

Governor Signals Beginning of Maple Syrup Season

"Maine's maple industry contributes an estimated \$27.7 million directly to the Maine economy," said Governor LePage. "Maine's maple industry has an annual statewide economic contribution (including multiplier effects) of an estimated \$48.7 million in output, 805 full and part-time jobs, and \$25.1 million in labor income. Most importantly, this industry has a huge potential for additional job creation," said Governor LePage.

Other key findings from last year's study by University of Maine Professor of Economics Todd Gabe:

Maine has the third largest maple industry in the United States. Maine's maple industry is characterized by a relatively small number of sugarbushes accounting for the vast majority of syrup that is produced.

Maine's licensed maple syrup producers have been in operation an average of 24 years, and many of the operations appear to span multiple generations.

Maine's maple industry—which counts the licensed producers, and sales at retail food stores and businesses impacted by Maine Maple Sunday—generates 567 full- and part-time jobs, and \$17.3 million in labor income.

The study was funded through a partnership between the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, University of Maine, and the Maine Maple Producers Association.

Maine Department of



Governor Paul R. LePage today joined Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Commissioner Walt Whitcomb, Legislators and Maine Maple Producers on the Blaine House lawn for an annual tradition – the tapping of a maple tree. The tapping event coincides with the beginning of maple syrup season and helps promote the growing Maine industry.

Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Commissioner Walt Whitcomb noted the support that Maine's maple industry receives from a variety of sources. "Governor LePage, the Legislature and particularly Representative Black (R-Wilton), all recognize the significance of maple to Maine's rural economy," said Commissioner Whitcomb. "Today's tree tapping event is symbolic of the broad-based enthusiasm for the maple industry. This also demonstrates a tradition that makes multiple uses of its natural resources – maple syrup, wood

production, recreation and open space."

The Blaine House tapping event also serves as a prelude to Maine Maple Sunday, which is held every year on the fourth Sunday of March.

This year, Maine Maple Sunday will celebrate its 32nd Anniversary on March 22, with approximately 100 sugarhouses participating throughout Maine. Sugarhouses will be open for visitors to enjoy syrup and candy sampling, demonstrations of making syrup, sugarbush tours, and a variety of other activities.



Wedding Guide

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AHCH presents Heart of Hospice to United Ambulance



Pictured with Hospice Program staff members and Director Karen Flynn (front row, 2nd from r.) are (l. to r.) United Ambulance Supervisor Don Wormell, Executive Director Paul Gosselin and Prevention and Wellness Coordinator Daphne Russell.

Androscoggin Home Care & Hospice has presented its Heart of Hospice award to United Ambulance. The award honors individuals or organizations who understand and embrace the mission of AHCH and its Hospice Program by providing accessible, compassionate and expert hospice and palliative care that puts patients and their families first. Nominations for the award come directly from AHCH's hospice staff.

"Under the direction of Paul Gosselin, United Ambulance is ensuring the

comfort and safety of our patients as they receive end-of-life care," said AHCH Hospice Director Karen Flynn. "Paul and his staff are our heroes because they truly exemplify the heart of hospice."

United Ambulance has consistently received praise from AHCH staff members for its role in the visiting program and at Hospice House. There have been many examples where United Ambulance staff have made appropriate interventions to make transfers more comfortable

for patients, either by ameliorating physical pain or by providing emotional support or a calm, nonthreatening presence to reduce fear and anxiety.

"We had an elderly patient at home whose pain was increasing despite efforts to improve her comfort," wrote a staff member. "She was anxious and reluctant about transferring to Hospice House for more intensive pain management because she believed that every patient admitted to the inpatient unit died and

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

New LAEGC team member

The Lewiston Auburn Economic Growth Council has hired Maura Moody as its new office manager and public relations coordinator. Moody brings to the new position experience in non-profit management and social media trends, as well as a degree in public relations.

AT LAEGC, she will be responsible for creating a good first impression for the council and the Twin Cities it serves. "As part of its scope of services, the council is charged with 'marketing' the cities," said Council President John Holden. "The p.r. coordinator will work with partners in the community to facilitate marketing efforts, help manage the council's social media presence and assist in sharing news of our progress on economic development."

"By adding a much



Maura Moody

needed team member to a very busy office, this position allows the LAEGC to continue expanding its work," said Council Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Stephanie Lewis.

The Council searched for a candidate with a "can do" personality and a drive to successfully complete projects, along with the ability to manage a dual

role and become an integral part of the team. "Maura brings energy, enthusiasm and opportunities for us to consider new and different ways to communicate with our clients and the community," said Holden.

"I am grateful to be joining the LAEGC team," said Moody. "I grew up here, went to school here and live here, so I respect what LAEGC is working to accomplish.

My goal is to help organize and grow this already thriving council by contributing my passion for networking and leadership.

The team here has reinvigorated my desire to be an active member of the Lewiston-Auburn community member and has reminded me why I'm proud to call this my home."

Mechanics Savings supports Meals on Wheels

Mechanics Savings Bank recently donated \$1,000 to SeniorsPlus's Meals on Wheels program. The program, which served 56,094 meals to 432 older adults and adults with disabilities in Androscoggin County last year, reaches 700 seniors within the tri-county region.

"As the number of Maine's seniors continues to grow, SeniorsPlus is challenged to keep up with their needs," said SeniorsPlus Executive Director Betsy Sawyer-Manter. "More than ever, we need the help of our local partners to keep our older adults independent, healthy and connected. By supporting Meals on Wheels, Mechanics Savings Bank is helping us get much-



Donald Hinkley, commercial loan officer and charitable contributions committee member at Mechanics Savings Bank, presents a \$1,000 donation check to Seniors Plus Executive Director Betsy Sawyer-Manter.

-needed support to more seniors in our community."

A full-service com-

munity bank with branches in Auburn, Lewiston, Brunswick and Windham, Mechanics Savings Bank has donated more than \$1 million to local causes over the past decade. In 2014, the bank's 75 employees volunteered more than 4,500 hours of their time to support nonprofit organizations.

Nonprofits seeking grant support should submit written requests to: Charitable Contributions Committee, Mechanics Savings Bank, 100 Minot Avenue, Auburn, ME 04210.

Lajoie expands lines at Champoux Insurance

After joining Champoux Insurance Agency as a personal lines agent in August of 2013, Nicole Lajoie recently expanded her repertoire to include commercial insurance.

With more than 17 years of experience in the industry and her CPIW (Certified Professional Insurance Woman) designation, Lajoie is always seeking



Nicole Lajoie

new and better ways to serve her clients, who cite her integrity, attention to detail and personalized customer service. She feels this move positions her to better meet their needs. "My clients have frequently told me that they wished I could also take care of their business insurance," Lajoie says. "So this was a natural direction to take."

See Lajoie, page 5



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Letter to Maine taxpayers from Governor LePage

Dear Maine Taxpayers:

Our biennial budget for 2016-17 is a comprehensive plan that seeks to grow the Maine economy, put more money in your pockets and make our state a more attractive and competitive place to live and do business. This plan reduces the income tax—with the intent to completely eliminate it—and cuts the overall tax burden on Mainers by \$300 million.

Our plan also fundamentally restructures how Maine provides property tax relief to its

residents. This has local government officials and the Maine Municipal Association, their chief lobbyist in Augusta, up in arms. Make no mistake: Your local tax dollars are used to pay dues to the MMA, which then works to increase municipal budgets and raise taxes, not to advocate for what's in your best interest.

Do not be influenced by misinformation spread by proponents of higher taxes and big government. Municipalities in general have failed to deliver property tax relief to residents. If you are concerned about property taxes, you and your

neighbors must voice your opinion at local meetings of selectmen, school committees and city councils. They are they people—not state officials—who decide whether to raise local property taxes for communities and for schools.

Rather than continuing to provide “revenue sharing” to grow municipal budgets, our plan uses this funding to give tax relief directly to Mainers.

We double the Homestead Exemption for our seniors. Our plan protects seniors from local property tax increases by exempting the first \$20,000 of their

home's value from taxation. Resident homeowners under the age of 65 would see their homestead exemption eliminated; however, many will see a greater benefit from the increase in their paychecks resulting from our income tax cuts, as well as our expansion of the Property Tax Fairness Credit.

Our budget increases the maximum Property Tax Fairness Credit from \$600 to \$1,000 for a filer under the age of 65 and increases it from \$900 to \$1,500 for filers 65 and over, providing direct property tax relief. In fact, we triple the fund-

ing for the Property Tax Fairness Credit from \$30 million a year to \$90 million a year.

In addition to direct property tax relief for residents, our plan:

Provides an income tax cut for every Mainer with the intent to completely eliminate it.

Makes it more affordable for Mainers to stay here in retirement: pension income (up to \$35,000) will be exempt from state income tax.

Eliminates the state income tax on military pension benefits, beginning in 2016.

Eliminates the estate tax, known as the “death tax.”

Cuts the corporate tax rate and eliminates the AMT.

Ensures more taxes are paid by tourists, not by Mainers.

Our plan would exempt from Maine income taxes a total of \$20,000 for single taxpayers; \$40,000 for married couples; and \$48,000 for four-person families.

As a result of these changes, 60,000 Maine families will no longer pay any state income tax. See *LePage*, page 4

Gilman customers save, Efficiency Maine partnership

By Nicole Pierce

When you walk through the doors at Gilman Electrical Supply, you are going to see the light. A local distributor in the area since 1978, Gilman Electric has been a fixture in the town of Auburn supplying contractors and customers with all things electrical.

Located on Center St. tucked away behind VIP, they have been quietly growing with the support of their customers, and their manager Ben Pierce. Gilman's has become quite a large player in the electrical supply field with 10 stores just in Maine alone.

With the new Efficiency Maine incentive programs available to customers, the staff at Gilman's wanted to shed some light, making sure businesses large and small were able to take advantage of the lucrative savings being offered. Gilman Electric has taken the steps to be-



The sales crew at Gilman Electrical Supply

come a Qualified Partner with Efficiency Maine so that a few of the staff members can help contractors and customers process and submit the invoices to get the incentives.

Rick Gonya, an outside sales representative for Gilman Electrical Supply has a good handle on the situation. Having been with the company for 15 years and a member of our advanced team, Rick can come on site and conduct a walk-through for lighting retrofits or new constructions, he has a great perspective on how to help businesses. Gonya

states, “It's my job to go out and educate commercial, industrial, institutional, educational, and healthcare facilities about saving energy and money.” Gonya adds, “With the incentive program available, it is a perfect way to help the customers outfit their buildings at an extreme savings.”

Replacing outmoded fixtures with new, attractive, high efficiency LED fixtures, combined with at times occupancy sensor can help to reduce energy costs of up to 50 percent or more at that facility. The upgrades Gonya and the

Gilman team have been working on have resulted in significant cost savings to the customers, not only indoor, but outside as well. A simple solution you can feel good about.

An install at a local high school, for instance, replaced older 400 watt metal halide gymnasium fixtures with LED high bay fixtures. The result was superior lighting with a reduced electrical cost of 70 percent of that facility. “Reducing their carbon footprint is the goal and that becomes very attractive to sustainability minded customers,” Gonya explains.

The process to get the incentive is easy for business and contractors through Gilman Electrical Supply. If you need someone to come scope out your location, Ben, Rick and Luke are available for walk-throughs. The forms for the Efficiency Maine incentives are readily available in the office, and with the help of Rick, Ni-

cole, or Ben those can be processed right away. Any business owner looking to update their building with approved lights replaced by a licensed electrician can be sure to receive an incentive. “If you are a business in need of an electrician, we can certainly help you find one,” Nicole adds.

“It is all about providing not only lighting to our customers, but providing quality service. We want our customers coming back in with their electrical needs, and are happy to go above and beyond to help them out.”

“Energy is a growing business, and while this incentive is available to our customers, we want to make sure people are in the know, so they can capitalize on the savings,” explains Manager Ben Pierce. “Come in and check us out, see what we can do to minimize your energy costs,” he adds.

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Enough is Enough

Advocacy groups should step up to help non-citizens

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

In my capacity as Mayor of Lewiston, I have occasionally found myself at odds with the governor: one issue being state revenue sharing.

The city administration under Ed Barrett, our department heads, our various city committees and our city council work diligently to find the best bang for your tax dollars. In addition, we join with other communities to take advantage of mutual savings.

We have cut back on city services and personnel. Using private and public donations, we are in the process of creating a park for God's children: the disabled and severely mentally challenged. The unnamed

park at the site of the former Pettingill School is being built by the neighborhood. A sports complex at our high school is being built by donated funds.

Our financial director, Heather Hunter, has reduced and continues to reduce our city's debt by hundreds of thousands of dollars. Layoffs, service cutbacks, joint economic ventures with other municipalities, committees scrutinizing our budgets, public parks being built with private donations and a 26.59 mil rate. I ask you, how are we and other communities being frivolous with our tax money?

This was answered during a joint meeting of the Health and Human Services and the Appropriations and



Mayor Bob Macdonald

Financial Affairs committees. It sadly became apparent that several longtime Democratic legislators had lost the ability to come to a solution of a problem without the help of government.

The question before them was: Should non-citizens (asylum seekers) be in-

eligible for welfare benefits?

Before proceeding further, let me clarify something. When the defenders of these non-citizens say they are coming to this country seeking work, they are correct. Their defenders point out that they will become productive community members—I agree. On a personal note, I find them very pleasant and polite.

However, we are a nation of laws. Laws are put in place to ensure an orderly society. When laws erode, anarchy reigns.

The advocates point out that these non-citizens have entered our country legally on visas. Visas are issued to non-citizens granting them the ability to enter our country for a specific period of time. They

come as students, tourists and occasionally to fill a temporary job.

When their time expires, they are supposed to return to their country of origin. When they refuse to leave our country, to me this now makes them illegal and subject to deportation.

Currently before the Legislature is Governor Paul LePage's biennium budget, which calls for the elimination of benefits to non-citizens. This portion of the budget affects a handful of municipalities.

Testimony of alleged persecution or threat of death in the non-citizens' homelands tends to pull at the liberals' heartstrings. It elicits damnation towards any city or town that questions why it is the responsibility of local taxpayers to financially support non-citizens with hard-earned tax dollars.

During the hearings, several Democratic legisla-

tors asked how non-citizens would survive without help from the local municipalities? Never was it suggested that the State of Maine or the United States government pick up the tab for their support.

I have an answer that could readily solve this dilemma. Why don't our various advocacy organizations step forward and extend a helping hand to our non-citizen population?

Maybe advocacy groups such as the Maine Council of Churches, Catholic Charities, the Somali Women of Maine, the Maine People's Alliance, Maine Equal Justice Partners and a host of other organizations could redirect their lobbying funds towards the care of these individuals and their families.

This would eliminate cost to the taxpayers and allow the aforementioned organizations to directly help these non-citizens.

Lajoie

Continued from page 2

Lajoie is active in a variety of community organizations, serving as an Ambassador for the Androscoggin County Chamber of Commerce and as a member of the Auburn-Lewiston Rotary Breakfast Club, the Red Cross Heroes Breakfast committee, the Red Cross Development Committee and Network L-A. Born and raised in Lewiston, she is a graduate of Lewiston High School and obtained her Associate's Degree in Business Administration from Mid-State College. She lives in Lewiston with her husband, John, her daughter, Brianna, and their dog, Cookie. She enjoys reading, painting and spending time at the beach. Champoux Insurance Agency is located at 150 East Avenue in Lewiston. For more information, call 783-2246.

The following classes, offered by MSAD #52 Adult and Community Education of Turner, Greene and Leeds, begin the week of March 16.

"Glass Stone Magnets." Learn how to make magnets using glass stones. Materials will be supplied and each student will take home a set of magnets. "Make Delicious Dog Treats." Learn how to make simple, healthy canine dog cookies, including gluten- and corn-free varieties for dogs with food allergies. Participants will take home samples and recipes.

"Vision Boarding." A Vision Board, also called a dream board, inspiration board or treasure map, is a tool to help you establish a goal and maintain your focus. Learn how to create a Vision Board that portrays the future you want for your-

self. Please bring scissors and magazines. "AHA First Aid & Adult CPR." Featuring master cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and foreign body airway obstruction (FBAO) management techniques for adults, this course will be useful for elementary through high school students, neighborhood groups and those who care for adults at a high risk of heart attacks or strokes. Other upcoming courses include: "Me-Oh-My: Love that Pie" on 3/21; "Beyond the Point & Shoot Camera" on 3/23; "Crochet Wire Jewelry" on 3/23; "MSAD 52 Substitute Teacher Training" on 3/24;

"All Levels Yoga," from 3/25 through 4/29; "I'm Beginning to Stay Home Alone," from 3/26 through 4/2; "Real Estate Sales Agent Training," from 4/2 through 5/5; "Brick, Block and Stone," from 4/8 through 5/20; "Map, Compass and GPS Basics," on 4/6 and 4/7; "Grow Your Own Organic Garden" on 4/8; "Bates Baseball Clinics" on 4/12; "Spring Tumbling: Beginner to Advanced," from 4/6 through 5/19. For course details, a complete schedule, or to register and pay for a class, see www.msad52.maineadulted.org. For more information, call the Adult Ed office at 225-1010.

Adult Ed classes at MSAD #52

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Engagement photo tips

Newly engaged couples choose to capture the occasion in photos that they can cherish. Often, one of these photos is used as an announcement to family and friends and might even be published in the newspaper.

Engagement photos may be part of a package negotiated with the photographer who will be covering the wedding day. Some couples enlist the help of a friend or a budding photographer to capture an engagement shot. The average cost of engagement photos can range from \$200 to \$500. Some couples opt to use a photographer who might specialize in other areas (i.e. fashion models) but may want to break into the wedding biz because of how lucrative it can be. Costs may be negotiated as a result.

When shopping

around for a photographer, there are certain things couples should keep in mind. The first and most important is selecting a photographer you can relate to. If you don't feel a connection with the photographer, he or she will have trouble coaxing the shots that will produce the best results. He or she should also be a professional and have some experience working with posing couples. This way the photos don't look stiff or contrived. Here are some other tips that can lead to great photos.

* Find a photographer who fits your style. If you're a quirky couple, go with a quirky photographer. If you're reserved and a follow-the-book type of couple, then select a more traditional photographer. Some photographers out

there forget that this is your moment and want to impart their idea of what you want. Make sure he or she takes your ideas into consideration.

* Select one who is open to different shoot locations and brainstorming. Some of the best photos occur in natural settings, where things aren't entirely planned. If a photographer simply works out of a studio, you may want to select one who has more free reign with different locales.

* Choose your location wisely. Certain locations will stand out in your minds because they are visually stunning or are special places where you have spent moments as a couple. By choosing a place that offers a personal connection, there's a good chance you'll appreciate the photos in the long run. Also, be open to the fact that unplanned stops may offer a great background for the image. Be open to the unexpected.

* Try random poses and some candid shots. Although you might have a vision of the perfect photo in your mind, experimenting with different ideas can sometimes lead to a great photo you really love. Expect to take your share of kissing, nose-touching and portrait shots. But some fun poses, such as running or jumping (or rolling around on a beach



full of waves) can produce candid shots that are truly masterpieces. Remember, sometimes photographers will pose you in positions that seem a bit awkward, but this is to get the best lines of the body and flattering images.

* Choose clothing that fits the mood. If time and budget allows, have

several different wardrobe changes so that you can see which outfits work and which ones don't. A formal outfit, comfortable street clothes, something beachy or clothing that fits with your interests (such as polo or baseball) can make for interesting engagement photos. Avoid clothing that is too trendy or busy, which

may take away from the actual images in the long run. Plus, you don't want to look back at these photos in the future and say, "What was I thinking?" Avoid matchy-matchy, though. If you are dressed alike, you may appear to be trying too hard. It's the individual personalities you want to shine through.



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Make-your-own wedding invitations

Cost-conscious couples today seek different ways they can reduce expenses on their weddings. Do-it-yourself weddings have grown in popularity, and creating personalized wedding invitations is one way to save money and dream up something special.

Wedding invitations can range in prices depending on the service used. Many brick-and-mortar printing companies have gone by the wayside, and online printing sources have replaced them. The reduced overhead means that many online retailers can produce wedding invitations at a

lower cost than in years past. That doesn't mean they are cheap, however. Couples can expect to pay anywhere from \$150 to \$500 on invitations depending on style and quantity, according to estimates from many printing company Web sites. Expect to pay around \$90 (U.S.) for postage if mailing 100 standard invitations that do not require extra postage and include stamped response cards.

In order to avoid overpaying for wedding invitations, or simply to create a personalized invitation, many couples are opting to go the do-it-yourself route. DIY invitations are

even more common thanks to the popularity of scrapbooking and papercrafting. Although people may have different standards in terms of quality for their invitations, it's important to realize the invitation is the first thing guests often see concerning the wedding, and they will help set the tone of the upcoming nuptials.

Today there are many options when it comes to making invitations oneself. Couples can be as hands-on or hands-off as they like. Here are some choices to consider.

* Design it yourself, but hire a printer. Couples can visit Web sites that enable them to choose paper type, ink color, a certain template, wording, color scheme, embellishments, dye-cutting, and many other different options. Then the couple sits back and waits for the invites to come in the mail where they are put together before being sent out. These may be the most expensive of the DIY invites because a printer is still doing much of the work.

* Use wedding invitation kits. Many stationery shops, craft stores and office supply retailers offer all-in-one kits that can be purchased. These feature a standard design

with the accoutrements of that particular design. Most will come with envelopes and small response cards. The couple simply uses the template provided to create text on a personal computer and then the invite can be run through a home printer.

* Mix and match components. Couples who want to be a little more hands-on can purchase card stock and envelopes separately and design their own invitations according to color scheme. Clip art included with some word processing or design software can embellish invites that are then printed on a home printer. Ribbon can be added by punching holes into the invite and threading the ribbon through.

* Do it all yourself. The truly crafty couple can make their invitations from scratch. This involves drawing out a template,



cutting the card stock to fit, selecting envelopes, creating and executing response cards, and decorating the invitations as they see fit. This will require some tools, including scrapbooking or papercrafting supplies. A paper trimmer will help ensure straight cuts, and decorative-edged scissors can help hide any small mistakes in the edges. While this may be a cheaper

option if couples get good prices on all the paper components, it also entails the most work and the greatest margin of error.

Saving money on wedding components has become essential for many couples in this economy. Choosing to take on some aspects of invitation creation can help reduce costs and personalize the event even more.



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What to look for in a reception venue

Engaged couples must make assorted important decisions with regards to their wedding day. For some, the process of planning a wedding can be overwhelming, while others revel in each and every decision. Among the many decisions couples must make is which venue to use for their reception. The wedding reception venue is where most of the day will be spent, and where the majority of the people will do their mingling. When looking for a wedding venue, there are a

number factors to take into consideration.

The Accommodations
The facility itself should be able to accommodate the wedding size. Some weddings are grandiose events with large guests lists, while others are more understated and intimate, with only a small number of family and friends in attendance. Couples should know which type of wedding they will be having, and should have at least an estimate figure in mind of the number of guests before

visiting any facilities. Once that estimate has been made, look for a facility that can comfortably accommodate that number of people, and ideally find one that has a done so in the past. Couples won't want a facility where everyone is crammed together, nor will they want one where a relatively small number of guests are in a large ballroom with lots of empty space.

More minor details regarding the facility must also be considered. Ask if the facility is handicapped accessible. If the wedding is in the warmer months, make sure the venue is air conditioned. Since most weddings have a break in between the ceremony and the reception, ask if the facility has a room in which the bride and groom can freshen up before the reception begins.

The Date

Couples may choose the date of their wedding based on the availability of a church they attend or a specific wedding officiant they want to perform their ceremony. Once

that date has been chosen, it's time to look for a reception venue. Couples who have a specific venue in mind might want to ask about the venue's availability before settling on a wedding date. When seeking out a reception venue, ask if the venue has any other events scheduled for that day. Some couples prefer to have the facility all to themselves and their guests.

The Location

The facility's location should be a priority. Couples won't want their guests to have to drive too far from the wedding ceremony to the reception venue or from the reception venue back to the hotel. Since many wedding guests come from out of town, they likely won't know the area well and could get lost if the facility is too far away from their hotel. Keep things simple by finding a reception venue that's close to the hotel or hotels where guests will be staying.

The Hours

Couples who want their receptions to last into the wee



hours should inquire about the facility's hourly rate. A typical reception lasts five or six hours. If couples want to go beyond that, they might have to pay an hourly rate. Ask if the facility charges an hourly rate or if the venue can simply be rented for as long as the party keeps going.

The Price

Many facilities offer a flat rate to rent the venue. When discussing the rate, be

sure to ask what's included. Will food, flowers, venue decor, and even staff tips be included in the rental fee? If not, is there room for negotiation? When facilities expand the services they include in their rental fee, that can save couples substantial amounts of money. When choosing a reception venue, couples must consider a host of factors that stretch beyond a venue's aesthetic appeal.

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Make your big day as unique as you are



(BPT) - Weddings are steeped in tradition - no matter whom you are or where you live. But what if you're not interested in wearing the same dress your mother did, getting married in the same location your sister did or wearing something blue?

Don't worry, you're not alone. Plenty of brides search for ways to make their special day as unique as they are. Here are five ways to put your own special spin on this classic tradition.

A guest book you'll use. Signing the guest book is a common tradition at most weddings; you've probably signed a few in your lifetime. After the wedding is over, however, this priceless keepsake often disappears into a box never to be seen again. Break from tradition by creating a guest book you'll actually use. Take a trip to the book store with your partner and browse the coffee table books. Once you find one that interests both of you, claim it as your guest

book. Your wedding guests can sign their names in the margins and afterwards you'll be left with a permanent, functional guest book to display for visitors and friends.

Dance under the stars. Looking to create a one-of-a-kind wedding? Don't rent the same ballroom as all of your friends. Host your reception outdoors. You can rent a dance floor from a local rental facility and trained technicians will arrive to set it up easily. You'll dance on a

traditional wood floor while looking up at the stars - what could be more original than that? Don't forget to rent a tent so that weather doesn't dampen the mood. You can find more unique flooring ideas at RentalHQ.com, where you can locate your local rental store.

Treasure the memories. Get your guests involved in the event by placing blank cards and pens at each seat location. Ask your guests to write about their favorite memory of you and/or your spouse. Collect all of these cards and turn them into a scrapbook for a treasured keepsake.

Prepare a menu that is uniquely you. Chocolate fountains were once unique and elegant, but now they're commonplace. Don't despair, though, because there are plenty of unique edible snack options you can include in your special day. If you're getting married in the blistering heat, rent a snow cone machine to offer your guests some sweet relief.

If you and your spouse are big movie buffs or your wedding has a Hollywood theme, rent a popcorn machine to complete the look. And for the bride who's still a kid at heart, nothing captures that better than renting an authentic cotton candy machine.

Find the color that suits you. Maybe wearing



something blue doesn't suit you, but perhaps you're not too wild about black and white either. At many venues, though, these colors are the only choices you have when it comes to tablecloths and napkins.

Remember, you don't have to settle; you can provide your own materials simply by renting them. This opens up a color palette of limitless options. If you are planning a fall wedding, look for napkins that reflect

the colors of the leaves. Did you meet in college? Choose linens in your school's colors. Whatever shade speaks to you, you can find it and give your wedding a look no one will expect.

Keep the tradition, but be uniquely you with options limited only by your own imagination. To learn more about what you can rent and how renting can help you create the wedding you've always wanted, visit RentalHQ.com.



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Feed on these wedding favor ideas

Do you have a shelf or cabinet that's filled to the brim with wedding favors such as engraved ice cream scoopers, cake servers, cheese spreaders or tea light candle holders? If you do, you're not alone. As couples pore over guest favor options, many select trinkets or knickknacks that, while thoughtful, end up collecting dust in someone's home. Edible gifts also can be thoughtful -- and flavorful!

Guests may look forward to an edible favor because it's a memento of the special occasion and it won't become a permanent fixture in their homes. There are many edible favors from which to choose. They can



also be customized according to the theme of the wedding.

It's difficult to find an edible favor more universally beloved than chocolate. Rich and inviting, chocolate has long been given as a symbol of love and devotion. Chocolate candies and baked goods can work well

for wedding favors, provided the favors are refrigerated to avoid melting.

Ideas for chocolate favors include individually packaged truffles, gourmet brownie bites, candy-covered chocolates with an inscription, chocolate covered apples, chocolate coins, and other similar creations. Chocolate molded designs (much like those chocolate Easter bunnies) are another idea.

Sweet cookies also make good edible favors. Butter cookies are a favorite because they are sturdy enough to cut into different shapes. Professionally iced, these cookies can be a mas-

terpiece to behold. Some couples opt for customized fortune cookies that express personalized sentiments to guests.

Sometimes it's less expensive to give guests kits that they can take home to create their own edible treasures. Options abound and can include everything from personalized packets of hot chocolate to tea bags. Other couples choose among mixes for making cookies or cakes.

It has become popular to have a self-serve candy bar at many weddings. Guests are invited to step up to the display and serve themselves from a series of different confections.

Seating your wedding guests

Weddings are filled with many emotions: happiness, excitement and anticipation, to name a few. With all of the positive emotions a wedding may drum up, in the mix there may be a few negative ones, including feelings of being overwhelmed at all the details that need to be completed on a deadline.

One aspect of wedding planning that tends to send people into panic is wedding reception seating arrangements. The thought of having 200 friends and

family members together under one roof -- and then attempting to seat them next to an acceptable group of people -- can cause some couples to hyperventilate.

Every family has its ups and downs, and there are certain people who get along well and a few who clash. Ensuring that a wedding is memorable for all the right reasons (and not for the brawl at table 3) is why seating arrangements are so important. Many couples can use a little advice when seating guests, while others

Autumn weddings could have Halloween-inspired candies or those in fall hues. It's easy to follow a color theme when you have a bevy of different candies at your disposal. Many discount stores sell inexpensive jars and candy dishes to house the candy.

Designer Chinese takeout-type containers are available from craft stores and can be the perfect way for guests to make that candy portable.

From cupcakes to maple syrup to personalized bottles of barbecue sauce, couples have so many options for guest favors at their disposal.

may also be seated at this table, depending on the number of people each table can accommodate.

* If children under the age of 7 are invited, they should be seated with their parents. Children between ages 7 and 14 can be seated at a separate kids' table.

* Be mindful of guests with disabilities or mobility issues. Seat them close to the door, bathrooms or food station.

* Instead of separating the bride and the groom's family to separate sides, intermingle the tables to promote conversation.

* Consider arranging guests by common interests at each table, seating business associates or parents' friends together.

* Take into consideration people who have relationship rifts and try to seat them separately. But don't stress about this too much because it won't be possible to accommodate everyone. You'll have to hope that at your wedding a certain level of decorum will preside.

* It's not unheard of to let guests seat themselves. This takes the pressure of finding a seat for everyone off of you as a couple and enables you to think about the other tasks at hand. This can take place at a buffet wedding or a smaller affair.

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1922 farm life project

Freeport Historical Society has launched a Twitter-based project to recount a year in the life of Mildred Pettengill, the last resident of Historic Pettengill Farm in Freeport, through entries from her 1922 journal. The journal consists mainly of short entries chronicling the familiar rhythms of life on the farm, from shelling beans to cutting ice to trimming the juniper bushes, but they also provide occasional glimpses into the author's

personal life, including friends, family members, pets and favorite activities.

Freeport Historical Society will Tweet a new entry to "@Miss_Pettengill" each day throughout the 2015 calendar year. The entries are accompanied by historic images from the Pettengill Family Collections at FHS, as well other items held by FHS. The feed is visible to those without a Twitter account by visiting www.twitter.com/miss_pettengill.

Past entries may also be viewed on Twitter and, on a month-by-month basis, on the FHS website. The website version also contains notes on the entries and links to relevant material available elsewhere online. In addition to familiar accounts of drifting snow and winter storms, the diary has

already told the moving story of a neighbor's pregnancy and early death. The website address is www.freeporthistoricalsociety.org.

"2015 is the 40th anniversary of our acquisition of Historic Pettengill Farm," says Freeport Historical Society Director James Myall. "Mildred's diary entries are typically brief and to the point, so she was, in some ways, Tweeting before Twitter.

Our goal for the project is to allow people to get a better sense of her as a person and to gain an insight into the historical context of her life at Pettengill Farm."

For more information on the project, contact Freeport Historical Society at 865-3170 or info@freeporthistoricalsociety.org.



Twenty-eight years old in this c. 1911 photo, Mildred Pettengill is the subject of a Freeport Historical Society project recounting each day of her life on a Maine farm in 1922. (Detail from a photograph in the Collections of Freeport Historical Society)

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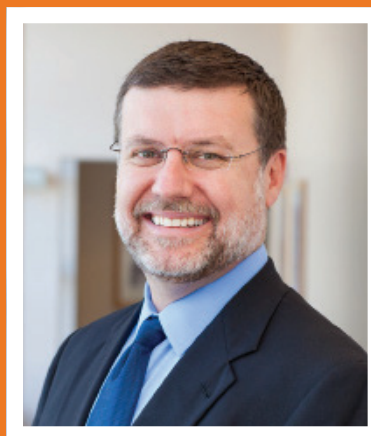


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What's Going On

In 2014, Androscoggin Home Care and Hospice formed a partnership with the national We Honor Veterans organization to expand its services to community veterans. To move the partnership forward, AHCH had to attain the

organization's Level One designation, which required that educational materials on end-of-life support for veteran patients be reviewed by staff and volunteers.

An example of such materials was a military history checklist that can be used to better understand the unique needs of individual military patients and their families during the referral/intake process.

Achieving Level One status has given AHCH the ability to move forward with various veteran-centered initiatives, such as its Veteran-to-Veteran Volunteer Program, which pairs volunteer veterans with veteran hospice patients for visiting and support. Volunteers in the program must be mili-

AHCH seeks volunteer vets



Veteran volunteers (l. to r) Leo Savard, Zephyr Bonvier, Eugene Bourque, David Blocher and Bob Oliver

tary veterans who are willing to support veteran patients at the end of life.

To ensure that volunteers are equipped to help hospice veterans, program volunteers are provided with 20 hours of hospice training and two hours of veteran-to-veteran training. Volunteers are asked to commit at least two hours of visiting each week. They

provide companionship and respite time so the patient's family caregivers can get much-needed breaks.

Those interested in volunteering for the program should contact the Volunteer Office at 777-7740, ext. 1280. For more information on AHCH's partnership with the We Honor Veterans program, see www.wehonorveterans.org.

Dempsey tapped for St. Joseph's honor

Mary A. Dempsey, co-founder of the Patrick Dempsey Center for Cancer Hope & Healing in Lewiston, will be among the recipients of honorary degrees to be conveyed by Saint Joseph's College in Standish at its 2015 Commencement on May 9. She will receive an honorary Doctor of Public Service degree in recognition of her accomplishments in helping

others and making a positive difference in people's lives. As an assistant director who also manages the Dempsey Center's volunteer groups,

Dempsey has played an integral role in growing the center's volunteer program, which now counts more than 200 participants.

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AMENDED AND RESTATED Notice of Public Sale Pursuant to 14 M.R.S.A. § 6203-A Et Seq. Lots 102 and 103, Beechwoods Subdivision, Oxford, Maine Thursday, April 2, 2015 at 11:00 A.M.

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in that certain Mortgage given by Jeffrey Nowlan, Successor Trustee of Maine Realty Trust, a Maine trust, to Northeast Bank (the "Bank"), dated September 20, 2010, and recorded in the Oxford County Registry of Deeds in Book 4637, Page 266 (the "Mortgage"), of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of the Mortgage, and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, notice is hereby given that there will be sold at public sale at 11:00 A.M. on the 2nd day of April, 2015, at 171 Beechwoods Road, Oxford, Maine, all and singular the premises described in the mortgage as follows: all of the Bank's right, title and interest, if any, in and to the following property (the "Property"):

To wit: Also two other certain lots or parcels of land, situated near the easterly side of Thompson Lake in the Town of Oxford, County of Oxford and State of Maine, and being Lots numbered one hundred two (102) and one hundred three (103) according to a plan of "The Beechwoods", Plan #2 owned by L. & B. Realty, Inc., dated August 28, 1963 and recorded in the Oxford County Registry of Deeds, Plan Book G, Page 34 now known as #840. All measurements on said plan are approximate and the precise corners are marked by pipes.

Also a right to use the road or right of way, as now located, from the town road called Megquier Hill Road to the Lake, which is an extension of the road as delineated on the above said plan and the right to use the road delineated on said plan and also a right to use as a right of way or roadway the area between the road on said plan and the easterly sidelines of the lot.

This lot is expressly subject to the following agreements, covenants and restrictions which agreements, covenants and restrictions run with the land and relate to the entire lotted subdivision and provide a uniform plan for the improvement of said entire lotted subdivision known as "The Beechwoods".

- (a) That no lot or subdivision thereof shall be used in any way as a place to carry on a trade, occupation, manufacturing operation, business or storage of waste or junk.
- (b) That no animals or birds shall be kept on the premises except usual household pets.
- (c) That no buildings shall be placed or erected on the granted premises except a single family cottage or dwelling, appurtenant garage and boathouse which buildings shall be constructed on the exterior of masonry (brick, stone or stucco), clapboards, flush boarding, peeled logs, wooden shakes, wooden shingles or asbestos shingle siding to be painted or stained or otherwise covered with its usual and permanent outside finish; except that house trailers shall be permissible on lots twenty-six (26) through fifty-nine (59) exclusive and except that L. & B. Realty, Inc., reserves the right to dedicate and sell any lot or part of a lot as a private or public right of way to the shore and to sell any remaining part of a lot as a lot which is subject to the within restrictions.
- (d) That no structure shall be erected or maintained nearer than ten (10) feet to the high water mark on the shore of said Lake except a boathouse shall be permissible within said limits and no structure shall be erected or maintained nearer than five (5) feet from the side line of a lot owned by a person other than the owner of the within premises.
- (e) The said lots or lot hereinabove described shall not at any time be subdivided, nor sold except as a whole, but this restriction shall not prevent the grantee from conveying any part of the said real estate hereby conveyed to the owner or owners of lots adjoining the land herein conveyed.
- (f) L. & B. Realty, Inc., its successors and assigns, reserve the right to place poles, pipes or wire upon any part of the rear of any lot and in said rights of way for public utility purposes and shall always have the right for itself, its successors and assigns, as and when may be most convenient to it or them to enter upon the premises for the purposes of erecting, fixing, building, maintaining, examining, or repairing such pipes, conduits, electric lights, telephone posts and wire and other public service and to cut and trim such trees and limbs as in its or their opinion may be desirable or necessary.
- (g) All disposal of sewerage and drains shall be built into a septic tank or Pof the Department of Health and Welfare.


Being parcel two in the Warranty Deed from James H. Powell and Hazel J. Powell to Linda M. Baer, Trustee of Maine Realty Trust dated January 2, 1991 and recorded in the Oxford County Registry of Deeds in Book 1783, Page 94.

Further information regarding the Property can be obtained by contacting James R. St. Jean Auctioneers at 603-734-4348.

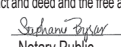
This Amended and Restated Notice of Public Sale amends and restates in its entirety that certain Notice of Public Sale Pursuant to Pursuant to 14 M.R.S.A. § 6203-A Et Seq. dated April 4, 2014, and recorded in the Oxford County Registry of Deeds in Book 5104, Page 41.

TERMS OF SALE: All bids will be accepted beginning at 11:00 A.M. on April 2, 2015. All bidders will be required to deposit \$5,000.00 in cash or certified U.S. funds made payable to the Auctioneer in order to register to bid (the "Deposit"). The Property will be sold to the highest bidder who shall leave the Deposit as a non-refundable down payment. The highest bidder will also be required to sign a purchase and sale agreement calling for a closing within 28 days of the public sale at which time the balance of the bid price will be due in immediately available U.S. funds, and the Bank, as foreclosing mortgagee, will deliver a duly executed Quitclaim Deed Without Covenant conveying whatever right, title and interest the Bank has in the Property. Additional terms of sale are available from the Auctioneer and you may obtain a copy of the purchase and sale agreement from the Auctioneer prior to the auction. The Bank, as foreclosing mortgagee, and its nominees and assigns, reserve the right to bid without making the required Deposit and, if the Bank, or its nominee or assign, is the high bidder, to pay for the Property with a credit against the debt owed. Other terms to be announced at the sale.

Dated: March 2, 2015 NORTHEAST BANK

By: 
 Its Assistant Vice President
 Printed name: Lucas Takatsu
 March 2, 2015

STATE OF MAINE County of Kennebec, ss.
 Personally appeared before me the above named Lucas Takatsu in his/her capacity as the duly authorized officer of Northeast Bank and acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be his/ her free act and deed and the free act and deed of Northeast Bank.


 Notary Public
 Printed name: Stephanie A. Byras
 Notary Public: Maine
 My commission Expires March 6, 2020

Time is Brain

When anyone exhibits the warning signs of a stroke, don't wait... call 911



Strokes occur every 40 seconds and kill more than 137,000 nationwide each year.

Our hospitals have teamed up with the nationally recognized Massachusetts General Hospital Stroke Service to provide advanced stroke care around the clock. Local ER physicians consult with the stroke team via a video link to determine the best treatment plan for patients.

Strokes can be stopped in progress if a patient arrives within the first three hours of the onset of symptoms and the hospital is prepared to administer a clot-busting drug.



Participants include:

Bridgton Hospital, Central Maine Medical Center, Rumford Hospital and Parkview Adventist Medical Center
 300 Main Street, Lewiston • 753-3900 • www.cmhvi.org

Know the signs of stroke. Call 911 if you or another experience:

Sudden weakness or numbness of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body

Sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding

Sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes

Sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination

Sudden, severe headache with no known cause



TWIN CITY NIGHTS

Weekly Arts & Entertainment

Franco Center welcomes Soul Sensations



Pat Colwell and the Soul Sensations perform in the Franco Center's Club Series on Friday, March 13.

Pat Colwell and the Soul Sensations will supply a mix of Motown and Memphis Soul music sure to get the party started and then keep it going for the next Franco Center Club Series show on Friday, March 13 at 8 p.m. Complete with female backup singers and a full horn section, this old-school R&B revue band covers Soul music classics

from the likes of Sam and Dave, the Supremes, Wilson Pickett, Marvin Gaye, the Temptations, Prince and Bruno Mars. "When Pat Colwell and the Soul Sensations hit the stage, it's a 'History of Soul Music' meets Soul Train dance party," said Franco Center production director Richard Martin. "Pat is a polished master of ceremonies and has a smooth

rapport with any audience, and their many CDs provide a wealth of original R&B music to round out their sets." Tickets are \$12 (\$10 for seniors and students). For more information or to purchase tickets, call 689-2000, visit the box office at 46 Cedar Street in Lewiston Monday through Friday from noon to 4 p.m., or see www.francocenter.org.

La Rencontre features "Franco-Americans of Lewiston-Auburn"

As part of the Franco Center's weeklong celebration of the international "La Semaine de la Francophonie" (Francophone Week), the next "La Rencontre" luncheon program on Thursday, March 19 at 11:30 a.m. will feature Mary Rice-DeFosse and James

Myall, authors of the new book "The Franco-Americans of Lewiston-Auburn." The meal will be corned beef and cabbage, boiled potatoes, bread and dessert. A short documentary film will also be screened. The cost of \$8 includes both the meal and program. Doors

will open at 10 a.m. Reservations are required and must be made by Tuesday, March 17 at 4 p.m. To reserve, call 783-1585 or email boxoffice@francocenter.org. La Rencontre is in no way restricted to French-speakers or even those of Franco decent; all are welcome.

Opening Friday at the Public Theatre



Stephan Wolfert and Kathy McCafferty in a scene from John Patrick Shanley's "Outside Mullingar." Nominated for the 2014 Tony Award for Best Play, the show runs at the Public Theatre March 13 through 22. For show times and ticket information, see www.thepublictheatre.org.

"9 to 5: The Musical" opens Friday



Community Little Theatre's production of "9 to 5: The Musical," featuring (l. to r.) Sabrina Yocono, Rhonda Webber and Jennifer McClure-Groover, opens Friday, March 13 at Great Falls Performing Arts Center in Auburn. The show runs through March 22. For show times and ticket information, call 783-0958 or see LACLT.com.



FREE Appetizer

w/purchase of Two Entrees
Valid lunch or dinner Monday-Thursday
Expires March 31, 2015



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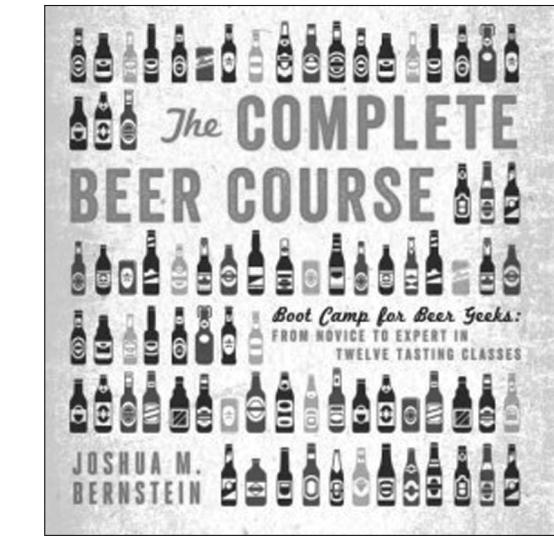
Twin City Nights

Pages & Pints features "Complete Beer Course"

The next event in the Pages & Pints book talk and beer tasting series will take place on Friday, March 13. The event will open at 6 p.m. in Lewiston Public Library's Callahan Hall, where renowned beer author Josh Bernstein will discuss his book, "The Complete Beer Course: Boot Camp for Beer Geeks: From Novice to Expert in Twelve Tasting Classes."

The evening will then continue at Baxter Brewing Co., where tours of the brewery will be followed by a reception and beer tasting. Forage Market will provide food pairings for the Baxter brews, and the Portland-based Maine Brew Bus will be available to shuttle participants between the library and Baxter Brewing. The program is free and open to the public; no registration is required.

In "The Complete Beer Course," Bernstein presents a series of 12 easy-to-follow classes that walk readers through a wide array of craft beer styles and flavors, from lagers and pilsners to hazy wheat beers, Belgian-style abbey and Trappist ales, aromatic pale



ales and bitter IPAs, roasty stouts, barrel-aged brews, belly-warming barley wines and mouth-puckering sour ales.

Bernstein provides examples of each style, filling the pages with full-color historical photographs, lists of beer ingredients, definitions and optimal serving temperatures. The book ends with recommendations for food pairings, starting a home cellar and major beer events around the country for travel buffs. Jim Koch, founder and brewer of Samuel Adams, has called it "a book you'll want to have many beers with," while the Washington Post says "it

might be the best craft-beer book of 2013."

Bernstein is a beer journalist and critic whose work has appeared in Forbes Traveler, the New York Times and Time Out New York. He has been featured as a beer expert on NPR's Marketplace and Beer Sessions Radio. His first book, Brewed Awakening, chronicled the explosive growth and variety of American craft breweries in the 21st century.

His appearance at Pages & Pints is presented by the Maine Brew Bus as part of its "Weekend with Bernstein," a series of free and ticketed events, sched-

Public Theatre offers Summer Theatre Program for Young Actors

The Public Theatre will offer its professional-level Summer Theatre Training Program for Young Actors this year from July 6 through 24. Taught by experienced theatre professionals who bring professional-level standards and insights to the program, this exciting opportunity serves as an alternative to traditional "drama camps" for experienced young performers seeking intensive theater training, as well as "raw talents" seeking an opportunity to channel their creativity and imagination.

The goal of the program is to help young actors tap into their potential in ways that might surprise them. In addition to improving their basic acting and concentration skills, students

will explore how to work as an ensemble, how to think on their feet and how to tap their imaginations and intellects to express themselves in dynamic and integrated ways. While learning that the process of creation is as important and exciting as the final show, they will develop a greater sense of confidence and self-esteem and will have a ton of fun.

The Public Theatre is now accepting applications from dedicated students, ages 10 through 16, to participate in this intensive three-week program providing training in acting, stage combat, movement, voice and speech, singing and textual analysis. The program will culminate in a free public performance on July 24.

Admission to the

program is via audition only. Opportunities to audition for the program will take place on Saturday, March 28 and, if openings are still available, at a date in April to be announced. Interested students are urged to apply as soon as possible; to attend the March 28 auditions, one's application must be received by Tuesday, March 24. Applicants will be contacted to schedule an audition time. The fee for the program is \$475. Scholarships are available for a limited number of students with appropriate financial need. For more information or to obtain an audition application, call 782-2211, email info@thepublictheatre.org or click on "Education" at www.thepublictheatre.org.

Children's opera premiers at Franco Center today

The North American premiere of Julien Joubert's French language children's opera, "La Maison du Vieux Léon," will take place on Thursday, March 12 at 12:30 p.m. at the Franco Center in Lewiston. Made possible with support of the French Ministry of Educa-

tion and la Mission Laïque Française, the production is directed by Joelle Morris and features the 80 preschool-through-grade 6 students of l'Ecole Française du Maine in Freeport. The event is free and open to the public.

As the action opens, a group of children are off on a camping trip when the school bus breaks down. A night is spent under the stars, and the discovery of

a map leads to the house of an old man... but who is he?

The performance kicks off a week of events at the center celebrating the annual La Semaine de la Francophonie (Francophone Week), an international celebration of French language and culture organized annually by the consulates of France and Canada. For more information, call 689-2000 or see www.francocenter.org.

uled March 13 through 15, to celebrate Maine craft beer. For more information, see www.themainebrebus.com.

Copies of Bernstein's book will be available for purchase and signing at both the library and Baxter Brewing Co. For more information, contact the Library's Adult Services Department at 513-3135 or LPLReference@LewistonMaine.gov.



www.facebook.com/twincitytimes

L/A Community Little Theatre presents

9 to 5
The Musical

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March 13-22, 2015

Music and Lyrics by **Dolly Parton**
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Musical Direction by **Rebecca Caron**

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

Fri. & Sat. March 13, 14, 20 & 21 at 7:30 p.m.
Thur., March 19 at 7:30 p.m. • Sunday, March 15 & 22 at 2 p.m.

For tickets or information call 783-0958 or visit www.LACLT.com

9 to 5 is presented through special arrangement with MTL, Inc.

25 YEARS

Midcoast Symphony Orchestra
Rohan Smith, Music Director

Yoichi Udagawa, Guest Conductor
Tessa Lark, Violin Soloist

Berlioz • Roman Carnival Overture Mendelssohn • Violin Concerto
Dvořák • Symphony No. 8

Saturday, March 14 • 7:30 pm ~ Franco Center, Lewiston
Sunday, March 15 • 2:30 pm ~ Orion Performing Arts Center, Topsham

Tickets are \$20 • 18 and younger admitted free

To Purchase Tickets: **www.MidcoastSymphony.org • 207-846-5378**

Ticket Outlets: Gulf of Maine Books, Brunswick; Now You're Cooking, Bath; Franco Center, Lewiston

Underwriters: The Highlands, Bath Savings Institution
Season Sponsors: Androscoggin Bank, Lamey Wellehan, Thornton Oaks Retirement Community
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French Sing-Along set for March 20



Madeleine LeBlanc and Irene Mercier sing a duo at a previous sing-along.

Community members are invited to a French sing-along session on Friday, March 20 at 1:30 p.m. in Room 170 at USM's Maine's Lewiston-Auburn College. Free and open to the public, the program is one of several events scheduled in the community to celebrate International Francophonie Week. Songbooks will be provided, so those unfamiliar with the songs or less-than-fluent in French may follow along. USM LAC is located at 51 Westminster Street in Lewiston. For more information, call Jacynthe Jacques at 576-4109.

Poland schools plan MidKnight Market, Chili & Chowder Challenge

Poland Regional High School and Whittier Middle School will raise funds for Project Graduation and middle school enrichment programs when they team up to present two events at Poland Regional High School on Saturday, March 21.

The 8th annual Mid-Knight Market & Trade Show will take place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The show will feature lunch offerings, a 50/50 and other raffles, door prizes, baked goods, face painting, a kids table and a silent auction. Brands for sale will include Lia Sophia, Scentsation, Mary Kay, Origami Bowl,

Public Supper and Music Jam

The Litchfield Sportsmen's Club will present its monthly Public Supper and Music Jam on Saturday, March 14. The meal will include baked beans, hot dogs, casseroles, biscuits, all the fixin's and desserts. Doors will open at 4:30 p.m. Dinner will be served from 5 to 6:30 p.m. and the music jam will take place from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Admission will be \$7 person. The club, located on the Hallowell Road in Litchfield, is wheelchair accessible and has a plenty of free parking. For more information, call 268-9271.

Pampered Chef, Paparazzi, Pebble Pals, Perfectly Posh, Pink Zebra, Scentsy, Thirty One, and Tupperware. Crafts for sale will include skin care products, cosmetics, quilts, metal signs, mittens, purses, towels, plants, blankets, knitted dishcloths, feel better pillows, dish scrubbers, books, jewelry, art work, cards, body creams, body scrubs, jams, jellies, salsa, primitive décor, dog treats and needs, baskets and photography.

The Chili & Chowder Challenge will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. If you think you make the best chili or chowder in town, put it to the test and make a pot for this contest. Stop by to test the entries and vote for your favorite. Poland Regional High School is located at 1457 Maine Street in Poland. For information about how to participate in either event, email deborahcarroll59@gmail.com.

Country Sunday!

The next Country Sunday will take place on March 15 from noon to 5 p.m. at the Litchfield Sportsmen's Club. The event will feature live entertainment by Steve and the Good Ol' Boys, Rod Carr, John Whitman, Sr., Gary and Victoria Harvey, Rina Van Valkenburgh and Buzz and Kathy Vanadestine.

There will be raffles, door prizes, concessions and a 50/50 drawing. Doors will open at 11 a.m. Admission will be \$5; children under 12 will enter for free. The club, located on the Hallowell Road in Litchfield, is wheelchair accessible and has plenty of free parking. For more information, call 536-9647.

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Twin City Nights

Room at Trinity presents Bates singing groups

Three beloved, student-led a capella singing groups from Bates College will be featured when the Deansmen, Gospelsaires and Manic Optimists perform at the Room at Trinity on Saturday, March 14 at 7 p.m. Also appearing will be poets Barbara VanDerburgh, Shelby Sullivan and Jameson Jones.

A 12- to 14-voice all-male group, the Bates College Deansmen have entertained the college community and beyond since 1957. In their signature tuxedos, they happily perform

at other schools and colleges and at local charity events. Over the course of their history, they have sung for the Boston Celtics, George Bush, Sr., the Dartmouth Aires and Rockapella. Their most recent album, "Cave Life," was released in 2012.

A 16-man group, the Manic Optimists present high-energy performances featuring a mix of comic and dramatic numbers and some occasionally creative choreography.

A 14-member group of men and women from Bates and the local com-

munity, the Gospelsaires sing traditional and contemporary Afro-American gospel music. The group is led by music director Stephen Saxon, an associated minister of music at Bates who is also a professional composer, producer, arranger and studio recording engineer.

Poets Barbara VanDerburgh, Shelby Sullivan and Jameson Jones are Bates College English majors completing their senior theses this semester. Their respective projects each culminate several years

See Bates, page 16



March 13th Final Friday Night
for the Season 4-8 PM \$25.00 Lift Tickets
It's Sveda Night!
It's Beach Party Night in the
Brookside Tavern with music by 4-Play.
Come in Beach Attire and get
\$1.00 Jello Shots

Every Sat. Night is Teen Night
\$15.00 lift tickets \$15.00 rentals
Everyone pays Teen price
Sponsored by ASA and Northeast Bank

Lost Valley has extended it's Season Two Extra Weekends
Slopes will be closed: Mon-Fri weeks of March 16th-20th and 23rd-27th
But will be open Saturday and Sundays with SNOEDO

Closing Day on March 29th!

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about two stubborn souls and their bumpy path to love

Outside Mullingar

by John Patrick Shanley

Mar 13-22



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thepublictheatre.org
Thurs/Fri 7:30, Sat 8pm & 3/21@3pm, Sun 2pm



Season Underwriters: Platz Associates, Sun Journal, WOXO, Z105.5, LAAlerts.com, Austin Associates

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Twin City Nights

Moxie Fest announces 2015 theme

The winning effort in the 2015 Moxie Festival Theme Contest was submitted by Robin (Rogers) Arsenault, a fourth generation Mainer who grew up in Lisbon. Her entry, "Celebrate Moxie the Maine Way," beat out submissions from across the country to become the mantle of this year's summer event.

Arsenault graduated from Lisbon High School in 1974, married her high school sweetheart, Dale Arsenault, and has worked as a loan officer at Lisbon Community Federal Credit Union for 29 years. Her father, William Rogers, and his brother, Jack Rogers, started Rogers Insurance Agency in Lisbon.

"Over the years, my family and I have participated in many of the Moxie Festival's parades and activities," Arsenault said. "It's been one of our families' treasured weekends. The Moxie Festival is something Mainers talk about all year long."

Arsenault's prize for winning the contest was a gift box with Moxie items



2015 Moxie Festival Theme Contest winner Robin Arsenault (c.), with Town of Lisbon Economic and Community Development Director Tracey Steuber (l.) and Festival Parade Coordinator Gina Mason

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from the Maine Art Glass Studio and a gift certificate to Kennebec's, aka the Moxie Store, both in Lisbon Falls. Floats for this year's Moxie Festival Parade on Saturday, July 11, will be judged in five categories on their interpretation of her theme.

Since 1982, the Town of Lisbon's annual three-day Moxie Festival has been held on the second weekend in July. Local public safety officials estimate that the event regularly draws over 50,000 people.

The Town has just over 9,000 residents. For more information on the festival, including a schedule of events, see www.MoxieFestival.com.

Bates

Continued from page 15

of apprenticeship to the art of poetry.

The concert will begin at 7 p.m., with doors opening at 6:30. Snacks and beverages will be offered at intermission.

Children will enter free of charge; for adults, a suggested \$10 donation, collected at the door, will support the artists and neighborhood ministries of Trinity Church.

The church is located at 247 Bates Street, on the corner of Spruce Street and next to Kennedy Park. For more information, call 344-3106 or see theroomtrinity.wordpress.com.

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Thursday, March 12

Constituent Outreach Hours. Staff reps. from the office of Sen. Angus King are on hand at the city halls of Lewiston (10 a.m. to noon) and Auburn (2 to 4 p.m.) today to meet with area residents about specific problems, legislative issues or concerns about federal govt. agencies. No appt. necessary. FMI call 1-800-432-1599.

Children's Opera. 12:30 p.m. Franco Center, 46 Cedar St., Lewiston. Directed by Joelle Morris, the K-6 grade students of Freeport's l'Ecole Française du Maine present the North American premiere of Julien Joubert's French language children's opera, "La Maison du Vieux Léon." Free. 689-2000.

Friday, March 13

Food for Thought Luncheon. 11:30 a.m. Room 170, L-A College. Originally from Iran, Parivash Rohani of Auburn shares photos and impressions of her recent trip there to visit her ailing mother. Includes lunch. \$8 (\$7 in adv.; reserve by noon on 3/11).

Pages & Pints. 6 p.m. Callahan Hall, Lewiston Public Library. Josh Bernstein discusses his new book "Boot Camp for Beer Geeks: From Novice to Expert in Twelve Tasting Classes." A tour and beer tasting at Baxter Brewing Co. follows. Free. 513-3135.

Open Mic & Poetry Slam. 7:30 p.m. First Universalist Church, 169 Pleasant St., Auburn. This special edition celebrates the event's ninth anniversary; refreshments. Wheelchair accessible, children's room. Enter on Spring St. 783-0461; www.auburnnuu.org.

Theater: "Outside Mullingar." 7:30 p.m. The Public Theatre, 31 Maple St., Lewiston. John Patrick Shanley's romantic comedy features two eccentric singles in rural Ireland who struggle to reveal their love for each other. Again 3/14-15, 19-22. For show times, ticket info, see www.thepublictheatre.org.

Theater: 9 to 5: The Musical. 7:30 p.m. Great Falls Perform. Arts Center, 30 Academy St., Auburn. Comm. Little Theatre presents this hilarious, late-1970s story of office friendship and revenge. Again 3/14-15, 19-22 (Suns. at

Calendar

See more Calendar at www.TwinCityTimes.com

2 p.m.) For ticket info, see www.laclt.com.

Comedy Fixx. 8 p.m. Fireside Inn, 1777 Washington St., Auburn. Comedians Tim Hofmann, Jeff Keon, Paul Hunt, Mark Reilly, Kate Carroll and Tuck Tucker; proceeds benefit Good Shepherd Food Bank. 21+; doors at 7 p.m. \$10. 513-0742; comedyfixxlive.com.

Concert: Pat Colwell and the Soul Sensations. 8 p.m. Franco Center, 46 Cedar St., Lewiston. Complete with female backup singers and a full horn section, this old-school R&B revue band covers Memphis and Motown and Soul classics. \$12/10. 689-2000.

Saturday, March 14

Public Supper and Music Jam. 4:30 p.m. Sportsmen's Club, Hollowell Rd., Litchfield. Dinner from 5 to 6:30 p.m. incl. baked beans, hot dogs, casseroles, biscuits and desserts; music jam from 6:30 to 8:30. \$7. Wheelchair access., free parking. 268-9271.

Bean Supper. 4:45 p.m. Calvary United Methodist Church, 59 Sabattus St., Lewiston. Baked beans, hot dogs, casseroles, salads, biscuits and pies. Adults \$7.50, children \$3. Enter at the garden entrance on Bartlett St.. 782-3221.

Concert: the Deansmen, the Gospelaies and the Manic Optimists. 7 p.m. Room at Trinity, Trinity Church, 247 Bates St.,

Lewiston. Three popular Bates College a capella singing groups perform; also appearing will be three Bates student poets. \$10 sugg. donation; kids free. 344-3106.

Concert: Midcoast Symphony Orchestra. 7:30 p.m. Franco Center, 46 Cedar St., Lewiston. "Called to the Dance," with guest conductor Yoichi Udagawa and violin soloist Tessa Lark. \$20; students free. Buy at 846-5378, online or at the door (w. cash or check).

Sunday, March 15

Lewiston Winter Farmer's Market. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. 208 Bates Street, Lewiston. Buy locally grown and made products from dozens of local vendors and have brunch at the Market café. Every 1st and 3rd Sun. thru April 29. www.stmarysnutritioncenter.com.

Country Sunday. Noon to 5 p.m. Sportsmen's Club, Hollowell Rd., Litchfield. Live entertainment by numerous performers; raffles, door prizes, concessions and a 50/50 drawing. Doors open at 11 a.m. \$5 (kids 12- free). Wheelchair access., free parking. 536-9647.

Pot Luck Supper. 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Ricker Memorial Library, Rte. 26, Poland. Bring a casserole, dessert, salad or other food item to share; Ulla Hanson and her piano students will perform. Rescheduled from Feb. Pres. by Person to Person. Free.

998-4390.

Monday, March 16

Lenten Dinner and a Movie. 5:30 p.m. United Methodist Church, 439 Park Ave., Auburn. Soup and sandwiches will be served, followed by a screening of the film "Spitfire Grill." All invited. If you plan to attend, contact the church office at 782-3972.

Tuesday, March 17

Visiting Hours. 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Auburn Public Library. City Councilor Tizz Crowley meets with Auburn residents or business owners who want to discuss concerns or share constructive feedback. 333-6600 ext. 1217; TCrowley@auburnmaine.gov.

Teen Job Search Program. 3 to 4 p.m. Androscoggin Rm., Auburn Public Library. In this program for teens ages 12-18, Lisa Hartnett of the Career Center discusses how to successfully find and apply for that job. 333-6640, ext. 4.

Wednesday, March 18

General Membership Meeting. 6 p.m. Parish Hall, Holy Family Church, Sabattus St. Lewiston. Members of the St. Anne Sodality gather to elect officers; followed by a "Lets Make a Deal" game and refreshments. Bring a friend. Doors open at 5:30.

Thursday, March 19

Constituent Outreach Hours. 10 a.m. to noon. Lewiston-Auburn College. Staff reps. from the office of Sen. Angus King are on

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MARCH 13TH THROUGH MARCH 19TH

DOORS OPEN AT:
11:45am

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Cinderella (PG).....	12:00	2:35	5:10	7:45
Cinderella (PG).....	1:30	4:10	6:50	9:30
Run All Night (R).....	1:10	4:15	7:10	9:45
The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel (PG).	12:40	3:40	6:45	9:25
Chappie (R).....	1:00	4:00	6:55	9:35
Unfinished Business (R).....	12:10	2:20		
		4:30	7:15	9:30
Fifty Shades Of Grey (R).....	12:50	3:50	7:00	
The Lazarus Effect (PG-13).....			9:50	
Focus (R).....	1:20		7:20	
Kingsman: The Secret Service (R).....		4:20	9:40	
The SpongeBob Movie: (PG).....		3:20		
Sponge Out Of Water				
American Sniper (R).....	12:20		6:40	9:35
McFarland, USA (PG).....	12:30	3:30		
The DUFF (PG-13).....			7:05	9:20

Free Early Bird Classic Film "High Noon" (1952) Tuesday @ 10AM *Free*

hand today to meet with area residents about specific problems, legislative issues or concerns about federal govt. agencies. No appt. necessary. FMI call 1-800-432-1599.

La Rencontre. 11:30 a.m. Franco Center, 46 Cedar St., Lewiston. Authors Mary Rice-DeFosse and James Myall discuss their new book "The Franco-Americans of Lewiston-Auburn." \$8 (incl. program and meal). Reserve by 3/17 at 4 p.m. 783-1585.

Film Screening: "Food Where We Live." 6:30 p.m. Curtis Memorial Library, Brunswick. This entry in the "Community Food" film series examines community efforts in Ohio to create a more sustainable, local

food system. Free. 729-7694; www.btlr.org/events.

Theater: "Outside Mullingar." 7:30 p.m. The Public Theatre, 31 Maple St., Lewiston. John Patrick Shanley's romantic comedy features two eccentric singles in rural Ireland who struggle to reveal their love for each other. Again 3/20-22. For show times, ticket info, see www.thepublictheatre.org.

Theater: 9 to 5: The Musical. 7:30 p.m. Great Falls Perform. Arts Center, 30 Academy St., Auburn. Community Little Theatre presents the hilarious, late-1970s story of office friendship and revenge. Again 3/20-22 (Suns. at 2 p.m.) For ticket info, see www.laclt.com.

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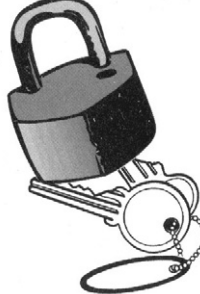
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Vero Beach, Florida- Fully furnished condo with balcony overlooking ocean. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, newly remodeled. Available winter season. Walking distance to restaurants /shops. Photos available. FMI: 413-478-2455.

APL offers teen job search programs

During the month of March, Auburn Public Library's Teen Life Skills Series will present two special programs focused on job searching. On Tuesday, March 17,

Lisa Hartnett of the Career Center will visit to talk with teens about how to look and apply for a job. Whether looking for that first part-time job or nearing the end of high school and seeking full-time employment, the information she will provide will help teens carry out a successful job search. So your application has landed you an interview! What now? What questions will they ask? How should you dress? On Tuesday, March 24, Lisa Hartnett of the Career Center will return

to share tips and advice on the interview process and how you can interview for the job with confidence. Both programs are for teens ages 12 to 18 and will take place from 3 to 4 p.m. in the library's Androscoggin Community Room. After attending these programs, watch for the 4th

annual Teen Opportunities Fair, co-sponsored by Auburn and Lewiston Public Libraries. The fair will take place on Saturday, March 28, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Lewiston Public Library. For more information, call 333-6640, ext. 4, email dwallace@auburnpubliclibrary.org, or click on "Programs" at www.auburnpubliclibrary.org.

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(2) FORECLOSURE SALES AT PUBLIC AUCTION

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SALE 2: VACANT LAND ACROSS THE STREET
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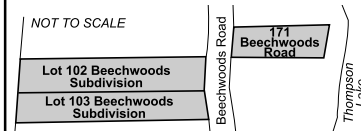
SALE 1 171 Beechwoods Road, Oxford, ME

ID #13-131 • Seasonal camp located on a 0.17± acre lot with 50± FF along the easterly shore of Thompson Lake • 1-story home built in 1964 contains 508± SF GLA, 4 RMS, 2 BR & 1 BA • Detached canopy, open porch, storage shed, private well and septic system • Nice sandy beach and great lake views! Tax Map U13, Lot 45. Assessed value: \$162,100. 2014 taxes: \$1,986. **Deposit: \$10,000.**

SALE 2 Lots 102 & 103 Beechwoods Subdivision, Oxford, ME

ID #13-132 • 2 vacant adjacent lots with a total of 0.67± acres as shown on Plan Book G, Page 34 n/k/a #840 • Deeded access to Thompson Lake • Property has 99± FF along the northeasterly side of Beechwoods Road, is mostly cleared and level in topography • Shoreland Residential Zoning District • Tax Map U13, Lot 38-37. Assessed value: \$47,700. 2014 taxes: \$584. **Deposit: \$5,000.** Mortgage Ref: Oxford County Registry of Deeds Book 4637, Page 246 (Sale 1) and Book 4637, Page 266 (Sale 2). **Terms:** Deposits by cash, certified check, bank check, or other form of payment acceptable to Mortgagee at time of sale, balance due within 28 days. Other terms may be announced at time of sale. All information herein is believed but not warranted to be correct. The Mortgagee does not warrant the condition or existence of any feature described above.

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Leavitt sets date, seeks donations for Project Grad Auction

The 2015 Leavitt Area High School Project Graduation Committee has been busy lining up donations for its annual auction, scheduled for Saturday, March 21 in the school's cafeteria in Turner. A preview hour will begin at 9 a.m., followed by the opening call by auctioneer Bryan Marshall at 10 a.m. The event will end around 2 p.m. Breakfast and lunch items will be available at a

What's Going On

concession stand.

This annual auction is the major fundraiser for LAHS's Project Graduation. This year's listing includes many attractive items. Among the higher value items received so far are a one-night stay at the Hilton Garden Inn (Auburn Riverwatch); a one-night stay with breakfast at the Hampton Inn; a \$200 gift card from Patriot Fireworks; four Boston Red Sox tickets; two season passes to the Theater at Monmouth; a \$250 credit toward a Norwegian Cruise Line cruise; a full-size quilt that was the first-place winner at the Windsor Fair; a full-size quilt in Leavitt AHS colors; two \$100 certificates for two yards of organic compost; a machine gun shoot for single group of four at G3 Firearms in Turner; and an eight-foot picnic table and wooden two-seat chair.

Other items of interest include passes to Storyland, Splashtown and Lost Valley; vouchers for karate lessons and yoga or kickboxing classes at Pelletier's Karate Academy; dental services with Dr. Carey of Leeds; a weekend at Riverbend Campground in Leeds; golf at Springbrook Golf Course

in Leeds; a month-long Y-wide membership; tickets to the Public Theater; tickets to the Portland Seadogs; four lobsters in April from A & A Hardware; registration for four for the Father's Day Run at Leavitt; and a fire-truck ride to school in Greene and in Turner. Also available will be certificates for services at many area businesses, lovely gift baskets and many locally crafted items, such as beef jerky, maple syrup, jewelry and knit and crocheted handiwork.

This popular annual event always draws a large crowd, but success depends upon donations of attractive articles and services that will draw high bids from those present. Donations are still being accepted. To donate an item or service to the auction, contact committee chair Stacie Santomango at 212-3235 or mangos15fitz@yahoo.com. The names of all donors will be posted at the

event. Cash contributions in any amount will also be gratefully accepted until graduation day in June. They can be sent to LAHS Project Grad, P.O. Box 96, Turner, ME 04282.

Begun in the early 1980s here in Maine, Project Graduation has become a national movement that has successfully reduced the number of unfortunate outcomes too often associated with unsupervised high school graduation celebrations. Communities raise funds to provide a fun-filled, all-night chem- and alcohol-free celebration for their high school graduates. This year's graduates will enjoy an overnight excursion to Adventure-Bound of Caratunk, Maine, where they will enjoy movies, dancing, sports and games, a bonfire, lots of food and other activities, followed by a guided white-water rafting trip the next morning.

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Lenten Dinner and a Movie

The United Methodist Church of Auburn will present a free "Lenten Dinner and a Movie" on Monday, March 16. Soup and sandwiches will be served at 5:30 p.m., fol-

lowed by a screening of the film "Spitfire Grill." All are invited; please bring a friend. Contact the church office at 782-3972 if you plan to attend. The church is located 439 Park Avenue in Auburn.

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