

Networking series for artisans kicks off at Rancourt & Co. Shoecrafters



L/A Arts is launching "A Place for Makers," a new series of networking and professional development sessions designed to showcase the resources, creative talent, potential live and work spaces, and support services available to artisan businesses in the Lewiston-Auburn area. The series will kick off on Wednesday, March 29 from 6 to 8 p.m. with a program hosted by Mike Rancourt of Rancourt & Co. Shoecrafters, located at 9 Bridge Street in Lewiston. The event is free, but those planning

to attend should register at www.brownpapertickets.com.

Rancourt's father, David, came to Lewiston in the 1950s from his home in Sherbrooke, Quebec to learn the trade of shoemaking. In 1967, he opened his own factory and began producing handmade moccasins. His eldest son, Michael, joined him in the business in 1970, and together they grew the fledgling moccasin shop into a state-of-the-art shoe factory producing luxury calfskin loafers for some of the best brands in the world. When the factory changed ownership in

the 1990s due to changes in the global economy, Michael remained at the helm. In 2008, when the owners announced plans to close the operation in Lewiston, Michael and his son, Kyle, bought it back and launched Rancourt & Co.

Under the guidance of this new father-son partnership, Rancourt & Co. has continued in the tradition of manufacturing outstanding hand-sewn shoes while introducing the Blake Collection, which opened the door to expand the product See *LA Arts*, page 5

DownEasters complete first season



Pictured here (l. to r.) are team members MinAh Kim, Nina Silvia, Sue Gagne-Rousseau, Heidi Coffin, Sarah Holmes, Coach John Niles Merrill, Chelsea Ferk, Sarah Lawsure Moulton, Maureen Matatall, Suzanne Collins Gagne, Lynne Cote, and Clelia Signaud.

Maine's only Adult Synchronized Skating team, comprised of members ranging in age from 19 to 63 and with varying levels of skating skills, just completed their first competitive season as the DownEasters. The team finished the season with two gold medal performances, a bronze medal performance and a fifth-place finish at the U.S. Figure Skating Eastern Synchronized Skating Championships in Hershey, Pa. Coached by John Niles Merrill, a member of U.S. Figure Skating and a Certified A-level coach with the

Professional Skating Association, the team made their home at Norway Savings Bank Arena in Auburn.

Synchronized skating is a discipline in which skaters perform as a team in moving across the ice as a single flowing unit while

completing difficult footwork. The team performs a program set to "Hooked on a Feeling," and required formations including circles, lines, blocks, wheels, intersections and moves in isolation.

See *DownEasters*, page 5

Safe Voices marks 40th anniversary in 2017

Safe Voices, previously known as the Abused Women's Advocacy Project, marks its 40th anniversary this year. The agency, which works to empower those affected by domestic violence in Androscoggin, Oxford and Franklin Counties, was incorporated as a not-for-profit organization in 1977, prompted by a critical need in the area for emergency shelter for abused women and their children.

At that time, with no low-income housing or federal or state monies earmarked to address the

effects of domestic violence, local communities struggled to meet the needs of battered women and children who were not safe. When four women from Androscoggin County went to Massachusetts to learn about that state's efforts to help battered women, Safe Voices was born from their efforts as two local families began accepting women into their homes.

In 1979, due in part to an act to appropriate funds for emergency shelters and services for victims of See *Safe Voices*, page 5

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Norway Savings recognizes employee achievements



President's Award recipient Randy Easler, with President & CEO Pat Weigel

Norway Savings Bank recently held its annual Employee Awards Banquet to celebrate the achievements of numerous employees in 2016. The banquet theme was "Dress Your Passion," and those attending dressed in costume and enjoyed an evening of music and games.

Named 2016 Employee of the Year was Mike Noble, Vice President of Facilities & Purchasing, who was nominated by several NSB employees across the bank for making every job important. Brian Shibles, Executive Vice President & Treasurer, presented him with the award.

"We were very fortunate when Mike joined the bank," said Shibles. "His

experience and education have made him a great fit for the role he has grown into. But it's his personality, attitude and leadership style that allows him to excel and be an integral part of our team."

The President's



Culture Champion of the Year Michelle Morse



Best Supporting Role Award recipient Tammy Bailey (r.), with Senior Vice President of Retail Banking Darci Hamm

Award was presented to Randy Easler, Vice President and Retail Loan Center Manager. Easler has established himself as someone who consistently demonstrates the leadership traits that help build a strong team of engaged employees.

"Randy is dedicated to the success of the bank and to the employees that he supports," said Pat Weigel, President & CEO. "He remains focused on improving the customer experience in an area that is highly regulated and competitive."

The Best Supporting Role Award, which recognizes an employee who consistently provides outstanding support and goes above and beyond

to ensure world-class customer service throughout the organization, was presented to Tammy Bailey, Underwriter II.

"Tammy is extremely dedicated and demonstrates the ability to work well under pressure," said Darci Hamm, Senior Vice President, Retail Banking. "As a mortgage underwriter, she partners closely with her lenders to ensure a responsive and positive customer experience. She is a tireless professional and consistently demonstrates her team spirit, and we are fortunate to have her on our team."

The Culture Champion of the Year, which recognizes an employee who exhibits the elements that define the bank's high

achievement and high support culture, was presented to Michelle Morse, Audit/Risk Specialist. Executive Vice President & Treasurer Brian Shibles presented her with the award.

"Michelle always has a positive attitude," said Shibles. "She is always smiling and making the Operations Center a fun, happy place. Her positive attitude and willingness to get involved are greatly appreciated."

The following employees received awards for exhibiting elements of the bank's culture through their daily responsibilities and high quality of work throughout 2016: Achievement Award - Jamie Brochu (Retail Loan Center) and Owen Maguire (Brunswick); Branding Award - Janice deLima (CRA), Mike Grant (Information Technology) and Traci MacDonald (Brunswick); Communications Award - Brittany Robidoux (Asset Management Group) and Terry Seavey (Retail Administration); Customer Service Award - Amy Fox (Loan Servicing) and Jennifer Russell (Norway); Empowerment Award - Becky Buchanan (Standish) and Kelcey Raasumaa (Business Intelligence); Leadership Award - Ryan Dillingham (Information Technology), Kyle Hodgkins (Exchange Street) and Kelly Sturmer (Standish and Gorham); Team Player Award - Rob Harville (Commercial Lending), Sacha Marston (Retail Loan Center) and Jake Ouellette (Asset Management Group).

Employees who celebrated a milestone anniversary with the bank were also recognized at the banquet. The most notable Length of Service Award this year was presented to Delma Patenaude (Cooks Corner), who has been with the bank for 40 years. The following were also recognized: 35 Years of Service - Debbie Ward (Retail Administration); 30 Years of Service - Holly Chase (Retail Lending), Diane Andrews (Finance); 25 Years of Service - Roxanne Ames (Marketing); 20 Years of Service - Karry Kane (Topsham), Tina Croteau (Retail Lending); 15 Years of Service - Anita Hamilton (Commercial Credit), Elizabeth Reardon (Commercial Credit), Pat Weigel (President & CEO), Rick Flagg (Commercial Lending), Ruth Morales (South Portland), Sid Whitman (Facilities); 10 Years of Service - Jill French (Customer Care), Susan Quinn (Windham), Rob Harville (Commercial Lending), Danielle Skorupa (Bethel), Steve Whitney (Executive Vice President, Risk Management, Deposit Operations & IT), Bill Onorato (Scarborough), Becky Buchanan (Standish), Nicole Harris (Windham); 5 Years of Service - Ashlie Baker-Stevens (Norway), Joline Avery (Windham), Brittany Robidoux (Asset Management Group), Stephanie Lizak (Exchange Street), Pam Gaudet (Commercial Lending), Phillip Munton (Auburn), Amanda Dyer (Freeport), Bill White (Commercial Lending), Michelle Wickham (Asset Management), Harmony Hebert (Customer Care), Jen Damon (Naples), Courtney Estes (Naples).



Employee of the Year Mike Noble (r.), with Executive Vice President & Treasurer Brian Shibles

Camden National adds Claveau to Lending Team

Camden National Bank has announced the hiring of Jean Claveau as Vice President, Commercial Banking Officer. Claveau



Jean Claveau comes to Camden National after working in commercial lending at both Bangor Savings Bank and Androscoggin Bank. Earlier in his career, he served as Retail Production Manager at Camden National Bank's office in Rockport.

Claveau will be based in Gardiner and will serve the Central Maine area in addition to Brunswick, Bath, Lewiston and Auburn. He will be responsible for building strong relationships with the bank.

See Claveau, page 3

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Governor's Address: Market must drive energy costs, not handouts

Protecting our natural resources is a priority. It is also a priority for me to make sure Mainers can afford to live in this great state we call home.

Dear Maine Taxpayer,

Maine's electricity rates are among the highest in the nation. In fact, we rank number 11 in highest costs. When you see your electricity bill, you should know these rates are artificially high. The reason is what liberals like to call "subsidies" or "stranded costs."

These subsidies are

taxpayer dollars funneled to the solar and wind industry to make sure they do not go bankrupt. Alternative forms of energy are worthwhile, but they are expensive—and you pay the price.

A 2015 study by the Energy Information Administration found that wind is federally subsidized at a rate more than 70 times that of natural gas and oil. Solar is even worse. It is subsidized at more than 340 times the rate of natural gas and oil. This is the highest level of all renewable subsidies.

I have said it once, and



Governor Paul R. LePage

I will say it again: I support all forms of renewable energy. However, when electricity rates are increased

because of energy like solar and wind, consumers are paying for it twice. On the front end, consumers pay for the government welfare these companies need to stay afloat. On the back end, you pay more in higher electric bills.

Some liberals, such as the Natural Resources Council of Maine, want you to believe we are lagging behind as a producer of renewable resources. Not true. Maine uses only about 10 percent of the electricity in New England, but it is by far the biggest producer of renewable

electricity in New England. We produce almost half of the total renewable electricity generated in New England.

Nearly 70 percent of the electricity produced in Maine is from renewable resources. Maine is the leader!

Liberal critics want to promote wind and solar as the only renewable resources. However, it is financially irresponsible to favor expensive solar and wind, while we are making good use of Maine's indigenous resources—nearly 30 percent of the electricity

we generate is from our hydroelectric plants, and another 27 percent comes from biomass.

If anyone in New England wants to pursue solar and wind, I encourage them to do so, but you should not have to pay for it through subsidies or stranded costs.

All forms of renewable energy have a place in the market, as long as they are not overpriced and companies are not living off taxpayer dollars.

Thank You,
Paul R. LePage
Governor

Claveau

Continued from page 2

ships with businesses to assist them with all of their commercial banking needs and goals.

"Jean's role is critical for assisting business owners as they seek the appropriate financing," said Tim Nightingale, Executive Vice President, Senior Lending Officer at Camden National Bank. "His background in commercial lending and previous experience with Camden National Bank will be indispensable as he builds relationships in the Central Maine Region."

Claveau moved to Maine over 20 years ago and currently resides in Hallowell with his wife and daughter. He served as past chair of Cynergy Young Professionals, a division of the Kennebec Valley Chamber of Commerce, helping to grow the group in its infancy. He holds an MBA from Thomas College and is a certified economic development finance professional through the National

MSAD 52 educator wins grant to attend national conference

Melanie North, Adult Basic Education Coordinator for MSAD 52 Adult Education, which serves Turner, Greene and Leeds, has been awarded a national grant to attend the Coalition on Adult Basic

Development Council.

Camden National Bank's Commercial Banking Group has 23 commercial bankers located in 12 lending centers throughout Maine and New Hampshire. With a lending capacity of over \$35 million, the Commercial Banking Team has broad experience in areas such as asset-based lending, construction and commercial real estate development lending, equipment financing, and commercial mortgages. In addition, the team can meet all the financial needs of its customers with additional services such as business deposit products, merchant services, and extensive treasury management services.

Education National Conference this April in Orlando, Florida.

In her four years as an instructor with the MSAD 52 Adult Education Program, North has played a key role, teaching English/Language Arts, coordinating the Adult Basic Education program, and supporting ESL Language Acquisition Programs. An educator for over 15 years, she is certified to teach English Language Arts (grades 7-12), General Elementary (grades K-8) and Adult Education (grades 12+). She has completed the Global Career Development Facilitator



Melanie North

Training and is working towards completion of her WorkReady Facilitator certification.

As the only Maine re-

ipient of this award, North plans to bring back new and exciting ideas, innovative practices, and relevant materials to share with other adult education practitioners in the state through staff development meetings and at the Maine Adult Education Association conference next year.

COABE works to advance national and international adult education and literacy opportunities, promote adult education and literacy programs, and provide leadership in advancing the education of adults by unifying the Adult Education profes-

sion. This includes Adult Basic Education, Adult Secondary Education, English for Speakers of Other Languages, Family Literacy, Skills Development, Workforce Development, and other state, federal, and private programs which assist undereducated and/or disadvantaged adults to function effectively.

MSAD 52 Adult Education offers courses in high school completion, HiSET, ESL and ABE literacy classes, College Transition preparation and various work certification courses. For more information, call them at 225-1010 or see www.msad52.maine-adulted.org.

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Only Steps Forward

Regional trails, parks could link historic downtowns, other regions

By Jonathan P. LaBonte
MAYOR OF AUBURN

With the arrival of spring, it's good to point our minds to something that's not white snow out our windows. As a follow-up to my update last week on the Androscoggin and Little Androscoggin Rivers more broadly, I wanted to provide an update on two projects that were first envisioned 20 years ago that could be prime to move forward.

Cities of Auburn and Lewiston, along with the Androscoggin Land Trust, created a grand vision for an Androscoggin Greenway; an interconnected network of trails and parks that would link our historic downtown neighborhoods with regions to our north and south.

Throughout the country at that time, railroad lines long unused were being converted to regional trail corridors. The thought here in Lewiston-Auburn



Mayor Jonathan P. LaBonte was to convert portions of the Lewiston-Auburn Railroad line just off Wash-

ington Street into a trail that would lead into Sismard-Payne Railroad Park and also connect across the Little Androscoggin River to New Auburn and Mill Street. Another segment of trail would run from behind the Hill Mill and Lepage Bakeries near Cedar Street south along the old PanAm Railways line to Lisbon Falls and over time beyond.

In the first few years after the vision was rolled out, several segments were

built. The rail line from Bonney Park, over the walking bridge and into Lewiston to Oxford Street, was built. Engineering plans were commissioned to complete the section under Main Street in Auburn and around the opposite river shore of the Barker Mill. Unfortunately, not long after the engineering plans were complete the project was shelved.

In place of the trail were concepts to have the State of Maine and the Lewiston Auburn Railroad company take over the PanAm line from Lewiston and build a new, active freight rail line through the heart of Downtown Lewiston-Auburn and back to the Lewiston-Auburn Railroad line and across Washington Street.

Despite there being little evidence this plan would work, and with PanAm having no interest in turning their freight line over to the state to compete with their line from Brunswick to Portland, the trail momentum was more than stalled—it was completely stopped.

Today, the realities are much different, and we are ripe to move on this project if both cities, our friends in Lisbon and the board of directors of the Lewiston Auburn Railroad (of which I am a member) can agree to move on it.

From the New Auburn side, starting at the Barker Mill Trail, crossing the Little Androscoggin River and then continuing into town on the rail line, the line is already owned locally (by the Lewiston Auburn Railroad) and could be integrated into a larger construction project to restore the rail bed and put down a trail surface. The on-going relicensing of the Barker Dams provides a potential funding source, as the dam owner must provide for public access around the river; this trail could be a mechanism for that.

On the Lewiston side,

recent discussions with PanAm leave them apparently more open to a partnership if attempts to put freight on that line are off the table (unless they are the ones providing the service). Since that is highly unlikely in the next few generations, an interim step of restoring the rail bed for trail use is on the table. The federal surface transportation board has a process that allows a railroad like PanAm to file for abandonment of the line and then suspend that application when a request is filed for a recreational trail license on the line.

Given that the Lewiston Auburn Railroad already has a mechanism by which it can hold real estate rights on transportation corridors, I have proposed that both cities ask the LA Railroad to pursue this with PanAm. The LA Railroad has a revenue stream from the lease of its freight line near the Auburn airport that could be committed to the project, reducing the need for property taxpayers to fund it.

The 13 miles from Cedar Street to Lisbon, owned by PanAm, still has much of the rail infrastructure on it, so there would be a cost to stripping this down, rebuilding the rail bed and putting down a trail surface. Given the dedicated state and federal dollars supporting this type of work, including the potential to link in snowmobile clubs and ATV clubs in Lisbon, securing funding over the next two to three years would not be as difficult as it has been for other local trail projects.

While it's taken 20 years from initial vision for a regional trail linking our neighborhoods and heading downstream towards Lisbon, it looks like the timing could be perfect for us to move as a community and move quickly. If you're on board, I urge you to reach out to your City Councilors in either city.

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Enough is Enough

Activists prevail in the Legislature, voters are left in the dark

By **Robert E. Macdonald**
MAYOR OF LEWISTON

They're back!
The Maine State Legislature is now in full session. If you're one of the many average people who religiously gets up each morning, braves the elements and trudges to work to support yourself and your family, then it's time again to put a Herculean grip on your wallet or purse.

Yes, it's that time again when social workers, educators, lawyers, career politicians, theater directors, counselors and some unemployable souls come together, don the hat of State Legislator and attempt to tackle complex issues that are usually well above their paygrade. This stands to cost you, the taxpayer, some money.

Yet, as a possible victim of their decisions do you have any idea what's going on under the copper dome in Augusta? Probably not.

A few days ago, I saw a Letter to the Editor complaining about the lack of coverage on how local legislators were voting on bills that had a direct effect on the community. Therefore, as a public service we will focus on certain bills, give a brief summary and record how your local legislator voted. So when you go to the polls to vote, you won't be voting blindly.

Over the last five-plus years we have listened to your concerns about the abuse of the welfare system. I have heard you at coffee shops, malls and the grocery store. I have watched the forgotten elderly waiting in



Mayor Bob Macdonald

the express line scrimping change to pay for two or three items. Meanwhile, the young unemployable and non-citizens wait in line with full carts, presenting the cashier either an EBT card or a voucher for payment. Not surprisingly, it is the downtown working poor that show the most

indignation towards those on state aid.

Unfortunately, it is a daunting task to put in place a system where your tax money is used to help the truly needy, not the lame and lazy. Several impediments stand in our way, including but not limited to community activist groups, such as the Maine People's Alliance, Equal Maine Justice Partners, Pine Tree Legal and the Maine Civil Liberties Union. Legislative session after session, with the help of many in both parties, they prevail.

In today's column I will be listing several bills before the current Legislature dealing with Maine General Assistance. These bills will be followed, and taxpayers will be informed on how their legislative representatives voted on them.

In a future column, we will identify current legislators who march to the beat of the aforementioned activist groups.

Here are four pieces of legislation we will be following and making you aware of the results.

LD10—Current law establishes 120-day period of disqualification from receiving any General Assistance benefits for a person who is found to have obtained GA by making a false or fraudulent representation to the municipal administrator. This bill increases the disqualification period from three to 24 months.

LD33—This bill reduces the lifetime limits on receiving public assistance benefits through the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program (TANF).

The current lifetime limit is five years. This bill reduces that limit to three years.

LD36—This bill establishes a limit on the duration that certain persons can receive benefits under the General Assistance program. That limit is no more than nine months (275 days) every five years for applicants who are capable of working and who do not have any dependents.

LD390—This is the Governor's proposed biennial budget for FY 2018-2019. A section in this legislation repeals an amendment enacted in 2014 that expressly allows certain asylum seekers and other non-citizens to receive General Assistance benefits.

So to all you local politicians, we will be watching you.

LA Arts

Continued from page 1

line to include boots, calf-skin dress shoes and leather sneakers. Rancourt & Co. Shoecrafters provided the shoes for the 2016 U.S. Olympic Team through their client, Ralph Lauren. See their website at www.rancourtandcompany.com.

The "A Place for Makers" series is organized with support from a National Endowment for the Arts Our Town grant, in collaboration with Maine College of Art, Lewiston Auburn Economic Growth Council, and the Pratt Institute. Upcoming events are scheduled for Wednesdays through the end of May. The schedule and registration links will be posted on the L/A Arts website and social media. For more information, call them at 782-7228 or see <https://laarts.org>.

Safe Voices

Continued from page 1

domestic violence, Safe Voices opened an emergency shelter with a total of four staff. Over the years, the shelter has changed location numerous times, once after burning down in a fire. Today, Safe Voices continues to operate the only shelter and support services for battered women in the three-county region.

Since its inception, Safe Voices has had a four-fold mission: to provide emergency and support services to victims of domestic violence; to promote ways to foster healthy relationships; to educate the community about the seriousness and prevalence of this crime; and to work toward social change so that communities no longer tolerate this abuse.

This mission has developed into a strong safety

net for victims of domestic abuse seeking support, assistance, and a life free from the threat of further abuse. In addition to emergency shelter, Safe Voices has a network of community-based offices in Lewiston, Norway-South Paris, Farmington and Rumford that provide one-on-one support, group support, children's services, information and referral, court advocacy, transportation and accommodation, community education and professional training.

To highlight the work that has been done and discuss what lies ahead, Safe Voices will host a press conference this week that will feature domestic abuse survivors and community leaders who have helped in the work to end domestic violence.

Speakers confirmed to date include Safe Voices Executive Director Elise Johansen, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Services Executive Director Marty McIntyre, Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence Executive Director Francine Stark, Auburn Mayor Jonathan Labonte, and the chiefs of the Lewiston,

Mexico, and Farmington Police Departments. A calendar of events scheduled for 2017 to celebrate the work of the agency over the past 40 years will be distributed.

If you or someone you know is in a domestic violence situation, call Safe Voices' 24-hour helpline at 1-800-559-2927. For more information about Safe Voices, see www.safe-voices.org.

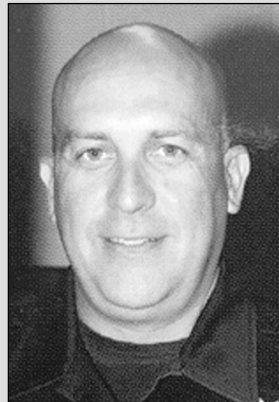
DownEasters

Continued from page 1

Synchronized Skating uses the same judging system as singles, pairs, and ice dancing and is judged primarily on teamwork, precision, speed, difficulty, and performance. Interested skaters are invited to consider joining them for the 2017-2018 season. For more information, contact Heidi Coffin at hahc@comcast.net.

The team will perform on Sunday, March 20 at the Skate Club of Brunswick's Spring Exhibition at Bowdoin College's Watson Arena in Brunswick. The show starts at 4:30 p.m. and tickets are \$12 at the door.

Lewiston Police Department announces promotions



Danny Lachance

Lewiston Police Chief Brian O'Malley has announced the recent promotions of two veteran officers.

Danny Lachance has

been promoted to the rank of Lieutenant. He has been a member of the Lewiston Police Department since August of 1994 and has held a variety of positions during his tenure, serving as a Sergeant of Patrol since October of 2003. He will be assigned to the overnight shift of the Patrol Division.

Carly Conley has been promoted to the rank of Sergeant. She has been a member of the department since January of 2001, most recently holding the rank of Detective since 2012. She will begin her duties as the



Carly Conley

first ever female supervisor at the Lewiston Police Department assigned to the overnight shift of the Patrol Division.

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What's Going On

UMaine Extension offers new info resource for food entrepreneurs

University of Maine Cooperative Extension has launched a new website, called Resources for Food Entrepreneurs, for aspiring or existing food manufacturers wanting to produce specialty food products. The site provides useful information on business planning, including samples of business plans for various food enterprises; marketing; financing options; directories of food brokers, co-packers and distributors; trade associations; trade shows; and publications.

The website also includes information about Recipe to Market, UMaine Extension's educational program designed for those wanting to start a specialty food business. Links are provided to state licensing agencies, specialized testing services and a commercially licensed kitchen available for rent at UMaine. The website's address is <https://extension.umaine.edu/business/specialty-foods>.

ness/specialty-foods.

"Food-based enterprises and manufacturers require a wide range of information to help them successfully develop and market their products to consumers through various retail outlets," says UMaine Extension regional small business educator and Extension professor Louis Bassano, who recently completed a sabbatical focused on the specialty food industry, including key resources that would be helpful for Maine food businesses. The new website, Resources for Food Entrepreneurs, was created by Bassano; Extension food science specialist and associate professor of

food science Beth Calder; and Extension business and economics specialist and professor of economics James McConnon.

Nationally, specialty foods are a \$120 billion industry, with over three-quarters of the sector devoted to retail specialty foods and the remainder to food service. Specialty food sales at retail grew to \$94 billion in 2015, a 19.7 percent jump since 2013, driven by product innovations and wider availability of specialty foods through mass market outlets, according to the Specialty Food Association. For more information, contact Louis Bassano at 255-3345 or louis.bassano@umaine.edu.

SAPARS seeks volunteers to staff 24-hour helpline

Are you a good listener? Want to help others? If so, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Services could use your

help. SAPARS is looking for volunteer advocates to make a difference in the lives of people affected by sexual violence by staffing its 24-hour helpline.

After receiving extensive training and support to prepare them to effectively respond to callers, volunteer advocates are notified of calls through their cell phones from the answering service, allowing them to be on call from their homes or another location where they have a private space to talk.

Volunteer advocates must be over the age of 18, empathetic and dependable, with access to reliable transportation. All potential volunteers must complete the training and a screening process, which includes criminal and DHHS background checks. No prior experience is necessary. For more information, call Kayce at 784-5272 or see www.sapars.org.

Silhouette Project installation to be unveiled April 17

White Star Mother Linda Lajoie will help bring awareness to the issue of veteran suicide when she hosts the unveiling of the Silhouette Project, which will feature 22 silhouettes of Maine veterans lost to this epidemic, on Monday, April 17 at noon in the lobby of the main building on USM's L-A College campus.

Lajoie lost her son, an Afghanistan veteran, to suicide in December 2014. At the time, there were so many things she did not know: the

warning signs of PTSD; how many resources in addition to the VA were available to help veterans in need or distress; and most of all, that between 20 and 22 veterans commit suicide every day. She is now on a mission to educate other families and to urge veterans who may be struggling to reach out for help.

There are many groups and organizations here in Maine that provide resources to help veterans in a wide variety of areas, ranging from housing and home repair to

free recreational hunting, fishing and camping trips. The Maine Bureau of Veteran Services has an interactive map to help veterans find resources in their area. See www.maine.gov/veterans.

If you are a veteran and are struggling, or if you have a loved one who is a veteran and is struggling, call 1-800-273-8255 and press 1. Online help is also available around the clock at www.veteranscrisisline.net.

For more information about the Silhouette Project or to donate, put "Silhouette Project" in the subject line and send a message to Linda Lajoie at linlaj@yahoo.com.

Fill the Plate Breakfast to benefit Meals on Wheels

SeniorsPlus will host its annual Fill the Plate Breakfast to benefit its Meals on Wheels nutrition program on Friday, March 31, from 7 to 9 a.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn Riverwatch in Auburn. The breakfast will honor former Speaker of the Maine House of Representatives Mark W. Eves with the Ikarria Award and will feature an address by Maine Attorney General Janet T. Mills. Tickets are \$20 per person in advance or \$25 at the door. Seating is limited and advance registration is recommended. To buy tickets, call 795-4010 or see www.seniorsplus.org.



Former Speaker of the Maine House of Representatives Mark W. Eves will be honored at the event with the 2017 Ikarria Award.

Through its Meals on Wheels program, SeniorsPlus last year delivered 108,000 meals to more than 750 homebound older adults and adults with disabilities in Androscoggin, Franklin and Oxford counties. Most the program's clients are lower-income or on fixed incomes. Each meal provides one-third of the recommended daily allowance of nutrition, a safety check, and a visit to these vulnerable adults. There are currently fifty people on the waiting list for the program.

"This event helps fund Meals on Wheels, which can often determine a person's ability to remain at home," said Betsy Sawyer-Manter, President and CEO of SeniorsPlus. "The breakfast will be nutritious and informative, with a

program designed to highlight work being done in Maine to support our older adults."

Janet Mills will offer personal and professional recollections of her experiences engaging with older adults. The Attorney General is Maine's chief law enforcement officer and represents the state in legal matters ranging from child support enforcement, to the protection of civil and consumer rights, to the prosecution of homicides, felony drug cases and major frauds. Mills served as an Assistant Attorney General from 1976 to 1980, prosecuting homicides and other major crimes. In December of 2008, she was elected by the Joint Convention of the Legislature to be the state's first woman Attorney General. During a hiatus in office from 2011 through 2012, she taught Criminal Law at the University of

Maine at Augusta and served of counsel in the Litigation Group of PretiFlaherty, LLP. In December 2012, she was again elected Attorney General, and in December 2014 was re-elected to her second consecutive term.

Mark Eves will be honored with the 2017 Ikarria Award, which recognizes singular and outstanding contributions toward improving the lives of older adults. Under his leadership as Speaker of the House, the Legislature passed a bipartisan middle class tax cut, boosted property tax relief for all Maine families, and strengthened investment in Maine children and workers. In the 127th legislature, he served as co-chair of the first ever Caucus on Aging, pushing an agenda to support the ability of Maine seniors to live independently in their homes and communities.

"Mark Eves worked hard to put the welfare of Maine's older adults in the forefront of the legislative agenda, achieving results we are still seeing," said Sawyer-Manter. "We are thrilled to honor his years of dedication and hard work with the Ikarria Award."

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Red Cross honors "Real Heroes" at awards breakfast

The American Red Cross in Central and Mid-Coast Maine recently honored seven individuals, the Crew of LifeFlight Maine, and the Rapid Intervention Teams of the Poland, Oxford and Norway Fire Departments at its 14th annual "Real Heroes" awards breakfast at the Ramada Inn and Conference Center in Lewiston. The recipients were honored for responding with extraordinary courage in the face of life-threatening challenges.

Receiving the Giving the Gift of Life Heroes Award was LifeFlight Maine of Lewiston. Every LifeFlight Maine mission carries two units of O-Red blood cells in case they are needed to address severe blood loss. Inspired by the three-year battle that six-year-old Kinzie Frey of Lewiston has been battling against cancer, the LifeFlight team organized a blood drive to highlight the need for blood products to help cancer patients. The unit goal for the drive was 78 units, and the drive collected 93 units, each of which can save up to three lives. Accepting the award were RN/EMT Lori Metayer and Office Coordinator Sandra Graul-McEachern, who spearheaded the effort.

Receiving the Real

Heroes Public Safety Award were Lisbon Police Department Dispatchers Jared Blake and Charlie White. The two stayed on a 911 call with three teens who, while fishing, found themselves stranded by rising waters in the middle of the Androscoggin River. While on the line, these public safety officers were able to dispatch the police department, fire department water rescue, and EMTs while coordinating with Miller Hydro personnel to open the flood gates and lower the water levels. Thanks to officers Blake and White, all remained calm and the boys were safely rescued. They describe their efforts as "All in a day's work."

Receiving the Community Service Heroes Award was six-year-old Acadia Cornish of Brunswick. Cornish loves to read books and spends many hours reading. When she realized that not every child had the same opportunity she did because they couldn't afford to buy books, she decided to build a free library for all the kids in her neighborhood. Working with her family, Acadia built a small house on the front lawn of their home in Brunswick, where children can come anytime to get books and satisfy their

love of reading.

Receiving the Workplace Safety Heroes Award were the Rapid Intervention Teams of the Poland, Oxford and Norway Fire Departments. Workplace safety takes on a whole new meaning when you are a firefighter. The job puts you in harm's way and your life is often at risk. Extensive training and proper equipment prepare firefighters for the job, but when the unexpected happens and a firefighter is in danger, the Rapid Intervention Teams go in. On the night of April 6, 2016, Capt. Christine Yates fell through the floor of a burning Oxford Home. The Rapid Intervention Team was deployed to find Capt. Yates, who was trapped in the burning building and at risk of running out of oxygen. Worked feverishly to find Capt. Yates in time, the RITs successfully found her, were able to dislodge her from the floor, and then passed her out a broken window to safety.

Receiving the Youth Lifesaving Hero Award was 15-year-old Isaiah Veilleux of Sabattus. When Veilleux woke to a loud noise on the night of April 10, he first thought it was his phone, but then realized it was

What's Going On

the smoke alarm. When he turned on his bedroom light, he could see smoke wafting across his ceiling and traveling up the windows. A freak windstorm had blown the flame of his family's outdoor wood boiler and ignited a fire on the exterior of the house. Acting fast, Isaiah woke his mom and, together, they got his four younger siblings out of the house to safety. "The house was a total loss and the second floor of the home collapsed early on in the fire," said Sabattus Fire Chief Marc Veilleux. "If Isaiah had not woken to the alarm and gotten everyone out of the home, the results would have been much different. His actions prevented a tragic event."

Receiving the Good Samaritan Hero Award was Matt Roy of Rumford. On a dark and quiet July morning around 4 a.m., Roy took a sip of coffee while driving to his job as a mechanic at Cross Excavation in West Bethel and thought he noticed something out of the corner of his eye. He doubled back, got out of his car,

and walked around the six-unit Rumford apartment building to find a fire raging on the back porch of one of the units. He went around to the front of the building and pounded on the door. When no one answered, he kicked the door in. He reports that it took some convincing to alert the residents to the existence of the fire that was quickly consuming the building. All in all, he assisted in clearing the six apartments, thereby saving nine people, including two children. "Matthew saved many lives by alerting us that our building was on fire as we slept," said building resident Janet Ramey. "He called 911 instead of driving away, ran to the building to bang on doors and even broke down doors. I cannot wait to thank him."

Incredibly, this isn't the first time that Matt has won a Real Heroes Award. He received a Lifesaving Heroes Award in 2009 for rescuing a Rumford man who had gone through the ice on his snowmobile.

Receiving the Lifesaving Heroes Award were Sean and Kaden Scanlon

of Dresden. On the afternoon of September 16, Sean Kaden was playing with four-year-old son Kaden at the East Side Boat Landing Playground along the Kennebec River in Augusta. Across the river, people started yelling frantically to Sean that there was a child in the water. Even though it appeared that he and his son were the only ones at the playground, he went down to the riverbank to investigate. He saw a bright green swash of color in the water, but it wasn't until he got closer that he realized it was a submerged toddler, kept afloat only by his diaper. Sean grabbed the unresponsive toddler and cradled him in his arms. While racing back to land, he patted the toddler's back, trying to get a response. He laid the boy down and started CPR. He didn't know if it would work, but he knew he had to try. Finally, the boy spit up water. Sean could hear sirens approaching and asked Kaden to go get help. Kaden climbed the riverbank and brought first responders to the scene.

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What's Going On

CMCC Veterans Club to present Foreign Policy Forum

The Veterans Club at Central Maine Community College will host a public forum on U.S. foreign policy on Monday, March 27 at 7 p.m. in Room J15 of Jalbert Hall. The event is free and open to the public.

With a new administration in the White House, major changes are underway in how the U.S. deals with both historic allies and adversaries. Since veterans have been at the forefront of current and past conflicts and have been called upon to implement U.S. policies abroad, often in hazardous situations, their observations and insights on these issues are highly relevant.

A panel of two CMCC faculty members, one of whom is a Vietnam veteran, an Iraq and

Afghanistan War veteran, and a CMCC student who served in Afghanistan will share brief statements and then solicit input from the audience. The panel members are Chris Beam, Tyler C. Frazer, Jared Golden and Karl Trautman.

Chris Beam is an adjunct instructor in history at CMCC and adviser to the Veterans Club. A veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, he served a tour in Vietnam in 1968-69. He has taught numerous courses on the Vietnam War at CMCC and other institutions. He has worked as an archivist at Bates College and at the National Archives in Washington, D.C., where he worked on the Nixon White House tapes.

Tyler Frazer is in his

last semester at CMCC and plans to pursue a medical assisting degree. He has been an active drilling member of the Army National Guard since 2007 and served overseas with the 133rd Engineer Battalion for Operation Enduring Freedom from August 2013 to July 2014.

Jared Golden is a Marine Corps veteran of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. A graduate of Bates College, he has worked in logistics in the Middle East and on the U.S. Senate Homeland Security Committee. He currently represents Lewiston in the Maine House of Representatives.

Karl Trautman is an instructor of political science at CMCC. His latest book is "The Underdog in American Politics: The Democratic Party and Liberal Values." He has been a newspaper columnist, policy analyst for the Michigan State Senate and a research assistant for "Meet the Press."



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Camden National helps area students support school teams



The Lewiston High School Class A State Champion hockey team

Over the past several weeks, Camden National Bank has donated over \$10,000 to provide tickets for over 2,100 high school students to attend and cheer on their boys' and girls' hockey and basketball teams as they competed in the state championship finals.

Over eight years ago, the concept of this campaign was developed by an employee who recognized that students in some communities needed help to gain access to large school and community events. While the bank now serves more communities across the state and the program has evolved, the purpose remains the same - to help students attend their teams' sporting events regardless of their ability to pay. Year after

year, this generous support is appreciated by communities across the region, including the City of Lewiston.

"Lewiston is a diverse community and not all students can necessarily afford to purchase a ticket for the big hockey game," said Lewiston High School Principal Shawn Chabot. "This generous donation gives all students access to attend a large community event and take part in hometown pride and school spirit regardless of their economic status."

"Our employees look forward to this tradition every year," said Greg Dufour, President and Chief Executive Officer of Camden National Bank. "Our banking centers across the state follow their teams during the regular season in hopes

they'll be one of the centers making a school donation. We are proud to be able to help build community spirit and provide means for students to support each other in a positive environment."

In playoff season 2017, the following area schools and teams, each located in a community with a Camden National banking center, participated in final playoff games and received a donation: Winthrop High School, Winthrop (Boys Basketball Class C); Brunswick High School, Brunswick (Girls Basketball Class A); Monmouth Academy, Monmouth (Girls Basketball Class C); Lewiston High School, Lewiston (Boys Hockey Class A); and Saint Dominic Academy, Auburn (Girls Hockey).

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Out & About with Rachel Morin

Fairfield honors native son for patriotic service

Story and photos by Rachel Morin

I received a telephone call in early March from my dear friend Hope Weston at Schooner Estates excitedly telling me about a big article that had been printed in the Kennebec Journal March 2 about her late father, Eugene E. Wing, one of Fairfield's native sons. The headline read "Fairfield looks to honor fallen war hero shrouded in mystery." Hope continued, "It is good news about the affirmation of my father's patriotic role in WWI and WWII in the Philippines."

Well, I just had to go see her and hear what she had to say. I had heard the story of her father's distinguished and exemplary life and his devout patriotism of his native USA many times when I visited her. I had read her interesting and detailed account in her memoir book published when she was 80. I wanted to hear it all again!

Hope told me,

when I arrived, that she had been invited to a presentation by the Fairfield Historical Society in February. Douglas Crutchin, historian and President of the Fairfield Historical Society, gave a lecture based on his extensive research of her father's life and his role in working with the U.S. Army Intelligence Service, at their request, to provide useful information on activities in the Philippines by the Japanese during WWI and WWII.

Eugene Eveleth Wing was born in Fairfield, Maine, but after graduating from Bowdoin College, he attended the Oxford University in England under a Rhodes scholarship. Upon graduating, he was hired by International Banking Corp., one of the world's largest banking firms.

IBC sent him to Manila, Philippines, to work in the company's Far East banking headquarters. It didn't take long before he was vice president of the entire IBC Asian banking system and later President. In this role, Wing made many contacts



Hope Weston proudly holds the Proclamation given to her by the Town Council of Fairfield, Maine in honor and recognition of her father, Eugene Eveleth Wing's achievements during WWI and WWII for the United States of America.

throughout Asia. Hope told me her father was also proficient at sailing his yacht in the waters surrounding the Philippines and had acquired much information on the navigation routes.

comfortable home life in Manila.

Crutchin recounted the role Wing played in Manila assisting the U.S. Army Intelligence Service during both World Wars with his many contacts and his excellence as an interpreter of the information. He spoke of Wings many achievements in this regard. Crutchin was instrumental in having the Town of Fairfield recognize and give a Proclamation in Wings honor commending his service to the U.S. and having given his life as well. Wing was beheaded on April 11, 1944 by the Japanese Army.

The Town Council of Fairfield presented Hope Weston that evening with a framed Proclamation of her father's achievements. The title on the Proclamation is «American Patriot Eugene E. Wing» and it starts with «Be it proclaimed by the Town Council of Fairfield Maine» and continues with a lengthy list of his accomplishments and ends with «Now, therefore be it proclaimed that we, the Town council of

the Town of Fairfield, do hereby recognize Eugene E. Wing for his outstanding accomplishments and thank and congratulate his daughter, Hope Wing Weston, (101 years old) and grandsons, Robert N. Weston and James L. Weston, for their father's and grandfather's profound dedication to his Country.»

It was sealed with the Seal of the Town of Fairfield, Maine, on this Eighth Day of February in the Year Two Thousand and Seventeen. The document was signed by the dignitaries of the Town Council of Fairfield-Michael Taylor, Chair; John Picchiotto, Vice-Chair; Aaron Rowden, Secretary; Jeffrey Newbauer; Beverly Busque; attested by Christine Keller, Town Clerk.

Hope is understandably proud of her father. We enjoyed a very pleasant afternoon reviewing the memories and history of her father's life and I took a picture of her holding the Proclamation.

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TWIN CITY NIGHTS

Weekly Arts & Entertainment

Norlands offers Pancake Breakfast, Maple Sugaring



After breakfast, participants can visit the Sap House, where they can help tap trees and collect sap.

Celebrate Maine Maple Sunday with a Pancake Breakfast and some Old-Time Maple Sugaring at the Norlands, Maine's oldest living history farm

and museum, on Sunday, March 26 from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Those attending will enjoy a hearty breakfast of fresh hot pancakes and

sausage drizzled in Norlands' own maple syrup in the historic farmer's cottage and original 1867 Washburn Family kitchen. After breakfast, visit the Sap House, where you'll see boiling demonstrations, meet the farm's working team of oxen, and can help tap trees and collect sap. Journey back to 1853 in the District #7 one-room schoolhouse, where the schoolmarm will be ready to share the basics of reading, writing, and 'rithmetic using the latest technologies of the time. Bring your snowshoes and burn off those breakfast calories by walking along the tranquil fields and wooded carriage trails of the farm's 445 acres. The gift shop will be open with a selection of Norlands' own maple syrup and other maple treats to take home.

The only charge is \$5 to \$7 for breakfast; otherwise, the event is free and no reservations are necessary. The Washburn-Norlands Living History Center is located at 290 Norlands Road in Livermore. For more information, call 897-4366, email norlands@norlands.org, or visit www.norlands.org.

Final weekend for "Wrong for Each Other"



A seemingly mismatched couple flashes back through the highs and lows of their past relationship in the romantic comedy "Wrong for Each Other," staged in its final performances this weekend at the Public Theatre. Looking for the perfect date night? Try "Wine-down Thursday," featuring a free, pre-show wine tasting hosted by Rail's restaurant in the theater lobby on Thursday at 6:30 p.m. Show times are Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m., with an added matinee at 3 p.m. on Saturday, March 25. For tickets, call 782-3200 or see www.thepublictheatre.org.

Maine Event Comedy returns to Elks Lodge

Maine Event Comedy will present twenty-year comedy veteran Dennis Fogg at the Lewiston Elks Lodge on Saturday, March 25 at 8 p.m. The show will also feature Alex Giampapa, Josh Day and host Mark Turcotte. Half of the ticket sales will benefit the Elks Lodge.

Dennis Fogg's comedy and restaurant, Uncle Andy's Diner in South Portland, were featured on



Dennis Fogg

an episode of the Food Network's "Restaurant Impossible." The Portland resident was a finalist in the Funniest Comic on the East Coast Contest at Mohegan Sun.

Alex Giampapa is making huge strides in the Boston comedy scene. He was recently featured in the World Series of Comedy and the Haha Comedy Cafe in Los Angeles. He also won the fourth-grade spelling bee

See *Elks*, page 11

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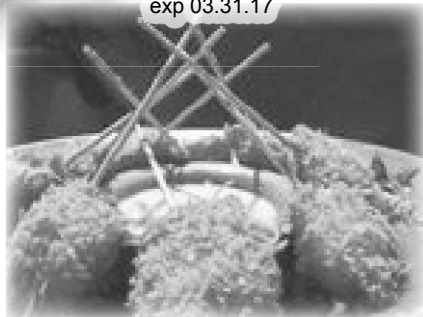
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Historical Society program on Edward Little



While "Edward Little" is best recognized today as the name of Auburn's high school, the man played an important role in developing the infrastructure that contributed to the industrialization of Lewiston and Auburn.

Androscoggin Historical Society will host a program called "The Unknown Edward Little" on Tuesday, March 28 at 7 p.m. at the Society's Davis-Wagg Museum on the third floor of the County Building in Auburn. Presented by author Douglas Hodgkin, the illustrated program will be based upon Hodgkin's new book, "Dear Parent: A Biography and Letters of Edward Little."

While "Edward Little" is best recognized today as the name of Auburn's high school, and "most people would find it difficult to tell why he is so honored beyond the fact that he founded the school," says Hodgkin, "he and his family were extremely important in the development of mills and other infrastructure that

contributed to the industrialization of Lewiston and Auburn."

Little came to this area at age fifty-three. Be-

fore that, he had an extensive career as a lawyer, businessman, investor, and politician in Newburyport, Massachusetts and Portland, Maine. Through research in archives, deeds, and newspapers, Hodgkin has been able to discover details of this earlier period.

Hodgkin is the author of several books on the histories of Lewiston and Auburn. These include "Fractured Family: Fighting in the Maine Courts," "The Lewiston and Auburn Railroad Company," "The Baptists of Court Street, Auburn," "When Presidents and Hopefuls Came to Town," and "Lewiston Politics in the Gilded Age, 1863-1900." Copies of the Edward Little book will be available for purchase and signing at the program.

Admission is free and open to the public, but donations will be gratefully accepted. Enter the County Building on the Court Street side, where an elevator is available. For more information about the Society, call 784-0586.

Mrs. Maine Int'l. Pageant returns for a good cause



New director Janet Desmarais holds the titles Mrs. Maine International 2014 and Mrs. New England International 2015.

The Mrs. Maine International Pageant will return for the first time in eight years under new director Janet Desmarais, a former contestant who holds the titles Mrs. Maine Interna-

tional 2014 and Mrs. New England International 2015. The pageant showcases married women, including their accomplishments and commitment to family and marriage, while promoting the passions of each contestant.

In advance of the state pageant in Augusta, a regional preliminary will take place on Sunday, March 26 at 3 p.m. at the Crocker Theater in Brunswick. Doors will open at 1:30 p.m. for a guest appearance by a member of the New England Patriots' cheerleader squad and team mascot Pat Patriot. Performing in the show will be the UNE Dance Team, Stage Presence and G-Tric. Admission at the door will be \$30 for adults and \$25 for See Mrs. Maine, page 13

Elks

Continued from page 10

at Francis Wyman Elementary School and his mother is very proud.

Josh Day runs the Stone Church Comedy Series in New Hampshire and has opened for comedy legend Dave Attell. He's a familiar face at the Maine and Hampton Beach comedy festivals.

Mark Turcotte was selected for the Boston, Cleveland and North Carolina comedy festivals and will soon make his national television debut on AXS TV's "Gotham Comedy Live."

The Lewiston Elks Lodge is located at 1675 Lisbon Road. The show is for ages 21-plus and doors open at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door. For more information, call 513-0742 or email maineeventcomedy@gmail.com. For tickets, see maineeventcomedy.com.

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Twin City Nights

Franco Center presents Adult Prom Night
April 7 and 8



With the coronation of a Prom King and Queen, a photo booth, the prom punch you always dreamed of, and many other surprises, the event promises to be "just like high school... only better!"

The Gendron Franco Center will present its Adult Prom Night on Friday and Saturday, April 7 and 8, at 7 p.m. Billed as "just like high school... only better," the event will be hosted by Franco Center director Mitch Thomas in the guise of the

principal of fictitious L-A High School.

"We're all adults here, and you can do anything you want at Prom," says Principal Thomas. "However, there are rules! Get dressed up and be prepared for a prom night celebration loaded with lots of

laughter, great food, music from across the decades, the 'prom punch' you always dreamed of, chaperones, and many more surprises. So bring your friends and join us for the most fun you've had since high school... maybe the most fun you've ever had!"

See Prom, page 13

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MARCH 31-APRIL 9, 2017



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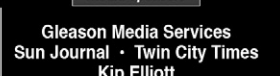
Fri. & Sat., March. 31, Apr. 1, 7 & 8 @ 7:30 p.m.
Thur., Apr. 6 @ 7:30 p.m. • Sun., Apr. 2 & 9 @ 2 p.m.

Tickets \$18 • Seniors (60+) \$15 • Children (12 and under) \$12
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Twin City Nights

Hilton Park to perform at Chocolate Church Arts Center



This Americana, Folk and Blues trio has developed a reputation for emotionally engaging live performances.

The Chocolate Church Arts Center in Bath will wrap up its winter concert series with a performance by the decorated Americana, Folk and

Blues trio Hilton Park on Saturday, March 25 at 7:30 p.m. in the center's intimate and informal Curtis Room.

Comprised of father-son team Bruce and Conor Hilton and family friend Gregg Pannier, Hilton Park explores intimate musical textures to create a sound that is authentic and endearingly classic while incorporating contemporary themes. The group has developed a reputation for emotionally engaging live performances featuring varied instrumentation, melodic skills, and confident, three-part vocal harmonies reminiscent of such family acts as the Everly Brothers and Avett Brothers.

In 2015, Hilton Park

See Arts, page 13

Community involvement takes center stage in Hot Chocolate Jubilee



Among the acts slated to share their talents in performances March 30 through April 2 is returning favorite The Tambo Line.

Combining musical performances, sketch comedy and dance, the variety show is a venerable form of entertainment that, in its modern form, started in the Victorian age and successfully adapted to the eras of radio and television.

The Chocolate Church Arts Center in Bath will present its own popular variety show, the Hot Chocolate Jubilee, in performances Thursday through Saturday, March 30 through April 1, at 7 p.m., and Sunday, April 2 at 2 p.m. The biennial Jubilee is produced and directed by volunteers as a fundraiser for the Chocolate Church. To mark the center's four

decades as a performing arts center, this year's theme is "Life Begins @ 40."

In an age of pyrotechnics and complex light shows, the Hot Chocolate Jubilee offers a refreshing evening of old-fashioned, low-tech entertainment. Acts will be introduced by Master of Ceremonies Wayne Otto, and talented community members from children to senior citizens will take the stage to share their talents in music, dancing, singing and sketch comedy. Newcomers will be introduced and old favorites, including the Front Street Boys and the Tambo Line, will return. Each show will

be different because of a rotating roster of special guests, Andreu and Bethel Keith on Thursday and Saturday, Martin Swinger on Friday, and Liz and Chris Lannon (aka Married with Chitlins) on Sunday.

Since it opened its doors in 1977, a sense of community has been central to the Chocolate Church, and community involvement is what keeps the doors open today. All are welcome attend. Tickets are \$15 and advance purchase is recommended. To buy tickets, call 442-8455, visit the box office at 804 Washington Street in Bath, or see ChocolateChurchArts.org.

Ice Out Plunge at Winthrop Town Beach to benefit Special Olympics



For the inaugural event three years ago, organizers needed to cut a large hole in the ice.

Special Olympics Maine and the Maine Law Enforcement Torch Run will present the fourth annual Ice Out Plunge to benefit Special Olympics Maine on Saturday, March 25 at noon at the Winthrop Town Beach at Maranacook Lake. Hosted by the Alfred W. Maxwell

Jr. American Legion Post 40 and Auxiliary of Winthrop, the event is open to everyone aged 8 and older. Each participant must raise a minimum of \$100 and will receive a long-sleeve commemorative T-shirt. Additional prizes and incentives will be awarded for achievement in fundraising.

Registration will take place from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. on the day of the event at the American Legion Post at 117 Bowdoin Street. Outdoor activities will begin at 10 a.m. and the plunge will take place at noon sharp. A Post-Plunge Party with a free buffet and cash bar at American Legion Post 40 will immediately follow the plunge.

While the event is called the Ice Out Plunge, organizers never know for sure when the year's lake ice will be "out." For the inaugural event three years ago, organizers needed to



This year, Laura Lucas plans to become the first ever Special Olympics Maine athlete to make the plunge.

cut a large hole in the ice; last year, after a winter that saw little ice on area lakes, event goers enjoyed bright sun, sandy beaches and open water. Whatever conditions are in store for March 25, the ice will be "out" at the plunge location!

See Plunge, page 16

Final Weekend

A delightful Romantic Comedy
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WRONG FOR each other by Norm Foster

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Thursday, March 23

Rotary Club Lunch Meeting. Noon to 1 p.m. Ramada Inn, Lewiston. Hydrogeologist Peter Garrett discusses his work as Northern New England Coordinator of Citizens Climate Lobby. Guests welcome; no reservation required; lunch avail. at Fusion Restaurant for \$10. 753-9040; monica.millhime@maine.gov.

HR Thursdays Workshop. Noon to 1:30 p.m. Chamber of Commerce, 415 Lisbon St., Lewiston. This month's topic is "Retention Efforts." \$50 (Chamber members \$25; Central ME Human Resource Assoc. members free). 783-2249. Register at www.LAMetro-Chamber.com.

Theater: Wrong for Each Other. 7:30 p.m. Public Theatre, 31 Maple St., Lewiston. In Norm Foster's play, sparks ignite when a previously mismatched couple meet by chance and review their prior relationship. Again Mar. 24-26 (Sun. 2 p.m.). For tix, call 782-3200 or www.thepublictheatre.org.

Saturday, March 25

Bird Club Field Trip. 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Steve Reed leads this Stanton Bird Club Trip to Plum Island National Wildlife Refuge in Mass. Meet at Staples parking lot in Lewiston for carpooling. Dress warmly and bring a lunch. All welcome. Free. 319-6630.

Ice Out Plunge. Noon. Winthrop Town Beach, Maranacook Lake. Benefits Special Olympics; ea. par-

Calendar

See more Calendar at www.TwinCityTimes.com

ticipant must raise \$100 minimum. Register from 9:30 to 11:30 at Amer. Legion Post on Bowdoin St. Party follows. 377-7227; www.somaine.org.

Bean Supper. United Methodist Church, 439 Park Ave., Auburn. Entertainment by the Park Avenue Pickers at 4:15 p.m.; supper of baked beans, casseroles, hot dogs, coleslaw, bread, beverages and pies at 5:00. \$8/4 (free kids ages 5-). 782-3972.

Baked Bean Supper. 4:30 to 6 p.m. Sixth St. Congregational Church, 109 Sixth St., Auburn. Two kinds of beans, brown bread, coleslaw, red and brown hot dogs, American chop suey, assorted desserts, beverages. All are welcome. \$6 adults, \$3 kids 5-12, under 5 free.

Concert: Maine Music Society Chorale and Orchestra. 7:30 p.m. Franco Center, 46 Cedar St., Lewiston. Under the direction of Artistic Director John Corrie, this ensemble presents Bach's incomparable Mass in B Minor. Again 3/26 at 3 p.m. \$25/22/10. 782-7228; www.mainemusicsociety.org.

Concert: Hilton Park. 7:30 p.m. Curtis Room, Chocolate Church Arts Center, 804 Washington St., Bath. This Americana, Folk

and Blues trio is known for its emotionally engaging live performances. Seating limited. \$10. 442-8455; www.chocolatechurcharts.org.

Maine Event Comedy. 8 p.m. Elks Lodge, 1675 Lisbon Rd., Lewiston. Tonight's line-up includes Dennis Fogg, Alex Giampapa, Josh Day and host Mark Turcotte. Doors open at 7:00. Ages 21+. \$10 adv/\$12 at door. 513-0742; maineeventcomedy.com.

Sunday, March 26
Pancake Breakfast. 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Norlands Living History Center, 290 Norlands Rd., Livermore. After breakfast, visit the Sap House, 1853 one-room schoolhouse, and gift shop. Breakfast \$5-7. No reservations required. 897-4366; www.norlands.org.

Winter Gardening Workshop. 2 to 3:30 p.m. St. Paul's Episcopal Church, corner Pleasant, Union Sts., Brunswick. Arborist Tim Vail demonstrates "Basic Pruning Techniques"; presented by Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust. \$5 suggested donation. 798-5899; www.btl.org/garden-workshops.

Mrs. Maine International Pageant. 3 p.m. Crooker Theater, 116 Ma-

quoit Rd., Brunswick. This regional preliminary includes performances by the UNE Dance Team, Stage Presence and G-Tric. Doors open at 1:30. \$30/25 at door. <https://mrsmaineinternational.com>.

Monday, March 27

U.S. Foreign Policy Forum. 7 p.m. Room J15, Jalbert Hall, Central Maine Comm. College. Four veterans of various backgrounds discuss U.S. foreign policy issues and directions; pres. by the college Veterans Club. Free.

Tuesday, March 28

History program. 7 p.m. Andro. Historical Society, third floor, County Building, Auburn. Author Douglas Hodgkin presents an illustrated program based upon his new book, "Dear Parent: A Biography and Letters of Edward Little." Copies avail. for purchase. 784-0586.

Wednesday, March 29

A Place for Makers. 6 to 8 p.m. Rancourt & Co. Shoecrafters, 9 Bridge St., Lewiston. Mike Rancourt hosts the first in a series of networking sessions for artisans from across the state; pres. by L-A Arts. Free. 782-7228. Register at www.brownpapertickets.com.

Thursday, March 30

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 Navy Chaplains invited, as is anyone interested in joining as an assoc. member.

Mrs. Maine

Continued from page 11 those ages 18 and younger.

A portion of the proceeds will support the Maine Moose Hockey program through a scholarship for a family in need for the upcoming season. The scholarship will be named in honor of Casey Cloutier, who, with his father, died in a fatal car accident in 2014. Those attending are encouraged to wear hockey jerseys in honor of Cloutier.

Crooker Theatre is located at 116 Maquoit Road

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Beauty And The Beast (PG)	1:10	4:10	7:15	XXX
Kong: Skull Island (PG-13)	1:30	4:20	7:20	9:55
Logan (R)	12:20	3:30	6:45	9:45
The Shack (PG-13)	12:30	3:50	6:50	9:40
Get Out (R)	1:20	4:00	7:30	9:55
The Lego Batman Movie (PG)	11:50	2:15		
		4:40	7:05	9:25

Hot Chocolate Jubilee. 7 p.m. Chocolate Church Arts Center, 804 Washington St., Bath. Numerous local acts lend their talents to this biennial fundraiser for the center. Again March 31, April 1, 2 (Sun. at 2 p.m.). \$15. 442-8455; ChocolateChurchArts.org.

Friday, March 31

Fill the Plate Breakfast. 7 to 9 a.m. Hilton Garden Inn, Auburn. Attorney General Janet Mills will be the speaker, and former Speaker of the House of Mark W. Eves will be honored, at this benefit for SeniorsPlus' Meals on Wheels program. \$20 adv./\$25 at door. 795-4010; www.seniorsplus.org.

Saturday, April 1

Paper Crafting & Scrapbooking Day. 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Holy Family Church Hall, Sabattus St., Lewiston. Snacks, drawings and two make-and-takes. \$35 advance, \$40 at door (incl. lunch). Register at 784-5307 or 784-0389.

Friday, April 7

Adult Prom Night. 7:45 p.m. Franco Center, 46 Cedar St., Lewiston. The evening's program includes a buffet dinner, dancing to music of the decades, a cash bar, photo booth, and many other surprises. Doors open at 7:00. Again 4/8. \$40pp. Reserve at 783-1585 or francocenter.org.

Saturday, April 8

Fabric & Craft Supply Fair. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. High Street Congregational Church, 106 Pleasant St., Auburn. Proceeds from this annual event support church projects and missions. 784-1306.

Vacationland RV and Camping Show. 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Norway Savings Bank Arena, Auburn. This annual event features the very latest RV models and camping options of all sizes, as well as the latest camping equipment. Again 4/9 (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.). \$8 (kids ages 8- free).

Prom

Continued from page 11

The theme of this year's prom is "Under the Sea." The evening's program will include the coronation of the Prom King and Queen, cheerleaders, a photo booth, and more. The doors and bar will open at 7 p.m. A delicious buffet dinner prepared by the Franco Center staff will be served from 7:45 to 8:45 p.m. After that, guests will dance to

tunes spanning the second half of the 20th century until 11:30 p.m. D.J. Eric Lunt of Big E Entertainment will return to play "Wolfman Jack" for both nights.

The ticket price of \$40 includes dinner, dancing, entertainment, on-site parking at the Continental Mill, and other surprises. There are reserved seats remaining, but booking early is advised. To reserve individual seats or tables for large parties, call 783-1585 or see

francocenter.org.

Adult Prom Night is sponsored in part by Ann's Flower Shop. Those attending may call Ann's at 782-3457 to order corsages and boutonnieres and have them held at will-call for the event. Community Little Theatre at 30 Academy Street in Auburn will open its costume shop by appointment to rent out dresses and tuxes from every era. For more information, call the Franco Center at 783-1585.

in Brunswick. For more information about the pageant, find them at Facebook, Twitter or Instagram or see <https://mrsmaineinternational.com>.

Arts

Continued from page 12

won the New England Music Award for "Maine's Best in State," an honor spanning musical genres. On the strength of their first release, "Greener Grass," they were nominated for a New England Music Award

for "Americana-Roots Act of the Year" and a Seacoast Spotlight Award for "Best Americana-Roots-Folk Group." In 2016, the group received its third NEMA nomination in three years, this time for "Roots Act of the Year."

The Curtis Room is located in the Annex of the Chocolate Church Arts Center at 804 Washington Street in Bath. Seating is limited. Tickets are \$10 and available by calling the box office at 442-8455 or online www.chocolatechurcharts.org.

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Plunge

Continued from page 12

Taking the plunge this year will be the first Special Olympics Maine athlete ever to do so, Laura Lucas, who has been watching the plunge since it first began. Lucas has already exceeded her goal of raising \$2000 for the event.

"This year, I'm going for the green instead of the gold, so please help me meet my goal!" she says. To sponsor her, search for "Laura Lucas" at www.firstgiving.com.

For more information about the event, to download a registration packet, or to see the complete list of incentives and prizes, call Charle Clark of the Winthrop Police Department at 377-7227 or see www.somaine.org.

Community Concepts welcomes new CFO

Community Concepts and Community Concepts Finance Corporation has announced that Kevin Mahoney has joined its Executive Team as Chief Financial Officer. Mahoney comes to Community Concepts from Martin's Point Healthcare in Portland, where he was Manager of Financial Analysis and Operations. He brings over 25 years of diverse experience as a financial manager, with an accounting and finance background and expertise in administrative systems



Kevin Mahoney

and process improvement. In addition to leading the finance team, Mahoney will play a pivotal role

in developing and implementing the long-term strategy for Community Concepts and its subsidiary organizations.

"We are pleased to add someone of Kevin's caliber to our team, bringing a much-needed skill set to our organization," says Community Concepts CEO Shawn Yardley.

Mahoney has a B.S. degree in Accounting from Thomas College and is the current Chair of the Animal Refuge League of Greater Portland. He lives with his wife, Chris, in Westbrook.

State Champion Oak Hill Team visits State House



Members of the 2016 Class C State Champion Field Hockey team of Oak Hill High School in Wales pose with Rep. Stephen Wood (R-Greene) and Rep. Kent Ackley (I-Monmouth) at the State House, where the team was recognized by the Legislature and received a Legislative Sentiment to honor their accomplishment. (Photo by Ryan Lorrain)

Girl Scouts support Lisbon Community Garden



The Dirigo Service Unit, a combination of Girl Scout troops in Lisbon, Durham, Lewiston, Monmouth, Sabattus and Wales, recently presented the Lisbon Community Garden Committee with a donation of gardening supplies. The donation was a result of a project for the Scouts' World Thinking Day, which this year had the theme "Grow." Pictured here are LCG Chair and Coordinator Judy Arledge and Dirigo Service Unit event committee members Veronica and Amy Broadbent.

Lewiston Reverend gives opening prayer in Maine Senate



Reverend Brittany Longsdorf of Bates College visited the State House recently to give the opening prayer in the Maine Senate before the start of the day's legislative session. Local clergy have offered blessings and inspiration to legislators at the beginning of the day since the first days of the Maine Legislature in 1820. Once the prayers are offered, they are entered into the official Senate Record. Longsdorf is pictured here with Sen. Nate Libby, D-Lewiston.

Check TCT every week for updated Calendar listings!

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