client on marketing and communications objectives.

mestic violence and sexual

Connors joins Rinck as a client strategist with more than 15 years of experience as an agency account leader and an expert in brand building and integrated marketing. She brings significant client experience from some of New York's most prestigious agencies, including Young & Rubicam, Publicis and TracyLocke. She is a graduate of Susquehanna University.

Most recently, Connors was marketing direcnow enter their next phase of training, a twelve-week Advanced Game Warden Academy, also based out of the Academy in Vassalboro, that focuses on skills more specific to game warden work. In addition, they will participate in an intensive Warden Training Officer program involving field work, team building and

Graduating from the program with Valente were game wardens Camden Akins, 23, of Winslow,

tor at Village Candle, Inc.

where she developed a brand

strategy and positioning for

business-to-business and

business-to-consumer mar-

keting for Village Candle

globally. Prior to Village

Candle, Jodi was client re-

lations manager at Burgess

Advertising & Marketing

and client strategist at The

VIA Agency. During a 13-

year stretch at New York

City agencies, she worked

as an account director, vice

president, and associate

utive, specializes in serving

Rinck's consumer packaged

Cyr, an account exec-

Jackman district. goods clients, including Dean Foods, to deliver a full range of strategic marketing services. Her experience, having worked in both the agency and in-house side of marketing, coupled with her experience within a media organization, allows Cyr to look at each marketing challenge through several lenses.

Kayle Hamilton, 26, of

Buxton, Megan Miller, 22,

of Pittsfield, and Lauren

have been assigned their patrol areas. Valente

has been assigned to

the Rockwood district,

Akins has been assigned

to the Chamberlain Lake

district, Hamilton will

head for the Clayton Lake

district, Miller will go to

the Mars Hill district,

and Roddy will cover the

The new wardens

Roddy, 21, of Belgrade.

She worked at HIMSS Media as the client services manager and at IDEXX Laboratories as the marketing communications account executive II before joining the team at Rinck. Having eight years of account See Rinck page 6

New game wardens graduate from Justice Academy



Pictured here (l. to r.) are Maine's newest game wardens, Taylor Valente, Kayle Hamilton, Megan Miller, Lauren Roddy, Camden Akins, and Kyle Franklin.

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A Christmas Message from the Governor

As we gather with friends and family this week to celebrate Christmas, I am reminded how blessed I am to have such a wonderful family.

Dear Maine Tax-

As Governor, it is my number-one priority to provide opportunities for my family to stay in Maine. I know it is just as important to you for your children and grandchildren to live, work and play in our great State.

Unfortunately, we have had some setbacks.

Voters approved a ballot measure to raise the minimum wage, which they believed would be good for Maine workers. But it will have serious unintended consequences to our economy—and it could leave many Maine workers without a job, not to mention the severe financial blow to our senior

Too many Mainers are already struggling, and I don't want those families to lose faith. As your Governor, I have walked in your shoes. I know how



Governor Paul R. LePage

difficult it is to fall on hard

That's why I will urge

the Legislature to honor the will of the people, but to do no harm to our workers, our elderly and our economy. We can do both.

We can make Maine a better place for all of our sons and daughters to find work, to start businesses and to stay here to raise families of their own. But our elected officials will have to find the courage to make sure they do not damage our economy.

As we come together for the holidays, we should take the opportunity to share goodwill and gratitude and reflect on the blessings we have received year round.

I am proud of our great State and the fortitude of Mainers, and our administration will continue to work on behalf of you and your family.

And while many families are together this Christmas, I would also like to recognize the many families who are apart. The First Lady and I are thinking of our military service members who are serving away from their loved ones this Christmas.

We thank you for your dedication and courage as you defend our nation and the freedoms we hold dear. We look forward to your safe return. Also, Ann and I thank our military families for all their sacrifices while their loved ones are away.

I wish you and your families, near and far, a safe and Merry Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Thank You, Paul R. LePage Governor

Sand Buckets for Seniors



 $Bucket of Sand \, delivered \, free$ to all Auburn homeowners over the age of 65 in the third year program by the City of Auburn Public Services Department.

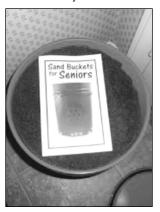
Story and photos by Rachel Morin

Glancing out my living room window on Thursday morning, December 15, I was delighted to see the Auburn Public Works sand truck stop at my driveway and see two Auburn Public Works employees, filling three bright red sand buckets for me and my two neighbors across the street, all of us over 65. Well, let's face it; I am a ways over 65!

Normally, I would be out there with my camera to take this great photo, but clad in my nightclothes, I remained at the door to greet the young man who trudged up the driveway with the sturdy five gallon bucket filled to the brim with the lid fastened securely. He placed it in the entryway. I was so pleased to see him and thanked him profusely for this wonderful gift from the City of Auburn Public Services.

This is the third year Sand Buckets for Seniors is in operation, but my first experience with it. I opened the lid later and saw the pretty gift card on top of the sand. I was touched by the message: "This bucket of sand is a gift from your friends at the City of Auburn Public Services Department. Please use this sand on your walkways, steps and driveway to make them safer during the snowy/icy winter months. The Sand Buckets for Seniors program is a way for us to show our appreciation and respect for the seniors in our community, and to help keep you safe." Happy Holidays from Auburn Public Services. 296 Gracelawn Road, Auburn.

I called the Auburn Public Works to thank them and learn a little more about the program. The buckets were donated by Home Depot and Lowe's in Auburn. The men at the Auburn Public Works were happy to participate in the program and gracefully declined to be mentioned by name.



Gift card from the City of Auburn Public Services, Gracelawn Road, nestled on top of the sand. The buckets for the program were donated by Home Depot and

MECA takes applications for Salt Graduate Certificate

Maine College of Art is now accepting applications for its Fall 2017 Salt Graduate Certificate in Documentary Studies. Since 1973, the Salt Institute for Documentary Studies has taught students from across the United States and around the world to become truthful, thorough, creative and responsible storytellers and documentarians. In Spring of 2016, the Salt Institute for Documentary Studies formally became part of MECA. For the first time in its 42-year history, the program is fully accredited.

The Salt Graduate Certificate in Documentary Studies is a one-semester, graduate-level intensive in documentary storytelling at MECA, one of five academic programs at the college. The program offers a choice of four tracks: Radio, Short Documentary Film, Photography, and Writing. Students in the program have access to the college's student services, facilities and equipment, including the new recording studio in the Bob Crewe Program in Art and Music.

Applicants to the Salt Graduate Certificate in Documentary Studies must have an undergraduate degree from an accredited institution or be currently enrolled as a junior or senior in good academic standing at an accredited college or university. MECA is now accepting applicants for the Fall 2017 and Spring 2018 semesters. The program will begin operations in the fall of 2017. For more information or to apply, visit meca.edu/salt.

The Salt Story Archive is an impressive collection of works by more than 1,000 Salt students, many of whom have gone on to successful careers at places like NPR and National Geographic. To explore some of the fascinating stories of survival, love, faith, discovery, and perseverance documented by Salt students over the years, visit the archive at www.saltstoryarchive.com.



FAME to award \$16,000 in scholarship prizes

The Finance Authority of Maine will award 16 scholarship prizes in the amount of \$1,000 each to be contributed to 16 NextGen 529 plan accounts, selecting ME sweepstakes began on October 1 and ends on De-

"Opening and conof Maine. The Invest in tion," said Bruce Wagner, See FAME, page 4

Chief Executive Officer at FAME. "We're hoping the Scholarship Prize is an encouragement to take that tributing to a NextGen first step toward a bright College Investing Plan ac- future for all of Maine's one random winner from count is a great first step students." FAME designed each of the 16 counties towards higher educa- the \$1,000 Invest in ME

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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

Setting priorities for clearing snow, ice during winter storms

By Jonathan P. LaBonté

MAYOR OF AUBURN
The winter of 2017

The winter of 2017 has just begun, and we've already experienced a few snowstorms and much-dreaded ice storms to get us started.

In a world where we seem to always be in a hurry, snow and ice and the conditions they create on local streets can make for a frustrating headache. Since we are early in the year, it is the perfect time to check in on how to respond to bad weather.

When it is snowing or there is freezing rain, we should all know that the conditions are challenging for everyone. For people needing to get to work or do errands, for public safety staff out on patrol or responding to emergencies and for our public works staff trying to clear the streets, the conditions are the same. That means we should all slow down, be extra cautious and give ourselves more time to get to where we are going; this is part of the deal to live in Maine.

So maybe you've already followed that step, but are concerned about the condition of your road in Auburn. Call or email us and let us know. In fact, the city website has a function where you can log concerns about city services or projects. Simply go to www.auburnmaine.gov/reportit and let us know.

For storms earlier in the year, I encourage residents to have some patience as plow drivers get back



Mayor Jonathan P. LaBonté

into the routine of their routes, especially for storms that last for longer than a shift or that have changing conditions as snow turns to rain and ice.

While we can't expect all of our 450 miles of road and 55 miles of sidewalks to be cleared down to the pavement all through a storm, we should all expect the level of service the city council budgets for. The City of Auburn has a priority system for roads from Priority 1 to Priority 4 with the highest priority seeing plow activity every two hours and the lowest priority every six to eight hours.

Since the city council relies on city management to oversee the performance of that system, resident feedback on what's happening on your street is the best way to ensure we are delivering what you pay for.

Given Auburn's status as the retail and commercial center for our region, we are forced by the state to tax on the obligation of maintaining major corridors like Center Street and Minot Avenue. Even through the 15,000 to 30,000 vehicles a day that travel here come

from all over Greater Lewiston-Auburn and beyond, the costs of maintaining those roads, including for the winter, falls to city staff. That often means that predominantly residential streets that carry less traffic fall to a lower priority.

The same challenge applies to our sidewalks throughout the city and prioritizing our sidewalks on routes to school and in the downtown area before getting into residential areas. Often throughout the city during a storm, I will see business owners or neighbors working to clear not only their sidewalks, but those of abutting properties too. Everyone lending an extra hand in clearing snow, if they are able, helps us to get to a safe city more nuickly.

When we dive into the budget process in the new year, it will be the perfect time to talk more with all of you about how important snow removal is and what it would cost to improve the level of service all of us now receive (and perhaps what we should cut to make that a priority).

But before we get to that, I urge all of you to provide feedback about the services you receive--and not only when you're frustrated. Remember that our hardworking public works crews are out there in terrible conditions when many of us are sitting at home enjoying the warmth of our living rooms. Don't forget to reach out and thank them for a job well done, too!

Local agency brings veterans, dogs together



Helaina Lake and K9 partner Xena, Mike Wedge and K9 partner Sis, Eli Ranquist and K9 partner Bella, and Alan Johnston and K9 partner Gypsy

With the passing of Joy Johnson, the state recently lost a tireless advocate for Maine veterans and their families, but her legacy lives on in the agency she founded: Embrace a Vet is a non-profit service organization dedicated to supporting veterans and their caregivers through the challenges of Post-Traumatic Stress and Traumatic Brain Injuries by providing healing retreats and a dynamic service dog program called

Paws for Peace.

Paws for Peace offers veterans a way to reconnect with their families, friends and communities by teaching them to train their own service dogs through a comprehensive 16-week program provided at no cost. After a comprehensive screening by canine training specialists North Edge K9, dogs are adopted from local shelters and other facilities, bringing veteran and dog together to work as a team with a

renewed sense of honor, purpose and determination. Beyond basic service dog behavior, each dog is trained by its new partner in at least two special tasks to address specific needs, such as medication reminders, soothing anxiety attacks, retrieving dropped items, creating personal space behind the veteran, and many others.



Cody Winslow and K9 partner Gia meet for the first time. Cody and Gia are now in the fifth week of the current Paws for Peace training class in Portland.

Hope and healing are the hallmarks of EAV and, with the help of generous donors, they are grateful to provide this crucial service to our Maine veteran community. For more information about Embrace a Vet and its Paws for Peace program, seewww.embraceavet.org.

FAME

Continued from page 3

sweepstakes to spark statewide momentum toward encouraging all Maine families to save for college and help to reduce student loan debt

To enter the Invest in ME Sweepstakes, open a NextGen account for the benefit of a legal resident of the State of Maine, or contribute to an existing such account, and complete and submit an entry form by mail or online at NextGenforME.com/entertowin.

NextGen is a Section 529 plan administered by the Finance Authority of Maine (FAME). Before you invest in NextGen, request a NextGen Program Description from your Merrill Lynch Financial Advisor or Maine Distribution Agent or call Merrill Edge at 1-877-4-NEXTGEN (877-463-9843) and read it carefully. The Program Description contains more complete information, including investment objectives, charges, expenses

and risks of investing in NextGen, which you should carefully consider before investing. You should also consider whether your or your designated beneficiary's home state offers any state tax or other benefits that are only available for investments in that state's Section 529 plan. Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, a registered broker-dealer, member SIPC, is the program manager and underwriter.

FAME is a quasi-independent state agency that expands business and educational opportunities to help Maine people and businesses succeed. To learn more about FAME, please visit FAMEmaine.com.

Red Cross

Continued from page 1

other forms of identification are required at check-in. Those who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. To save time when donating, donors are encouraged to make appointments and complete the RapidPass online health history questionnaire at redcrossblood.org.

Hockey

Continued from page 1

Steve Ouellette. "It show-cases the proud tradition of St. Dom's hockey, and along with our sponsors and hotel partners, we look forward to hosting one of the best high school hockey tournaments in the Northeast. This is a great example of the benefit of having a facility like Norway Savings Bank Arena in our community." For more information about the event, call St. Dominic Academy at 782-6911.

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Enough is Enough

Remember those who are unable to enjoy Christmas

By Robert E. Macdonald Mayor of Lewiston

"Peace on Earth, good will towards men." Thus spoke a choir of angels to shepherds attending their sheep in the field, announcing the birth of the Christ

Child 2017 years ago. The Christmas Season is upon us. It's a time for families to get together in order to celebrate the present and remember fond memories from the past, when life was simpler.

It's a time when parents and grandparents' lives are enriched as they watch the awe-struck, wide-eyed faces of their children eagerly inspecting what seems to be an unlimited trove of presents under the tree. In their minds, they wonder and hope whether what seemed an eternal wait was worth it.

Following the gift giving, family members will sit down and be treated to a meal fit for royalty. But this meal has an added ingredient not found in royal meals—love.

However, in many families there will be members who are not present for this annual celebration. They may live out of state, and because of distance and time constraints are unable to attend. Married couples may alternate with each other's families each year. Some family members may be required to work—some have to work.

For those required to work, wouldn't it be nice if



Mayor Bob Macdonald

their employers put aside the almighty dollar for this one day? Even better, companies could adopt a business model similar to Hobby Lobby, where the spirit of Mr. Fezziwig is kept alive.

Once again, this year our world is not experiencing peace on Earth. Many of our military men and women are separated from their families, spending time in some Third World hellhole, making a conscious sacrifice to ensure those on the home front sleep safely.

Unfortunately, their sacrifices create a sense of loss, heartbreak and overwhelming concern of their safety for those serving by family members. This year's Christmas family memories will be of their absent loved ones and a hope that those not in attendance will be there next year.

Let us take time out of our Christmas celebration this year to remember and hopefully appreciate the sacrifices these military

personnel are making for us.

This year, like last, many of our police and firemen will not be attending the family festivities. Accepting these jobs automatically puts you in line to possibly miss celebrating Christmas with your family. Their tireless dedication to the communities they serve should be recognized throughout the year.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the hospital and ambulance personnel, public works personnel and the forgotten people who work at coffee shops and other places, providing the aforementioned groups the ability to take a well-deserved break.

While Christians cel-

The Lewiston Rec-

reation Department has

announced that residents

may now register for rec-

reation programs, reserve

New online service

ebrate the birth of Jesus, our Jewish neighbors will be celebrating Hanukkah, which begins on Saturday, December 24 and concludes on January 1.

Hanukkah remembers the rededication and purification of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem following the Maccabees' defeat of the Syrians. The wicks on the Temple menorah miraculously burned for eight days, despite having only a one-day supply

Lastly, I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy Hanukkah. And to all those politically correct, non-believers who look on Christmas as a humbugwell, I say, a very Merry Christmas to you all!

space at the Lewiston

Memorial Armory, and

check league schedules

online at www.lewiston-

recreation.com.

Route 26, Poland

Fessenden to address **Rotary Club**



Will Fessenden is a Marketing Director

The guest speaker at the next meeting of the Lewiston-Auburn Rotary Club on Thursday, December 29, from noon to 1 p.m. will be Will Fessenden. The meeting will take place at the Ramada Inn of Lewiston. Guests are welcome to attend.

Fessenden is the Marketing Director for the Sun Media Group. With a background in journalism, marketing and public relations, he has been advocating for responsible community journalism for more than two decades. In his present role, he manages marketing, promotional and publicity efforts for the Sun Media family of publications, which is locally owned by the fourth generation of the Costello family and includes the Sun Journal, weekly newspapers, niche publications and websites.

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

ple, creative ways to pre-

pare healthy meals with the

food they receive. The food

pantry accepts donations of

food items and other goods

throughout the year and of-

fers volunteer opportunities

in food organization and

distribution. To get involved,

call 513-3848 or see www.

vast amount of donations

and contributions made in

support of our Advent &

Christmas parish outreach

efforts this year," said Deacon

Denis Mailhot, Outreach

HOURS:

Mon-Sat

"I am humbled by the

stmarysnutritioncenter.org.

CA\$H Coalition reminds filers of new IRS schedule

burn CA\$H Coalition is reminding local residents that January 23 will be the first day that 2016 tax returns will be processed by the IRS. In addition, a new law requires the IRS to hold refunds claiming the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Additional Child Tax Credit until February 15. Since it takes several days for these refunds to be released and processed through financial institutions, factoring in weekends and the President's Day holiday, many impacted taxpayers may not have access to their refunds until the week of February 27.

The Lewiston-Auburn CA\$H Coalition is a group of community partners, led by the City of Lewiston, that strives to enhance individual and family self-sufficiency by promoting the Earned Income Tax Credit, which provides cash

and e-file their Federal and

"Thank you and merci to everyone in the Auburn parish and throughout our communities who help nurture, educate, and feed hungry families throughout Lewiston and Auburn."

back to households with low to moderate income.

The Lewiston-Au-

Since the 2004 tax season, the Coalition has facilitated the return of over \$29 million in Federal and State tax refunds by helping residents prepare

late Heart of Mary Parish.

State tax returns free of charge. Available to those with a household income of \$54,000 or below, the service is provided by IRS-certified volunteer tax preparers. For more information or to make a free tax preparation appointment, call the coalition at 513-3160.

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Immaculate Heart of Mary supports food pantry that clients can learn sim-

In an effort to help countless people in need, parishioners at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Auburn donated goods to over twenty parish families and collected 55 boxes of food, diapers, and toiletries to assist St. Mary's Food Pantry in their service to local residents.

St. Mary's Food Pantry is one of the largest emergency food pantries in Maine, offering an immediate response to hunger, food insecurity, and malnutrition within the most vulnerable populations of Lewiston and Auburn. The food pantry provides unprepared food to an average of nearly 400 people per week. The guests range from young people to senior citizens and include individuals dealing with substance abuse and mental health issues.

The food pantry is part of St. Mary's Nutrition Center, which encourages healthy eating through awareness campaigns and cooking demonstrations so

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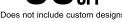
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AVSWCD adds new board members

The Androscoggin Valley Soil and Water Conservation District has announced that Kathleen Shaw of Auburn and Benjamin Dearnley of Bowdoinham have been elected to the district's Board of Supervisors. Also, Katherine Carville of Lisbon Falls has been appointed from an Associate to a Supervisor position. They join Chairman Paul Roseberry of Bowdoinham and Vice Chairman Mark Emmons of Livermore on the board, which directs programs to assist individuals, groups, and municipalities with their conservation needs.

AVSWCD is a legal subdivision of the State of Maine government, established to assist local communities in teaching proper land use to maintain fertility, prevent flooding and erosion, maintain and restore wildlife habitats, and protect our water supply. This is achieved through technical assistance, education and outreach, and implementation of conservation practices. For more information, contact District Manager Jocelyn Lahey at 753-9400, ext. 5374 or see www.androscogginswcd.org.

PTS hires Direct Support Professionals

Pine Tree Society, a statewide organization serving Maine children and adults with disabilities, has hired three new Direct Support Professionals for its Auburn team. They bring a depth of experience and a passion for caring for people to their new roles.

Natilee Poliquin has a background in direct support, residential care and case management. Jacob Linkletter joins the DSP team after working at Pine Tree Camp for five summers as a counselor and program leader for archery and the challenge course. And Jennifer Allen brings 12 years of DSP experience to her new role at Pine Tree Society.

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.

Continued from page 2

experience, she's worked with a diverse range of clients, both domestic and international. She is seasoned in account service, media coordination and implementation. Cyr graduated magna cum laude from Quinnipiac University with a bachelor's degree in E-Media.

CNA students prepare for clinicals



Certified Nursing Assistant students Courtney Coulombe (far l.), Vanuza Mateus (seated), Diraneh Mahamoud Ismail, Angela Cummings (seated) and Meranda Delnegro finished their 19-week class and passed their exam recently at Lewiston Adult Education. They are now preparing for their clinical work in January with Terri Cyr, RN, BSN, at Central Maine Medical Center and Gloria Barker, RN, BSN, at Clover Health Care.

New Ventures awards mini-grant to Pleasant River Farms



Owners Dean and Deborah Richmond will use the funds to increase participation in the farm's innovative composting program.

New Ventures Maine has announced the winners of its marketing mini-grant competition for small businesses in Androscoggin, Franklin, and Oxford counties. The mini-marketing grant for November 2016 was awarded to Pleasant River Farms of Mason Township.

Pleasant River Farms specializes in organic, grass-fed beef. Dean and Deborah Richmond started this family farm ten years ago with a small herd of cattle. They are currently the only Maine Organic Farmers and Growers Association certified organic beef producer in Oxford County. To meet their commitment to producing organic beef for their customers, they have partnered with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, Natural Resource Conservation Service, Sunday River Ski Resort and Mount Abrams Ski Area to divert their food waste streams to Pleasant River Farm for the purposes of composting.

Funds from the Marketing Mini-Grant will be used towards Pleasant River Farm's marketing plan to raise brand awareness and increase participation and public awareness of its composting program. The marketing campaign includes educational signs and materials for public participation at the composting sites.

The award winners were selected from a strong group of applicants throughout the western Maine regions. Criteria for the contest included gross revenue criteria and having five or fewer employees. New Ventures Maine is thankful to a partnership with Norway Savings Bank to provide funding support for this mini-grant.

A statewide organization serving all sixteen Maine counties from ten centers and outreach sites, New Ventures Maine offers skills development and support in the areas of career planning, entrepreneurship and financial management. The application for the next round of Marketing Mini-Grant awards will be due May 5. For more information on their marketing mini-grants and other programs, classes, and resources for small businesses, call 1-800-442-2092 or see newventuresmaine.org.

What's Going On

SBA honors Community Concepts Finance Corps



Loan Officer Zachary Maher (l.) receives the award from District Director Marilyn Geroux of the U.S. Small Business Administration

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.

See Cheer, page 8



Photo courtesy of Getty Images



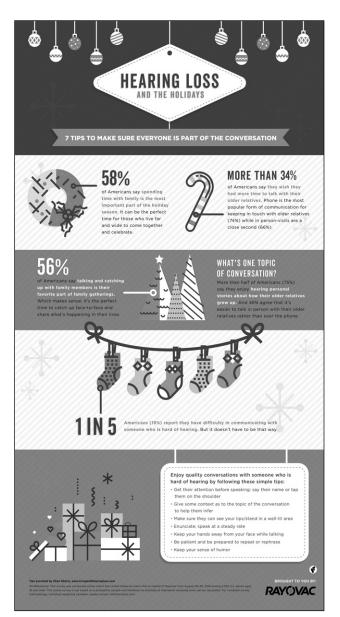
For the second year in a row, the U.S. Small Business Administration recently awarded Community Concepts Finance Corporation with the honor of Top Performing Microlender. CCFC was recognized for providing 24 loans to Maine businesses through the SBA Microloan program totaling over \$899,000 in fiscal year 2016.

"Community Concepts Finance Corporation increased the dollar amount loaned with the SBA Microloan program by 166% over last fiscal year, getting much needed capital into the small business community they serve," said Marilyn Geroux, district director of the U.S. Small Business Administration.

CCFC greatly exceeded its fiscal year 2016

goals throughout its business lending services, showing continued growth and measurable impact. In total, CCFC invested over \$3.1 million with 54 different Maine businesses in FY16. This helped create 158 new jobs, over double its initial goal, and provided technical assistance to 133 clients, nearly double the expected rate.

"This recognition by the SBA emphasizes the focus we have as an organization on providing access to capital for those traditionally left in the lurch," said loan officer Zachary Maher, who accepted the award on behalf of CCFC. CCFC provides loans to existing businesses and start-up ventures across Maine. For more information, see MaineBusinessLending.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. Source: Rayovac



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Out & About with Rachel Morin

My Mother's Clothes Are Not My Mother

Story and photos by Rachel Morin

A few of the students representing the state-wide Senior College group who participated in the pilot Online Memoir Writing Class with Instructor Elizabeth Peavey of Portland, this past fall semester, attended her acclaimed one-woman show of "My Mother's Clothes Are Not My Mother" at Hannaford Hall at Abromson Center, USM in Portland at the close of the semester.

lose of the semester. The play was written in 2011, following Peavey's mother's death in 2009. The written words helped Peavey to wade through her grief and the difficulty of deciding on the disposal of her mother's clothes and possessions. Her words helped her realize the clothes were not who her mother was. It was a difficult time and the play developed into a series of monologues spoken in the first person by Peavey and directed at the audience.

The stage was bare except for her mother's clothes on racks at right stage, and her mother's household items at left stage. Sad, hu-

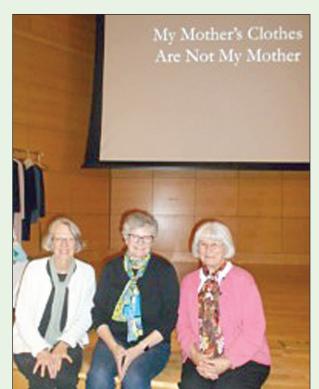
morous and poignant memories poured from Elizabeth in a light delivery as she held a dress, a glove, a treasured keepsake. The audience came to know the Mombehind the memories and was touched by the words evoking the memories.

The play was first staged at St. Lawrence Arts, Portland in 2011. In the years following, it enjoyed full house attendance in venues throughout the state. The play won the 2013 Maine Literary Award for Best Drama by the Maine Writers & Publishers Alliance

Its New York City debut on May 1 this year was well received. The show continued to appreciative audiences when she returned to Maine and had three sell-outs at St. Lawrence Arts in Portland and a full house at the Stonington Opera House in June. Peavey says people are not coming to see her, but they relate to the message and what she is going through as they also experience the death of their parents. "I have struck a chord that reverberates, and it's not just with women of a certain age" she said.

The play was presented by the University to give students studying the Liberal Arts an opportunity to explore what career potential exists in their work search. An open mind and creativity in their job search would be helpful as not all jobs are listed in the want ads.

Seats were made available free to all USM Theater and English majors, as well as a select group of students who are participating in a special program for incoming freshmen called EYE. (Entry Year Experience courses are theme-based and employ a variety of perspectives to explore a significant question about human cultures and the natural world. EYE courses aid students in their transition to college in an academically rigorous context emphasizing critical reading, thinking, and writing.)



Students from Elizabeth Peavey's Online Memoir Writing Class sponsored by Maine Senior College Network, with cooperation from USM, Portland, sat onstage before seeing "My Mother's Clothes Are Not My Mother" L to R, are Lorraine Ravis, Lewiston Auburn Senior College, Coordinator Anne Cardale, MSCN, Portland, and Rachel Morin, Lewiston Auburn Senior College. (Photo by Elizabeth Morin)



Elizabeth Peavey, author and performer of one-woman show, "My Mother's Clothes Are Not My Mother." (Submitted Photo)

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Cheer

Continued from page 7

- * 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. (Family Features)







With the assistance of

their partners in giving, the

Lewiston Firefighters As-

sociation recently presented

a donation of over \$3,000 in

toys and financial support

to Hope Haven Gospel

Mission and the Salvation

Army. The Lewiston fire-

fighters believe that every

child should look forward

to Christmas morning,

and this annual tradition,

in which they and their

families shop for those less

fortunate, has existed for

over 20 years. For the last

two years, Dollar General

of Lewiston has joined in

the effort to provide even

more support with a cus-

tomer toy donation box.

St. Dominic Academy Honor **Roll - Lewiston Campus**

The following students were named to the first-quarter Honor Roll for Saint Dominic Academy's elementary school for grades Pre-K through 6.

Achieving High Honors were: Grade One - Avianna D'Auteuil, Madison Earle, Hannah Faries, Lily Fortin, Ethan Longley, John Lydon, Athina Nikas, Whitney Richardson, Isabel VanderVeur, Jackson Vincent, Alana Wheeler; Grade Two - Alexia Castonguay, Edward Cobb, Bayden Cyr-Guzowski, Ian Cyr, Zane Deletetsky, Sarah Ebersole, Ava Leideman, Charlie Marcotte, Landon Nagy, Veronica Perry, Madelynne Stratman, Kai Taylor, William Wallingford; Grade Three - Joseph Adams, Kellen Anthoine, Benjamin Dumais, Isabelle Hinkley, Meghan Rivard, Sela Russell; Grade Four - Sophia Brown, Jordan Castonguay, Kassidy Cote, Jaxon Errico, Lola Jones, Caitlin Michaelis, Sophia Theberge, Anna Theriault, Curtis Wheeler; Grade Five - Anthony Ayer, Rieslynn Bernier, Connor Cyr, Jack Ellingwood, Thomas Faries, Anna Geyer-Shaheen, Emily Westland; Grade Six - Connor Brann, Natalie Brocke, Cody Dorman, Sarah English, Erik Jones, Anika Lammers, Abigail Mitchell, Eadie Nadeau, Julia Perkins, Cameron

Achieving Honors were: Grade One - Gabrielle Adams, Elizabeth Carpentier, Cole Chretien, Zoey Cote, Teagan Crockett, Rilynn Daigle, Landon Desjardins, Brooklyn Doucette, Ella Doucette, Christopher Johnson, Logan LeClair, Madison McGonagle, Rachel Moyse, Mirabel Patrick, Evelyn Pettengill, Elouise Porter, Hannah Sherman, Olivia Tassinari, Alexander Theberge, Lydia Trytek, Cash Watson; Grade Two - Tucker Berube, Lily Bonney, Sebastian Caine, Hunter Chadbourne, Victor Lac, Ryan Manson, Connor McElrath, Nathan McGillicuddy, Skylar Meserve, William Michaelis, Alexander Ogagan, Cole Pelletier, Evan Poulin, Corbin Poussard, Logan Rousseau, Henry Walter, Howie Wu; Grade Three - Ashton Addition, Kyla Berube, Isabella Bouffard, Cecile Brown, Marvin Bunleng, Riley Daigle, Alyssa Davis, Lincoln Dinan, Colton Dionne, Madison Doucette, Sophia Franciose, Noah Gagnon, Abigail Labonte, Victoria Lac, Aiden Mackenzie, Christian Montez, Kennedy Minich, Molly Strout; Grade Four - Aiden Belanger, Jack Brocke, Lewis Bunleng, Avaya Desjardins, Jack Gilpatric, Gavin Godfrey, Mason Laflamme, Alexis McCormick, Samuel Moore, Cameron Morin, Lauren Naous,

What's Going On

Lewiston Firefighters help spread Christmas cheer



Pictured here are Lewiston Mayor Robert Macdonald and representatives of the Lewiston Fire Department, Hope Haven Gospel Mission, the Salvation Army, and Dollar General.

Joshua Parenteau, Aidan Robitaille, Cade Trundy; Grade Five - Dawson Archer, Gianna Castagna, Colby Daigle, Ridge

Dionne, Carlotta Dolci, Gianna Errico, Maggie Grady, Ashton Hammond, Garrett Kendall, Hayden Lecompton, Abigail Martel, Timothies Ouellette; Grade Six - Lorelei Bonney, Ella Caron, Desiree Fournier, Noah Girardin, Matthew Gould, Tyler lac, Adam Laflamme, Sasha Nevins, Richard Romano, Olivia Servidio, Karsvn Siegel, Robert Suckow, Brady Vincent.

Poland Spring marks season by giving back

In keeping with its commitment to being a good neighbor and employer, Poland Spring and its employees kicked off the season of giving with donations of time and food to those in need in some of its host communities in Maine.

"At Poland Spring, we are committed to giving back to the communities in which we live and work year round," said Heather Printup, Poland Spring's Community Relations Manager. "But this can be especially meaningful during the holidays."

Throughout the year, employees are encouraged to give back in a variety of ways,



Employees from the Hollis facility donated 92 turkeys and 1,100 pounds of additional food to a local food pantry





Volunteers from the Poland plant helped distribute Thanksgiving food bags to the local community

including food drives, volunprograms, but during the holiteer opportunities and giving days, Poland Spring employees are especially generous.

In southern Maine, through employee-driven contributions, the Hollis facility donated 92 turkeys and 1,100 pounds of additional food to the Hollis Baptist Food Pantry just in time for Thanksgiving. At the company's original plant in Poland, employees volunteered at the Poland Community Church Food Bank to distribute Thanksgiving food bags to the local community - something they plan to do again before the Christmas holiday.



Weekly Arts & Entertainment

Saudi artwork on display at Bates College Museum



"Never Never Land," frame capture from a 2014 video by Arwa Al Neami (Photo courtesy of the artist and Pharan Studio, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia)

On display through March 28 at the Bates College Museum of Art is an exhibition called "Phantom Punch: Contemporary Art from Saudi Arabia in Lewiston, Maine." One of a series of exhibitions now on display across the country, Phantom Punch

offers a significant representation of leading and emerging Saudi artists working in diverse media to create works that are smart, topical, funny, culturally resonant and technically savvv.

The museum is located in Olin Arts Center at 75 Russell Street in Lewiston. Admission is free of charge. Open hours are Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Monday and Wednesday evenings until 7:30 p.m. during the academic year. For more information, call 786-6158 or see www.bates. edu/museum.

Food and Wine Pairing Ideas for Your Holiday Party

The holidays are the perfect time to indulge in delicious traditional or seasonal food and wine pairings. To guide you through the planning of your festivities, here is some expert advice on how to alleviate the potential stress of being a host.

"Holiday menus can be a challenge. Knowing the flavor profile of each course, salty, sweet, sour or savory, will help you pair wines with your meal," says Dean Busquaert, senior wine educator at Napa Valley's Sequoia Grove Winery.

With more than 30 years of experience in Napa Valley, the team at Sequoia Grove Winery have become specialists in not only producing delicious wine but also educating their customers on wine and food

"If your meal is mainly savory dishes, the Sequoia Grove Cabernet Sauvignon 2013 (SRP: \$39.99) would be a terrific choice. It is elegant, with concentrated dark fruit flavors and won-

State Archivist discusses preservation challenges

State of Maine Archivist Dave Cheever was the presenter at the December session of LA Senior College's Food for Thought program. The title of his presentation was "How 1-01-0 and 2020 Lead to Maine 2.0". Cheever discussed the numerous challenges involved in creating systems to archive the endless paper and digital records created in the state.

In his presentation, Cheever encouraged audience members to think about just the vital records each one of us has generated in our life time - motor vehicle records, social security numbers, financial information, other personal information, etc. His department, which falls under the oversight of the Secretary of State's office, is mandated through the State of Maine Constitution to archive all vital records. However, the Constitution does not include information on "how this should be done, for how long it needs to be done, or who should have access to this information," which are some of the issues his department addresses on a daily basis.

Moreover, technology continues to develop numerous other methods for capturing information that



State of Maine Archivist Dave Cheever discussed the numerous challenges involved in creating systems to archive the endless paper and digital records created in the state.

courts are deeming to be vital, such as dashboard cams, video cameras, and even body cams. Maine's 2020 Bicentennial presents the Archives Department with the whole new challenge of how to make accessible this vast source of historical information in such a way that it will resonate with today's youth so they will continue to see the value in these records.

Cheever shared a few stories based on the collection of logo trademarks that his department must maintain. Each logo represents a rich history of how the company came about in the context of Maine's development. He left the audience with the following questions to ponder about the state's archival materials: "Is what we have what we really want? How do we set up for the next 200 years? and What would we do if we could?"

At the next "Food for Thought" program on Friday, January 13, Alan Gregory will discuss appropriate honors rendered to our nation's deceased armed forces members.

derful structure.

Cabernet Sauvignons do not live up to their full potential in the presence of sugar, but become soft, almost velvet-like with a sauce that has a good acidic backbone."

With this tip in mind, work past the traditional thought process that 'red wine only pairs with red meat' and remember that the key to a successful meal is thoughtful prepa-

The winery recommends a recipe for Sliced Chicken with Lemon Butter Sauce.

Ingredients:

- Four 6 oz. boneless chicken breasts
- 1/2 c. all-purpose flour
- 3 tbsp. canola oil
- 2 tbsp. butter Lemon Butter Sauce
- 2 tbsp. butter • 1 garlic clove, minced
- 3 tbsp. all-purpose flour

See Pairing, page 13



(c) Twis_ter - Fotolia.com



"Maine: A Continuum of Place" on display at State House



"Portland Pier Moorings," by Tina Ingraham, Portland; 2016, 36x50, oil on linen

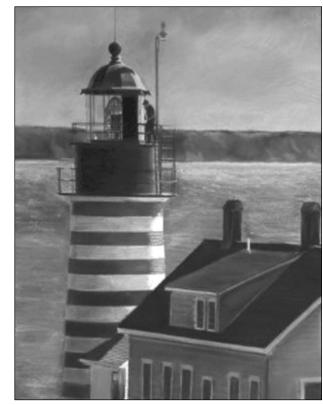
eight of which are on the National Register of Historic Places. The museum's mission is to preserve and present the maritime history of the Penobscot Bay region through collections, education, and community engagement. In addition to the postcard collection, the museum has collections of historic small boats; marine paintings; artifacts from around the world collected by mariners; ship models; photographs; and manu-

The Maine Arts Commission has partnered with the Penobscot Marine Museum in Searsport to mark a unique Maine centennial, "Maine Postcard Day," with a new Art in the Capitol exhibit called "Maine: A Continuum of Place." The exhibit, on display through March 3, on the ground and second floors of the Maine State House in Augusta, includes 25 paintings by 17 contemporary Maine artists, as well as original glass plate images from the museum's postcard collection. The exhibit is open to the public free of charge.

One hundred years ago, Maine Governor Oakley C. Curtis declared a "Maine Postcard Day" and implored all Mainers to mail a postcard of their home state to friends and family out-of-state. Curtis allegedly hoped the cards would be a tool to communicate Maine's exclusive qualities to the outside world. Inspired by the anniversary of this day, the Penobscot Marine Museum asked Maine art critic and author Carl Little to pair vintage photographs from the museum's vast collection with paintings of similar subjects by contemporary artists, resulting in this unique exhibit.

"The show highlights what I call 'the continuum of place," Little noted. "Kids will always leap from docks, though their outfits may change. Ships will find harbor, but they may depend on computers to find their way. And certain iconic vistas the harbors of Monhegan and Stonington, for example - seem almost eternal even as a new building might go up or lobster traps change from wood to metal." For more information about the exhibit, see www.mainearts.

The Penobscot Marine Museum in Searsport houses a vast glass-plate collection of original postcard images which present and visually boast of the history of Maine's towns and unique geography. The museum, founded in 1936 by the descendants of local sea captains, is the oldest maritime museum in Maine and includes 13 buildings,



"West Quoddy Headlight, Lubec, Maine," by Jude Valentine, Lubec; 2013, 20x26, soft pastel on paper



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Twin City Nights



"Bathers," by Mary Bourke, Lincolnville; 2015, 18x18, acrylic on birch panel

scripts. For more information, see www.penobscotmarinemuseum.org.

A former associate editor of "Art in America," Carl Little has written extensively about art, particularly New England artists. His publications include "Paintings of Maine" (1991), "Edward Hopper's New England" (1993), "Winslow Homer and the Sea" (1995), "Art of the Maine Islands" (1997), "The Watercolors of John Singer Sargent" (1998), and "The Art of Monhegan Island" (2004). He directed

the Ethel H. Blum Gallery at the College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor, Maine, for eight years and is currently on staff at the Maine Community Foundation.

The Art in the Capitol program features rotating exhibits throughout the Capitol Complex and offers an additional venue to expand the audience for Maine artists or artists working in Maine on Maine-based themes. Exhibitions are selfguided and may be viewed during regular open hours of the building where the exhibition is on display.



"Oysterman," by Alison Goodwin, Portland; 2016, 18x18, mixed media on paper



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Twin City Nights

State Museum uses Wi-Fi for digital learning space

Providing Wi-Fi for visitors has been a topic of animated discussion among museum professionals for some time. At the Maine State Museum, leveraging the ability to communicate virtually seems like a natural fit for an institution charged with serving such a large state. As an initial step in a much larger long-term strategy to leverage digital technologies to develop new learning tools, the museum

has recently enhanced its visitor experience by installing complimentary Wi-Fi, partnered with digital signage, in the museum's welcome area and entry-level exhibit areas.

The new service will allow visitors to go behind the scenes and be notified of events and happenings at the museum, access digital information about new artifacts and programs, and send and receive communications from their personal

devices throughout the entrance floor level.

"Integrating Wi-Fi into the museum will allow us to keep pace with today's vital informational requirements," said Maine State Museum Director Bernard Fishman. "This important addition will enhance our public service and enable us to experiment with applications for virtual tours, provide greater information about exhibits, and promote other internet advantages." For more information about the Maine State Museum, see www.mainestatemu-

Maine State Music Theatre elects new board members

Maine State Music Theatre has elected three new members to their board of trustees. Marie Barbieri, Reginald (Reg) Elwell, and Melissa Knutson, all from Brunswick, have joined the 25-member board for twoyear terms.

Marie Barbieri is a former professor and taught at the University of Pennsylvania, Williams College and Bowdoin College. She has also served on the board of directors of Arts Are Elementary, the school board at St. John's Catholic School, and currently serves on the board of trustees of Camp Bishopswood and on the development committee of Mid Coast Hunger Prevention Program.

Reginald Elwell spent 28 years in the forest products industry in central and eastern Maine. After retiring, he ventured into fundraising and development at Boston University and Massachusetts General Hospital before retiring back to Maine in 2009. He is a member of the Brunswick Maine Rotary Club and serves on the board of directors of Midcoast Senior College.

Melissa Knutson is the Vice President and Commercial Loan officer at the Brunswick branch of Androscoggin Bank. She currently serves on the business committee of the Maine Summer Camps and the Board of Directors of the Junior Maine Guide Program. She has served on the business committee for Peak Venture Group in Colorado and the Charitable Fund Committee for JP Morgan Chase.

For 59 years, Maine State Music Theatre has brought first class Broadway-quality theatre to the picturesque town of Brunswick. The theatre, contracted with the Actors' Equity Association's Council of Resident Stock Theatres (CORST), produces four main stage musicals, two Theatre for Young Audiences musicals, and three Monday Concerts each summer at the Pickard Theater on the beautiful campus of Bowdoin College. Visit them online at www.

computer firms never make

proactive calls or send email

to provide unrequested tech-

people surveyed around

the world continued with

a potentially fraudulent in-

teraction after the first con-

tact. This means that the

victim downloaded harmful

software, gave the scammers access to their computer,

visited a scam website, or

provided a credit card or

other forms of payment.

Interestingly, of the victims

who continued interacting

with the scammers, half

were millennials (ages 18

to 34), thirty-four percent

were between ages 36 and

54, and only 17% were age

sumers never to give control

of their computer to a third

party, nor to provide a credit

card number to pay for un-

Abagnale advises con-

55 or older.

The Microsoft survey indicates that 20% of the

nical support."

Last Minute Holiday Gift Tips



(c) golubovy - Fotolia.com

Everyone needs to find great holiday gifts in a pinch from time to time. But just because you're shopping last minute doesn't mean these gifts shouldn't be thoughtful.

Here are a few tips to make sure that presents purchased in the 11th hour are appreciated and enjoyed.

Strike the Right Mood

There is good news. You don't need to break the bank on a day-long shopping excursion in order to find great items. Consider simple gifts that

create that special feeling of home, such as American Home by Yankee Candle. The line features candles with holiday fragrances -such as Fresh Balsam Fir and Holiday Apple Wreath -- for under \$20 and are great for holiday entertaining. Jars, tumblers, tea lights and wax cubes all make warm, thoughtful gifts and are available at the grocery stores, drug stores and big box stores you visit every day, so you can conveniently do your holiday shopping during a busy time of year. Visit YCamericanhome. com to learn more.

Sign Them Up

A subscription service is a gift that keeps on giving all year long. In this regard, you can think beyond magazine subscriptions these days. "Subscription boxes," which offer great products on a monthly basis, are an on-trend and fun gift that can be purchased in an instant. Themes for boxes are as eclectic as your gift recipients themselves and include books, socks, healthful snacks and beauty products.

Go Gift Cards Crunched for time? Not exactly sure what a friend or family member wants or needs? Opt for a gift card that you can easily email or print out and put into a card. Many third-party gift card aggregators exist online, where you can quickly dash to a website and complete your transaction. Large online retailers also offer online gift cards to help you find a present fast -- no matter his or her personal sense of style or interests.

Wrap Smart

Having extra materials for quick gift wrapping just makes sense all year long, but particularly during the holidays. Stay organized with a designated gift wrapping station throughout the season that features greeting cards, tape, scissors, ribbon, wrapping paper, gift bags, and tags. Gift bags and a bit of tissue paper can make a last minute gift go from flat to festive in moments, so stock up on these items in a variety of sizes so you are always ready to wrap.

Don't get stressed about last minute gifting this holiday season. Being prepared can help ensure you put smiles on the faces of everyone on your list. (StatePoint)

AARP launches effort to end Tech Support Scam

With U.S. consumers falling victim to the "technical support scam" in greater numbers than ever before, the AARP Fraud Watch Network recently launched an initiative to raise awareness of the scam and to educate consumers about how they can protect themselves.

A recently released survey by Microsoft found that, in the past year, twothirds of consumers have experienced the tech support scam, in which fraudsters pose as technicians from one of the major computer companies. AARP's effort to educate consumers includes online content, advertising, and media appearances featuring renowned security expert and Fraud Watch Network Ambassador Frank Abagnale.

Executing the scam via telephone, email or even pop-up ads, the scammers inform a targeted person that a virus or some other security problem has been detected on the victim's computer and offer to make a repair. Instead, their goal is to gain control of the computer, access personal files and passwords, and obtain credit card information to charge the consumer for the supposed repair or a warranty program - which proves to be worthless.

"If you or someone you know receives a call or an email from someone identifying themselves as a technician with Microsoft, Google, Apple or some other well-known technology company, it is likely to be a scam - just hang up," said Abagnale. "The large



solicited repair services or warranty programs. Named AARP Fraud Watch Ambassador in 2015, Abagnale has been associated with the FBI for more than four decades and has advised and consulted with hundreds of financial institutions, corporations and government agencies around the world. His story was told in his best-selling book "Catch Me if You Can" and in the 2002 movie of the same

name starring Leonardo

DiCaprio and Tom Hanks. For more tips about how keep yourself safe from technical support scammers, visit the new Fraud Watch Network web page. The site includes detailed descriptions of how fraudsters execute their scams, video and other content, and a list of recommended "Dos and Don'ts" when dealing with a suspected fraudster. An educational booklet, published by Microsoft and the FWN, can also be downloaded from the site, at www.aarp.org/TechScams.



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DECEMBER 23RD THROUGH JANUARY 4TH

Assassin's Creed (PG-13)......1:15 4:15 7:25 10:05

Rogue One: A Star Wars Story (PG-13) 12:15 3:15 6:30 9:30

Rogue One: A Star Wars Story (PG-13)......1:00 4:00 7:00 10:00 Rogue One: A Star Wars Story 3D (PG-13).....2:00 5:00 8:00 XXX

Collateral Beauty (PG-13)1:40 4:35 7:10 9:30

Manchester By The Sea (R)12:40 3:40 6:45 9:45

......11:45 2:15 7:15

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11:30am 746 Center Street
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Sing 3D (PG).....

Passengers 3D (PG-13).....

"Moana" will not show at 1:20 or 4:20 on 12/24

Office Christmas Party (R).....

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from gift giving in the tra-

ditional sense and instead

comes in many forms, and

there are numerous causes

in nearly every community

that accept donations of

more than just money. In

addition to giving back to

those in need during one

of the most critical times of

the year, by donating time,

money or material items you

may reap positive benefits

of your own, such as feeling

better about yourself, instill-

ing generosity and a sense of

giving in your children or

family members, or finding a

cause that truly inspires you.

Passengers (PG-13)......12:50

Thursday, December 22

Rotary Club Meeting. Noon to 1 p.m. Ramada Inn, Lewiston. Past-president Mac McPeake continues his annual tradition of narrating "Twas the Night Before Christmas" for a Rotary Club audience. Guests welcome. 753-9040; monica.

Service of Nine Lessons and Carols. 7 p.m. Basilica of Saints Peter & Paul, Ash St., Lewiston. With music provided by the Saint Cecilia Schola Cantorum, the Prince of Peace Children's Choir, and the Prince of Peace Handbell Choir.

Tuesday, December 27

St. Dominic Academy Bishop Brady vs. Edward

Pairing

• 2 c. low-sodium/fat-free

• 1 tsp. thyme, de-stemmed

· Kosher salt and fresh

ground black pepper to taste

zontally into three or four

thin pieces, then pound flat

• Dredge the chicken in the

• Heat oil and butter in a

large non-stick sauté pan

and add the chicken. Brown

and cook on each side; ap-

proximately 3-5 minutes

per side depending on its

• Place each piece in an

oven safe dish until all of

the pieces have been cooked.

• Melt butter in a medium

saucepan and add the garlic.

Sauté for 1 minute, then

whisk in the flour forming

• Gradually add in the

chicken broth, whisking as

you pour to create a smooth

• Add the lemon zest, juice,

chives and thyme. Bring to

a boil then allow to simmer for 5 minutes until slightly

thickened. Season with salt

• Top chicken with the sauce,

then bake in a 350-degree

oven for 15-20 minutes.

Serves six (approximately

with the complexity of a

Napa Valley Cabernet Sau-

vignon. Busquaert, adds,

"The secret is to eliminate

sweetness and embrace tart

about Sequoia Grove winery

and its educational food and

wine tasting seminars, visit

this holiday season to create

a meal with the perfect wine

sequoiagrove.com.

pairings. (StatePoint)

For more information

Use these helpful hints

The recipe pairs nicely

12-14 pieces of chicken)

and pepper.

flavors."

Preparing the Sauce

using a meat mallet.

flour until coated.

thickness.

Cooking Instructions:

Preparing the Chicken

• Slice chicken hori-

• 1 lemon, zest and juice

Continued from page 10

chicken broth

• 1 tbsp. chives

Calendar

See more Calendar at www.TwinCityTimes.com

Little; 3 p.m., Notre Dame Fairfield (CT) vs. Smithfield (RI); 5 p.m., Bangor vs. St. Dom's; 7 p.m., St. Thomas Aquinas vs. Northwest Catholic. 782-6911.

5 and 7 p.m. 782-6911.

championship and conso-

lation games on both rinks at 11 a.m. and 1:10 p.m.

Rotary Club Meeting. Noon to 1 p.m. Ramada Inn, Lewiston. The guest speaker is Will Fessenden, Marketing Director for the Sun Media Group. Guests welcome. 753-9040; monica.millhime@maine.gov.

Saturday, December 31

New Year's Eve Dinner, Dance, Drop and Draw. 7:30 p.m. Franco Center, 46 Cedar St., Lewiston. Enjoy an elegant dinner, dance to music by Every Other Sunday, and countdown to 2017. Cash bar; grand prize. Space limited. \$50 pp. 783-1585; FrancoCenter.org.

New Year's Eve Dance. 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Litchfield Sportsmen's Club. Contests, party favors, finger foods, champagne at midnight; music by the Lost & Found Band. Ages 21+. BYOB. \$18 pp. in adv., \$25 pp at door. 536-9647.

Tuesday, January 10

ble 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

Tuesday, February 7

call 333-6640, ext. 4.

Automated and self-driving vehicles could save lives, revolutionize our transportation system

By Senator Susan M. Collins

Cars that drive themselves and avoid accidents. Seniors and disabled individuals able to retain or gain their ability to get around town in autonomous vehicles. At first, it sounds like science fiction or an advance far off in the future. But this technology is being tested and perfected right now, and it could save thousands

As Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, I recently held a hearing to examine the role of government in enhancing roadway safety through the careful deployment of automated and selfdriving vehicles, which could revolutionize our transportation system. Following the release by the U.S. Department of Transportation in late September of a new federal policy to guide the development and deployment of this new generation of motor vehicles, our hearing, with a panel of expert witnesses, focused on how automakers could bring the safety and mobility benefits of autonomous vehicles into the marketplace without unnecessary government regulations stifling innovation.

More than 35,000 lives were lost in crashes on U.S. roadways in 2015, and preliminary estimates indicate that there was a 10 percent increase in roadway fatalities in the first half of 2016. More than 90 percent of roadway crashes are the result of human factors, or simply put, driver error, such as distracted driving, impaired driving, and speeding. The testing and safe deployment of automated vehicle technologies have the potential to reduce substantially this number of

preventable driver-related crashes and fatalities. If the technology were perfected, automated vehicles could eliminate many of the crashes on our nation's roadways and save thousands of lives every year.

In addition, self-driving vehicles can provide mobility options to our seniors and disabled populations, particularly those living in rural communities like here in Maine, where too many of our older drivers currently do not have an easy way to get to the doctor or to the grocery store. Public transportation is nonexistent in much of Maine, and taxi service is very limited in rural areas.

Seniors who can no longer drive often have very few options. A self-driving car, or even one with limited automated features, could help seniors feel more comfortable driving at night and could help those who currently must rely on others to get around to maintain their independence.

While fully self-driving, autonomous vehicles are still years away from being available to the general public, many new vehicles already have driver-assist features such as automatic emergency breaking, rearview cameras, and lanekeep assist systems. These technologies are already saving lives and reducing injuries on our roadways. Further, one of our witnesses stated that, by reducing congestion and aggressive driving, self-driving vehicles could save time and fuel while improving air quality.

Automated vehicle technology is advancing faster than government



all relevant issues ranging from cybersecurity, to human-machine interface, to

From Ford and Tesla to Google and Uber, automated and self-driving vehicle technology is advancing rapidly. Given the public's keen interest in these vehicles, the federal, state, and local governments must take a balanced approach in allowing for their research, development, and deployment. It is particularly important that federal agencies work with state and local governments, as well as manufacturers and technology companies, to ensure that this transportation revolution advances both safety and the spirit of innovation that could literally save lives.

ethical considerations.

These tips can help you find a meaningful way to give this holiday season. Give Money Vivid red kettles and the tinkling of jingle bells are icons of the holiday season. The kettles, which are found outside retail locations throughout communities nationwide and are staffed by both volunteer and paid bell ringers, are part of The Salvation Army's Red Kettle Campaign, one of the country's oldest and largest charitable campaigns. Donations to The Salvation Army stay in the local community where

7:20 9:50 No shows after 5pm 12/24 No shows before 3pm 12/25 Give the Gift of Donations the donation is made, and you can feel extra good about how your money is used within the organization; 82 cents of every dollar is used to support social services that fight hunger, provide shelter and ensure Christmas assistance for

.... 3:50

6:50

nities nationwide. Give Time

families in 5,000 commu-

During the holiday season and all year long, non -profit organizations thrive on the contributions of volunteers. If you have a special skill or service, check to see if the organization you favor could benefit from your expertise. Many other agencies offer ongoing training so you can easily learn what you need to know to contribute. Remember that the holiday season brings a spike in volunteering each year, so making a pledge to continue giving your time after the holidays have passed (and your schedule is less hectic) is truly the gift that keeps on giving.

Give Food

Hunger is a problem that numerous non-profit groups work to answer yearround, but the holiday season is a time when that need is pronounced. Giving nonperishable food items or donating money toward an organization that supplies food to those in need are See Gifts, page 15

focus on a whole different kind of giving.

agencies can act, and impeding innovation may prevent us from saving lives. The Department of Transportation's new policy begins to address that issue with a voluntary 15-point "safety assessment" that incentivizes automakers to certify they have addressed

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Wednesday, December 28

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Thursday, December 29

St. Dominic Academy Christmas Classic. Norway Savings Bank Arena, Auburn This three-day tournament concludes with

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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,

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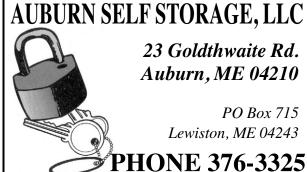
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but there is actually value to the unwanted items you have laying around. Items like automobiles, furniture, household goods and clothing can be donated and converted into cash to benefit charities. Larger items can be picked up at the curb and are often sold at auction with the proceeds going back to the charitable organization. Smaller items may go directly to retail facilities, such as thrift stores, where sales also go to benefit the charity. Some organizations also allow you to provide new toys and gifts for kids in need specifically during the holidays like The Salvation Army's Angel Tree program.

Find more ways to give back this holiday season and throughout the year at redkettlereason.org. (Family Features)

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Gifts

Continued from page 13 important gestures. A hearty holiday meal is a special

blessing for families of all

sizes and circumstances, and a relatively meager donation can make a big difference for numerous families in need.

Give Items

You may not realize it,

