

2015 JoAnn Pike Humanitarian Award Recipient



The Good Shepherd Food Bank hosted the 8th Annual JoAnn Pike Humanitarian Award Dinner in its Auburn warehouse. This year's deserving recipient is Bill Williamson – president of Bank of America, Maine. Pictured here are Cole Pike – grandson of the late JoAnn Pike, Bill Williamson, Kristen Miale – President of The Good Shepherd Food Bank and John Pike – son of JoAnn Pike. (TCT Photo by Jen Pike)

Stuffed Animal Parade



Students in Kathy Dow's third grade class at Lisbon Community School recently earned the right to have a Stuffed Animal Parade as a result of their good work toward a classroom goal of transitioning from one part of the day to the next. Pictured here (l. to r., from front) are paraders Syriana Rich, Penelope Lucas, Lydia Davis, Gavin Doughty, Caleb King, Drew Gannon, Dylan McFarland, Aiden Kettelhut, Henri Fidler, Angelina Fillmore, Sarah Moore, Kristian Merrill, Kellsie Buzzell, Johnny Pitcher, Emma St. Pierre, Lillyn Provencher, Anna Roupe, Luke Booker, Jackson Fischer and Ms. Dow.

LA CASH Touts Over \$3.7 Million in Claimed Refunds for Area Residents



Coalition Co-chair Chris Adler and site coordinator KC Geiger congratulate IRS-certified volunteer tax preparer Wayne Penley. See more photos on page 8.

The Lewiston-Auburn CASH Coalition celebrated another tax season success on April 8. Its IRS-certified volunteer tax preparers facilitated \$3,728,000 in federal and state refund claims for area residents during the 2015 tax season, bring its 12-season tally to \$26,289,674.

Once again, LA CASH is the lead coalition of 10 throughout the state of Maine, providing free tax preparation and asset-building opportunities to low-to-moderate income individuals/families. Taxes were prepared during the season at the Lewiston Memorial Armory and Auburn City Hall. Lewiston Mayor Robert Macdonald and Auburn City Councilor Belinda Gerry participated in the April 8 celebration.

The 2015 tax season resulted in volunteers serving 2,756 individuals. A total of \$2,940,000 was claimed in federal refunds

and \$788,000 in state refunds. Of the federal returns, \$971,000 claimed was for the Earned Income Tax Credit, a federal credit for low-to-moderate income workers. The EITC is known as the nation's largest anti-poverty initiative. In addition, LA CASH, with asset-building coordinator Jennifer Allen at the helm, provided asset-building information during the season to interested individuals on topics such as savings accounts, budgeting, homeownership, matching accounts, debt management, etc.

A total of 753 individuals requested financial literacy information. Opportunity Guides assisting individuals on such topics were: Allen, Laurie McDonnell, Michelle Berry, Jill Lorom and Josh Giesler.

During the evening, Lewiston's Community Relations Coordinator/Coalition co-chair Dottie Perham-Whittier presented

a Powerpoint presentation that gave an overview of the coalition's outreach and successes during the 2015 tax season, to include highlights from February's Super REFUND Saturday that featured a financial literacy resource fair and attendees sharing their American Dream. Perham-Whittier also praised the positive relationship between CASH volunteer tax preparers and AARP volunteer tax preparers who worked collaboratively during the tax season, resulting in the 2,756 served. In addition, a video clip, filmed by United Way's Matt Shaw, highlighted a satisfied area resident who shared her positive experience with LA CASH.

Site coordinator KC Geiger & Head Start training coordinator/Coalition co-chair Chris Adler presented appreciation certificates to tax preparers, greeters, schedulers See CASH, page 9

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Kahler receives Lisbon H.S. Principal's Award

Arianna Kahler, daughter of Robert and Julie Kahler of Lisbon Falls, has been selected as the 2015 recipient of the Lisbon High School Principal's Award. Sponsored by the Maine Principals' Association, the award is given in recognition of a high school senior's academic achievement and citizenship.



Arianna Kahler

"Throughout her years at Lisbon High School, Ari has distinguished herself in the classroom, on the playing field and as a leader in the

school and the community," noted Lisbon High School Principal Nicholas Gannon. "She very much deserves

Lewiston clergyman leads Senate in prayer



Reverend Harold Churchill (r.), with Senator Nate Libby

Reverend Harold Churchill of the First

United Pentecostal Church in Lewiston recently delivered the Morning Prayer to members of the Maine Senate during their legislative session. He was the guest of Senator Nate Libby.

this recognition."

The Principal's Award is presented in more than 100 Maine public and private high schools by member principals of the MPA, the professional association representing Maine school administrators. Arianna and other school winners and their principals will attend an honors luncheon at the Spectacular Event Center in Bangor in April.

The luncheon recognizes the winners with the presentation of an individual plaque and the awarding of five \$1,000 scholarships in the names of Horace O. McGowan and Richard W. Tyler, who were former Maine

principals and executive directors of the association. This year an additional five \$1,000 scholarships will be presented through the efforts of the MPA Scholarship Golf Tournament.

Auburn Savings President and Board Director Allen Sterling to retire

The board of directors of Auburn Savings Bank today announced the May 1 retirement of long time bank President and Director Allen Sterling.

Sterling joined Auburn Savings in June, 1996 and as president he oversaw the 2004 building of the bank's second location in Lewiston. Additionally, he lead the 2008 public stock offering which resulted in the creation of Auburn Savings' holding corporation Auburn Bancorp. It is also notable that during his term as president the bank's assets grew from \$26 million to \$72 million.

"During his tenure Allen Sterling has been instrumental in guiding the bank's growth and expansion in the Lewiston and Auburn community," said Claire Thompson,

CPA and current Auburn Savings board chair, "We are grateful for his contributions and want to offer our thanks for his nearly 20 years of dedicated service to this community institution."

Sterling has committed his career of nearly 40 years to community banking in Maine. Prior to joining Auburn Savings he held the position of chief financial officer at Skowhegan Savings Bank.

The current management team of Bill Tracy, senior lender; Martha Adams, operations officer; and Tina Wood, controller will lead Auburn Savings through this transition. Mr. Tracy will take on the day-to-day responsibilities of interim president, while the board of directors identifies and appoints a new president.

AHCH Announces Spring 2015 Adult Grief Support Program Offerings

Androscoggin Home Care & Hospice will offer programs to provide information and support to any adult grieving the death of a loved one. Program sessions help participants understand the grief process, share feelings and experiences, and find hope and comfort. All programs require pre-reg-

istration, are led by trained bereavement volunteers and/or professional grief facilitators and are offered at no cost to participants.

Lewiston/Auburn: Guidance through Grief. Hospice House in Auburn. Wednesdays 1-3 p.m. beginning April 22 for six weeks.

See AHCH, page 3

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Energy Policies Must Drive Down Costs for Mainers

Environmental groups downplay our energy challenges because we did not see the catastrophic price increases we saw last winter. They couldn't be more wrong.

Dear Maine Taxpayer,

We are not just trying to avoid price increases. We must lower energy costs to make our state competitive. High energy costs make it difficult for our businesses to compete or expand. When prices spike in the winter, some mills shut

down to save on energy costs. We need to create jobs, not lose them because of high energy prices.

We are making progress to get more natural gas to our region. But we need to move faster.

New England Governors are meeting this month to talk about natural gas – I will push for action there. Fortunately, we now have more partners to make our region competitive. Governor Baker in Massachusetts wants to get more natural gas capacity. Governor Malloy in Connecticut supports

infrastructure for natural gas. Rhode Island is also moving forward with natural gas.

We need projects that deliver the quickest results for Mainers. We are proposing legislation to help employers purchase their own natural gas capacity with a letter of credit.

Once again, we are proposing common-sense policies that the Democrats have rejected in the past. We want to use revenue from increased timber harvesting to lower costs for Mainers to heat their homes.

We are also proposing to remove the 100-megawatt limit on all forms of renewable energy. I have said it again and again. I favor any form energy, as long as it does two things: lower costs for Mainers and reduces pollution.

The PUC should be allowed to consider long-term contracts for energy only if it significantly reduces costs for ratepayers.

The Legislature is scrambling because they missed a small, three-letter word in their energy bill,

which could lead to an increase of \$38 million on Maine ratepayers every year.

But we have greater problems than that. If we are serious about addressing the costs of energy, we should have a Commissioner of Energy. Maine spends over a billion dollars in electricity and a roughly \$500 million on heat every year.

Energy is important to our state's economic future. While the Legislature wants to spend more of your money there should also be oversight. The commissioner should supervise the

funds at the Efficiency Maine Trust to make sure this funding is used effectively. This organization gets millions of dollars in ratepayer funds. It needs to be accountable and ultimately answerable to the Maine people through elected officials.

Once we have oversight and transparency at Efficiency Maine, then we can take about adding a small word to a big spending bill.

*Thank You
Paul R. LePage
Governor*

Maine high school graduation rate up, achievement gaps down

Newly released state and federal data shows Maine is closing achievement gaps as graduation rates among economically disadvantaged students, those with disabilities and some minorities are on the rise and above national averages.

Maine's high school graduation rate has hit an all-time high, as has the percentage of students who are either economically disadvantaged or have a disability and are earning their diploma in four years. According to newly released data from the Maine Department of Education, 86.48 percent of the students who entered the ninth grade in the fall of 2010 graduated on time in 2014. That's up just slightly from 86.36 percent in 2013 and well above the 80.3 percent graduation rate reached in 2009-2010 when the current calculation method was introduced.

In announcing the rising rate, Maine's Acting

Education Commissioner Tom Desjardin said he is especially encouraged to see the state make such progress in narrowing achievement gaps though he urged more work must be done. "All children can learn and deserve equal opportunity to do so in our schools," Desjardin said. "I want to thank Maine's educators for their hard work in supporting an increasing number of historically academically disadvantaged students find success. Moving forward, we must continue to improve both our graduation rate and the value of the diplomas awarded by our schools so that every student leaves with the foundation they need to achieve their full potential."

The four-year graduation rate is up to 77.82 percent for economically disadvantaged students, an increase from 76.9 percent in 2013 and 75.7 percent in 2012 and above the national average of 73.3 percent. Meanwhile, the gradua-

tion rate for students with disabilities continues to climb and was at 70.97 in 2014, much higher than the national average of 61.9 percent. Graduation rates for Maine's two largest minority student groups are also up over the last three years. Black students showed the greatest growth with a graduation rate of 79.18 percent, up significantly from 71.98 percent in 2012. The graduation rate among Asian students is up to 94.42 percent from 89.06 percent in 2012. The graduation rate for Hispanic students, the third largest school-aged minority in Maine, has shown a concerning decline to 71.12 percent from 79.14 percent just three years ago.

According to the most recent national data from the U.S. Department of Education, which was released earlier this month but is based on the Class of 2013, Maine's four-year graduation rate is the 10th highest in the country and well above the national average of 81.4 percent. Meanwhile, Maine is 6th in the nation for its

limited English proficiency graduation rate, 12th for its economically disadvantaged student graduation rate and 14th for its graduation rate among students with disabilities. As the state's high schools work toward beginning to award diplomas based on student proficiency rather than time served starting

in 2018, the Maine DOE continues to aspire to having a 90 percent graduation rate. In 2014, 49 of the state's 134 high schools met or exceeded that goal.

AHCH

Continued from page 2

Lewiston/Auburn: Guidance through Grief.

The Dempsey Center. Tuesdays 6-7:30 p.m. beginning April 21 for eight weeks.

Norway: Pathways through Grief. Tuesdays 2-4 p.m. beginning April 21 for six weeks.

For more information or to pre-register call Amy Dulac, Bereavement Coordinator at 795-9468 or amy.dulac@ahch.org.



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What's Going On

YWCA offers spring and summer classes

American Red Cross Lifeguard Training: April 20 -23, 9 a.m.-6:15 p.m. Members \$275; non-members \$300. Limited space. For more information or to register, call the YWCA of Central Maine at 795-4050.

Try-Me Week April 20-26. All open swim times,

water fitness classes and Magic Y-World will be offered at a discounted rate.

American Red Cross Home Pool Safety: May 2, 1-3 p.m. In the United States, drowning ranks as the second leading cause of death from unintentional injury in children ages 1 through 14. Children be-

tween the ages 1 and 4 years have the highest rate of drowning. Most of these incidents occur in home swimming pools. Suggested donation: \$20.

Paddle Board Stretch and Strength: Fridays, May 8 - June 12, 6-7 p.m. Members \$45; nonmembers \$60. Instructor: Ian Barclay.

YWCA Tiger Sharks Swim Team: May 12 - July 30. Boys and girls ages 6 to 15 that love to swim and

are interested in a more competitive environment. Members \$165 plus USA swimming membership. Tiger Sharks Swim team will begin May 12 - July 30. See www.ywcamaine.org.

For more information on these and additional programs and classes, including Red Cross swim lessons at discounted prices, or to register, call 795-4050.

YMCA of Auburn-Lewiston's Healthy Kids Day April 25

The YMCA of Auburn-Lewiston will hold a free community event on Sat., April 25, from noon-3 p.m. to inspire more kids to keep their minds and bodies active. YMCA's Healthy Kids Day, the Y's national initiative to improve health and well-being for kids and families, features activities such as open family swim, dance and obstacle courses to motivate and teach families how to develop a healthy routine at home. Michelle Cyr, director of early childhood education and development, said, "When kids are out of school, they can

face hurdles—or gaps—that prevent them from reaching their full potential. These gaps are often related to hunger, water safety, learning, safe spaces to play and health."

Each year, the Y helps over 9 million youth nationwide "hop the gap" and achieve more, providing a safe to place to learn, stay healthy and build friendships.

The event is free and open to the public. The first 100 children to register will receive a free YMCA cinch bag. For more information call 795-4095 or see www.alyca.org.

Christian Community Church of Turner dedication



The Christian Community Church of Turner will hold a dedication service on Sunday, May 3, at 10 a.m., 425 Turner Center Road, Turner.

Church members rented the building for about

a year and a half, purchasing the property in March.

Pastor Daniel Johnston encourages everyone to attend.

For more information: cccofturner@gmail.com.

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Enough is Enough

Democratic legislators must do what's right for taxpayers

By Robert E. Macdonald
MAYOR OF LEWISTON
The number-one duty of every United States citizen is to vote.

Some don't participate because they haven't a clue when it comes to the significance of voting. Some are low-informational individuals who may or may not vote.

Another group thinks everyone running for office is either a bum or a crook. They feel that no matter who gets into office, nothing is going to change.

The last—and largest—group of voters are people who care. They do their homework on the candidates and the issues. They then cast their votes using logic, not emotions.

But after the votes are cast and the election ends, they get very frustrated when their candidates fail to fulfill their promises. These elected officials feel that with the passing of time, memories will fade and they will be re-elected.

Last week I closed

the column asking voters to overcome their fears, contact their local legislative representatives and remind them why they were elected.

The major issue of last year's election was welfare reform. Governor Paul LePage ran on this issue and handily won re-election. This also propelled many Republicans into office. Republicans now hold the Blaine House and the Senate. Unfortunately, Republican gains in the House fell short, leaving the chamber in Democratic control.

This leaves organizations like the Maine People's Alliance, Maine Equal Justice Partners and other liberal activist groups to weave their magic in the Democratic House. Apparently, it is working.

The Health and Human Service Legislature Committee deals with General Assistance legislation. To the surprise of no one, the committee is split 7 to 6 along party lines when dealing with welfare reform. Democrats are still in the



Mayor Bob Macdonald

majority; Republicans are still in the minority.

Why are our Democratic legislators so petrified to go against these progressive groups? These activists claim they are sympathetic to the plight of the poor, but continue to push for legislation that puts the poor into greater poverty. In the private sector, their ineptness would result in the loss of their cushy salaries and an introduction to the unemployment line.

But let's put these Democratic committee votes against reform into

their proper perspective. If you are an illegal alien, Democrats are going to fight tooth and nail to ensure you are supported financially by Maine taxpayers. To those non-citizens collecting SSI disability, don't worry: Democrats will make sure those checks continue.

If you're a generational welfare recipient who has become complacent with your lifestyle, Democrats will protect you from the shock of having to work. If you are traveling from state to state, city to city, gobbling up cities' and towns' General Assistance until it's time to move on to the next fertile

group, don't worry, Democrats will fight to keep your life as a free spirit intact.

However, if you're a property taxpayer and have had enough of watching your taxes steadily increase while city services decrease, city infrastructure starts to crumble and your dreams of a great school system diminish with each influx of special needs students from out of town, you have two choices: you can either fight or grin and bear it.

Let me also make something perfectly clear. I am not talking about refugees. I am talking about our domestic population. The de-

pendent domestic underclass was created from Democratic President Lyndon Johnson's "Great Society." If it were not for our Somali refugees, our graduation rate would be in the 50 percentile range, as opposed to the 69-70 percentile range. I believe that our current legislators will break with their party and support these long-needed reforms. They will put voters over party.

In 1774, while our Founding Fathers vacillated over whether to break away from England, a spirit of independence ran through the population and look what happened!

Maintaining Self-Confidence

The Maine Centers for Women, Work and Community will be offering a free, 3-session self-confidence class starting on Monday, April 27 from 10 am to noon. This dynamic class will provide participants an opportunity to both assess their confidence as well as learn concrete tools to keep their confidence strong.

If you would like to walk into a job interview or market your business with more confidence, then consider taking this class. As one former participant said, "having tools to improve my confidence put the power in my hands." To register for more information, contact Laurie McDonnell at 753-6612 or laurie.mcdonnell@maine.edu.

All services are free and open to men, women and couples of all ages and

incomes. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities; please contact WWC one week prior to the start of each workshop. These workshops are supported in part by the U. S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration, in partnership with the Central/Western Maine Workforce Investment Board and Maine Disability Employment Initiative. For more information or to register for the training, please call Janet at 778-2757. TTY: Use Maine Relay 711

Women, Work and Community is the only statewide organization offering skills development and support in the areas of career planning, entrepreneurship, and financial management. For Main-

ers in both life and career transitions, it provides an empowering environment for participants to define and achieve their goals. Visit our website at www.womenworkandcommunity.org

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Helping Adult Survivors



Helping Children Recover



ten calmly. It may be very difficult for the child to disclose abuse. Your calm demeanor will help the child feel safe.

Let the child know that you believe her or him. As with adult survivors of sexual assault, children who have experienced sexual abuse often have feelings of mistrust. If a child tells you that he or she was sexually abused, let the child know that he/she is believed.

Assure the child that by telling, s/he has done the right thing. Again, validating the child's disclosure will help the child's feelings of safety.

If you're a parent or caregiver, maintain a regular routine. In general, children do best in a stable environment. For children who have been abused, stability and routine are that much more important. Don't forget to also make time for play and fun!

Understand that children who have been abused may have a broad range of reactions. There is no "one way" that children react to abuse. Even for the same child, extremes in emotion or behavior are not un-

common. Be patient and supportive.

Seek specialized counseling for the child. In addition to your caring support, the child may benefit from treatment with a mental health professional whose specialty is helping children recover from abuse.

Seek support for, and take care of yourself. Caring for and supporting child survivors of abuse will sometimes require that you put your own needs "on hold." Yet it is vitally important that you find time to reach out for support for yourself, and continue to do the things that bring joy to your own life. Taking care of your own needs will allow you to better support the child who depends on you.

We can help! For support and information, call our 24-hour helpline at 1-800-871-7741.

How you can help adult survivors of sexual assault and abuse.

Believe them. It is not your role to question whether an assault occurred, but to be there to ease the pain. According to the FBI, false reports are no more nor less common than false reports of other violent crimes.

Help them explore their options. Don't take charge of the situation and pressure the survivor to do what you think they should. That's what the perpetrator did. Give them the freedom to choose a path of recovery that is comfortable for them,

even if you'd do it differently. Remember, there is no one right way for a survivor to respond after being assaulted.

Listen to them. It is crucial that you let survivors in your lives know that they can talk to you about their experience when they are ready. Some may not wish to speak with you immediately, but at some point during the healing process, it is likely that the survivor will come to you for support. When that happens, don't interrupt, or yell, or inject your feelings. Just open your ears to the pain of being sexually as-

See **Helping**, page 7

Sexual abuse of children is an especially tragic aspect of sexual assault. However, just as adults can recover and heal, so can children. Here are some ways you can help them. If a child discloses to you that she or he has been sexually abused, lis-

Volunteers are the lifeblood of our work.

Join a group of dedicated, enthusiastic people, committed to aiding the recovery of victim-survivors of sexual assault, and working for an end to the problem.

Whether staffing our 24-hour helpline, helping out in our offices and with special projects, or sharing your skills and talents, we offer a variety of rewarding volunteer opportunities.

Please contact us to learn more:
Androscoggin County ~ 784-5272
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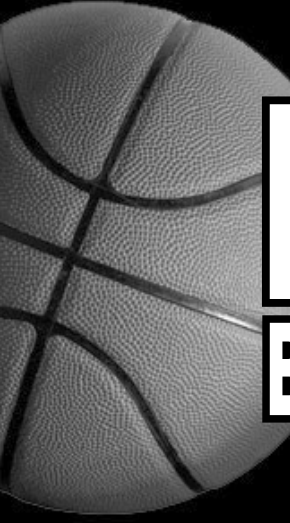
Saturday, April 25 - Registration begins at 9 am.
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Celebrity Waiter Dinner Saturday April 11 at Martindale Country Club



Celebrity Waitstaff: Back row (l.-r.) Lewiston Police Dept. Deputy Chief Brian O'Malley; Assistant District Atty. Lisa Bogue; WCSH-TV's Danielle Waugh; ACAC's Keri Myrick; WMTW-TV's Katie Thompson; Twin City TIMES publisher Laurie Steele; Androscoggin County Sheriff Eric Samson; Steve Huber of Huber Associates; Rhonda Webber of Community Little Theater. Front row (l.-r.): Auburn Mayor Jonathan Labonte; emcee Jeff Peterson of WGME-TV.



Elder Abuse Task Force Essay Contest

The Androscoggin County Elder Abuse Task Force is holding an essay contest for high school seniors in Androscoggin County to help raise awareness of the issue of elder abuse in our communities. The essay topic is "What is elder abuse and why does it matter to you?" There will be a \$200 prize for the first place entry and \$100 for second place. Winning entries will run in the Sun Journal in June for Elder Abuse Awareness Day. To be eligible, participants must be Androscoggin County residents

and have plans to attend college or a certification program as a full-time student in the 2015-2016 school year. For more information or an application, please contact Kelley Glidden at 795-6744 or kglidden@safevoices.org. Contest prizes are being provided by Maine Family Federal Credit Union. The Androscoggin County Elder Abuse Task Force is a community partnership dedicated to ending elder abuse, generating resources, educating the community and advocating to meet the needs of elder abuse victims.

Helping

Continued from page 6

saulted. Your caring but silent attention will be invaluable.

Never blame them. No one ever deserves to be sexually assaulted, abused or harassed. No matter what they wore, how many times they had sex before, whether they were walking alone at night, whether they got drunk, if they were married, or whether they went up to the perpetrator's room. Even if the survivor feels responsible, say clearly and caringly that being sexually assaulted wasn't their fault.

Ask before you touch. Don't assume that physical contact, even in the form of a gentle touch or hug, will be comforting to a survivor. Many survivors, especially within the first weeks after an assault, prefer to avoid sex or simple touching even by those they love and trust. Be patient, give them the space they need, and try your best not to take it personally.

Recognize that you've been affected too. We can't help but be hurt when someone we love is made to suffer. Don't blame yourself for the many feelings you will likely have in response to learning that someone close to you has been sexually assaulted. Sadness, confusion, anger, helplessness, fear, guilt, disappointment, shock, anxiety, desperation, and compassion

are all common reactions for survivors and their significant others. Being aware of these emotions may ultimately help you better understand the survivor's experience and support them more effectively.

Get help for yourself. Whether you reach out to a friend, family member, counselor, religious official, or others, make sure you don't go through this experience alone. Most rape crisis centers offer counseling for significant others and family members because they realize that the impact of sexual assault extends far beyond the survivor. Keeping all your feelings inside will only make you less able to be there for the survivor. Remember, getting help when needed is a sign of strength, not weakness.

Helping others recover from sexual assault is a difficult, yet extremely rewarding, process. As you work to help a loved one recover from sexual assault, let us help and support you. Call our helpline at 1-800-871-7741.



Whether you're a survivor, a friend, or a partner, everyone has a story about how sexual assault has affected their life. Learn to recover, how to help, and how everyone can be part of the solution.

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What's Going On

YWCA Presents 'Stand Against Racism'

The YWCA of Central Maine presents its fourth annual Stand Against Racism event on Sun., April 26. Stand Against Racism is a nationwide day of action against racism in our communities.

The event is supported by the national YWCA organization and includes speakers and discussion groups with friends, neighbors and community members, facilitated by the Lewiston High School Civil

Rights Team.

Dialogues will culminate in an organized walk from East Avenue to Bartlett Street, through Walnut Street and up Webster Street.

The march will finish with a public stand in front of the YWCA on East Avenue as a demonstration that racism cannot be tolerated. Walkers who participate in the event will become leaders in the community effort to stop

the cycle of racism.

Maine residents, families, business owners, politicians, religious communities and students are invited, as are out-of-state visitors, with a goal of 350 participants. The first 100 participants will receive T-shirts as symbols of their dedication to eliminate racism.

Order of Events:

Noon - Sign in and pizza lunch at the YWCA

12:30 - Keynote speakers

1 p.m. - Breakout discussions facilitated by LHS Civil Rights Team

2 p.m. - Group poster-making

2:40 p.m. - March leaves from the YWCA

3:20 p.m. - Stand at YWCA

3:40 p.m. - Ice cream social and closing remarks

For more information call 795-4050, email Natalie Bornstein at nbornstein@ywcamaine.org or see www.standagainstracism.org.




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Benefit for Meals on Wheels

A benefit for the Meals on Wheels program of SeniorsPlus will be held from 2-5 p.m. on Sun., May 3, at the American Legion Hall, 595 Gore Road, Locke Mills. The goal is to help end the current waitlist for Meals on Wheels, currently at over 100 in the tri-county region, and fight hunger in Maine communities.

Live music will be provided by the Shadagee Ramblers, along with a 50/50 raffle and snacks. Admission is \$10 at the door and \$8 tickets in advance. For more information call 1-800-427-1241 or info@seniorsplus.org.

Rob Rodriguez new CMCC coach

The Central Maine Community College athletic department has selected Rob Rodriguez as its new women's soccer coach. A 20-year veteran of youth soccer for nearly 20 years, Rodriguez has developed successful travel teams and premier soccer clubs, anticipating even more success at the collegiate level.

In 1995, Rodriguez created the Sacopee Valley Soccer Club which achieved many accolades over a 10-year period. During that time, he was hired by Soccer Maine's board of directors as the southern district director. In 2005, he began work with the youth premier soccer level, for which he still coaches.

Rodriguez says he is seeking players who are versatile, who can play any position on the field when called and who can play any kind of formation or style to help build and strengthen the Lady Mustangs.

"We are thrilled Coach Rodriguez has accepted the challenge of rebuilding our soccer program, he is the right guy at the right time," said CMCC athletic director Dave Gonyea.

LA Cash touts record claimed refunds



Coalition Co-chair Chris Adler; Yvette Bouttenot of the city of Auburn; Coalition site coordinator KC Geiger; Coalition Co-chair Dottie Perham-Whittier



Greeter Andy Michaud with Adler and Geiger

CASH

Continued from page 1

and quality review volunteers: Teresa Austin, Nancy Bisson, Lisa Bolen, Ronald Bunker, Kate Cooper, Tom Coulombe, Peter Field, Melody Fish, Earl Fournier, Yolande Gay, Sue God-

dard, Lorna Healey, Doug Kinchen, Gerry Langelier, Monica Lee, Frances Lodge, Paul Maheux, Wayne Penley, Jan Provencher, Norm Provencher, Mady Roy, Jan Sullivan, Ginny Theriault, Antoine Tolton, Suzanne Tymoczko, Robert Wailus, Paul Blanchard, Judy

Gervais, Lou MacDonald, William Randall, Carole Ressler, Bob Cavanagh, Carmen Coulombe, Roland Danico, Joe Deflipp, Louise Gervais, Marsha Graham, Diane Kirouac, Rita La-joie, Andy Michaud, Greg Nadeau, Sylvia Schrock and Celia Treworgy.



Volunteer tax preparer Melody Fish and husband

Long-time site coordinator KC Geiger was lauded for his “unwavering passion for this project,” and quality reviewers Paul Blanchard, Judy Gervais, Lou MacDonald, William Randall and Carole Ressler were praised for their tax expertise. Judy Gervais also praised all volunteers for working as such a tight-knit, effective team during the season. Schedulers Louise Gervais, Bob Cavanagh and Carmen Coulombe were also recognized for fielding more than 3,750 calls throughout the tax season.

A volunteer commendation letter from IRS Stakeholder Relationship Tax Consultant Tess Armstrong was read during the evening, along with letters from U. S. Sen. Angus King and State Sen./Lewiston City Councilor Nate Libby.

For 2015, the CASH Coalition was funded by a statewide VITA grant, the JT Gorman Foundation and Key Bank. Coalition partners/promoters are: the City of Lewiston; City of Auburn; Internal Revenue Service; Androscoggin County Chamber of Commerce; United Way of Androscoggin County; Androscoggin Head Start & Child Care; Women, Work & Community; Goodwill, Key Bank; Coastal Enterprises, Inc.; Lewiston Adult Education; Lewiston Housing Authority; Auburn Housing Authority; AARP Tax Aide Program; United Somali Women of Maine; Community Concepts, Volunteers of America; Maine Migrant Health, HUD; and retired seniors.

PowerPoint Screen - \$3,728,000 Federal & State Refund Claims This Tax Season

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TWIN CITY NIGHTS

Weekly Arts & Entertainment

HHRC Exhibit to focus on Maine's Armenian community

The Holocaust and Human Rights Center of Maine and the Armenian Cultural Association of Maine present "Nor Ashkhar: Maine Armenians in the Century After Genocide." The exhibit opens today and runs through May 29 at the Michael Klahr Center on the campus of the University of Maine at Augusta.

A free exhibit opening will take place from 5 to 7 p.m. featuring Armenian food, drinks and a program that will include information about the genocide, Armenians in Maine and Armenian poetry. A performance by members of the Armenian band Okbari is planned.

The new exhibit is an opportunity to learn about the first genocide of the 20th century, which took place in April of 1915, and to learn about Maine's long connection with the Armenian people which began with Waterford native Cyrus Hamlin (nephew of President Lincoln's first vice president Hannibal Hamlin) in 1838. A missionary, Cyrus Hamlin established Robert

College in Istanbul specifically for Armenian refugees who were targeted as second class citizens. Maine's relationship with the Armenian people continued through the violent attacks of the late 19th century and by the turn of the 20th century, a strong Armenian community existed in Portland, with other families scattered around Maine mostly with the help of Frances Willard and Mainer Lilian Stevens and the Women's Christian Tem-

perance Union. In addition to contextual materials about the Armenian Genocide and the events leading up to it, the exhibit includes stories, photographs and artifacts borrowed from Mainers of Armenian descent.

Days and hours are Mon. through Fri., 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. or by appointment through May 29. For more information see www.hhrcmaine.org, call 621-3531 or email david.greenham@maine.edu.

Benefit for Meals on Wheels

A benefit for the Meals on Wheels program of SeniorsPlus will be held from 2-5 p.m. on Sun., May 3, at the American Legion Hall, 595 Gore Road, Locke Mills. The goal is to help end the current waitlist for Meals on Wheels, currently at over 100 in the tri-county region, and fight hunger in Maine communities.

Live music will be provided by the Shadagee Ramblers, along with a 50/50 raffle and snacks. Admission

is \$10 at the door and \$8 tickets in advance. For more information call 1-800-427-1241 or info@seniorsplus.org.

Minot United Methodist supper

The Minot United Methodist Church, corner of Rte. 121 and Empire Road in Minot, will be hosting its popular Roast Turkey Supper on Sat., April 25 from 5 - 6 p.m. Menu includes roast turkey, homemade mashed potatoes, stuffing and gravy, green beans, cranberry sauce, bread and beverages and an assortment of homemade pies. Tickets are \$7. for adults, \$4. for ages 5-12. Free for 5 and under. There will be a special free door prize at the supper.

French Sing-along Apr. 17 at USM LAC

Community members are invited to participate in a French sing-along session at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, Apr. 17, at the University of Southern Maine's Lewiston-Auburn College.

Les Troubadours will lead attendees in singing a selection of local Franco favorites such as "Les Fraises et Les Framboises" and "Belle Rose du Printemps." Providing musical accompaniment will be pianist Jeannette

Gregoire.

"Whether they are Franco or not, anyone who likes music is welcome to come join the fun," said Aliette Couturier, a regular Troubadour. "Song books are provided so that even those who are not familiar with the songs or less-than-fluent in French can easily follow along. And as a treat, this month's program will include a few lively French Canadian jigs-&-reels performed by some young local fiddlers."

Organized in 2010 by the Maine Folque Co-op in collaboration with USM LAC's Franco-American Collection, the monthly series of song sessions takes place from September through June, usually in Room 170 at the college.

Admission is free to all. More information is available by calling Jacynthe Jacques at 576-4109. USM LAC is located at 51 Westminster St. in Lewiston.

Charity Dog Wash to benefit GAHS

Happy Paws Unleashed will hold a charity dog wash from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Sun., April 19, to benefit the Greater Androscoggin Humane Society.

The event is open to the public and will also include nail trims, flea and

tick treatments and training seminars at Happy Paws Unleashed, 647 Lewiston Road, Topsham. Cost for the dog wash is \$15 for dogs under 30 pounds and \$20 for dogs over 30 pounds.

The Greater Androscoggin Humane Society provides a safe haven for

over 4,500 sick, homeless and abused animals in the greater Androscoggin area per year.

The primary support for the shelter comes from fundraising events and donations of concerned citizens. For more information: 786-4713.

Plant Sale to Benefit UMaine Extension in Androscoggin-Sagadahoc Counties

The Androscoggin-Sagadahoc Counties Extension Association will hold a plant sale Fri., May 15, from 3-6 p.m., and Sat., May 16, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension office, 24 Main St., Lisbon Falls.

Perennial flowers and plants, vegetable and herb seedlings, annual and perennial flower seedlings and seed packets, raised bed

frames, birdhouses and other garden-related craft items will be for sale. Children 10 years and younger will receive a free gift. Proceeds will benefit UMaine Extension outreach programs

in the two counties that are supported by ASCEA. For more information or to request a disability accommodation, call 353-5550 or email kymnoelle.sposato@maine.edu.

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Fri: April 17 - The Veggies
Sat: April 18 - Jeff Kilton
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Maine Wildlife Park to open for 2015 season

The Maine Wildlife Park, Route 26, Gray, will open for the 2015 season on Friday, April 17.

The brand new Canada lynx exhibit is sure to be a favorite with visitors this year. Two lynx kittens have grown substantially over the winter and use their climbing logs, trees, boulders and exhibit space to the fullest extent. A formal dedication of the exhibit, funded in large part by the Friends of the Maine Wildlife Park, will take place at 11 a.m. on Fri., May 1.

An enhanced audio tour will be used as a dynamic park touring tool with the launch of a new mobile web app. With smart phones and mobile devices, visitors will now have more information available than ever before about Maine's native wildlife. Visitors can access the tour by scanning

QR codes in the park, or through the park's website to learn more about various park species.

Additionally, a variety of new weekend events are planned for the summer, beginning Sat., May 2, with the "Wild Cats of Maine." The following week, build a birdhouse to take home, and further on through the season a winter ecology program will be offered, as will archery practice, live snakes and turtles, a meeting with Donn Fendler, author of "Lost on a Mountain in Maine," and Bob Crowley from the popular TV show "Survivor."

The Center for Wildlife, Atlantic Salmon and Honeybees will also be featured as weekend events. Favorites like the Open House/Farmers Market, Pow Wow, Chainsaw Artists, "Northwoods Law"

Day, Rick Charette and Halloweenfest will all be back as well. The family season pass is available for purchase now at Department of Fish & Wildlife's Online store: www.mefish-wildlife.com.

The Maine Wildlife Park has over 30 species of native wildlife on display, plus wildlife gardens, nature trails, a fish hatchery and other interactive exhibits and displays. The park is open daily from April 17 through November 11 from 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Admission to the park is free for ages 3 and under; \$5.50 ages 4-12; \$7.50 for adults and \$5.50 for seniors. Groups of 15 or more are \$3.50 per person. For more information call the Maine Wildlife Park at 657-4977 or see www.mainewildlifepark.com, www.mefish-wildlife.com or Facebook.

Twin City Nights

Raising Readers program makes book donation to Maine libraries

The Raising Readers program will donate a significant collection of new children's books to small and rural libraries throughout Maine to commemorate 15 years of fostering early childhood literacy the state.

The donation will provide between 15 and 20 new board and picture books to 120 Maine libraries in greatest need of new children's book collections.

"Many small and rural libraries have been getting by in recent years with minimal resources for new books, especially children's books," said Cassandra Grantham, director of Raising Readers. "This donation recognizes the important role of those institutions in communities and enhances our shared goal of bringing books into the homes of Maine children."

Since 2000, Raising Readers has worked to support early literacy by providing high-quality, developmentally appropriate hardcover books to every

Maine child aged birth to 5 through partnerships with hospitals, medical practices and healthcare providers where the books are distributed at births and well-child visits. During that time, the program has reached 228,000 individual children and distributed more than 2.2 million books. Raising Readers is a collaboration

between MaineHealth and EMHS and the nearly 360 hospitals and medical practices that give books to their patients. It has been generously funded by the Libra Foundation since its inception.

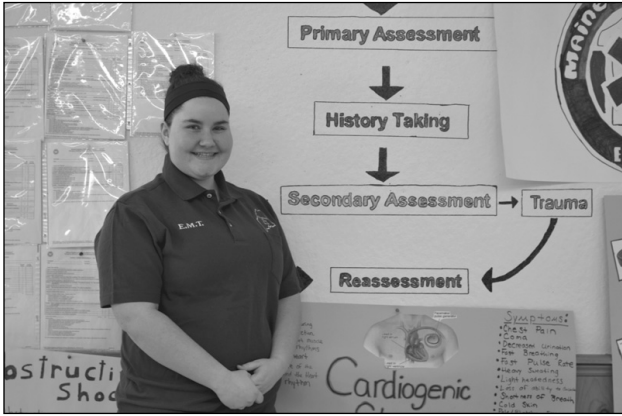
For more information about the Raising Readers program, see www.raising-readers.org.

Nutritionist speaks at Beta Sigma Phi



Beta Sigma Phi, Laureate Kappa Chapter welcomed to its recent meeting nutritionist Anne Moreau, RN, to address the group on the topic "Eating anti-inflammatory foods to create healthy, robust cells." Yvette Rousseau hosted the event in her home on Homefield Street in Lewiston.

Lisbon students honored at Region Ten Tech



Stevie Charest



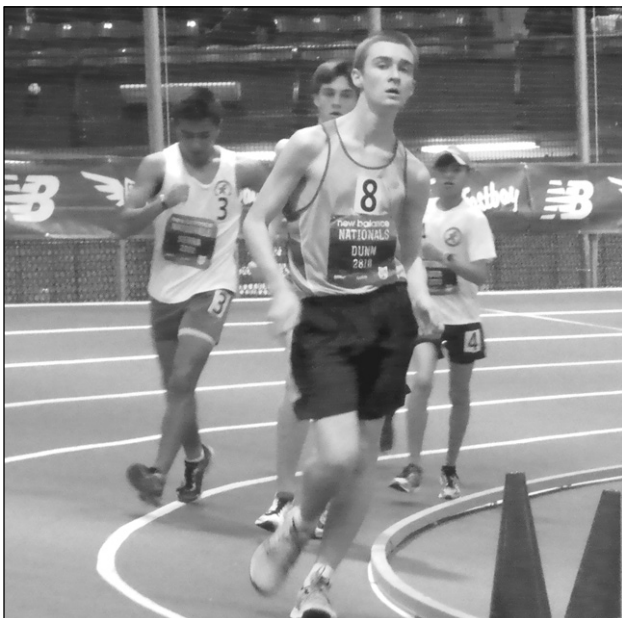
Peter Bucher

Two Lisbon High School students, Peter Bucher and Stevie Charest, were recognized as Students of the Quarter recently at Region Ten Technical High School. Bucher is enrolled in the Auto Collision Repair course and Charest is studying to be an emergency medical technician.

Bucher was honored for maintaining perfect attendance, being attentive, routinely making a good effort, being respectful of his classmates and instructors, being cooperative and helpful, and generally showing that he has what it takes to be successful. His grade in the program is an A+.

Charest is the only person who has ever submitted a resume and cover letter as part of her program application. She was honored for actively interacting during class, fostering discussion, asking questions, paying attention, spending time outside of class on course work, demonstrating leadership qualities and supporting her fellow students.

Dunn competes in Nationals



Spencer Dunn, a junior at Edward Little High School, competed in the 1-mile race walk at the New Balance Indoor Track and Field National Championships, which took place March 14 at the Armory in New York City. He finished with a personal best indoor time of 7:11, earning him a third-place finish and his fifth All-American Award. Dunn is coached by Dr. Tom Eastler of Farmington.



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What's Going On

Lewiston-Auburn Growth Council plans annual dinner

Sharing the stage with several local business leaders, new Lewiston Auburn Economic Growth Council President John Holden will convey his thoughts on L-A's economic development strategy during his first major address at the Growth Council's Annual Dinner on Thursday, May 7. The 39th annual event will take place at the Ramada Conference Center in Lewiston, anticipating more than 300 business, community and academic leaders.

The event will be styled in the form of a TedTalk, the popular on-line speakers' format where participants address a topic using personal experiences, thoughtful information and multimedia support. Holden plans to intersperse his presentation with testimonials from special guests including a local entrepreneur, a Somali business leader and a major employer yet to be determined. Holden says he'll

focus on what he sees as L-A's key assets: its people, sense of place, and diverse businesses and institutions.

"I'm excited to address the audience with my thoughts on L-A's bright spots, the direction I see us moving toward and L-A's promising future," said Holden. "However, I see the evening as a dialogue with the audience and representatives of the community, rather than a 'presentation.' We want this gathering to have a mix of introspection, imagination and celebration."

Representatives of both cities will bestow their annual Economic Achievement Awards, presented each year to individuals or organizations that make significant contributions to economic development through job creation, investment, or significant community support. For more information or to register to attend, contact LAEGC at 784-0161 or visit www.economicgrowth.org.

Good Shepherd Food Bank to benefit from Ocean State Job Lot donation

Ocean State Job Lot, a 116-store discount retail chain headquartered in North Kingstown, Rhode Island, has launched its 2015 "Three Square Meals" hunger relief program to alleviate food insecurity throughout the Northeast. Among the beneficiaries of the program's record \$1.44 million food donation is Auburn-based Good Shepherd Food bank.

The program will distribute 109 tractor trailer loads of food throughout the year to 15 food banks, which in turn distribute to thousands of pantries, kitchens and more across six New England states, New York and New Jersey. Officials say the effort marks the single largest food assistance program of its kind in the Northeast.

Funds for Three Square Meals are raised annually between November and December through a combination of in-store customer donations at the register, contributions from the business community and matching funds from the Job Lot Charitable Foundation.

Job Lot then leverages its wholesale buying power and retailing expertise to purchase food at significant value. It also donates the operational support, delivery and other expenses to ensure that 100 percent of every dollar raised goes to the plate to

help families and individuals in need. Items to be distributed include shelf-stable food such as pasta, cereal, canned vegetables and fruit, soup, canned tuna, dried beans, rice and more.

City of Lewiston receives Greenway Project award

The City of Lewiston has received the Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments' Transportation Achievement Award for its Riverside Greenway Project. The Riverside Greenway Project had its ribbon cutting ceremony in October, 2014, and has been regularly used by walkers and bicyclists alike.

The AVCOG award recognizes achievements in activities/efforts which lead to the development of

transportation systems that promote safety, efficiency and inter-modalism.

The Lewiston Riverside Greenway is 6,600 feet along the Androscoggin River, which is part of a nearly 5-mile pathway for bicycling and walking and connects civic, employment, retail, service and cultural destinations in downtown Lewiston and the northern portion of Main Street with diverse, populous neighborhoods.

Lobster Roll Luncheon at Calvary United Methodist Church



Calvary United Methodist Church in Lewiston will hold its annual Lobster Roll Luncheon on Fri., May 1.

Orders are currently being taken for the bagged lunches which include a lobster roll with lots of chunky lobster meat, chips, pickle, chocolate chip

cookie and a choice of bottled water or soda – for \$10.

Individual and group orders may be picked up anytime between 6:30 am and 12:30 pm at Calvary, or from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Park St. United Methodist Church in Auburn. For large orders, advance arrangements may be made to have

them delivered.

Calvary UMC is located in the triangle at 59 Sabattus St. in downtown Lewiston. Pick up orders at the Bartlett St. entrance. For more information, call Lucky Dibello at 784-3869 or visit www.calvarylewiston.org. Same day order hotline is 212-1551.

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Thursday, April 16

Reception: 5-7 p.m. Holocaust and Human Rights Center of Maine and Armenian Cultural Association of Maine present "Nor Ashkhar: Maine Armenians in the Century After Genocide." Food and entertainment at opening. Free. Through May 29; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. FMI see www.hhrc-maine.org or 621-3531 or david.greenham@maine.edu.

Friday, April 17

Training. CMMC. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Corporate and Community Services Department. Two-day training program to increase awareness of strategies for supporting self-regulation in young children. Again on Friday, May 1. FMI 755-5280 or email training@cmcc.edu. Deadline for registration 4/10.

Park reopening: 9:30 a.m. Maine Wildlife Park, Rte. 26, Grey. Opening for 2015 season. FMI: 657-4977 or see www.mainewildlifepark.com or www.mefishwildlife.com.

Lecture: noon-1 p.m. Great Falls Forum Lecture Series presents Wendy Wolf, pres. and CEO, Maine Health Access Foundation. "Beyond Obamacare: the Future of Healthcare in Maine." Q&A. Free. Bring brown bag lunch. FMI: 513-3135.

Concert: 7 p.m. First Universalist Church of Turner Center. Third Cabin Fever concert of 2015. Performers: "Hoot'n Annie." Desserts. Sugg. Donation: \$5-10. FMI: 754-0954

Saturday, April 25

Baked Bean Supper: 5 p.m. First Congregational Church, Route 115, Gray. Baked beans, casseroles, salads, homemade breads, desserts and beverages. \$8 adults; \$4 11-under. Handicap accessible. FMI: 657-4279. Day of: 657-3279.

Saturday, April 18

YMCA State Gymnastics Championship. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Lewiston Memorial Armory, Central

Calendar

See more Calendar at www.TwinCityTimes.com

Ave. The Auburn-Lewiston YMCA team of girls ages 8-17 competes against others from around the state in bars, beam, vault and floor exercises. Again 4/19. Free.

Cook-off: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. K of C 2nd annual chili-chowder cook-off. Holy Cross Church Hall, Lisbon St., Lewiston. \$5. FMI: Rick at L8OUELL@AOL.COM or 576-6813.

Sunday, April 19

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.

Thursday, April 23

Screening: "Last Days in Vietnam." 7 p.m. Franco-American Heritage Center. Lewiston. Ticket information available at www.mpbn.net - "Events."

Saturday, April 25

Compost Sale: 8 a.m. to noon, Justalittle Farm, 58 Ridge Road, Lisbon Falls. Area 4-H project. Sponsored by and benefits the Androscoggin-Sagadahoc 4-H Leaders' Association. \$5 per cubic foot bag; truckloads available for \$35 per tractor scoop. Bags of compost also will be available from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Tractor Supply Company, 1619 Lisbon St., Lewiston. FMI: kymnoelle.sposato@maine.edu.

Community event. Noon-3 p.m. Auburn-Lewiston YMCA. Healthy Kids Day. For more information call 795-4095 or see www.alyymca.org

Womens Leadership Circle. 10 a.m. - noon. Shambhala Meditation Center, 19 Mason Street, Brunswick. Sats. through 6/13. FMI: kristen.lombard@gmail.com or 229-4690 or register at www.shambhalabp.org.

Turkey supper. 5-6 p.m. United Methodist Church of Minot. 121 Empire Rd., Minot. \$7 adults; \$4 ages 5-12. 5- free.

Baked Bean Supper. 5 p.m. First Congregational Church, Route 115, Gray. Baked beans, casseroles, salads, homemade breads, desserts and beverages. \$8 adults; \$4 11-under. Handicap accessible. FMI: 657-4279. Day of: 657-3279.

Friday, May 1

15th Annual Downtown Conference. 8 a.m. registration. First Parish Church, 9 Cleveland St., Brunswick. \$75 non-members; \$60 members of Maine Development Foundation, Main Street Maine, or Maine Downtown Network Communities. FMI: 626-3117 or 975-9149. www.mdf.org.

Luncheon. Bag lunches. Staggered times. Calvary United Methodist Church, 59 Sabattus St., Lewiston. Annual lobster roll luncheon. Order early. FMI:

Lucky Dibello 784-3869 or www.calvarylewiston.org. Same day order hotline 212-1551.

Saturday, May 2

May Day Craft Fair. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Lewiston Armory, 65 Central Ave., Lewiston. Presented by the Lewiston Recreation Division. For more information, call 513-3005.

Sunday, May 3

Dedication service: 10 a.m., Christian Community Church of Turner, 425 Turner Center Rd., Turner. FMI: cccofturner@gmail.com.

Benefit. 2-5 p.m. Meals on Wheels/SeniorsPlus. American Legion Hall. 595 Gore Rd., Locke Mills. Live music and snacks. 50/50 raffle. \$10 at door; \$8 in advance. FMI: 1-800-427-1241 or info@seniorsplus.org.

Thursday, May 7

Southern Maine Community College spring open house. 4-6 p.m. Brunswick. SMCC holds open houses every spring and fall at its South Portland Campus and its Midcoast Campus in Brunswick. Learn about academic programs, meet faculty and staff.

Friday, May 15

Plant sale. 3-6 p.m. Androscoggin-Sagadahoc counties Extension Association. UMaine Cooperative Extension Office, 24 Main St., Lisbon Falls. Again Sat., 5/16 from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Proceeds to benefit UMaine

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Woman In Gold (PG-13).....	1:10	3:40	7:20	9:45
Furious 7 (PG-13).....	12:30	3:30	6:45	9:40
.....		1:20	4:20	7:30
Cinderella (PG).....	12:50	3:50	6:50	9:20
Home (PG).....	12:10	2:25		
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Extension outreach programs in the two counties that are supported by ASCEA. FMI: 353-5550 or kymnoelle.sposato@maine.edu.

Sunday, May 17

Hospice House 5k & Remembrance Walk. Central Maine Community College, 1250 Turner St., Auburn. Pres. by Andro. Home Care and Hospice, this event features prizes for best runners, fundraisers in various categories. Reg. \$25 adv., \$30 day-of. 795-9469; www.hhrunwalk.org.

Sunday, June 7

YMCA Fit Fest. 8:30 a.m. Festival Plaza, Auburn. This 5K race kicks off the Greater L-A Triple Crown Series. Cash prizes, raffles, music, refreshments, awards. USA Track & Field-certified. Kids' Fun Run 8:00. \$25 (\$20 in advance). www.triplecrown5k.com.

fied. Kids' Fun Run 8 a.m.. \$25 (\$20 in advance). www.triplecrown5k.com.

Sunday, July 19

Emily's Run. 8:30 a.m. Edward Little H.S., Auburn. This 5K race continues the Greater L-A Triple Crown Series. Cash prizes, raffles, music, refreshments, awards. USA Track & Field-certified. Kids' Fun Run 8 a.m. \$25 (\$20 in advance). www.triplecrown5k.com.

Sunday, August 23

L-A Bridge Run. 8:30 a.m. Festival Plaza, Auburn. This 5K race concludes the Greater L-A Triple Crown Series. Cash prizes, raffles, music, refreshments, awards. USA Track & Field-certified. Kids' Fun Run 8:00. \$25 (\$20 in advance). www.triplecrown5k.com.

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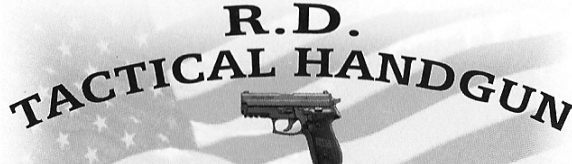


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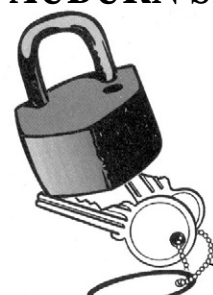
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Russell Park Rehabilitation & Living Center
 158 Russell Street Lewiston, ME 04240
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FILE APPLICATION online at "savageservices/employment" then call Bob at 207-440-2527 to arrange an interview at 123 Rodman Road in Auburn.


What's Going On

Tough Gator Challenge set for May 30

The Geiger Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization announces the 2015 Tough Gator Challenge, an obstacle course and mud run for Lewiston-area elementary school children. This rain-or-shine event is scheduled for Sat., May 30, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Geiger Elementary School,

College Street in Lewiston. Participants will start in waves every 15 minutes throughout the day.

Nearly 500 participants completed the muddy run in the 2014 inaugural event, a brainchild of Geiger parents Mike Courtemanche and Chip Groover who have experienced the



Tough Gators Maysy Bolduc, Cecilia Miller and Emily Fournier pose after completing the challenge in 2014. (Photo by Cindy Lemieux)

“Tough Mudder” events.

“This year’s event will feature a different course route, more challenging

obstacles and more mud,” said Groover. The Tough Gator Challenge is not a timed race, but a challenge



Julia Groover demonstrates extreme muddiness to teacher Brianna Lunn. (Photo by Cindy Lemieux)

that every participant should be proud of finishing.”

The focus of the event is on being active, teamwork, getting muddy and having fun. While the course will be designed for elementary-aged participants, parents are welcome and encouraged to register and run alongside their kids. The first 500 children to finish will receive a congratulatory T-shirt. All finishers will receive the honorary title of “Tough Gator.”

The cost to register is

\$8 per person before May 23 and \$10 per person on the day of the event. The day will include concessions, face painting, a kid zone for the younger set and the ever popular dunk tank. Proceeds will benefit the nonprofit Geiger Elementary School PTO, which supports enrichment and community-building opportunities for Geiger students. Details are available at www.toughgatorchallenge.com or info@toughgatorchallenge.com.

L-A Veterans Council organizes Memorial Day parade

The L-A Veterans Council will organize the Memorial Day parade and ceremony scheduled for Sat., May 23, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Interested parade participants should contact Willie Danforth at 777-4759. For more information about the ceremony, contact Chairman Jerry Dewitt at 576-0376.

The ceremony will include the unveiling of the name stone with 216 names

and the Seabees’ emblem, and a new granite bench in memory of L-A Veteran’s Council founder Jerry Der-Bhogosian.

All veterans, current military and fraternal organizations, military vehicles, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, ROTC Air Force Cadets, young Marines, horseback riders, antique vehicles, patriotic groups and others are invited to register. FMI call Bert Dutil at 786-2305.

History of food preservation at FA Genealogy meeting

Guest speaker John Manoush will make a presentation on the history of food preservation following the Maine Franco-American Genealogy Society’s spring

meeting. The meeting begins at 10 a.m. on Sat., April 18, at the Auburn Public Library, with the presentation at 11 a.m. As an expert on food preservation and president of Manoush Associates, Manoush will combine his interest in history with his training and experience in food science and technology to describe what diets were like before scientific analysis and the Industrial Revolution. He will also present modern methods and explore “future foods.” Event is free. For more information, call 713-5229.

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