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July 27, 2017 • FREE

After Hours hosted by The Fortin Group



The Fortin Group hosted the Lewiston/Auburn Metropolitan Chamber's Business after hours on July 20. Pictured is Roger Theriault, Kevin Simoneau, Roger Bouffard and Mike Martel. (TCT picture by Laurie A. Steele)

Auburn Police to host National Night Out at Festival Plaza



On Tuesday, August 1, Festival Plaza and Main Street will be the scene for the Auburn Police Department's National Night Out against crime. The event, which will begin at 5:30 p.m. and go until dusk, will draw Auburn residents downtown for food, fun, live music, and a family-friendly block party.

This is the 14th year that the Auburn Police Department has hosted National Night Out, which is a free anti-crime public safety event. Department staff and volunteers will serve up hot dogs, beverages, and plenty of family-style fun. There See Night Out, page 6

Community Credit Union supports St. Mary's Food Pantry



Through its participation in the Maine Credit Union League's annual Campaign for Ending Hunger, Community Credit Union recently presented a \$500 donation to St. Mary's Food Pantry of Lewiston. In 2016, St. Mary's Food Pantry distributed 11,510 boxes of food (up nearly 35% over the previous year), providing two-day emergency relief for 30,340 people. Pictured here (l. to r.) are Christina Carter and Ashley Ward of Community Credit Union and Mia Poliquin Pross of St. Mary's Food Pantry.

Maine Quilts hosts 40th anniv. show this weekend

Maine Quilts' 40th anniversary quilt show will take place Thursday through Saturday, July 27 through 29, at the Augusta Civic Center. The event will feature over 750 quilts, a Merchants Mall, demonstra-

tions, lectures, workshops with national teachers, raffles, and a silent auction. Bring your family and enjoy the special exhibits "Red and White Stitched Together" and "Fantastically 40!" Anniversary tote bags

and tees will be available for purchase.

Admission is \$10 per day or \$15 for all three days, with kids under 10 entering for free. For more information, call 216-7358 or see www.mainequilts.org.







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

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Central ME Healthcare names new VP of Strategy and Managed Care

Central Maine Healthcare has named Ryan McKeown as its Vice President of Strategy and Managed Care. He started July 3. McKeown will develop CMHC's strategy to position the system for long-term success as a regional healthcare innovator and patient experience leader. Initially, he'll focus on exploring strategic partnerships and markets, strengthening the system's payer and employer relationships, and developing a vision to reshape how CMHC measures and delivers quality healthcare and value in Central and Western Maine.

A native Mainer, Mc-Keown's healthcare leadership experience began at Martin's Point Health Care, where he was responsible for driving programs and provider partnerships, ultimately achieving Medicare's highest rating for quality and member satisfaction. Most recently he served as Vice President of Strategy and Business Integration for Optum, a subsidiary of UnitedHealth Group. While there, he executed multiple strategic partnerships and investments resulting in new market opportunities and capabilities, driving revenue growth and expanded payer and provider relationships and physician engagement.

"I'm excited to continue my work in healthcare leadership," said McKeown. "Central Maine Healthcare has been providing high-quality healthcare in Central and Western Maine for more than 125 years, and I'm looking forward to creating strategies that

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Ryan McKeown

will allow CMHC to serve this region for another 125 years." McKeown, his wife Lynne, an elementary school teacher, and their two dogs return home to Maine from Nashville, Tennessee.

Central Maine Health-

care is an integrated healthcare delivery system serving 400,000 people living in Central, Western, and Mid-Coast Maine. CMH's hospital facilities include Central Maine Medical Center in Lewiston, Bridgton Hospital, and Rumford Hospital. CMHC also supports primary and specialty care practices throughout the region. Other system services include the Central Maine Heart and Vascular Institute, a regional trauma program, LifeFlight of Maine's southern Maine base, the Central Maine Comprehensive Cancer Center, and other high quality clinical services.

L-A Rotary Club welcomes new president



Outgoing club president Monique Roy (l.) ceremoniously passes the baton to incoming club president Monica Millhime at a recent lunch meeting of the L-A Rotary Club. Members of District 7790 thanked Roy for her year of Service Above Self and welcomed Millhime, who shared her vision for the club's next year. For more information about the club, including a complete listing of projects, guest speakers and meeting dates, call 713-7045 or see www.lewistonauburnrotary.org. (Photo courtesy of Betsy Sibley)

Museum L-A introduces new staff



New staff members at Museum L-A include (l. to r.) Emma Sieh, Collections and Exhibits Coordinator; Kate Webber, Director of Education and Outreach; Kathy Becvar, Director of Development; and Robert Caron, Visitor Services and Volunteer Coordinator.

Museum L-A has announced the addition of several new employees.

Kathy Becvar, the Museum's new full-time Director of Development, previously worked as the Director of Development for Central Maine Healthcare Corporation, overseeing fundraising for Central Maine Medical Center, Bridgton Hospital and Rumford Hospital. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Leadership and Organizational Studies with concentrations in human resources, employee training and development and computer technology. She will provide leadership and management to advance the fundraising of the Museum. In addition, she will oversee all marketing and public relations

Emma Sieh is the Museum's new part-time Collections and Exhibits Coordinator. She started her career as a collections volunteer at the Heritage Flight Museum in Washington State. She was then asked by their Director of Programs to become their official Collections Manager, working to help maintain and update collection spaces and policies as well as creating and redesigning exhibits and displays. She graduated with a B.A. in Anthropology in 2014 and recently received her M.A. in Museum Studies with a focus on collections and exhibition development from Southern University at New Orleans. She will provide collections management expertise, help to coordinate, plan, and curate future exhibitions, and chair several committees within the organization.

Kate Webber will serve as the Museum's full-time Director of Education and Outreach. As a student at Bates College, she collaborated with Museum L-A to plan an outreach event. She graduated with a B.A. in Anthropology in 2011. After two years as an Island Institute AmeriCorps Fellow with the Swan's Island Historical Society, she authored "Swan's Island Chronicles:

Borrowed, Exaggerated, and Half-Forgotten Tales of Island Life." She most recently worked as Communications and Development Assistant at the Maine Humanities Council. In 2017, she received her M.A. in Museum Studies from the Cooperstown Graduate Program. She will serve as Museum L-A's chief programming strategist and will develop partnerships with schools and community organizations to expand the museum's role as a resource to Lewiston-Auburn.

In a related change, Robert Caron is moving from his current role as Project Coordinator to a new role as part-time Visitor Services and Volunteer Coordinator. He has been with the Museum for two years and offers experience in a variety of areas, including human resources, employee training and development, and data collection and analysis. He has a Bachelor's Degree in History from the University of Maine at Farmington and a Master's Degree in Human Resources from Thomas College. He is responsible for all aspects of Visitor Services, including the development of new programs and the coordination of tours and volunteer services.

"We are extremely pleased and excited to have three highly qualified staff joining Museum L-A, says **Executive Director Rachel** Desgrossielliers. "These individuals bring additional resources, including experience... that is crucial to bringing us to the next level of who we want to be as an organization. Our community can expect to see many changes over the next several months and beyond."

Museum L-A is currently located in the Bates Mill Complex at 35 Canal Street in Lewiston. It is open Tuesdays through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and by appointment. For more information, call 333-3881 or email rachel@ museumla.org.

Rinck moves headquarters, increases staff in response to growing business

staff to its year-old office in

Rinck recently moved its headquarters into the newly renovated former accommodate a growing staff of nearly 40 full-time, Maine-based employees. The agency has also added

NALINED LYSE TESTING

Annapolis, Maryland. The new Lewiston W.T. Grant department store office features open work to the U.K., Italy, Spain, and in downtown Lewiston to spaces with sit-to-stand India, we're very fortunate

desks, break-out meeting and conference rooms (each featuring a creative theme developed and voted on by the staff), as well as a full Test Kitchen, Content Studio, and Sound Studio, allowing the team to manage in-house production for the growing number of food and consumer packaged goods clients the agency serves.

"From around the U.S. to have a diverse group of food brands that we work with," said agency President Laura Rinck. "Being able to bring these products to life in our own kitchen is an asset, and everyone is happy when we get to taste the results."

See Rinck, page 6



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Governor's Address: Now is the time to invest in Maine's future

After years of fixing Maine's balance sheet, now is the time to make investments in our economy.

Dear Maine Taxpayer,

During this past session, I supported three initiatives that focused on using bonds to invest in Maine families and our future: transportation; commercialization; and education.

Investing into our transportation system to maintain Maine's infrastructure is critical. Our economy relies on transportation, and we must ensure our roads, bridges and ports are accessible, safe and reliable to transport goods to consumers.

The Department of Transportation has proven they can do it in a frugal, fiscally responsible way. In my budget proposal, I provided options to free up funding for the highway fund, but the legislature rejected these proposals and spent those funds on other things. That's why I support a \$100 million bond and encourage the Legislature to do the same.

Commercialization has not been the focus of our state's bond sales. Instead, Maine has supported research-and-development bonds under the belief it will create jobs. This is only partly true.

While research and development is needed and Maine has spent tens of millions on it—the product that is created must go to market. Developing a patent that sits on a shelf is not a



Governor Paul R. LePage

good return on investment for the Maine taxpayers.

That's when commercialization becomes very important. Maine has innovative entrepreneurs who create a vast array of products. If we invest in commercialization like we do in research, we could

During the recent

Chamber of Commerce

Merger Forum, I was happy

that merger opponent Jim

Howaniec recognized the

downtown progress many

local developers have made.

I also value Mr. Howaniec

and his downtown practice.

He implied that investments

in this area were forward-

thinking and visionary; I

what I and many others

believe will improve Lewis-

ton-Auburn government.

There is no question in my

mind that we would be much

more successful with a joint

economic development ef-

fort, along with the many

A visionary effort is

agree wholeheartedly.

have even more products and services on the market.

It's why I support a commercialization bond for \$50, and I encourage the Legislature to do the same.

Finally, we must do something transformative to attract young people to our workforce. Maine is an aging state. We are the oldest state in the nation with a media age of 44 years old—and we are getting older. The national average is about 35

For companies looking to locate or grow in Maine, we need to attract skilled workers such as scientists, engineers and technology professionals to live and work here. Otherwise, we will see our businesses leave. And as our population continues to age,

we will need to attract more doctors, nurses and medical professionals to serve our healthcare needs.

Enabling our employers to offer meaningful loan repayment as part of a recruiting package will give Maine companies a competitive advantage in attracting the young, skilled talent that we so desperately need. I believe a first-in-thenation effort to help young professionals repay their student loans on an accelerated basis will put Maine on the map and succeed in attracting young people.

The Education Opportunity tax credit has been too complicated and too small to make a difference. Our situation is serious, and we cannot afford to nibble around the edges.

I support a \$100 million bond that would enable young people who work in Maine to pay off their student loans over 5 to 7 years, provided they choose to live and work in Maine.

We have an opportunity to support bonds that will transform the Maine economy and build a platform for success.

If others disagree with my proposals, I ask them this: how do you propose we attract younger people and strengthen Maine's economy? Politicians in Augusta must stop thinking about the next election, and start focusing on our next generation.

> Thank You, Paul R. LePage Governor

Op-Ed

Lewiston-Auburn unification will result in lower, not higher, taxes

By Gabrielle Russell

ONE LA CAMPAIGN

Unifying Lewiston and Auburn would make us a leader in this state and nationwide

Prior to the Joint Charter Commission, there have been three previous commissions tasked with looking at consolidation of municipal functions. Each effort found efficiencies and savings, but city councils did not move forward with the change.

This time the process is more grassroots, collecting the signatures of over 2,000 residents from Auburn and Lewiston to form the Joint Charter Commission. The next step is to let the voters of our communities shape our future by casting their vote, which is expected to be on the ballot in November.

The opposition frequently cites city mergers where taxes and municipal staff have increased. Why

might that be? Naturally, prices rise over time and cities with increasing population need increased city staff to serve them. The unification of Lewiston-Auburn will lower taxes in the near term and over time will certainly save millions of dollars over what we would have paid.

The claim there will be massive city layoffs defies logic. As the JCC researched through the staff and citizen work groups, most staff changes will be in upper management where duplication can be eliminated. Will we have less children to teach? Or less miles of road to plow? No.

Most other changes will likely occur through attrition and normal turnover during the 24-month transition period. Many city staffers retire each year within both communities, and a casual browsing of cities job posting reveals dozens of open positions.

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other recommendations referenced in the report.

Cooperation between Lewiston and Auburn governments is dwindling or non -existent. Recent examples of this are the withdrawal of support for L/A Arts and the Economic Growth Council. We must leave behind the petty disagreements of the recent past and establish a new path where common goals, positive communication and a new robust community vision lead to great achievements.

As two cities, we have made lots of progress since the mills and economic decline, but much more can be done. In our current state, I believe we are severely underestimating our own potential to reach higher levels of efficiency, ease of access and sustainability.

I have heard from many people who have an outside perspective that the appearance of Auburn and Lewiston is that we do not work together cohesively or effectively; for example, as an architect, I often see there is a substantial difference between Lewiston and Auburn in the planning, development and building-permit application processes. This leads to confusion and deters investment and progress.

As citizens of Auburn and Lewiston, we have to bolster our past success, set the best vision we can conceive and work hard to achieve the tremendous success we are capable of.

With the right attitude, hard work, innovative thinking and collaboration, reestablishing Lewiston-Auburn as a robust, thriving community that attracts new business, jobs, people and activities is attainable and most achievable through unification.

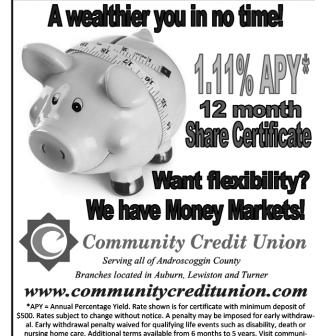
Gabrielle Russell is the co-manager of the One LA Campaign. She is a Maine Licensed Architect, a Lewiston resident and property owner.



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COLAC releases impact study of proposed merger of Auburn and Lewiston

COLAC, the grassroots organization that is leading the opposition in Lewiston and Auburn to the proposed consolidation of both cities, has released a list of the many impacts it says the local residents will experience as the result of a consolidation proposed by the Joint Charter Commission of Lewiston and Auburn.

'We have analyzed all of the documents submitted to the city councils of both cities," said C.O.L.A.C. Chairman Jim Howaniec, former mayor of Lewiston.

"We see many troubling, expensive impacts that we believe the voters should understand before voting this November.'

The Impact Study has been published on CO-LAC's website at www. colacmaine.org/impactstudy.html

According to CO-LAC, here are the impacts, to name a few, that residents can expect to have to deal with in a consolidation:

A Storm Water Fee, commonly known as a "rain tax," now assessed in

Lewiston, is likely planned by the Joint Charter Commission for Auburn residences and businesses, including not-for-profits.

City-wide revaluation in Lewiston will have to be accomplished to get Lewiston property values up to 100%, as Auburn is already at 101%. Lewiston is in the low 80% range, according to sources.

Property tax shift to Lewiston residential homeowners as the result of the revaluation is likely as residential properties are commonly hit harder in a revaluation than businesses

Potential for layoffs, not only at the senior administrative level, but also in the rank and file, will likely occur in a quest for savings.

Auburn taxpayers will likely pay nearly half of combined cities expenses but have only two-thirds the residents as Lewiston, as Auburn's taxable valuation is almost equal to Lewiston's.

Transition costs into the millions, including union cost leveling, are likely. These transition costs would not be one time, but would be recurring as wages will increase with new base levels ne-

No meaningful cost savings can be proven by time of vote because a future city council and voting mayor will have total budgetary powers.

New public safety building for larger centralized operation will likely be needed with debt incurred to build.

Auburn Hall most likely will not be large enough to house city hall departments under one roof as the Joint Charter Commission has deemed appropriate. A brand-new city hall with parking, will likely cost in the \$30 million range.

Storm water separation is still to completed in Lewiston, requiring investment in the millions.

Canal maintenance costs are inevitable as the canals approach 150 years in operation.

Auburn taxpayers would assume all Bates Mill obligations, which are now the liability of just Lewiston taxpayers, such as unbuilt parking garages. There are three more parking garages to be built at a cost upwards of \$40 million from some estimates

Every person, business and non-profit in both cities would have to provide for its new address on wherever the city identification appears. In the case of duplicate street or avenue names, the address change may impact street number and street name, as well as city name.

Residents in either city do not know what obligations the other city



November 2017 and January 2020. Such obligations can be incurred at any time after the vote and before the Consolidation Date, recommended by JCC at January 2, 2020.

Auburn Fire and Rescue service would change and return to United Ambulance (or other ambulance provider) for transport of patients.

Letterhead changes will be needed for stationary and billing forms as city addresses will change.

Return addresses on outside of letters and billing envelopes will change.

Website modifications will be needed to reflect the name of the new city name on the address

There are plans to build a new central fire station and three fire sub-stations in Lewiston with an estimated cost of \$20 million. If the new structures are bonded after January 2020, Auburn taxpayers will help pay off the loan.

Due to a large number of citizens not in favor of the merger, a divisive environment is developing as the campaign heats up.

After the merger date. Auburn citizens/taxpayers will be responsible for any obligations entered into by Lewiston city government, and Lewiston citizens/taxpayers will be responsible for obligations entered into by Auburn city government. Unless disclosed to the voters, these obligations will be assented to blindly in the voting booth by the voters who vote "Yes."

While Auburn and Lewiston would turn inward to sort out how to organize the new merged city, other Maine cities continue to look outward for new economic development.

For more information on COLAC, see www. colacmaine.org/impactstudy.html.



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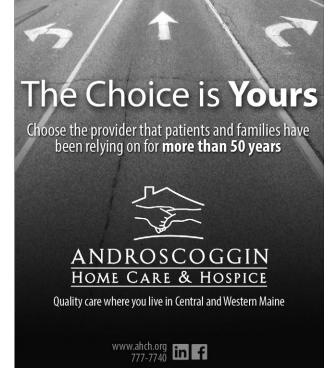
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Enough is Enough

Project that would benefit seniors falls prey to "NIMBY"

By Robert E. Macdonald
Mayor of Lewiston

A week ago last Tuesday was a sad day in our quest to move Lewiston forward economically. The Lewiston City Council killed the type of development that has never materialized during the five-and-a-half years I have served as mayor.

This was a project by a private developer that did not ask for any federal, state or local tax money. Any and all costs were coming out of the developer's pocket. Unlike many other developments throughout the city, whose purpose is the bottom line, Louis Ouellette's objective was to provide quality apartments for his mother-in-law and some of her friends.

These tenants would have been seniors that were widowed or couples that

realize the home in which they raised their families had outgrown them, necessitating them to downsize. This is due in part to their decreased ability to maintain their current homes.

This development would have set Lewiston on a path of fulfilling what AARP and Forbes Magazine have touted about Lewiston—it's a great place to retire. The successful completion of this project would have helped silence local critics whose attitudes reflect and add reinforcement to our city's derogatory moniker, "The Dirty Lew." This was to be a development for people who could be characterized as financially sound.

This is similar to what I wrote in a previous column about finding a location for a new high school in



Mayor Bob Macdonald

Lowell, Massachusetts, to replace the current high school, which was close to 100-years-old, when a cry arose from the neighborhood. It was a very loud cry used to kill many needed economic projects: NIMBY —"not in my backyard."

I thank these neighbors for appointing one person to read their complaints during

this hearing. Listening to this litany, while I found some complaints legitimate, the bulk of the complaints were a stretch, reminding me of Chicken Little running around yelling "the sky is falling."

Examples were: cars broken into overnight in a neighborhood several blocks away; a traffic accident on one of the streets bordering the development; and the shooting at an apartment building on East Avenue. After listening to the presentation, I wondered if we were talking about a senior housing development or a hideout for the Over the Hill Gang?

In a 3-4 vote, the development was killed.

I compliment the Lewiston Planning Board and city staff for the many hours they spent on this project. These hours were spent to ensure the project was neighborhood friendly, with staff dotting all the I's and crossing the T's before presenting the city council with a favorable recommendation. But, alas, NIMBY prevailed.

Prior to discussing the agenda items at every meeting, a public comment period is held. At this time, members of the public may speak about any city issues not on the agenda. Each person is allowed up to 15 minutes to speak.

During my time as mayor, anyone who wants to speak is allowed. This becomes galling when a person uses the time to promote themselves as a "champion of the poor."

This happened last Tuesday when a person who had been told the day before that the city pool was now free to all city kids, spent 14 minutes to plead the pool should be free to inner-city children.

The meeting lasted until 11 p.m. I encourage anyone that if they want to be heard on a legitimate item, please come to speak. If you are coming to promote yourself as some type of social champion, please consider those who have given up their personal time to address the city council on issues very important to them.

City staff, city councilors and those waiting to speak on the public agenda had to work the next morning. It was selfish to add time to the meeting. I would suggest that instead of people using city airtime to promote themselves, I think it would be better for all if they purchased time on cable.

City recognized for downtown sidewalks project



The award was presented by the Northern New England Concrete Promotion Association.

The City of Lewiston has received the 2016 Excellence in Concrete Award for Architectural Concrete from the Northern New England Concrete Promotion Association in recognition of its newly installed colored concrete sidewalks on Lisbon Street.

The project replaced failing concrete pavers with a cast-in-place colored con-

crete pattern with brick inlay and paver edging. The sidewalks were completed as part of a larger enhancement project that included repaving the street, lighting upgrades, ADA upgrades, and signal improvements to the downtown. The project was designed by the city as part of the Maine Department of Transportation's Locally Adwith the majority of the project being funded by the Federal Highway Administration.

"This award was a pleasant surprise for the city to receive," said Director of Public Works Dave Jones. "The Lisbon Street project is one we are very proud of, and it is rewarding for others to recognize all that went into making it a success."

The project was nominated for the award by Mike and Tim Mercier of concrete sub-contractor Sundown Construction. The project contractor was J Pratt Construction and the project engineer was Lewiston's Ryan Barnes, P.E.

The Northern New England Concrete Promotion Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion, improvement, and growth of the ready-mixed concrete industry in Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont. Since 1987, the Association has worked diligently to represent the concrete industry through ongoing training and education, promotion, safety concerns, and long-range planning efforts.

Museum L-A expands hours

In response to an increase in the number of visitors, including bus tours and large groups, Museum L-A has expanded its hours of operation. The museum's new open hours are Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Special and large group tours outside of

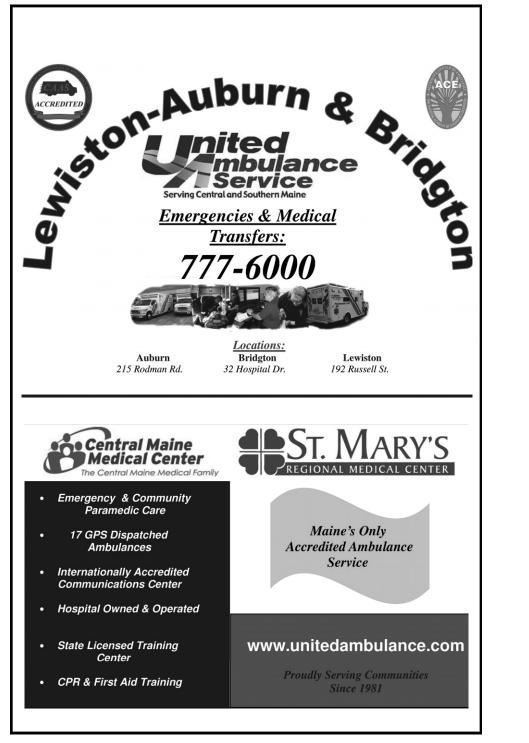
these hours are available by appointment.

Museum L-A's mission is to connect generations, strengthen community, and foster creativity, discovery, and innovative thinking by chronicling the history of work, industry and community in Lewiston and Auburn; serving as a community

gathering place; creating engaging learning experiences; and contributing to the civic, cultural, and economic revitalization of the community.

The museum is located in the Bates Mill Complex at 35 Canal Street in Lewiston. For more information, call 333-3881 or email info@museumla.org.





What's Going On

Grand Opening today at Aroma Joe's in Auburn

Aroma Joe's Coffee will celebrate its Grand Opening at 166 Center Street in Auburn on Thursday, July 27 from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. The event will feature free 16 oz. iced and hot coffees all day, free samples, and significant discounts on other drinks. An official Grand Opening ribbon cutting ceremony will take place at 11 a.m., with local civic and business leaders in attendance. The ceremony is also open to members of the public.

"We are very excited to celebrate our official Grand Opening!" said Tulio DeAlmeida, owner of Aroma Joe's Auburn. "The Lewiston-Auburn area has been very supportive of our new coffee house, and now



After opening this spring at 166 Center Street, Aroma Joe's official Grand Opening celebration will feature free 16 oz. coffees, samples, and discounts.

that the building renovations are fully complete, we felt the time was right to have this fun celebration. I'm looking forward to seeing all our customers and lots of new faces on July 27."

Aroma Joe's Coffee in

Auburn opened this spring and is one of the few Aroma Joe's franchises that has indoor seating for customers. For More information, stop in at 166 Center Street, call 241-7038, or see AromaJoes.com.

L-A Rotary to welcome guest speaker Chip Morrison

The guest speaker at the next meeting of the Lewiston-Auburn Rotary Club on Thursday, August 3 at noon will be Chip Morrison. The event will take place at the Village Inn at 165 High Street in Auburn. Guests are welcome and reservations are not required. Lunch will be available for \$14.

In June of 2015, Chip Morrison retired as President of the Androscoggin County Chamber of Commerce, a position he held since the fall of 1995. In August of 2015, he became a member of the Business and Government Services team at Androscoggin Bank, and continues to conduct part-time consulting for local organizations. Two summers ago, he served as the interim executive director for the Maine Make-A-Wish Foundation.



Morrison has kept busy since retiring as President of the Androscoggin County Chamber of Commerce in

Prior to joining the chamber, Morrison served as the City Manager of Auburn and as Commissioner of the Maine Departments of Administration and Labor. He has a bachelor's degree from Carleton College and a master's degree in public administration from the University of Michigan. Over the course of his career, Morrison has won several honors, including State of Maine Public Administrator of the Year, Auburn Citizen of the Year, Maine Chamber Executive of the Year, MaineBiz Nonprofit CEO of the Year, and the Ken Curtis Leadership Award from the Maine Development Foundation.

Morrison is a resident of Auburn, where he lives with his wife, Jane. They have two grown children, Beth and Brett, who graduated from Edward Little High School, went on to college and graduate school, and are now enjoying successful careers in the arts and medicine

For information on future Rotary speakers, contact Club President and Program Chair Monica Millhime at 753-9040 or see www.lewistonauburnrotary.org.

Court St. Baptist Church offers Vacation Bible School

Court Street Baptist Church at 129 Court Street in Auburn will offer Vacation Bible School Monday through Friday, August 7 through 11, when children will meet in the vestry from 9 a.m. until noon each day for lessons on the theme "Big Heart Farms: Where God's Fruit Grows." Centering on Galatians 5:16-26, the ways of spiritual growth,

Night OutContinued from page 1

will be police equipment on display, and the Auburn Fire Department and other community partners will be on hand. Other highlights will include popcorn from an Auburn treasure, the Marshall Popcorn Truck; face painting; games and activities; a bounce house; and an inflatable "boot camp" obstacle course. Volunteers will provide child ID kits, balloons and lots of giveaways. Live music will create a fun and festive atmosphere.

This year, kids who attend will have the chance to take on Mayor Jonathan LaBonté and Auburn native and professional basketball star Trov Barnies in a basketball shooting contest.

"This community is so supportive of our agency," said Auburn Police Chief Phil Crowell. "We really enjoy getting everyone together each year to show the unbreakable police-community partnership that flourishes here in Auburn. When we stand, side-by-side, to push back the darkness of crime, our community is stronger and safer. This is community policing at its

For 34 years, NNO has been America's annual night out against crime. It is a unique crime and drug prevention event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch. While Auburn residents spend Tuesday evening celebrating in lessons will show the benefits of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Free and open to children ages 3 through grade 6, the program will also include games, crafts, songs, and snacks. For more information, call 784-6661. To pre-register, see www. courtstreetbaptist.org.

Festival Plaza, communities across America will be doing the same. More than 16,000 communities from all 50 states - almost 38 million people in all - participate in National Night Out each year. For more information on Auburn's National Night Out, contact Liz Allen at 333-6650, ext. 2070 or LAllen@Auburn-Maine.gov.

Rinck

Continued from page 2

The Lewiston office also has an exercise room and a stage with stadium seating used for internal staff meetings and community events, including the Emerge Film Festival and the L/A Arts Artwalk. The office furnishings and décor pay homage to the classic "Mad Men" era, featuring mid-century modern-inspired design and a bold color palette.

"We needed and wanted a space that not only accounted for the way people work best and fosters collaboration, but one that invites creativity and reflects the energy we bring to our work," said Karly Eretzian, the agency's Vice President for Creative Services and project director for the office remodel. Rinck worked with Foreside Architects, Hebert Construction, and Creative Office Pavilion to complete the project.

Most of the Rinck staff works out of the new Lisbon Street location, with roughly

a dozen new employees having joined the agency over the past 18 months. These hires have added capacity in each department, including creative and web development, digital and social media, public relations and account service. The most recent hires include two account executives and an administrative professional based in Maine.

Brock Naylor, Andrea LaBonte, Carolyn Kennison have joined the Lewiston office. Brock Naylor, a graduate of Butler University, was most recently a marketing and creative media coordinator at Thomas P. Miller & Associates in Indianapolis. Prior to that, he worked as a marketing assistant at Encore Sotheby's International Realty and had an early start in the field as a Rinck intern prior to his college career.

Andrea LaBonte worked as the marketing communications coordinator at Johnny's Selected Seeds and held several positions at Geiger Bros. that culminated in her role as a business development manager. She has a bachelor's degree from St. Lawrence University.

Carolyn Kennison comes to Rinck from Bates College, where she was an administrative assistant in the Office of Accessible **Education-Student Affairs** and held previous positions as office manager and as an educator for childhood and family development and support. She graduated from Endicott College.

The new hires support a growing list of clients, both domestic and international, for the agency. Recent client additions include Bangor Savings Bank, Maine State Housing Authority, FoodScience, Kitchens of India, Unilever, Howard County Community College, Maine's Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, and the Portland Harbor Hotel.

"We're been very fortunate," noted Peter Rinck, CEO. "We have concentrated See Rinck, page 7

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St. Mary's partners with Lewiston, Auburn **Adult Ed to offer CNA training**



CNA students pose for a selfie outside Lewiston High School in 2016.

If you're interested in becoming a Certified Nursing Assistant, you have two local options available to you beginning next month, when Auburn Adult and Community Education's Earn While You Learn program and Lewiston Adult Education's Ready to Work

program will partner with St. Mary's Health System to offer CNA training in August.

CNA students will complete 180 hours of classroom instruction and labs and 70 hours of clinical work at St. Mary's. After completing the training, students will need to pass the state exam

to be eligible for state certification. For more information about the program, contact Auburn Adult and Community Education at 333-6661 or Lewiston Adult Education at 795-4141. To apply for either program, call 777-8781 or see stmarysmaine.

St. Dom's students visit State House



Students from Elaine Trytek's fourth grade class at St. Dom's Academy in Lewiston visited the Maine State House recently. During their visit, they learned about some of Maine's historic figures and the path a bill must take to become a law. They are pictured here with State Senator Eric Brakey (R-Androscoggin), who represents the City of Auburn.

Rinck

Continued from page 6

on clients that require integrated marketing approaches that combine traditional, digital, social, public relations, promotions, events and strategic planning. Our emphasis from day one on strategic, data-driven campaigns aligns with the data-rich media environment we operate in. This allows us to meet the business needs of our clients and deliver results. Our continual focus on recruiting and retaining outstanding professionals in Maine and now in Maryland enables us to expand our capacity and meet the needs of our growing client portfolio."

Now in its 16th year of business, Rinck is a fullservice marketing agency located in Lewiston. Maine and Annapolis, Maryland specializing in Dynamic Integration. The firm offers management and creative services in brand building, logo and identity packages, web strategy and development, and advertising and public relations campaigns to a range of local, regional, national, and international clients

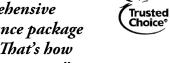
For more information. call 755-9470 or visit www. rinckadvertising.com.

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What's Going On

Litchfield Sportsmen's Club hosts Country Fest Maine

Country Fest Maine 2017 will take place, rain or shine, on Friday and Saturday, August 4 and 5, inside the air-conditioned Litchfield Sportsmen's Club at 2261 Hallowell Road in Litchfield. Friday night will feature a public supper from 5 to 6 p.m. followed by a music jam from 6 to 9 p.m. Come enjoy beans, hot dogs, casseroles, and desserts for supper and then toe-tapping Road Band, Jack Duggins,

music for the rest of the night. All musicians are welcome. The price of \$7 per person includes the supper and music.

Saturday will feature non-stop live country music from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. by some of Maine's top musicians, including Gary Leet & the Country Drifters, Rachel Landry, Brian Plato, the Down the Dirt

the Lost & Found Band. Dona Whittemore, Bob Heller & BJ Cross, Dennis Moro, and the Off the Hill Band. Concessions will be available. Admission is \$8 per person, with kids under 12 entering free of charge. Come over for the day or just a few hours. The club has plenty of free parking and is wheelchair accessible. For more information, call 409-1321.

Grandfather Tang's Story Bag



Auburn Public Library invites children and their adult caregivers to come enjoy "Grandfather Tang's Story," by Ann Tompert, with illustrations by Robert Andrew Parker, on Friday, July 28 at 10 a.m. in the library's Maggie Trafton Room. Following the story, Cindy Petherbridge will lead participants in re-creating the tangram animals in the story. Then, using fusible fabric, participants may create one of the animals (or their own design) to iron onto a canvas bag that they may take home. To register, call the library at 333-6640, ext. 3 or see www.auburnpubliclibrary.org.



Out & About with Rachel Morin

At the Maine-ly Jewish Story-telling Festival



Rabbi Simeon Maslin, Rebbetzin Lisa Mayer, Antonio Rocha, Judy Blumberg Maslin, Rabbi Sruli Dresdner



Dr. Ellen Frankel



Jennifer Armstrong of Belfast

Story and photos by Rachel Morin

I was looking forward to attending The Third Annual Maine-ly Jewish Story-telling Festival at the Auburn Public Library on July 13 as I remembered so well the second annual festival held at Temple Shalom last summer. What a wonderful and fun time that day was, seeing so many friends from the library, senior college, the theaters and the Synagogue as well.

The APL Great Reading Room made a comfortable and attractive setting for the storytellers who gathered from near and far to tell their tales. We heard humorous stories about neighborhood life, personal tidbits and anecdotes, readings from a recently published novel, nostalgic memories, biblical stories, a dramatic poetry reading and two animated presentations involving the

I found it amazing that Rebbetzin Lisa Mayer, the



Bertha Bodenheimer, Elinor Goldblatt, Joel Goodman, Estelle Rubinstein

Event Coordinator, was able to rein in these remarkable, noted storytellers from all over, willing to travel to the Lewiston-Auburn area for an evening of presentations.

The room filled quickly. Some early arrivals took advantage of the library's well stocked newspapers and magazines racks to read while waiting for the Storytellers to begin.

Meanwhile, Lisa Mayer was busily setting up the dessert buffet table in an adjacent room for folks to enjoy at the evening's end. She told me she had made the desserts herself, brownies and two kinds of Jewish pastries, one featuring cherries and the other chocolate chips.

Martin Gagnon, Adult Services Manager at APL, assisted in the event and said how pleased the library was to host the Maine-ly Jewish Storytelling Festival.

The storytelling was about to begin as Rebbetzin Mayer took to the podium to welcome the arrivals. She, herself, is an award winning writer and performer. Following her presentation, she introduced each storyteller in the program.

Dr. Ellen Frankel, an author, editor and former head of the Jewish Publication Society of Philadelphia, has recently completed a composition of an opera.

Phyllis Graber Jensen, director of photography and video at Bates College communications office, is a film maker and writer. She comes from the Kew Gardens in New York City, the same neighborhood that Temple Shalom Rabbi Sruli Dresdner grew

Judy Blumberg Maslin, a published author, told us about her adventures in congregations from Cincinnati to Chicago, Philadelphia to Curacao, from her book "Rabbi and Judy."

Rabbi Simeon Maslin read from his new work, "Uncle Sol's Women," a Jewish family saga of love and tenderness. He and his wife, Judy, are from See Festival, page 9



Cam and Edy Churchill



Phyllis Graber Jensen



Nancy and Bill Bartley





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the entertainment, the show

features fine arts and crafts exhibits, activities for all

ages, and concessions. For more information, see www. mooreparkartshow.biz.

entertainment roster at 11:30 a.m. will be "On the Go!", an

original production created

by Celebration Barn Theater

that combines comedy, phys-

ical theater, and vaudeville

in an exciting celebration of

creativity and imagination.

Celebration Barn Theater is

an immersive physical the-

ater center in South Paris that draws artists from around the

world seeking to train and

create original new works of

the day with a ceremonial

call to the four directions at 9

a.m., then the Muffin Tops will

perform music for children,

accompanied by the athletic

and creative dancers of the

Nevaeh Dance Company, from

Sarah Nobles will open

physical theater.

Headlining the day's

Moore Park Art Show offers day of live entertainment



Performers Kiarra Donnelly, Rachel Reznik, Khalil LeSaldo, and Jess Bryant of Celebration Barn Theater will present the original production "On the Go!" at 11 a.m.

A full day of live performances awaits you at the 8th annual Moore Park Art Show on Sunday, July 30 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (rain date Sunday, August 6). Presented by the Town

Festival

Philadelphia and summer in

from Hebron, gave a dra-

matic reading of a poem

taken from a collection of

Belfast, folklorist and folk-

singer, well known in venues

throughout Maine is also

Mark Swiedom, poet

Jennifer Armstrong of

Continued from page 8

Harpswell.

poems he wrote.

of Paris Parks and Recreation, the Moore Park Art Show takes place each year on the last Sunday in July in Moore Park, located on Route 26 in downtown South Paris. In addition to

known in musical circles as Jen Wren. She led the audience in singing "One Step at a Time." Her parents are also folklorists and folksingers.

The finale came with Antonio Rocha, international storyteller, originally from Brazil, who blends exquisite mime with verbal language, realistic sound effects and lessons for all ages. Rocha had always heard the old adage "Life begins at 40." When he turned 40, he set out to prove it by climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro, the highest mountain in Africa.

Rocha's dramatic

demonstration of his entire Mt. Kilimanjaro trek, from beginning to end, and his later African Safari trip, was performed in mime with sound effects and intricate movements and partly done vocally as well, with great energy. It was hilarious and brought down the house. It was a fitting ending to The Third Annual Maine-ly Jewish Storytellers Festival.

What's Going On

9:15 to 10 a.m.

At 11 a.m., published children's novelist and poet Andrew Scott Turner will recite original work from the stage in the gazebo. Turner has recently released a new collection of poems called "The Girl Who Loved Dorothy the Most." He also recently released the second edition of his young adult novel, "Surfacing," which will be available for purchase. When he's not writing, he teaches English and history at Poland Spring Academy in Poland and is active in local community theater as an actor and director.

Performing during the noon hour will be the popular duo Jus Tus Two. Jo Plummer and her partner Bob Gauthier have been performing at the Moore Park Art Show each year since its inception in 2010, singing old classics and new favorites.

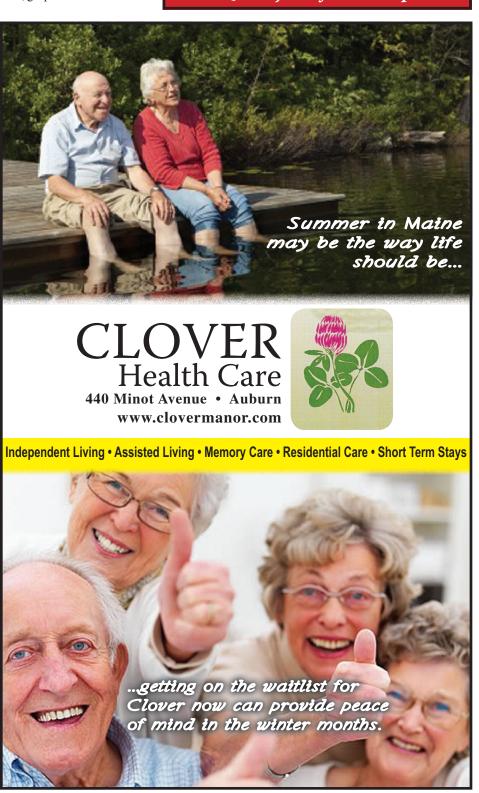
Dancer Debi Irons will perform at 1 p.m., followed by the music duo Truce at 2 p.m. When not performing as part of the Muffin Tops, Steven Moore and Shellie Leger are an acoustic duo who play traditional country, roots, Americana, gospel and folk at venues throughout western Maine. Both formerly members of the Boston band Attention Shoppers, the couple, known for their harmony singing and eclectic repertoire, relocated to West Paris in 2013.

Closing out the show at 3 p.m. will be Western Maine's own Youngerbloods. When dynamic vocalist "Mama" Meg met Melvin Gradiz, a blues guitarist fresh from New

Orleans, sparks flew and a soul revival began. While starting a family together, the duo began writing original music rooted in jazz and blues while re-interpreting 1960's-era hits of such legends as James Brown, Otis Redding, and the Beatles. The band has since expanded to feature the talents of Marcus Kapp, Ana Seifridsberger, and Bruce Couillard on tenor saxophone.







TWIN I GITY CITY SEE Entertainment

Public Theatre's summer program for teens to stage "How to Act Like a Child"



Ranging in age from 11 to 16, participants in this year's program are (l. to r., from front) Easton Dundore, Delaney Jacobson, Amy Fryda, Ashley DeSchamp, Alyssa Siggins, Abigail Dundore, Paige Gagnon, Elia Morgan, Autumn Tracey, Ayden Timberlake, Bobby Kane, Jacob DeMerchant, and Calvin Dundore.

The Public Theatre's Professional Theatre Training Program for Teens will present "How to Act Like a Child: Lessons in NOT Being a Grown-up," a compilation of hip and entertaining stories inspired by children's book author Shel Silverstein and others, on Friday, July 28 at 6 p.m. Also included in the performance will be several songs spotlighting the vocal skills the students are learning.

Featuring an auditioned group of 13 students ranging in age from 11 to 16, participants in the program have been hard at work the

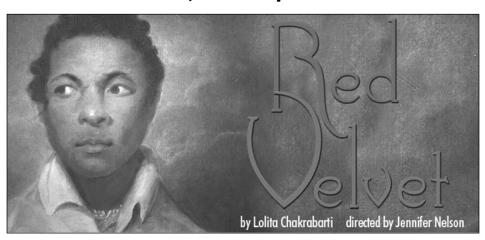
past three weeks taking daily classes in the fundamentals of acting, singing, voice and speech, and stage combat. The Public Theatre's intensive summer program is a unique alternative to other "drama camps" in that it is taught exclusively by theatre professionals able to offer professional-level insights and standards.

"Instead of having the single focus be putting on a play, we put our focus on developing the skills needed to begin to create truthful life on stage," says Public Theatre Co-Artistic Director Janet Mitchko. "Our goal is

to build each student's skills in concentration, talking, and listening, and to teach them to think about themselves and acting in a new way. Although we do finish the session with a short performance piece, the goal of the piece is to showcase the skills they are learning, and to reinforce a new way to think about performing."

The presentation, which is free of charge and open to the public, will take place on Friday, July 28 at 6 p.m. at The Public Theatre, located at 31 Maple Street in downtown Lewiston. For more information, call 782-3200.

TAM's "Red Velvet" explores themes of race, discrimination, and the power of theater



The Theater at Monmouth's 2017 summer performance season continues this weekend with the Maine premiere of Lolita Chakrabarti "Red Velvet." Opening on Friday, July 28 and running through August 17, the play explores the life of Ira Aldridge, an African-American actor who was the first black man to appear as Othello on the London stage. This tale of a nineteenth-century artist's pioneering struggles and triumphs is fascinating, heartbreaking, and relevant to contemporary events.

At Theatre Royal, Covent Garden, in 1833, Edmund Kean, the greatest actor of his time, has collapsed on stage while playing Othello. A young black American actor is asked to take over the role. But as the public riots in the streets over the abolition of slavery, how will the cast, critics, and audience react to the revolution taking place inside the theater?

The play is a fictional account of events that occurred when theater manager Pierre Laporte selected Ira Aldridge to assay the role in place of Edmund Kean. The opportunity to play Othello was Aldridge's big break. Having established himself as an actor in England's provincial theaters after being driven from America by discrimination, Aldridge would go on to great success across Europe, but would never again tread the boards at Covent Gardens. Producing Artistic Director Dawn McAndrews selected the play for the theater's 2018 roster because "this 185-year-old casting controversy continues to be an issue today, particularly in Hollywood.'

British playwright Lola Chakrabarti was first inspired to write about the life of Ira Aldridge in 1998. Drawn to his remarkable story, she researched, wrote, and rewrote Red Velvet over the course of nearly fifteen years. The play finally premiered at London's Tricycle Theatre in 2012, garnering for Chakrabarti Best New Playwright awards from both the Critic's Circle and the London Evening Standard. Red Velvet made its American debut at St. Ann's Warehouse in New York City in 2014 and then appeared on the West End in 2016 as part of the inaugural season of Kenneth Branagh Theatre Company at the Garrick Theatre.

"Ms. Chakrabarti has imagined a debate within Laporte's theater about what acting was, is and could be," wrote Ben Brantley in the New York Times Review in 2014. "In this ver-See Red Velvet, page 11





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SHREK the Musical



In a rehearsal scene, Fiona (Ashley Gallagher) tries to hide her horror as she sees Shrek's face (Gerry Therrien) for the first time as he removes his helmet and face guard. Shrek's loyal buddy, Donkey (Chad Jacobson) reflects his apprehension of the exposure. (Photo by Rachel Morin)

Rehearsals for SHREK the Musical, to be presented at Lewiston Auburn Community Little Theatre August 11-20, have been in full swing since June 5. The musical comedy is under the codirection of John Blanchette and Christopher Hodgkin, with Brandon Chaloux as Producer and Steven Barter as Musical Director.

The show is based on

the Oscar-winning Dream-Works Animation Motion Picture film, "Shrek the Musical," with Book by William Steig. It is also a Tony Award-winning fairy tale adventure, featuring all new songs from Jeanine Tesori (Thoroughly Modern Millie) and a sidesplitting Book by David Lindsay-Abaire. In addition to the smash hit "I'm a Believer," this show

Emerita Cristina Malcolm-

son and director Jennifer

Nelson. Admission to the

discussion is free with a

ticket to the evening perfor-

call the box office at 933-

9999 or see www.theaterat-

For ticket information,

mance at 7:30.

monmouth.org.

Red Velvet Continued from page 10 sion, Aldridge becomes the brave new incarnation of a forceful, natural style in a theater governed by artifice." barti's Red Velvet and the History of Shake-speare's Othello in Performance" will take place on Friday, July 28 at 5:30 p.m. Panelists will include Bates College Professor

"The story of Ira Aldridge offers us a curiously enlightening perspective on one chapter of American history," says director Jennifer Nelson. "Red Velvet gives us an imagined look into how he worked, what challenges he might have faced, and why he is still revered among European theatricals."

The cast of Red Velvet includes Emery Lawrence as Casimir-Henry Forester; Meghan Leathers as Halina-Betty-Margaret Aldridge; James Noel Hoban as Terrence-Bernard Warde; Ryan Vincent Anderson as Ira Aldridge; Maggie Thompson as Connie; Travis Johnson as Charles Kean; Kelsey Burke as Ellen Tree; and Brad Wilson as Pierre Laporte. Set design is by Daniel Bilodeau, costume design is by Michelle Handley, lighting design is by Matthew Adelson, and sound design is by Rew

Performances will include a preview on Thursday, July 27 at 7:30 p.m.; opening night on Friday, July 28 at 7:30 p.m.; and additional performances on August 1 and 17 at 7:30 p.m.; July 29, August 2, and August 6 at 1 p.m., and August 13 at 7 p.m., followed by a post-show discussion.

In addition to the postshow discussion on August 13, a "Classics in Context" panel discussion on the topic "Feminist Appropriations of Othello: Chakraalso features the lovely "Big, Bright Beautiful World" and the non-conformity ballad "Freak Flag."

Shrek brings the characters you know and love from the film to life on the stage and proves that, like onions and ogres, there are "layers" to every story. Performance dates are August 11, 12, 13, 17, 18, 19 and 20. All shows are at CLT, 30 Academy St., Auburn. Tickets may be reserved by calling the box office at (207) 783-0958 or access the website at www.laclt.com.



Dan Kane watches off stage as he waits for his cue. Kane plays Lord Farquaad. (Photo by Rachel Morin)

Twin City Nights

Lorraine Ouellette Trio at Sawyer Memorial



The Lorraine Ouellette Trio will perform at the Sawyer Memorial in Greene on Friday, July 28 at 2 and 7 p.m. Featuring Lorraine Ouellette on accordion, Jerry Dube on vocals and guitar, and Adrian Leclair on mandolin, guitar and vocals, the group has been playing a combination of Country, French, Polka, and Cajun music at festivals, nursing homes, and other venues for over ten years. Both shows are free and open to the public. Sawyer Memorial is at 371 Sawyer Road in Greene. For more information, call 946-5311 or see sawyer-foundation.com.

Maine Event Comedy at Baxter Brewing



Tuck Tucker is a founding member of Portland's Running with Scissors improv group and was a finalist on HBO's Lucky 21 Comedy Showcase in New York City.

Maine Event Comedy will present the hilarious Tuck Tucker at Baxter Brewing on Friday, July 28 at 7 p.m. The show will also feature comedians Shawn Carter, Ali Simpson, Randy Williams, and Mark Turcotte

Tucker's verbal wit

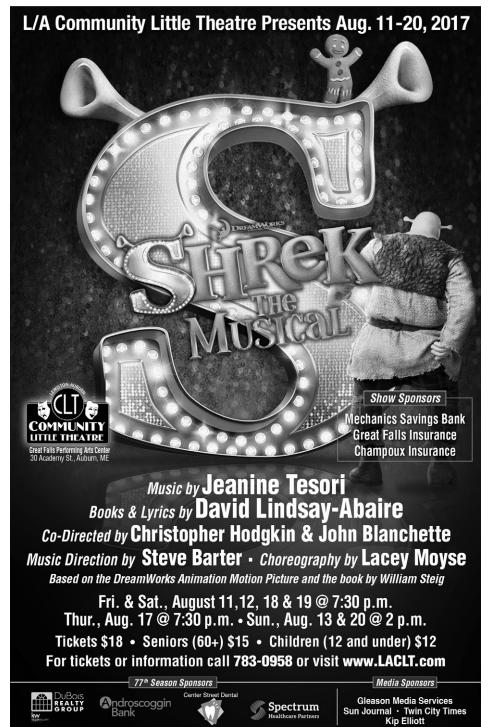
and physical comedy have made him a favorite throughout New England. He's a founding member of Portland's Running with Scissors improv group and was a finalist on HBO's Lucky 21 Comedy Showcase in New York City. He's performed at the Hartford Funny Bone, the Rhode

Island Comedy Connection and the Comedy Nest in Montreal.

The show is free and open to those ages 21 and older. Baxter Brewing is located at 130 Mill Street in Lewiston. For more information, call 513-0742 or email maineeventcomedy@gmail.com.







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Twin City Nights

DuPont Brothers to perform in Waterfront Park



The Burlington-based siblings were invited back for the outdoor summer concert series after a well-received "Kill the Chill" performance at the Chocolate Church last winter.

The Chocolate Church Arts Center's outdoor summer concert series continues Saturday, July 29 at 6 p.m., when the DuPont Brothers will perform in Bath's Waterfront Park, located on Commercial Street along the Kennebec River. The event is free and open to the public.

Since hitting the road in 2013, Burlington-based siblings Sam and Zack DuPont have released two records of thoughtfully simple and emotionally effective indie-folk. 2015's "Heavy as Lead" offers lyrical candidness and a degree of vulnerability accentuated by their stripped-down sound. The siblings pluck and strum guitars with no more accompaniment than their splendid, often plaintive harmonies. Lead vocals are frequently reminiscent of the Decemberists' Colin Meloy, but with a welcomed softness. 2016's "A Riddle for You" continues in the vein of primarily acoustic guitar folk with added musical exploration.

After the DuPont Brothers performed as part of our Kill the Chill winter concert series, we enthusiastically invited them to our waterfront series for an added regional flair," said Simon Close, who produces summer events for the Chocolate Church Arts Center. "Just a few days before this show, they will open for rock-and-roll legend Pat Benatar, further evidence that they are up-and-coming on the music scene."

The Chocolate Church's outdoor summer concert series continues every Saturday at 6 p.m. in Waterfront Park through August 26. For the complete roster of series performers, see chocolatechurcharts.org.

Hip-hop dance standouts to perform at Celebration Barn



Identical twins Billy and Bobby McClain, aka the Wondertwins, have come a long way since they started performing at family cookouts at age six.

Celebration Barn Theater in South Paris will present hip-hop dance luminaries the Wondertwins on Saturday, July 29 at 7:30 p.m. Identical twins Billy and Bobby McClain grew up in Boston in the 1970s, where their dance career started on a very small stage as they began performing at family cookouts at age six. Two years later, they had their first real show at the Cyclorama in the South End. Wearing matching silk brown sweat suits, they finished their first contest with a win, judged by none other than the legend, Kurtis Blow.

By age 10, they were asked to join Boston's first professional street dance

crew, the Funk Affects, opening for some of the biggest names in hip-hop history, including Run DMC, LL Cool J, KRS One, and Afrika Bambaataa. After seven years with the crew, Billy and Bobby branched off to become "The Wondertwins," performing with Bobby Brown's "Don't Be Cruel" US/UK tour, with Apollonia's (Purple Rain) UK tour, and as the opening act for EPMD, Public Enemy, and Oueen Latifah.

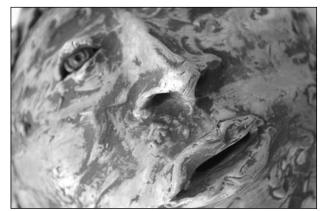
In the early 1990s, they won "Amateur Night/Show-time at the Apollo (Theater)" six times. Their more recent accomplishments have included winning a Pioneers of Dance Award and being selected for the Boston Globe

Magazine's "25 Most Stylish Bostonians of 2011" list. Over the years, they have created a distinctive style all their own, fusing the technical facility of hip hop, the sophistication of the Cotton Club's glory days, the flash of Rat Pack era Las Vegas, and elements of vaudeville, robot, tap, and mime.

Former Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre executive director Judith Jamison has praised the Wondertwins as "absolutely beautiful, strong, powerful, and electric... made for Broadway," while Maurice Hines has noted that they "dance in the same spirit as the great brothers of dance before them."

Tickets are \$14 for adults, \$12 for seniors (ages 60+), and \$8 for kids (ages 17-). All tickets are general admission and members receive priority seating. The lobby and concessions will open at 6:30 p.m. Celebration Barn Theater is located iust off Route 117 at 190 Stock Farm Road in South Paris. Purchasing tickets in advance is strongly recommended. For more information or to purchase tickets, call the box office at 743-8452 or see www.CelebrationBarn.com.

Harlow Gallery features ceramic works by Malley Weber



Webber produces ceramic works from local clay she digs herself and once-fires at her home studio in Hallowell.

The Harlow Gallery in Hallowell will present a solo exhibition of ceramic works by artist Malley Weber from July 28 through September 2, with an opening reception on Friday, July 28, from 5 to 7 p.m. Exhibitions are always free and open to the public. Harlow Gallery is located at 160 Water Street and hours are Wednesday through Saturday from noon to 6 p.m.

"There are some forces that are beyond control," says Malley of her process. "In my teaching practice, I encourage students to 'let go' and allow the creative process of construction and destruction have their way. In my own practice, I become a witness to what unfolds. To force my will is an exercise in futility, so I watch as the best laid plans morph into new forms, as faces, surfaces, and my hands move with the clay of their own volition. The creative force prevails, the clay is a recording, and the fire seals the deal. The process isn't

always an easy one to trust."

Malley Weber is a ce-

ramic artist, potter, instructor, and clay field facilitator. She holds an MFA in Interdisciplinary Arts from Goddard College and is the owneroperator of Hallowell Clay Works. Passionate about using local resources, she digs her own glacial-marine clay and once-fires her ceramic work at her home studio in Hallowell. She also produces a line of commercial pottery sold at her downtown studio and facilitates sensorimotor education for adults and children using a technique called "Healing at the Clay Field." She is an adjunct Ceramic Arts Educator at the University of Maine at Augusta and is a Teaching Artist for the Maine Arts Commission and for the Watershed Center for Ceramic Arts in Newcastle, Maine.

For more information about the exhibit or the gallery, call 622-3813 or see harlowgallery.org.

Maine Event Comedy spotlights New England comedians Saturday night

Maine Event Comedy will showcase some of New England's funniest comedians on Saturday, July 29 at the Lewiston Elks Lodge. The 8 p.m. show will feature Connecticut's Krystal Dyer, Boston's Shawn Carter, New Hampshire's Michele Mortensen, and Maine's Nicholas Gordon. Lewiston's own Mark Turcotte will host.

will host.

Krystal Dyer, from Norwich, CT, uses her quick wit and life experience to put a hilarious spin on divorce, dating in her 40s, and raising boys as a single mom. She has endeared herself to audiences throughout New England and has won comedy contests at the Hartford Funny Bone. She performs regularly at Comix at Mohegan Sun.

Shawn Carter runs a variety of shows in Boston and was a semi-finalist in the Boston Comedy Festival.



Krystal Dyer has won comedy contests at the Hartford Funny Bone and performs regularly at Comix at Mohegan Sun.

He's performed in Las Vegas and is a familiar face at the Comedy Studio, Laugh Boston, Nick's Comedy Stop, and Dick Doherty's Beantown Comedy.

An accomplished actress, writer, and musician, Michele Mortensen hails from Hampton, NH and re-

cently competed in New York City's "She-Devil Comedy Festival." She has appeared at Carolina Comedy Club in Myrtle Beach, Side Splitters in Tampa, and Coconuts in St. Petersburg. She was twice selected to perform in the World Series of Comedy and has opened for Boston legend Lenny Clarke.

New Gloucester's Nicholas Gordon has been winning audiences over with his self-deprecating brand of humor and recently advanced to the second round of the Empire Comedy Summer Classic in Portland.

Turcotte was selected for the Boston, Cleveland and North Carolina comedy festivals and recently performed at New York City's Gotham Comedy Club.

See Comedy, page 15

"The Who's Tommy" plays one day only at MSMT



From lights to costumes to performers, the production is run by Maine State Music Theatre's talented interns as part of its Educational Fellowship Program.

The Maine State Music Theatre will present "The Who's Tommy" for one day only on Monday, July 31, with shows at 2 and 7:30 p.m. Based on the band's iconic 1969 rock

concept album, The Who's Tommy is a breathtaking story of hope, healing, and the human spirit. The story of the pinball-playing "deaf, dumb and blind kid" See Tommy, page 13



Thursday, July 27

Grand Opening Celebration. 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. Aroma Joe's Coffee, 166 Center St., Auburn. Aroma Joe's celebrates its official Grand Opening in Auburn with free 16 oz. coffees all day, plus samples and discounts. 241-7038, AromaJoes.com.

Quilt Show. Augusta Civic Center. Maine Quilts' 40th anniv. show features over 750 quilts, a Merchants Mall, demos, workshops, raffles, and a silent auction. \$10 (kids ages 10- free). Cont. 8/28-29. 216-7358; www.mainequilts.org.

Rotary Club Lunch Meeting. Noon to 1 p.m. Village Inn, 165 High St., Auburn. The guest speaker is John Rice, Director of Operations at Schooner Estates. No reservation required; lunch avail. 753-9040; monica.mill-hime@maine.gov.

Friday, July 28

Yard Sale and Bottle Drive. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. 700 Main St., Greene (across from Hurricane's Café and Deli). Tommy's Feral Felines collects donations of recyclable bottles and cans, as well as yard sale items, to fund its work supporting feral cats. Again 7/29, 240-8767.

Grandfather Tang's Story Bag. 10 a.m. Maggie Trafton Room, Auburn Public Library. Participants will enjoy "Grandfather Tang's Story" and then make a tangram animal bag to take home. Register at 333-6640, ext. 3 or www.auburnpubliclibrary.org.

USCIS Office Hours. 10 a.m. to noon. Lewiston Public Library. Officers of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service answer questions about application status or the immigration process; no appointment needed. 513-3135; LPLReference@gmail.com.

Concert: Lorraine Ouellette Trio. 2 and 7 p.m. Sawyer Memorial, 371 Sawyer Rd., Greene. This group has played a combination of Country, French, Polka, and Cajun at various local venues for over ten years. Free. 946-5311; sawyer-foundation.com.

Opening Reception. 5 to 7 p.m. Harlow Gallery, 160 Water St., Hallowell. The gallery presents a solo exhibition of ceramic works by artist Malley Weber. Free.

Theater: "How to Act Like a Child." 6 p.m. Pub-

Calendar

See more Calendar at www.TwinCityTimes.com

lic Theatre, 31 Maple St., Lewiston. Participants in the theater's summer training program for teens present a program of stories and songs. Free. 782-3200.

Maine Event Comedy. 7 p.m. Baxter Brewing, 130 Mill St., Lewiston. Tonight's line-up features comedians Tuck Tucker, Shawn Carter, Ali Simpson, Randy Williams, and Mark Turcotte. Free. Ages 21-plus. 513-0742; maineeventcomedy@gmail.com.

Bates Dance Festival. 7:30 p.m. Schaeffer Theatre, 329 College St., Lewiston. Night One of the festival's 35th Anniversary Gala features festival alums, including several of America's most acclaimed dance artists. \$35/27/20. batesdancefestival.org.

Saturday, July 29

Concert in Waterfront Park. 6 to 7:30 p.m. Commercial St, Downtown Bath. The Burlington-based DuPont Brothers return after their well-received Kill the Chill concert last winter. Free. 442-8455; www.chocolatechurcharts.org

Bates Dance Festival. 7:30 p.m. Schaeffer Theatre, 329 College St., Lewiston. Night Two of the festival's 35th Anniversary Gala features festival alums, followed by a celebration honoring retiring festival director Laura Faure. \$60/35/27/20. batesdancefestival.org.

The Wondertwins. 7:30 p.m. Celebration Barn Theater, 190 Stock Farm Rd. (just off Rte. #117), So. Paris. These hip-hop dance legends fuse elements of vaudeville, robot, tap, and mime into a style all their own. \$14/12/8. 743-8452; www.CelebrationBarn.com.

Maine Event Comedy. 8 p.m. Elks Lodge, 1675 Lisbon Rd., Lewiston. This showcase of New England comedians features Krystal Dyer of CT, Shawn Carter of Boston, Michele Mortensen of NH, and Nicholas Gordon of New Gloucester. \$12 (\$10 in adv.). 513-0742; maineevent-comedy.com.

Sunday, July 30

Moore Park Art Show. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Route 26, downtown So. Paris. This annual community event features exhibits by over 30 fine artists and crafters, a full day of live entertainment, and fun activities for the whole family. Free. Rain date Aug. 6. www. mooreparkartshow.biz.

Monday, July 31

Theater: "The Who's 'Tommy'." 2 and 7:30 p.m. Maine State Music Theatre, 1 Bath Rd., Bowdoin College, Brunswick. This one-day only production of the musical based on the 1969 concept album is run entirely by the company's interns. Tix \$20-40. 725-8769; msmt.org.

Tuesday, August 1

Auburn Farmers' Market. 4 to 7 p.m. Happy Days parking lot, 67 Mill St. (park at Rolly's Diner). Local farmers and artisans are on hand to sell a variety of fresh, seasonal and/or homemade products. 320-1969.

National Night Out Against Crime. 5:30 p.m. until dusk. Festival Plaza and Main St., Auburn. The Auburn PD hosts this city-wide block party with refreshments, live music, games, activities, a bounce house, and an inflatable obstacle course. Free. 333-6650, ext. 2070; LAllen@AuburnMaine.gov.

Wednesday, August 2

Opening Reception. 5:30 to 8 p.m. Monkitree, 263 Water St., Gardiner. Featuring works by ceramic artist Whitney Gill and multi-media artist Allison McKeen, "Bricks and Mortar" celebrates the Gardiner community. Free. 512-4679; www.monkitree. com.

Thursday, August 3

Rotary Club Lunch Meeting. Noon to 1 p.m. Village Inn, 165 High St., Auburn. The guest speaker is former L-A Chamber of Commerce president and Auburn City Manager Chip Morrison. No reservation required; lunch avail. 753-9040; monica.mill-hime@maine.gov.

Bates Dance Festival. 8 p.m. Bates Mill Complex, 35 Canal St., Lewiston. "Mill Town" is a site-specific, multimedia promenade around and through the Bates Mill Complex featuring dance, music, video, and installations. Again 8/4. \$20/15/12. batesdancefestival.org.

Friday, August 4

Country Fest Maine. 5 to 9 p.m. Litchfield Sportsmen's Club, 2261 Hallowell Rd., Litchfield. Tonight's events include a bean supper from 5 to 6 p.m., followed by a music jam; all musicians welcome. Cont. 8/5. \$7. 409-1321

Concert: Sultans of String. 7:30 p.m. Chocolate Church Arts Center, 804 Washington St., Bath. This group thrills audiences with their genre-bending fusion of world music styles. \$25/28. 442-8455; www.chocolate-churcharts.org.

Saturday, August 5

Monmouth Academy Alumni Reunion. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monmouth Academy gymnasium. A social hour will be followed by a buffet lunch as the school honors the Class of 1967. \$10. To register, call Chriss Wight Hayden at 784-2568.

Country Fest Maine. 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Litchfield Sportsmen's Club, 2261 Hallowell Rd., Litchfield. Enjoy non-stop live country music by some of Maine's top musicians; concessions avail. \$8 (kids ages 12- free). 409-1321.

Butterfly Release Celebration. 11 a.m. Geiger Elementary School, 601 College St., Lewiston. Honor the memory of a loved one by dedicating a beautiful monarch butterfly at this event; children's activities, light refreshments. Pres. by Andro. Home Care and Hospice. \$25. 795-9537; www.ahchbutterfly.org.

Bates Dance Festival.

1 to 5 p.m. Schaeffer Theatre, 329 College St., Lewiston. This Young Choreographers-New Works program features informal, adjudicated showings of more than 20 new works by talented festival students. Come and go as you please. Free. 786-6161.

Concert in Waterfront Park. 6 to 7:30 p.m. Commercial St, Downtown Bath. Cold Chocolate plays Americana, roots, and bluegrass. Free. 442-8455; www.chocolate-churcharts.org.

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 3:50
 9:50

 Planets 3D
 11:45
 2:15
 4:45

 Cars 3 (G)
 7:10
 9:55

Bates Dance Festival. 7:30 p.m. Alumni Gymnasium, 130 Central Ave., Lewiston. The Festival Finale features new works by David Dorfman, Danny Buraczeski, Claudia Lavista and Omar Carrum, Tania Isaac and Shakia Johnson; and a production by festival Youth Arts Program participants. \$6 (cash admission at door). 786-6161.

Tommy

Continued from page 12

who triumphs over his adversities has inspired, amazed, and puzzled audiences for more than 40 years.

With book by Pete Townshend and Des Mc-Anuff and music and lyrics by Pete Townshend, John Entwistle, and Keith Moon, the story follows Tommy, who is traumatized into catatonia after witnessing a murder. His mother finally breaks through to him when she discovers that he has an uncanny knack for playing pinball, a skill that propels him to international superstardom. The play features an exhilarating score, including "Acid Queen," "Pinball Wizard," "See Me, Feel Me," "Wicked Uncle Ernie," and "I'm A Sensation."

From lights to costumes to performers, the show is run entirely by Maine State Music Theatre's talented interns as part of its Educational Fellowship Program. Hailing from across the United States, the company's 24 perfor-

mance and technical interns produce two to three intern shows each season while also working on all aspects of the company's main stage productions. In addition to "The Who's Tommy," this year's intern shows are "The Taffetas" and the Theatre for Young Audiences production of Robin and Clark's "Alice in Wonderland."

The cast features

MSMT performance interns Mickey White as Tommy, plus Rebecca Rene Kelley, John Pletka, Natalie Bellamy, Michael Carrier, Kevin Murakami, Sara Sargent, and Tracy Sokat. Rounding out the players are University of Maine students Ali Sarnacchiaro of Westbrook, Eric Berry Sandelin of Gorham, Taylor Gervais of Hermon, Cameron Wright of Ellsworth, Jacob Sutherland of Oakland, Samuel Allen of Harpswell, Mel Bills of Gardiner, Joel Crowley of Brunswick, Lori L'Italien of Auburn, Declan Kelley of Gorham, Liz Kershenbaum of Gorham, Fred Thornly of Gorham, and Meg Ward of Bangor. The show is directed by Curt Dale Clark and choreographed by Raymond Marc Dumont of Portland.

Both performances will take place at the Pickard Theater, located at 1 Bath Road on the Bowdoin College Campus in Brunswick. Tickets range in price from \$20 to \$40 and can be purchased in person at the box office, by phone at 725-8769, or online at msmt.org.

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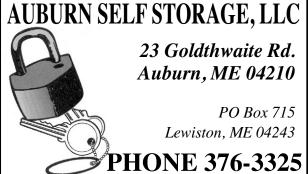
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TRAVEL/ VACATION

Complete clambake, Old Orchard Beach, Aug 17. \$72.00. Lunch chowder, salad, corn, potato, beverage, apple crisp choice Lobster, baked haddock, fried haddock or baked chicken. Visit Len Libby Candies and Christmas Tree Shop. Pick up Lewiston and Poland. Call Helen 207-375-6588.

Comedy

Continued from page 12

The Lewiston Elks Lodge is located at 1675 Lisbon Road. Doors will open at 7 p.m. The show is open to those ages 21 and older. For more information, call 513-0742 or email maineeventcomedy@gmail.com

Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door. Advance tickets are available at maineeventcomedy.com.

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Date: 2/2/17

publication in the newspaper. Failure to serve an answer will cause judgment by default to be entered, granting relief sought in

Monkitree "Bricks and Mortar" exhibit celebrates Gardiner community



The exhibit features works by local ceramic artist Whitney Gill and multi-media artist Allison McKeen.

Monkitree will exhibit the work of ceramic artist Whitney Gill and multi-media artist Allison McKeen in a show called "Bricks and Mortar," running August 2 through September 30. The exhibit will open with a reception on Wednesday, August 2 from 5:30 to 8 p.m. and the gallery will be open for Artwalk Gardiner on Friday, August 4 from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Monkitree is located at 263 Water Street in Gardiner.

Friends Whitney Gill and Allison McKeen often venture through Maine together to view the state's landscapes, architecture, and the work of local artists. They wanted to form a body of work that focused on their favorite aspects of these trips: historical buildings, beautiful landscapes, and Maine's small creative businesses. As the town of their first meeting and the central hub of many of their activities, they wanted to pay homage to the historic town of Gardiner and to the community of artists that now call it home.

"My ties to Gardiner have allowed me to pursue my art career through the kindness of local artists and galleries who have opened their doors to me and my work," says Gill. "The history of Gardiner holds importance in my eyes as a town breathing new life with

growing businesses and creative minds that see the beauty in historic preservation."

McKeen's works for this show feature materials that have historical significance to the Gardiner area, such as bricks from T. W. Dick and baking tins from MacDonald's Bakery. For McKeen, the brick serves as metaphor. "Each piece acts as a foundational building block while simultaneously maintaining a sense of individuality," she says. "Gardiner is a very communitv-oriented town, building up and growing every day thanks to the collective work of many individuals."

Whitney Gill is a stoneware potter working in Litchfield. She creates durable, functional pieces of pottery decorated with her hand-drawn illustrations. Allison McKeen is a primarily self-taught photographer and mixed media artist living and working out of Gardiner. She draws inspiration from the everyday details of her surroundings, especially the textural characteristics of weathered structures.

The exhibit may be viewed during open hours on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10 to 5, Thursdays and Fridays from 10 to 6, and Saturdays from 10 to 4. For more information, call 512-4679 or see www.monkitree.com.

Bates Dance Festival artists return for Anniversary Gala



Patrick Widrig (photo by Stan Barouh)

Some of the best known and loved dance artists from more than three decades of the Bates Dance Festival will return to celebrate the festival's 35th anniversary by performing in its Anniversary Gala on Friday and Saturday, July 28 and 29, at 7:30 p.m. in Bates College's air-conditioned Schaeffer Theatre.

The program will fea-

ture work, much of it new, by some of America's top dancers and choreographers, including "Short Story," a poignant duet by Doug Varone and Natalie Desch; an excerpt from "The Making Room," by Bebe Miller and Angie Hauser; a glimpse of "Crazy Beautiful," a new solo by Tania Isaac; excerpted solos by Larry Keigwin, Sara Pearson, Pa-

trik Widrig, and Riley Watts; and a piece choreographed for students by festival veteran Michael Foley. A party will follow Saturday's performance

Friday's performance will be dedicated to the memory of Marcy Plavin, who founded the Bates College dance program and the Bates Dance Festival. Cherished as a friend and mentor by generations of Bates dancers, Plavin died last November.

Saturday's events will honor festival director Laura Faure, under whose guidance the Bates Dance Festival has become a leading center for the development of contemporary American dance. Faure will retire after the festival's current season, her 30th at its helm. She will be succeeded by Shoshona Currier, a Maine native who, for the past five years, has served as director of performing arts for the City of Chicago.

The gala performances will "speak to longtime relationships and the history of the festival," says Faure. "For an audience to see the arc of an artist's career is very rare," but it's something the Bates Dance Festival has offered in abundance.

For the Saturday performance and party, admission is \$60. For the Friday performance, tickets are \$35 for adults, \$27 for seniors, and \$20 for students. Online tickets are available at batestickets.com.

Schaeffer Theatre is located at 329 College Street in Lewiston. For more information, call the box office at 786-6161 or see the festival website at batesdancefestival.org.



Riley Watts (photo by Susan Beard)





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