

Lewiston-Auburn's Weekly Newspaper!

# TWIN CITY TIMES

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FREE • Vol. XVI, No. 31

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October 29, 2015 • FREE

## Governor holds Town Hall in Auburn



Governor LePage with CMCC President Scott Knapp after Town Hall. (TCT photo by Laurie A. Steele).

Governor Paul R. LePage held a Town Hall meeting on October 21 at Central Maine Community College in Auburn, where he delivered remarks about moving Maine forward and answered questions from residents. The Governor focused on his vision for Maine, including further reducing income tax; reforming welfare; cutting energy costs; and addressing Maine's high student debt burden.

## IHOP opens in Auburn



IHOP recently celebrated the grand opening of only its second restaurant in Maine since the company was founded 50 years ago. After two months of construction, the new location is now open for business at 649 Turner Street in Auburn. For more information, see [www.ihop.com](http://www.ihop.com). From L-R: Patrick Annese, Alix Rudzinski from Sen. Collins office, Omar Elsherif, Leslie Dubois, Mike Lachance, Zena Elsherif, Addel Elsherif, Aziz Elsherif, Matt Leonard, Karen Staples from Cong. Poliquin's office, Bruce Bickford and Tizz Crowley.

## Safe Voices seeks donors for holiday programs

Safe Voices is seeking donors for their Thanksgiving Feed-A-Family program and their Christmas Adopt-A-Family program. These programs match donors with families who have had to flee a dangerous See **Holiday**, page 2

## Mechanics Savings supports Food Bank

In keeping with its long-standing commitment to providing support for those in need, Mechanics Savings Bank has donated \$1,500 to Good Shepherd Food Bank. Made in response to the non-profit's annual appeal, the donation will help feed hungry children, seniors and families in our communities.



Mechanics Savings Bank Business Specialist Sonia Theberge (l.) presents a \$1,500 donation check to Good Shepherd Food Bank president Kristin Miale.

"We are grateful for the support of Mechanics Savings Bank," said Good Shepherd president Kristin Miale. "Their generosity will help us in our work of providing nearly 1.9 million meals to people living with hunger in Androscoggin County."

Since 1981, Good Shepherd Food Bank has partnered with individuals, businesses, and farmers to alleviate hunger and build community relationships. Now the largest hunger relief organization in Maine, Good Shepherd provides for those at risk of hunger by soliciting food donations and

purchasing food at wholesale prices, then distributing this food through more than 600 partner agencies throughout the state.

Since its founding in 1875, Mechanics Savings Bank has remained committed to giving back to the communities it serves

through charitable donations and volunteerism. This year, the bank has supported more than 80 non-profit organizations. In the past decade, the bank has contributed more than \$1 million to non-profits within Androscoggin and Cumberland Counties.



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# Newsmakers, Names & Faces

## Philbrick named director of Univ. College-Saco

Daniel Philbrick has been named Director of the University College Center in Saco. Philbrick comes to University College from the University of Southern Maine, where he had been employed since 1989. He began at USM in the University Libraries and joined USM's Lewiston-Auburn College administration in 2001, where he handled marketing and public relations.

An Auburn native, Philbrick holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and a Master of Arts in Leadership Studies from the University of Southern Maine. While at USM,



Daniel Philbrick

he created several initiatives to connect the university with the community and provide access to higher education for students. He started a program that enabled students to receive free local bus passes, a program he has replicated for students at University College in Saco. He was also

instrumental in coordinating several events that welcomed community members and potential students to the Lewiston-Auburn campus, including the annual Junior Achievement Titan Competition event and the annual Maine Milfoil Summit.

Philbrick is currently working on expanding scholarship opportunities for students at UC Saco and strengthening certificate program offerings. He would also like to see growth in the High School Aspirations program at the center, in which high school students can take a college class free of charge and earn college credit.

Philbrick served as an adjunct member of the USM LAC faculty, teach-

ing courses in computer software and web design. He resides in Auburn with his wife and two children.

University College has a system-wide mission to provide centralized services to students and faculty engaged in online and distance programs offered by the campuses of the University of Maine System. Onsite, online, hybrid and ITV instruction is delivered live and asynchronously by faculty from University of Maine system campuses to University College Centers and sites across Maine. Many courses use streaming video, allowing students to view lectures online. University College is located online at Learn.Maine.Edu.

## Lajoie named chair of legislative working group



Rep. Michel Lajoie, D-Lewiston

Rep. Michel Lajoie, D-Lewiston, has been appointed House chair of the Municipal Volunteer Working Group. The group will study issues related to recruiting and retaining volunteers as community emergency workers. It was formed as a result of a bill passed this last session, LD 500, which received unanimous support from the Legislature.

"Communities are having a real problem attracting and keeping volunteer firefighters and other volunteer emergency per-

## Holiday

Continued from page 1

situation at home, or who have started over and are struggling to make ends meet, and wouldn't otherwise be able to provide their children with a holiday meal or gifts.

For the Feed-A-Family program, donors purchase the supplies for a traditional Thanksgiving dinner of turkey, sides and dessert and deliver them to Safe Voices, who in turn will then get them to a family in need. For the Adopt-A-

sonnel," said Lajoie. "These volunteers are the backbone of emergency services for many Maine communities, and we need to come up with ways of getting people to sign up and stay on."

There are seven members of the group: one Maine state senator, two Maine state representatives, one representative from the Maine State Federation of Firefighters, one volunteer firefighter or emergency responder, one chief of a volunteer fire department and one representative from the Maine Fire Chiefs' Association. The group will report its findings back to the Criminal Justice Committee in December.

Lajoie is a retired Lewiston fire chief and a member of the Criminal Justice Committee. He is serving his fourth term in the Maine Legislature and represents part of Lewiston.

Family program, donors provide holiday gifts.

Anyone can be a donor, including individuals, businesses, and community organizations. If you would like to participate, or if you know a family that would benefit from this program, call Steve at Safe Voices at 795-6744 ext. 210 or complete the participation form under the "Get Involved" tab at the website below.

Safe Voices is the domestic violence resource center serving Androscoggin, Franklin and Oxford counties. For more information, see [www.safevoices.org](http://www.safevoices.org).

## Steve Morgan for Mayor of Lewiston

Please vote Nov. 3rd

### Moving Lewiston Forward

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### THE BIG WHY

My #1 goal would be to attract new businesses to Lewiston. Not only will it create jobs for Lewiston residents, but it will increase our tax base which is the most probable way to bring back services that have been cut, and the most probable way to be able to lower taxes again for Lewiston residents.

We need to continue to work on welfare reform. This needs to be sensible, while at the same time preserving the needed services for our elderly and most vulnerable residents. We need to give a hand up, not a hand out.

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**OP-ED**

**Elect leaders who will move the L-A community forward**

By **Paul R. LePage**  
GOVERNOR

I have been traveling around the state holding Town Halls to speak with Mainers about four major issues we must address to make our state more prosperous.

Lowering the income tax—and eventually eliminating it—lets hardworking Mainers keep more of the money they have rightfully earned. Allowing the citizens to spend more of their money spurs the economy and generates more revenue to run an efficient, effective and affordable government.

States with no or low income taxes are the most prosperous in the country. These states often have the lowest minimum wages, too. We need to work for high-paying career wages, not a higher minimum wage for part-time or menial jobs.

Our efforts to reform welfare are ongoing, and we are getting able-bodied people off the system and into jobs, where they can lead independent and productive lives. By reducing costs in our welfare system, we can provide services for those who truly need it: our elderly, disabled and mentally ill.

Lower energy costs in Maine will help retain and attract companies that provide career wages to Mainers, especially in the manufacturing sector. If we want to create good jobs for the Maine people, we must be competitive in energy prices, which is a major cost driver for businesses.

Helping young people stay in Maine is vital to our future and our economy. We are working to make student debt more affordable and less of a burden to young people who are trying to buy homes and start families. With one of the oldest populations in the country, we cannot allow student debt to chase away our young people.

We need help from all Mainers to advance all of these efforts. Contact your

legislators and urge them to support initiatives to lower taxes, reform welfare, reduce energy costs and keep our students here.

We also need help at the municipal level. Mainers must be aware of who is running for selectmen, city council and mayor; you must learn what their positions are. We need future leaders coming up from the local level who know how to move Maine forward.

Lewiston and Auburn are fortunate to have mayors who are already on board

with these efforts. Lewiston Mayor Bob Macdonald is working to create jobs, grow Lewiston's economy and reform welfare to protect our most needy citizens, while also protecting local taxpayers. He knows that welfare is not a lifestyle, but a last resort.

In Auburn, Mayor Jonathan LaBonte has brought youthful energy and enthusiasm to the city. He has successfully grown Auburn's economy and he supports policies to create jobs. Mayor LaBonte

knows how to operate government efficiently without sacrificing important services. That's why I hired him as director of my Office of Policy and Management.

The choice for mayor in Lewiston and Auburn is clear. In Lewiston, mayoral candidate Ben Chin is a professional welfare activist who works for Maine People's Alliance, the anti-business organization pushing to increase welfare for illegal immigrants. Chin, who plans to spend \$20 million of taxpayers' money to im-

**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

**Campaign spreads falsehoods about Pay-As-You-Throw**

To the Editor:

Two weeks ago, Ben Chin's campaign sent a postcard to Lewiston residents containing blatant falsehoods about Mayor Bob Macdonald. I'd like to set the record straight.

I have been the only councilor to oppose Pay-As-You-Throw in both campaign literature and in my vote against wasting \$30,000 to sell the idea to the taxpayers of Lewiston. Although several councilors support the PAYT idea, others are hesi-

tant to support the program. But they opted to approve the "education and outreach" program, nonetheless.

The PAYT program was conceived as a result of the Public Works Review Committee that was formed last year to find ways to streamline that department and increase efficiency and cost effectiveness. It is unfortunate the only real idea brought to the council for workshops and a vote was this new tax/fee.

Let me make this clear: Mayor Macdonald was not

on the Public Works Review Committee. He had no part in the decision to bring proposals to the council.

Despite what Chin's campaign states, Mayor Macdonald did not devise nor vote to implement the PAYT program. The mayor cast a vote on behalf of a councilor who was absent to move ahead with an "education and outreach" effort, which has nothing to do

See **LTE**, page 6

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## Only Steps Forward

# City employees working hard to help Auburn grow

By Jonathan P. LaBonté  
MAYOR OF AUBURN

Last week, I had the honor of assisting in the City of Auburn employee recognition dinner. With appreciation to our new City Manager Howard Kroll and Assistant City Manager Denis D'Auteuil for leading the event's festivities, well over 100 people came out to enjoy social time with their co-workers.

One of the more impressive parts of the evening

was recognizing the years of service to our community by so many. Each staff member was honored with a small lapel pin with the city seal and their years on the team, marked in five-year increments. It's a testament to our department heads and team leaders that so many have chosen to spend long careers working in public service.

In addition to the years of service awards, there were a small number of special



Mayor Jonathan P. LaBonté

awards that called attention to employees who go above and beyond in their work. To

receive the award, each staff member had to be nominated by a peer with details about why they earned the recognition. I was very proud to hear that over 50 employees were nominated for awards.

Having such a high percentage of staff nominated tells me two things. First, we clearly have a strong team in city hall, our fire stations and in our public works teams. And second, our employees are

noticing the good work of their peers and are willing to take the time to have them recognized.

For those of you who travel around the community, you've seen the private investment we are seeing, which is demonstrating the positive momentum Auburn is experiencing.

To marry that growth to the positive environment we are seeing on our city staff team is a great combination, and we will continue to bear fruit from that.

Speaking of growth, over the past few days, news has spread that after 35 years serving the City of Auburn, Economic Development Director Roland Miller has announced his retirement. When I first moved back to Auburn 10 years ago, Roland was among the first I reached out to as I tried to learn more about the inner workings of the city's direction and strategy for growth.

Over that time, Roland and I have had many spirited conversations about

project development and strategies to recruit new businesses, as well as how some of Auburn's challenges could be turned into opportunities.

Whether we found ourselves in agreement or on different sides of an approach, it was safe to say that Roland was always prepared, had done his homework and was going to put his best recommendation forward.

Working a career in public service can often be challenging, especially with the watchful eyes of the public and elected officials often peering over your shoulder. For a role like Roland held, the scrutiny was all the more intense as private investment often occurred through a partnership with the city.

The City of Auburn is better positioned to grow well into the future because of Roland's service, as well as the service of the more than 200 employees providing city services in the community.

## Op-Ed

Continued from page 2

plement a socialist agenda in Lewiston, is fiscally immature. He is making false promises with money he doesn't have.

If you want more welfare, higher taxes and more expensive government, then Chin is your man. If you want economic development, more jobs and less welfare, re-elect Mayor Macdonald.

In Auburn, Mayor LaBonte is working on innovative solutions to make government more effective and more efficient, but the old guard is determined to defend the status quo. The business-as-usual attitude in Auburn has brought decades of redundant agencies, high property taxes and expensive, but inefficient, government.

If you want to continue the same rigid thinking that

has stifled the Auburn community for years, vote for LaBonte's opponent. If you want to move Auburn into the 21<sup>st</sup> century with an accessible and energetic young leader who thinks out of the box and can attract more jobs to the area, then re-elect Mayor LaBonte.

Sadly, I watched my hometown community decline and stagnate for decades. It has been very encouraging to see a real resurgence in the L-A community over the past few years. It is extremely important to support mayors and city council candidates who will keep moving the Lewiston-Auburn community forward.

Re-electing Mayors Macdonald and LaBonte will keep L-A headed in the right direction.

*Paul Kellogg*



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<h4>Jewelry Making</h4> <p>Categories Listed</p> <h2>50% OFF</h2> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explore! by Traditions™ PENDANTS, BEADS &amp; FILIGRES INSPIRED BY WORLD TRAVELS.</li> <li>• Traditions™ FEATURING INSTANT GRATIFICATION &amp; TRIBAL MARKET.</li> <li>• Blank Slate CREATE A PERSONALIZED LOOK WITH STAMPING BLANKS, BEZELS &amp; MORE.</li> <li>• the Jewelry Shoppe™ &amp; My Jewelry Shoppe™ INCLUDES FINDINGS, HAIR ACCESSORIES, HYPOALLERGENIC, STERLING-DIPPED &amp; STERLING SILVER.</li> </ul>	<h4>Swarovski</h4> <p>CREATE YOUR STYLE BEADS &amp; FLATBACK STONES. DOES NOT INCLUDE HOTFIX STONES.</p> <h2>30% OFF</h2>	<h4>Home Decor Fabric</h4> <p>CHOOSE FROM PRINTS, SOLIDS, SHEERS &amp; LAMINATED FABRIC. ALWAYS</p> <h2>30% OFF</h2> <p>THE MARKED PRICE*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harvest Fabric <b>50% OFF</b> DOES NOT INCLUDE FALL APPAREL FABRICS.</li> <li>• Christmas Fabric <b>30% OFF</b></li> </ul>	<h4>Fashion Fabric</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fleece CHOOSE FROM PRINTS, SOLIDS &amp; FLOCK/FIBER. ALWAYS</li> <li>• Tulle <b>89¢ P/YD</b></li> <li>• Net <b>99¢ P/YD</b></li> <li>• Shiny Tulle <b>1.09 P/YD</b></li> </ul>								

\* DISCOUNTS PROVIDED EVERY DAY; MARKED PRICES REFLECT COMPARABLE PRICES OFFERED BY OTHER SELLERS FOR SIMILAR PRODUCTS.

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*Enough is Enough*

# Commissioners must be accountable to Budget Committee

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

The County Commissioners are acting irresponsibly—again.

We all remember pickup games in the park when we were young. Once in a while, an argument would erupt—whether someone was safe or out, whether a score should or should not count—when a demand would be made by someone that they either win the argument or they would take their ball and go home.

Game over. If I can't win, we all must lose.

Unfortunately, this is now happening in the county building on Court Street, where the Androscoggin County Commissioners, having already rigged the game, have taken their budget and gone home. Given this juvenile behavior, we can all only wonder where the supposed "adults" have gone.

Several years ago, the voters of Androscoggin County approved a new county charter, recognizing that the old system was obsolete, ineffective and inefficient. That charter gave the County Budget Committee, elected by councilors and selectmen from the county's municipalities, two powers: to approve the salaries and benefits of county elected officials and to modify line items in the county budget, holding the commissioners accountable to the county's cities and towns which, after all, pay the county tax.

Well, it seems the Lord High Commissioners on Court Street want nothing to do with a lowly budget committee composed of representatives

from the peasant class. First, with no notice to cities and towns, they ran off to the state legislature and got permission to strip the Budget Committee of its power to change the budget, misrepresenting this change as a "simple" technical correction. (We all know how good our legislature is at seeing the truth.) But, in a gesture of aristocratic condescension, they told us municipal plebeians that "poor dears, we still think you are important and will allow you to humbly petition us to make changes in the budget."

Last year, with growing arrogance, they set their own salaries and benefits over the objections of the Budget Committee and in clear violation of the charter.

Well, surprise, surprise. The peasants revolted, grabbed their pitchforks and marched off to Superior Court questioning the High and Mighty Commissioners. Guess what? Screams of outrage began streaming down from the thrones upon which Commissioners sit: "If the municipal peasants don't behave, if they don't drop their demands for some crumbs from our kingly table, we shall



Mayor Bob Macdonald

take our ball and go home."

Instead of recognizing that real issues exist and must be resolved, the Commissioners have retreated to the highest towers of their castle. They refused to meet with representatives of cities and towns both before and after we went to court. They have directed their pettiffoggery of justice (otherwise known as their lawyer) to use a scorched earth policy of legal delay and obfuscation to attempt to force some petitioners, especially smaller communities with limited funds, to drop the suit and grovel in submission.

In just three months, they have incurred \$44,000 in legal fees, including paying more than \$300 per hour for their lead attorney, arguing

that they are immune from suit and that the cities and towns and our taxpayers (yes, that's you) have no right to question how they spend your tax money.

Now, in a further display of their royal petulance, they have refused to attend meetings of the Budget Committee, decreeing that the committee, made up of your representatives, must submit all questions or requests for information on a two-page form. These are the same commissioners that, after stealthily stripping the committee of all real power, promised the municipal community that they would take the Budget Committee and its recommendations seriously.

Why have they done this? The answer is simple. Their subjects have dared to question their omniscience and how they have acted. They have decided to take

their "ball"—the county budget—and retreat to their castle, not to be disturbed by the unwashed rabble.

In justifying the American Revolution in our Declaration of Independence, Thomas Jefferson laid out a detailed list of the King's abuses and usurpations designed to subject the colonies to absolute despotism.

To paraphrase: "The history of the present County Commissioners is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over their cities and towns. To prove this, let the Facts be submitted: They have taken away our Charter, abolished our most valuable Law, and altered fundamentally the Form of our Government;

They have declared themselves invested with sole power to adopt a budget and

set taxes without oversight and representation from those who must pay; They have refused to entertain the entreaties of their cities and towns;

They have declared us outside of their Protection and waged War against us using a scorched earth policy whose purpose is to deny legal remedies to their subjects; they have proclaimed that they are above the law; they have treated their subjects and petitioners with haughty disdain;

Throughout these oppressions, we have petitioned for redress and our repeated petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. The Commissioners character is thus marked by every act which may define Tyrants unfit to be the rulers of a free people."

Catch the spirit of 1776 by voting "No" on the County Charter Amendment on November 3.

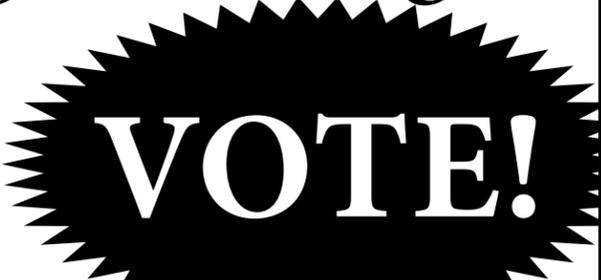
## Christmas Fair

The United Methodist Church, on the corner of Route 121 and Empire Road in Minot, will present its annual Christmas Fair, "Susanna's Treasures," on Saturday, November 7, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. A luncheon will be served from 11:00 to 1:00 and free coffee will be available. The event will also feature a Crafts Table with knit goods and holiday decorations; a Food

Table with a variety of homemade cookies, cakes, breads, pies, candies, canned goods and an old-fashioned cheese wheel; a Pocketbook Table; a Rada Products Table; a Silent Auction Table; and free drawings for door prizes. New to the fair this year will be face painting and a Children's Table, where kids may purchase small gifts for their family members or others.

- *Not by the hair on my Chinny, Chin, Chin will I allow tax payers to close Lewiston's doors and allow welfare in.*
- *Thank Mr. Chin for Lewiston's overcrowded classrooms.*
- *Thank Mr. Chin for a 27 plus mil rate.*
- *Thank Mr. Chin for giving you the privilege of supporting asylum seekers.*

*Enough is Enough!*



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# Governor's Address: Educate and Employer Yourself Before Going to the Polls

As Election Day approaches, we are reminded of our civic responsibility as American citizens.

Your vote is your voice. It is your opportunity to hold elected officials accountable for their actions or inaction. And it enables you to be a part of the conversations and issues affecting your community.

Dear Maine Taxpayer,

On November 3, Mainers will have the opportunity to answer three statewide questions. The questions are relatively easy to understand. However, the old adage, the devil is in the details

is an understatement this year. The details are worth checking about before you check yes or no.

For example, there are 13 pages of legislation attached to Question 1. Question one will cost Maine taxpayers many millions of dollars.

This is taxpayer-funded welfare for politicians to buy signs, bumper stickers and negative political advertising. It could triple the amount of public funding for some candidates. For a contested primary race, each candidate for Governor would qualify to get up to \$1 million.

House candidates now get an average of



Governor Paul R. LePage

\$5,000. This would triple it to \$15,000. Senate candidates get an average of \$20,000; this would raise it to \$60,000.

In the general election, each candidate for Governor would qualify to get up to \$2 million.

In the last election, the candidates for Governor would have received a total of \$15 million in taxpayer funding. I'd rather see that money go toward roads, schools and protecting our most vulnerable citizens.

Increasing public financing will not keep big money out of politics. This will not limit the activity of political action committees also known as PACs.

You're not going to hear about these details from those who support Question One, but in the fine print it is clear what's going on.

I would also like to take a moment to share the facts about housing

bonds, which is the focus of Question Two on the ballot. The Maine State Housing Authority helps secure funding to build affordable housing for Mainers and in the past two years alone, I have signed for \$180 million in housing bonds to support this effort.

Question Two asks voters if they want to borrow \$15 million in General Obligation bonds for housing. Rather than tie up Maine's general obligation bonding capacity — which has an impact on our state's credit rating, I believe housing bonds should be issued through Maine Housing, whose mission is to ensure Main-

ers have affordable and accessible housing.

Question Two is a feel good bill by legislators who want to appear like they're solving our affordable housing problem. We must be smart about how the State invests taxpayer money and use our partners like the Maine State Housing Authority strategically.

Before you cast your ballot, take time to learn the facts. Your voice and your vote make a difference in how Maine moves forward — either way. Please vote.

Thank You,  
Paul R. LePage  
Governor

## St. Dom's Holiday Festival

Saint Dominic Academy has been hard at work planning this year's Holiday Festival, scheduled for Saturday, November 7, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at St. Dom's Auburn Campus at 121 Gracelawn Road.

Each year, over 60 vendors and crafters from around the state convene at this event to sell their handmade, custom-made and other products to shoppers looking to get a head

start on Christmas gifts. In addition to crafts and other gift items, a wide selection of food and treats will be available.

The event will also offer raffles for both children and adults, children's games, a visit from Santa and a bake sale.

Community members donate a variety of items for the raffles, including gym memberships, jewelry, electronics, gourmet baskets,

toys and more. Donations for the raffles are accepted until October 30. Baked goods can only be donated on Friday, November 6 or the morning of the Holiday Festival.

"This is one of my favorite events," said Principal Joline Girouard. "It's great to see the campus filled with excitement at this time of year."

Approximately 800 people attend to help generate over \$15,000 each year.

All proceeds support St. Dom's academics and activities.

## LTE

Continued from page 3  
with actually implementing PAYT. The councilor who was absent supports the program and is a personal and political friend of Chin.

Contrary to what Chin's campaign postcard states, Mayor Macdonald has never voiced support for implementing PAYT, nor did he "give" \$30,000 in taxpayer funds to a private trash bag company to promote "his" plan. The marketing plan was the brainchild of the consultant chosen by staff through a

bid process and presented to the city council as a body.

Mayor Macdonald only voted on behalf of an absent councilor who fully supports the PAYT program. For the record, I voted against this program and remain opposed to PAYT as a solution in our Solid Waste budgeting.

Chin, his employers at the Maine Peoples Alliance, his dark money donors and his supporters should be ashamed to have resorted to complete falsehoods to influence the voters of Lewiston. He has raised \$64,000—an unprecedented

amount in an attempt to buy a Lewiston mayoral seat—mostly from out-of-state donors as far away as Washington, D.C. and New Mexico.

We, the people of Lewiston, don't need community organizers and liberal agitators from "away" practicing Washington-style politics in our hometown. Liberal progressive politicians funded by big money who spread campaign falsehoods are not what will save Lewiston.

Michael R. Lachance  
Lewiston City Councilor  
Ward 7

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## ServiceMaster franchise relocates to Auburn

A growing local ServiceMaster cleaning and restoration franchise recently relocated to Auburn and has plans to add to its current workforce of 30 employees. Owned by Steve Cox and Carl Carlson, III, the franchise moved from Oxford to the nearly 10,000-square foot facility formerly occupied by Crystal Spring Water Co. off Washington Avenue. The new headquarters is more central to the business's customer service area, which covers Oxford, Androscoggin, Franklin, Kennebec and Cumberland counties.

"We're delighted to be the newest business moving to the Auburn-Lewiston area," said Cox. "This move is a positive thing for our employees, our customers and the businesses and homeowners we look forward to serving."

ServiceMaster provides 24-hour professional, commercial and residential cleaning services, including fire and water damage restoration, mold removal, odor removal, post-construction cleaning, animal damage, sewage damage and sanitization, trauma clean-up, floor cleaning services and whole house cleaning.

Employees also specialize in hoarding cleanouts and are the only professional

cleaners in Maine trained by extreme cleaner and organizer Matt Paxton of the reality TV show "Hoarders." The filming of the company's recent hoarding cleanout of a Lisbon home will be part of an upcoming episode of "Hoarders" that should air this fall.

Cox and Carlson used a Small Business Administration loan to invest \$200,000 in the new location to create office space, build a second floor on one end of the building and expand the parking lot. A special ozone treatment room was built to remove smoke odors from home or business furnishings. An ozone machine generates oxygen molecules with an extra oxygen atom (O<sub>3</sub>), and these highly reactive molecules attach themselves to molecules that generate odor. When attached, the composition of both molecules is changed and the odor is eliminated.

The franchise has a fleet of 20 vehicles, five of which are equipped with carpet cleaning and water removal systems. Cox expects to hire three to five employees by winter.

Besides emergency services, ServiceMaster also provides carpet cleaning and vinyl composite tile stripping and waxing. They work with

business owners to create a customized, yearlong floor care program that fits any budget. Emergency action plans are also developed to streamline communication between managers and employees and to prevent the loss of business after fire or water damage.

As part of a network of New England ServiceMaster franchises providing mutual aid, the franchise is also able to manage large commercial emergency jobs that require significant resources quickly. These jobs receive a tractor trailer of equipment and a crew of 40 to 50 cleaning professionals to get a school, hospital or manufacturing facility back up and running in as little as 48 hours.

"Auburn welcomes Steve and Carl and their ServiceMaster team of 30 employees to the community and appreciates their significant investment in re-purposing a building along a gateway corridor to the city," said Auburn Mayor Jonathan LaBonte.

For more information about ServiceMaster cleaning and restoration, call 539-4452 or see [smfireandwater.com](http://smfireandwater.com) or [smcarpetcleaning.com](http://smcarpetcleaning.com).

# What's Going On

## Lewiston assessment info now available online

The City of Lewiston has announced that its assessment information is now available to the public online. Owner and building information can now be researched via a user-friendly database that is searchable by owner, address, map lot or parcel ID. Instructions can be found on the site.

To view the database, see [www.lewistonmaine.gov/propertytaxrecords](http://www.lewistonmaine.gov/propertytaxrecords).

Residents who prefer to have their name and mailing address hidden from view on the site may send a written request to the Lewiston City Assessor's Office, 27 Pine Street, Lewiston, ME 04240.

Please note that such a request will only hide information on the public assessing site; the information will still be visible on the city's online GIS site and on computers at City Hall.

For more information, call the Assessor's Office at 513-3122.

## Cash Coalition seeks volunteers

The L/A Cash Coalition is looking for volunteer tax preparers and appointment schedulers for the 2016 tax filing season. Last year, volunteers allowed the coalition to assist over 2,700 local taxpayers.

Tax preparers should be able to volunteer at Lewiston Memorial Ar-

mory for at least one three-hour shift per week over the ten-week filing season. Training will be provided online through the IRS Link-and-Learn Program or through free training classes in early January. Volunteer tax preparers are supported by on-site reviewers whose job is to answer

questions and review all tax returns prepared to ensure their accuracy.

Appointment schedulers may volunteer from home using their own computer or at Lewiston City Hall. For more information or to volunteer, call Site Coordinator KC Geiger at 240-5649.

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**News from Safe Voices**

October marks Safe Voices' annual observance of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and this year we're giving particular consideration to the concept of "intersectionality."

Intersectionality is the idea that certain categorizations, like race, class and gender, are interconnected and should not be examined separately from one another if we are to get a true picture of a person's full identity. These categorizations are typically linked with long-standing social stigmas and systems of oppression, such as racism, sexism, homophobia and classism.

For example, a woman of color's personal outlook may be fundamentally shaped by being a member of multiple groups (i.e., women and people of color) that, even in 2015, are often marginalized and face discrimination. If the woman in question is also a victim of domestic violence, intersectionality stipulates that it is important to consider her experience of abuse, not just as a woman, or as a person of color, but as a woman of color.

In addition to exploring intersectionality, this month we're also recognizing that intimate partner violence can happen to every community or type of person imaginable. Anyone, no matter their age, race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, educational level or socioeconomic status, can be a victim. We provide services to people from all walks of life on a regular basis. In fact, another goal of this year's DVAM is to make sure that all members of the community are aware of this.

So if you, a friend, or a loved one need help, or would just like to sit down with an advocate in a low-pressure setting, please call our helpline at 1-800-559-2927. It's available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. We hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable rest of fall.

Mike Brown, local business owner of Not a Con Home Improvements, is the person Safe Voices depends upon for all the repair needs of its shelter and many outreach office locations. He has been doing work for the agency for years, often donating his time, materials and labor.

Safe Voices staff member Diane Gallagher received the Shining Star award. After nearly 20 years with Safe Voices, she continues to grow education programming in Oxford

County, including new elementary school programs and a Youth Advisory Council.

In addition to honoring the awardees, the event also included time for networking and socializing with others committed to the work of ending domestic violence, including new Safe Voices Executive Director Elise Johansen.

If you or someone you know is in a domestic violence situation, call Safe Voices' 24-hour helpline at 1-800-559-2927.

What is domestic violence? Domestic violence is a pattern of coercive behavior in which one person attempts to control another through threats or actual use of physical violence, sexual assault, and verbal or psychological abuse.

Safe Voices is happy to offer volunteer and internship possibilities. Program areas include prevention/education, outreach/court advocacy, crisis call work, shelter, and fundraising. Placement is based on interest and availability of programs.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer or interning with Safe Voices please call Staci Beal at (207) 795-6744 ext. 14 or email [sbeal@safevoices.org](mailto:sbeal@safevoices.org).

**SafeVoices**

*Working to End Domestic Violence*

**Safe Voices presented awards at Fall Mixer**

Safe Voices presented their Community Partner Awards at their annual Fall Mixer on Thursday, October 22 at 5:30 p.m. at Martindale Country Club in Auburn.

At the event, the Safe Voices Board of Directors and staff honored four members of the community for their tireless advocacy on behalf of victims of domestic violence in Androscoggin, Franklin and Oxford Counties.

Androscoggin District Court Judge Rick E. Lawrence, has demonstrated a commitment to addressing domestic violence in our community and has been instrumental in making the Lewiston Domestic Violence Review Court one of the more vibrant of its kind in the state.

Tiffany Simoneau handles most of the Domestic Violence probation cases in Androscoggin County and sits on numerous committees tackling domestic violence. She is well respected by her peers for her commitment to the safety of victims and accountability for perpetrators.

Safe Voices staff member Diane Gallagher received the Shining Star award. After nearly 20 years with Safe Voices, she continues to grow education programming in Oxford

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**Survivor**

I have battled my whole life to become a strong woman, to be able to face anything. Now I can hold my head up and be proud of who I have become.

If you think that you can take me down, you are very wrong.

Go ahead and give it your best shot. I am a SURVIVOR and I open my arms to help other women become survivors.

It may be very hard at first, but you will make it! Believe in yourself!

You don't have to be a victim; you too can become a survivor!

*Anonymous*

**How to Be Helpful to Someone Experiencing Domestic Violence**

**By Kelley Glidden,**  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY EDUCATION, SAFE VOICES

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, a great time to consider what we know about domestic violence and how we would respond to someone experiencing abuse.

Domestic violence is about a pattern of behaviors that one person uses to control another, and can include physical violence, emotional abuse, verbal threats and isolation.

Domestic violence impacts women, children and men here in our community, and you don't need to be a professional advocate to be able to offer a helpful response as a family member, co-worker, neighbor or friend. Here are some helpful tips that anyone can use.

Speak up. If you're concerned that someone you know may be in an abusive situation, it's okay to express that concern. You may be the first person in their life

**Safe Voices Vision & Philosophy**

Safe Voices does not discriminate on the basis of gender, sexual orientation, race, religion, age, or physical or mental ability.

to do so. Speak to them privately, and if they do not choose to disclose, you can leave the door open for future conversations.

Listen. Domestic violence thrives on silence. You can be a support simply by listening to someone's experience and giving them the opportunity to share their story.

Don't blame or judge. It's easy to think "you should do this" or "I would have done things differently," but we never really know what it's like to walk in someone else's shoes. Keep an open mind and try to meet people where they are.

Ask. If you don't know what to do next, it's okay to ask: "What do you think would be helpful?" "What can I do to support you?" The person experiencing the abuse knows what would be most helpful in their individual situation.

Provide resources. There is help available for people experiencing abuse. You can offer someone a brochure with the local domestic violence helpline number or a safe place to make a phone call to an advocate.

To learn more about domestic violence or the services offered by Safe Voices, visit [safevoices.org](http://safevoices.org) or contact our 24-hour helpline at 1-800-559-2927.

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## CMCC offers course on “Tax-Free Retirement”

The Corporate and Community Services Department at Central Maine Community College will offer a course on “Tax-Free Retirement” on Wednesday, November 4, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The Novem-

ber offering of CMCC’s monthly financial series, Maine Money Academy, this two-hour workshop will focus on how a Roth IRA and life insurance can be powerful tools for creating tax-free money in retire-

ment. Participants will analyze their current situation to determine best strategies and discuss examples on how payout options may be used.

While the class is open to anyone, participants should come knowing their current income level, as well their discretionary income, so they can participate in the case study and investment discussions. Registration for this course is open and ongoing, but space is limited. The cost is \$19 and the deadline for registration is October 30.

For more information, contact Corporate & Community Services at 755-5280, training@cmcc.edu, or register online at www.cmcc.edu/ccs.

## Food Council hosts Meet the Buyers event

The Good Food Council of Lewiston-Auburn will host its inaugural Central Maine Meet the Buyers event on Wednesday, November 4, from 2:30 to 5 p.m. at the Franco Center in Lewiston. This event will bring area farmers and food producers together with wholesale food buyers for restaurants and other institutions. The goal is to build relationships among those attending to facilitate conversations about Farm-to-Institution marketing and distribution strategies for Central Maine and beyond. Farmers and buyers from the greater Lewiston-Auburn area and throughout Central Maine are encouraged to register and attend. The event is free and food will be provided. For more information or to register, see www.goodfood4la.org.

The Good Food Council was formed in the summer of 2012 to create and support improvements to the food system of the Lewiston-Auburn community. It educates the public and serves as a forum for discussing issues, fostering coordination between sectors in the food system, evaluating and influencing policy, and supporting programs that meet local food needs.

## Food for Thought spotlights women veterans

USM’s Lewiston-Auburn Senior College will present their next Food for Thought Luncheon on Friday, November 13 at 11:30 a.m. The guest speaker will be LaRhonda Harris, RN, BSN, Manager of the Women Veterans Program of the VA Maine Healthcare System.

Following a screening of “Women at War,” a 24-minute video illustrating the changing roles of women veterans over three wars from 1942 to the present, Harris will discuss how these changing roles have prompted changes in how veterans are cared for by the Veterans Administration. A question and answer period will follow.

After graduating from St. Joseph’s College in North Windham in 1985, Harris worked for a short time on the Cardiac Step Down Unit at Maine Medical Center in Portland. Shortly thereafter, she received a commission as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force and was stationed at Scott Air Force Base in Belleville, Illinois, where she worked in the Medical-Surgical and Emergency-Trauma Departments.

Upon completion of her three years in the USAF, Harris worked in various hospitals in and around St. Louis, Missouri, specializing in Critical Care and Emergency Medicine. She returned to Maine in 1994, where she worked in various



LaRhonda Harris manages the Women Veterans Program of the VA Maine Healthcare System.

departments in the Special Care Unit of the VA Maine Health Care System, including Endoscopy and Primary Care-Women Health. She became manager of the system’s Women Veterans Program in 2010.

With her husband and their two sons, Harris is avidly involved in various outdoor activities, including boating, kayaking, hiking, fishing and spending time at the ocean. She has completed the Trek across Maine and the Autumn Escape in Massachusetts and completed her first 5K run this summer.

Open to the public, the event will take place in Function Room 170 at Lewiston-Auburn College, located at 51 Westminster Street in Lewiston. The cost, which includes lunch, is \$7 with advance reservation or \$8 at the door. Reservations must be made by noon on Tuesday, November 10 by calling 753-6510. Any late callers will be considered “at the door.”

## “French Reacqu” classes at Franco Center



Instructor Vanessa Stasse

The Franco Center will begin its next session of weekly “French Reacqu” classes for adults and others interested in studying the French language on

Monday, November 2. The classes will run for seven weeks in November and December on Mondays from 6 to 8 p.m.

See Franco, page 11

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## CMCC holds fall open house



Associate Dean of Student Services, Grimes Williams, helps check in a student for Open House. Background: Students assist arrivals on tours of the College. Photo by Heather Seymour.

Central Maine Community College (CMCC) hosted its annual fall open house for prospective students and their families on Saturday, October 24th in Auburn. Academic programs, student clubs and activities were on display as the College staff assisted students with the admissions and financial aid application processes.

CMCC offers 41 degree programs, certificates and advanced certificates which prepare graduates for immediate employment or to transfer to a four-year institution. In addition to

on-campus housing and a large number of student clubs and activities, the College offers competitive athletics in men's and women's basketball, baseball, softball, soccer, and cross-country.

## Franco

*Continued from page 10*

The center's "French Reacqu" classes are for those who either want to learn French or who want to improve what they already know. The pace is relaxed; classes are taught in French, with English explanations as needed. Participants are asked to bring a binder or folder and a writing utensil to class.

Veteran instructor Vanessa Stasse will teach the course. Born in Sherbrooke, Québec of Belgian parents, she has a Master's degree in anthropology from Laval University in Québec City. She has lived in Maine for over 10 years, teaching French and yoga and interpreting in French, English and Portuguese.

The cost for the seven classes is \$70. To register, call 783-1585, email [jjacques@francocenter.org](mailto:jjacques@francocenter.org), or send contact information and payment to: Franco Center, 46 Cedar Street, Lewiston, ME 04240, Attn: Adult French Classes. The Franco Center requires a minimum of eight people per class session. If that threshold is not met, full refunds will be issued to those who have already registered and paid.

The center also offers "Fun in French" classes for children ages 4 to 12 on Saturday mornings; the next session will begin on November 7. Evening "French for Teens" classes will begin in January. For more information on any of these language programs, call 783-1585, email [jjacques@francocenter.org](mailto:jjacques@francocenter.org), or see [FrancoCenter.org](http://FrancoCenter.org).

# What's Going On



Culinary Arts Program students put their skills to use creating delicious brunch dishes for Open House guests. Photo by Heather Seymour.

## APL hosts multi-faith conversation

Auburn Public Library will present the next in its series of programs called "Conversations: A Multi-Faith Perspective" on Tuesday, November 3 from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. The public is invited to listen in as clergy of different faiths engage in a series of round-table discussions on different inter-faith topics.

The November event will feature a discussion of the story of Cain and Abel. Participants will include Rabbi Sruli Dresdner of

Temple Shalom in Auburn, Pastor Roger Cousineau of East Auburn Baptist Church, Rev. Doctor Jody Cohen Hayashida of the First Universalist Church of Auburn, and Pastor Richard Waller of the Auburn Church of the Nazarene.

The audience will have an opportunity to ask questions, which must be written down on the provided notecards. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 333-6640, ext. 4.

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# What's Going On

## Task force examines downtown housing issues



Appointed by Mayor Robert Macdonald, the Lewiston Downtown Building Task Force has been meeting since September of 2015 to review the City's

current approaches to addressing fire and building code issues involving older multi-family buildings in its downtown. While the City has been aggressively pursuing the removal of vacant and dangerous buildings, the focus of the task force is to improve the overall condition of structures that are currently occupied. Areas to be reviewed include

fire prevention and code enforcement efforts, policies to assist building owners in improving their properties, and statutory changes to assist the City in its goal of preserving and enhancing functional buildings.

"Councilors Cloutier and Bouchard and I felt that this task force is very important to Lewiston's future," said Macdonald. "Demolitions alone can't solve our downtown housing problems. The Task Force is charged with developing recommendations for the City Council to consider that will improve the overall quality of our downtown housing stock and preserve our in-town neighborhoods."

In addition to the mayor and Councilors Kristen Cloutier and Shane Bouchard, members of the task force include City Administrator Ed Barrett, Fire Chief Paul LeClair, Police Chief Mike Bussiere, Planning and Code Enforcement Director Gil Arsenaault, Captain Rick Cailler of the Lewiston Firefighters Association, and local building owners Rick Lachapelle and Steven Labrecque. The Task Force is expected to submit its recommendations prior to the end of this calendar year.

## YMCA lists November programs

The YMCA of Auburn-Lewiston will offer the following programs for children and adults in November. With the exceptions of gymnastics and field hockey, all programs will take place at 62 Turner Street in Auburn. Pre-registration is required for most events and programs. Some fees apply, and financial assistance is available for qualifying individuals and families. For more information, call 795-4095 or see [www.alyymca.org](http://www.alyymca.org).

"Youth Swim Lessons." This 7-week session is for infants through 12 years. Multiple class times are available. Session begins November 2.

"YPLAA After Hours." Thursday, November 12, from 5 to 7 p.m. This November after-hours event of the Young Professionals of the Lewiston-Auburn Area will include a free throw contest for adults and

youth, a smoothie machine, tours and giveaways.

"Home School Exercise." Mondays and Wednesdays, starting October 26. Home schooling families can stay active while making new friends. For those ages 4 through 15. Register through November 6.

"Lunch & Learn." Tuesday, November 10, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Presenters from Seniors Plus will discuss programs available to older adults. Required \$5 registration fee includes lunch.

"Art Class." Saturday, November 7, from 10 a.m. to noon. Participants will paint with acrylics on canvas. For those ages 7 and up. \$15 for Y members, \$20 for non-members, (includes materials).

"Thanksgiving Member Appreciation." Join the Y for special group exercise classes and family activities on Thanksgiving morning. Open 7 to 11 a.m.

## Harvest Supper

The Lunn-Hunnewell Amvets Post #6 Auxiliary will host their annual Harvest Supper on Saturday, November 7 from 5 to 6 p.m. at the Amvets Hall at Route 100 in New Gloucester.

The meal will include ham, potatoes, car-

rots, squash, turnips, cabbage, onions, rolls, coffee, tea, punch and homemade apple crisp. The cost will be \$ 9 for adults, \$5 for children ages 6 to 12 and free for those 5 and under. Proceeds will support the group's veterans' hospital projects.



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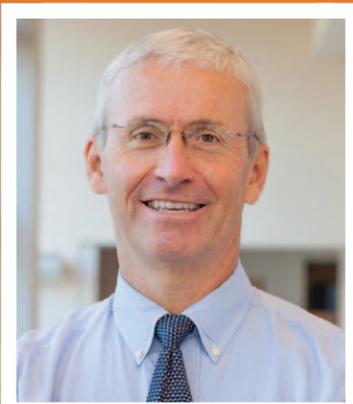
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# TWIN CITY NIGHTS

## Weekly Arts & Entertainment

### Hit maker T-Pain performs November 7



Ten years, 60 hits and two Grammy Awards since his debut, the resurgent "rapper tern sanga" T-Pain performs in support of his long-awaited new album, "Stoicville: The Phoenix," on Saturday, November 7 at 9 p.m. in Bates College's Gray Athletic Building, located at 130 Central Avenue in Lewiston. For more information, call 786-6305; to buy tickets (\$35), see [tpaineatbates/eventbrite.com](http://tpaineatbates/eventbrite.com).

### Basilica presents All Saints Day concert



Organist Richard Spotts

The Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul will present organist Richard Spotts on Sunday, November 1 at 6 p.m. Accompanied by the Saints Peter and Paul Basilica Schola Cantorum, Spotts will perform excerpts from the seminal work "L'Orgue Mystique" by French com-

poser Charles Tournemire (1870-1939). The event is free and open to the public.

Considered to be Tournemire's magnum opus, L'Orgue Mystique, written over a 5-year period beginning in 1927, consists of 253 movements representing the fifty-one Sundays and

feasts of the Roman Catholic liturgical year. Based on over 300 Gregorian chants, the piece is considered to represent a pivotal moment in the history of organ music, bringing the sound of the ancient instrument into modernity. Unfortunately, because the work was written during the chaotic period following World War I and leading up to the Great Depression and World War II, this magnificent work has been overlooked and largely forgotten.

The concert, a musical Pilgrim's Progress, will depict the life of a saint. Themes of divine love, redemption, grace, transformation and re-joining will be presented through the sounds of the Basilica's Casavant organ, the largest church organ in the state.

A native of Bucks County, Pennsylvania, and a graduate of Westminster Choir College in Princeton, Spotts has performed excerpts from L'Orgue Mystique throughout the United States and Canada. He is currently writing a book on the subject.

The Basilica is located at 122 Ash Street in Lewiston.

### Model train show travels to new location

The Great Falls Model Railroad Club of Auburn will hold its annual Fall Model Train Show on Saturday, November 7, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at a new location this year. Due to a scheduling conflict, the show has been moved from its usual location at Auburn Middle School to Mt. Ararat High School in Topsham.

However, this year's event will still offer a variety of fun activities for train enthusiasts of all ages, including the club's large modular layout, which will feature new modules created in the club's eight-week fall Model Railroading Class. Model railroad items will be offered for sale by dealers from throughout New England, as will the "Train Time" videos produced by the club that will be shown continuously throughout the day.

Refreshments will be for sale by the Mt. Ararat Boosters Club. Admission to the event will be \$4 for adults or \$2 for those under 15. Mt. Ararat High School is located at 73 Eagles Way in Topsham. For more information, see [www.greatfalls-modelrrclub.org](http://www.greatfalls-modelrrclub.org).



Tami and Mike Paine of Lewiston add details to their model railroad layout, which will be part of a larger layout on display on Saturday, November 7 at Mt. Ararat High School in Topsham.

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# Twin City Nights

## Sawyer Memorial wraps with Lewis and Clark film

Sawyer Memorial's final program of the year will be a showing of the government's official film commemorating the bicentennial of Lewis and Clark's historic journey of exploration. Gray Warriner's "Lewis and Clark: Confluence of Bravery and Time" will be screened on Friday,

October 30 at 2 and 7 p.m. The program is free and open to the public.

Warriner's film journeys 200 years back in time to retrace the footsteps of Lewis and Clark as they explore the unknown reaches of the wild Missouri River, cross the Rockies, and ride the turbulent waters of the

Columbia to the Pacific Ocean. Through special effects, ancient Mandan earth lodges are recreated, buffalo herds once again roam the plains, and teepees still dot the horizon, and re-enactments bring this remarkable journey to life.

The Araxine Wilkins Sawyer Memorial is located at 371 Sawyer Road in Greene. For more information, call 946-5311 or see sawyer-foundation.com.

## Mu Chapter hosts Teddy Bear Fair



Donated by Linda Tremblay of Sabattus, this 61x67-inch quilt will be among the prizes up for raffle on Saturday, November 7.

The Mu Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma International will host their annual Teddy Bear Fair on Saturday, November 7 in the gymnasium of Lewiston High School. The event will feature a baked goods table with homemade goodies; a white elephant table with gently used items available for pennies on the dollar; a books, CDs and DVDs table; a harvest table with homemade jams, jellies and canned goods; two craft tables with holiday items and other handmade treasures; a teddy bear and friends table with gently loved stuffed animals; and a raffle table

## National Book Award finalist to read at Bates



Poet Linda Gregerson, whose work has been described as "dizzily ambitious and fiercely beautiful" by *The Atlantic* and whose collection "Magnetic North" was a finalist for the National Book Award, will read from and discuss her work on Thursday, November 5 at 6:30 p.m. in Bates College's Muskie Archives at 70 Campus Avenue in Lewiston. The program is free and open to the public. 753-6963.

## Battle of the Blends

The Maine Music Society will kick off its 25th Anniversary Season with a roof-raising Battle of the Blends XXII concert on Saturday, November 7 at 7:30 p.m. at the Franco

Center in Lewiston. Six a cappella groups will embody this year's theme, "Making Music Soar," with their energetic vocal renditions of jazz, barbershop, pop, rock 'n' roll and Renaissance music. Coming together to benefit the Society at this annual event will be Good-Time Sound, the Cross-tones, Talk to the Hand, the Edward Little a Cappella Choir, the Nor'easters Barbershop Chorus and the Maine Music Society Chamber Singers.

with prizes to include \$50 gas cards, gift certificates for lobsters, and a hand-assembled quilt by Linda Tremblay of Sabattus. Also available will be a lunch counter and a Saturday Night Special of baked beans with all the trimmings.

The members of Mu are retired and active women educators; proceeds from this event fund their chapter scholarships and community service projects.

General seating is \$25, or \$10 for children under 12. For tickets, call L/A Arts at 782-7228 or purchase online at [www.mainemusicsociety.org](http://www.mainemusicsociety.org).

## St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store reopens

It began in 1971, the idea of Monsignor Paul D. Gleason to help local people in need. Nearly half a century later, the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store has been given new life in Lewiston, once again offering love, compassion and assistance, much like the patron saint of charitable societies for which the store is named.

The store, which reopened recently at its new location at 276 Main Street, will still provide a variety of goods, from clothes to kitchen items. Reasonable prices, a welcoming atmosphere, and most of the previous staff have also found their way back to the new store.

"It's been a long journey," said store manager Pauline Marsh. "But we are almost there."

The fact that the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store has started a new chapter would have seemed improbable, if not impossible, just over a year ago. In July of 2014, it was forced to close at the previous Ash Street location after an apartment in the building became infested with bed bugs, which eventually spread to the store.

"After we spoke to pest control, we knew we'd have to get rid of the merchandise and close," said Marsh. "We threw everything away. Six of us emptied out the whole store. It was so sad, we were crying."

A search immediately began for a new location - not an unfamiliar task for some of the store's staff members. The Ash Street location had been the third building to house the thrift store, with the previous two locations having been lost to flooding and a fire. Volunteers canvassed Lewiston for a suitable venue, visiting countless possibilities, but coming up empty.

"Finally, we landed on Main Street and started *See Thrift, page 15*

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# Thrift

Continued from page 14

from scratch at this location," said Marsh. "We worked for months, knocking down walls, installing new lighting, and building the racks and the counters. It's wheelchair accessible, very bright and very clean."

Along the way, Marsh found that community members with no prior connection to the thrift store were quick to help. "Everyone gave us great prices," she said. "The new carpeting was a good deal. The lighting was given to us at a low price. One person gave us the signs in the windows at no charge. We didn't have to ask. They were just so generous."

The store has around 25 dedicated volunteers, many of whom have worked at the store for decades. Once a labor of love to help those in need, St. Vincent de Paul has become a big part of their lives.

"I'm one of the youngest workers, and I'm 77!" said Marsh. "We have people in their 80s and 90s working here. People just love to be at the store. It's a social place for some people who live alone. They can come and chat or just catch their breath. It is a good social spot for a lot of elderly people who live alone."

St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store is open Mon-

# Bates to stage adaptation of "Nutcracker" story

A classic holiday tale will get a modern twist in next month's mainstage theater production at Bates College. Martin Andrucki, the college's Charles A. Dana Professor of Theater, has adapted German writer E.T.A. Hoffman's original story about a magical nutcracker to create a play set in the present day called "Marie and the Nutcracker."

While the production includes no dancing, Andrucki says it aims to entertain audiences of all ages who are familiar with

days, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.; and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon. Those interested in volunteering at the store should call Pauline Marsh at 753-1555.

While the thrift store is an autonomous operation, most of the volunteers are parishioners of Prince of Peace Parish in Lewiston. Monsignor Marc Caron, the pastor of Prince of Peace, blessed the new store recently to celebrate its re-opening.

"People have been telling us how happy they are that we're back," said Marsh. "They're really excited!"

the classic ballet production based upon Hoffman's story. "The more you know about the 'Nutcracker,'" he says, "the more I think you will see the contrasts and humorous parallels between the dance and the play."

Every Christmas season, audiences around the world flock to productions of Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's classic 1892 ballet "The Nutcracker." Far fewer people, however, are familiar with Hoffman or his children's story "The Nutcracker and the Mouse King," which inspired it. Setting out to write a holiday play, Andrucki took inspiration from Hoffman's original tale.

"I had this idea that it would be interesting if we had another Christmas play besides 'A Christmas Carol,'" he said. "The original 'Nutcracker' story seemed like a fairly obvious choice. Because of the ballet, it's familiar to everyone."

While dance doesn't figure in Andrucki's play, the playwright has kept much from Hoffmann's plot that was discarded by the ballet. As he studied Hoffman's novella and noticed elements that would translate well onto the stage, he saw an opportunity to tell Hoffman's full story while

# Twin City Nights



Sophomore Keila Ching (as Marie) and junior Sam James (as the Mouseking) in a scene from Martin Andrucki's original play "Marie and the Nutcracker."

reflecting on how Christmas is celebrated today.

In Hoffman's story, a girl is given a nutcracker by her aloof uncle Drosselmeier just before Christmas. At night, she sees the nutcracker come to life in her bedroom, but her family does not believe her. The next day, Drosselmeier recounts to her "The Tale of the Hard Nut," which explains a history of mutual animosity between the evil Mouseking and the Nutcracker, who was once a man. The story gives Marie the chance to change the Nutcracker's fate.

In Andrucki's version,

Marie and her younger brother are children in 2015. Her brother asks for the latest video games for Christmas, while her mother and older sister bemoan the commercialization of the holiday season. In these scenes, the play is rooted in reality. Only when Drosselmeier tells the story of the nutcracker does the play enter, as Andrucki puts it, the period of "once upon a time."

The production's set and lighting will reflect the shifts in the play between modern reality and timeless fantasy. What audiences will experience, says Andrucki,

"oscillates back and forth, just as the script does, between things that are pretty realistic and things that are pretty fanciful."

Andrucki directs the production. In leading roles are Keila Ching of Honolulu as Marie; Nate Stephenson of Ellsworth, Maine, as the Nutcracker; Sam James of Raleigh, N.C., as the Mouseking; and Colin McIntire of Darien, Conn., as Drosselmeier. Rounding out the cast are Amanda San Roman of Belle Terre, N.Y., as Marie's younger brother Freddy; Audrey Burns of Topsham, Maine, as her older sister Louise; Brennen Malone of Philadelphia as her father; and Mara Woolard of Portsmouth, Va., as her mother.

The production will be presented at Schaeffer Theatre, 329 College Street in Lewiston, in five performances taking place on Thursday, Friday and Monday, November 5, 6 and 9 at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, November 7 at 5 p.m.; and Sunday, November 8 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$6/3. For more information, call 786-6161. To buy tickets, see [batestickets.com](http://batestickets.com).

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# What's Going On

## Minot Consolidated wins National Blue Ribbon School recognition

Minot Consolidated School in RSU 16 was among 335 public and private schools across the country, and one of two schools in Maine, to be named National Blue Ribbon Schools for 2015 by the U.S. Department of Education recently. The other Maine school accorded the honor was Coastal Ridge

Elementary School in York.

The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors public and private elementary, middle and high schools where students demonstrate high achievement learning standards or are making notable improvements in closing the achievement gap. The award affirms the hard work of students, educators, families and communities in creating safe and welcoming schools where students master challenging content.

Each year, the Maine Department of Education is invited to nominate schools for this recognition. "These nominees need to meet

specific national criteria, and the process is quite detailed," said Acting Commissioner of Education Tom Desjardin. "Congratulations to Minot Consolidated and Coastal Ridge Elementary in being recognized as exemplary high performing schools; this is a huge honor."

Minot Consolidated School forms the epicenter of the town, where children are educated, town meetings are held, community dinners are served and recreational sporting events are attended. This encourages staff, families and community members to form strong bonds, which create a successful school environment where children are challenged to do their best and rewarded for work well done. Self-confidence, motivation and a sense of personal responsibility are supported by teachers, who differentiate their instruction based on

See **Minot**, page 19

## Morse Library offers story times

Morse Library of Greene is offering story times every Saturday at 10:30 a.m. this fall through December 5. Kids ages two to six, along with their younger and older siblings, are invited to attend with their adult caregivers as story time volunteers Sandra Fowler and Pam Osborn read new and classic picture books for young children.

Fowler is a retired educator who has worked as a teacher and school librarian at the elementary and secondary school levels, while Osborn is a retired children's librarian who has worked at Auburn Public Library and Bailey Public Library in Winthrop. Come enjoy some great stories together while meeting other young families in your community!

Also, the library is currently seeking residents of Greene who might be interested in filling a vacancy on its governing board that will open up in March of 2016. If you would like to

be part of a team working to keep library services in your community vibrant and up-to-date into the future, they'd like to hear your ideas. For more information about the position, call the library at 946-5544.

Located at 105 Main Street in Greene Village, just off Route 202 a quarter mile down from Greene Central School, Morse Library offers new and bestselling books for adults, teens and children, as well as a growing collection of movies on DVD and audiobooks on CD. Patrons have access to an interlibrary loan service and may download ebooks and audiobooks from the MaineInfonet Download Library. The library also offers public computers and a high-speed wireless internet connection.

Morse Library cards are free, but proof of address is required. The library is open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from noon to 7 p.m. and Wednesday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

## Franco Center hosts Halloween Open House

The Franco Center will host a Halloween Open House on Saturday, October 31 starting at 6 p.m. The event is open to trick-or-treaters and party goers of all ages who would like to drop in for drinks, candy, scary movies or dancing to great dance music. Costumes

are optional but encouraged, and there will be no cover charge for this drop-in event.

The Franco Center is located at 46 Cedar Street (on the corner of Cedar and Oxford) in Lewiston. For more information, call 783-1585 or see [FranCoCenter.org](http://FranCoCenter.org).

# Swing by Clover's Job Fair



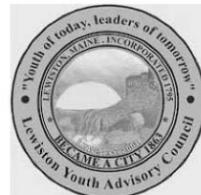
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Come try your hand at Lewiston Jeopardy with questions relating to Lewiston "back in the day" and the "here and now." The evening is part of the youth council's **DO YOU DO LEW** campaign in an effort to highlight Lewiston's many positives!

All ages welcome; participants will be chosen from an on-site name drawing!

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**Thursday, October 29**

Lisbon Business Breakfast Forum. 7:30 to 9 a.m. Lisbon Town Office. Network with other businesses while learning about state programs and resources. Free. RSVP to 353-3000, ext. 122.

Legal Advisory Workshop. 8 to 9:30 a.m. Chamber of Commerce, 415 Lisbon St., Lewiston. A panel of business, HR and legal experts discusses "Religious Accommodation in the Workplace." \$50 (members \$25). Register at [www.androscoggincounty.com](http://www.androscoggincounty.com).

Constituent Outreach Hours. Staff reps. from the office of Sen. Angus King are on hand at the city halls of Lewiston (10 a.m. to noon) and Auburn (2 to 4 p.m.) to meet with area residents about specific problems, legislative issues, or concerns about federal gov't. agencies. No appt. necessary. FMI call 1-800-432-1599.

Legal Services Food Hub. 6:30 p.m. Auburn Public Library. Reps. from this organization describe how they provide free legal services to eligible farmers, food entrepreneurs and organizations that support them. 333-6640, ext. 4.

Pride Film Festival. 7 p.m. Klahr Center, UMA campus, 46 University Dr., Augusta. This celebration of LGBTQ films continues with "Wigstock: The Movie" (1995). Dress - or

# Calendar

See more Calendar at [www.TwinCityTimes.com](http://www.TwinCityTimes.com)

cross dress - up in your most fun outfit. Free. 621-3530; [www.hhrmaine.org](http://www.hhrmaine.org).

**Friday, October 30**

Film Screening. 2 and 7 p.m. Sawyer Memorial, 371 Sawyer Rd., Greene. Sawyer Memorial screens Gray Warriner's "Lewis and Clark: Confluence of Bravery and Time." Free. 946-5311; [sawyer-foundation.com](http://sawyer-foundation.com).

Chicken Pie Supper. 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. No. Yarmouth Congregational Church, 3 Gray Rd., No. Yarmouth. Scratch-made meat-and-gravy chicken pie, mashed potatoes w. gravy, squash, coleslaw, dessert. \$12.50 (\$5.50 ages 4-10; free ages 4-). Takeout avail. 829-3644.

Nutrition Center Soirée. 5:30 p.m. St. Mary's Nutrition Center, 208 Bates St., Lewiston. Talented area chefs present demos and hearty tasting plates of their creations. Proceeds benefit the center. \$125. 777-8863; [www.stmarysmaine.com](http://www.stmarysmaine.com).

**Saturday, October 31**

Spook Walk. 6 to 9 p.m. Litchfield Sportsmen's Club, 2782 Hallowell Rd., Litchfield. This haunted Halloween retreat will be spooky, not terrifying, to accommodate younger visi-

tors. All ages. Admission by donation. 268-9271.

Halloween Open House. 6 p.m. Franco Center, 46 Cedar St., Lewiston. Trick-or-treaters, party goers of all ages are invited to drop in for drinks, candy, scary movies, or dancing to great dance music. Costumes encouraged; no cover charge. 783-1585; [FranCenter.org](http://FranCenter.org).

**Sunday, November 1**

Lewiston Winter Farmer's Market. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. St. Mary's Nutrition Center, 208 Bates St., Lewiston. Open first and third Sundays through January; Market Café. Credit cards, SNAP accepted. 513-3848.

Author Visit. 1 p.m. Callahan Hall, Lewiston Public Library. The library's Sunday Author Series continues with local historian and Bates College Professor Emeritus Douglas Hodgkin, discussing his book, "Lewiston Politics in the Gilded Age: 1863-1900." Free. 513-3135.

Halloween Candy Buy-Back. 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Norway Savings Bank Arena, 985 Turner St., Auburn. Get \$1 for every pound of candy you turn in - and your family skates for

free! Pres. by Center Street Dental. 784-2211; [www.centerstreetdental.net](http://www.centerstreetdental.net).

Organ Concert. 6 p.m. Basilica of Saints Peter & Paul, 122 Ash St., Lewiston. Accompanied by the Basilica's Schola Cantorum, organist Richard Spotts performs excerpts from Charles Tournemire's seminal work "L'Orgue Mystique." Free.

**Tuesday, November 3**

Conversations: A Multi-Faith Perspective. 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Auburn Public Library. Local clergy of different faiths engage in roundtable discussions, this month on the story of Cain and Abel. Free. 333-6640 ext. 4.

"Legend of Sleepy Hollow." 6:30 p.m. Gray Public Library, 5 Hancock St., Gray. Vermont's Puppetree Inc. presents their shadow puppet production of Washington Irving's classic story; best for kids in grades K-6 and their families. Free. 657-4110.

**Wednesday, November 4**

Meet the Buyers. 2:30 to 5 p.m. Franco Center, Lewiston. The Good Food Council of Lewiston-Auburn invites area farmers and wholesale food buyers to register and attend to start a conversation about local food strategies. Free. [www.goodfood4la.org](http://www.goodfood4la.org).

"Tax-Free Retirement." 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Central Maine Community College. Learn how a Roth IRA and life insurance can

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Rock The Kasbah (R)	1:20		6:50	
Jem And The Holograms (PG)	4:05		9:15	

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Lewiston "Jeopardy!" 6 to 7:30 p.m. Callahan Hall, Lewiston Public Library. Test your knowledge of all things Lewiston both "back in the day" and "here and now." Contestants drawn on site. All ages. Pres. by the Lewiston Youth Advisory Council. 513-3000 ext. 3205.

**Thursday, November 5**

Film Screening. 6:30 p.m. Callahan Hall, Lewiston Public Library. LPL & APL continue their "Muslim Journeys" film and book series with the film "Islamic Art Spots." Discussion follows. Free.

Author Visit. 6:30 p.m. Muskie Archives, Bates College, 70 Campus

Ave., Lewiston. Poet Linda Gregerson, whose collection "Magnetic North" was a finalist for the National Book Award, reads from and discusses her work. Free. 753-6963.

Pride Film Festival. 7 p.m. Klahr Center, UMA campus, 46 University Dr., Augusta. This celebration of LGBTQ films concludes with the documentary "Outrage" (2009). Discussion follows. Free. 621-3530; [www.hhrmaine.org](http://www.hhrmaine.org).

Theater: "Marie and the Nutcracker." 7:30 p.m. Schaeffer Theatre, Bates College, 329 College St., Lewiston. Students present Martin Andrucki's new adaptation of E.T.A. Hoffman's original holiday story. Again 11/6-9 (Sat. 5 p.m.; Sun. 2 p.m.) \$6/3. 786-6161. Buy tickets at [batestickets.com](http://batestickets.com).

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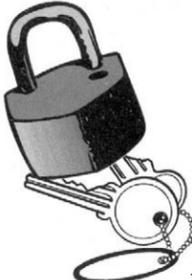
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## Shadow puppet "Sleepy Hollow" at Gray P.L.

Gray Public Library will host Vermont's PuppeTree Inc.'s touring shadow puppet production of "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" on Tuesday, November 3 at 6:30 p.m.

This special program for those in Kindergarten through middle school and their families will run 45 min-

utes and feature narration in Washington Irving's exact words.

After the show, the audience will get a fun, backstage view of how the puppets are manipulated to control the shadows on the screen. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 657-4110.

## Chicken Pie Supper

North Yarmouth Congregational Church will host its annual Chicken Pie Supper on Friday, October 30, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. The menu will include scratch-made meat-and-gravy chicken pie, mashed potatoes with gravy, squash, coleslaw and dessert. The price will be

\$12.50 for adults, \$5.50 for children ages 4 to 10 and free for kids under 4. Takeout will be available, as will seating if there is a short wait. The church is located at 3 Gray Road in North Yarmouth. For more information, contact the church office at 829-3644 or [nycc@maine.rr.com](mailto:nycc@maine.rr.com).

## Minot

*Continued from page 16*

student background, readiness and interest.

"Minot Consolidated School staff, students and parents are thrilled to be receiving the Blue Ribbon Award for academic excellence," said Principal Kim Spencer. "We will continue to represent the Blue Ribbon standards of excellence in education in our learning environments every day by making sure that school is a safe, challenging and fun place to learn and teach."

In November, Minot Consolidated School Principal Spencer and Coastal Ridge Elementary School Principal Sean Murphy will travel to Washington, D.C. for a two-day event, where they will participate in workshops, attend presentations and have discussions with educators from other National Blue Ribbon Schools. Each school will receive an award plaque and flag to grace their building, affirming the hard work of students, educators, families and communities and serving as a symbol of exemplary teaching and learning.

Last year, Maine's National Blue Ribbon School for 2014 was Turner Elementary.

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### NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE Commercial Properties at 232 Lake Street, Auburn, Maine and 27 Thorne Avenue, Lewiston, Maine.

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in the following two (2) Mortgage Deeds given by Black Water Properties, LLC, a Maine limited liability company, with a place of business in Lewiston, Androscoggin County, State of Maine to Lincoln Capital, LLC, a Maine Limited Liability Company, with its principal place of business in Portland, County of Cumberland, and State of Maine:

A. Mortgage dated December 26, 2014 and recorded in the Androscoggin County Registry of Deeds in Book 9061, Page 221;

B. Mortgage dated September 25, 2014 and recorded in said Registry in Book 9003, Page 79; and

(hereinafter the "Mortgages"), of which Mortgages the undersigned is the authorized holder, for breach of the conditions of said Mortgages, and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, there will be sold at Public Auction Sale at 796 Forest Avenue, Portland, Maine, at 2:00 p.m. on the 30th day of November, 2015, all of the real and personal property presently subject to the Mortgages.

These premises are subject to all encumbrances, liens, taxes, and easements recorded and unrecorded. Further information regarding the property may be obtained by contacting Andre G. Duchette, Esq., Taylor, McCormack & Frame, LLC, 30 Milk Street, 5th Floor, Portland, ME 04101, 207-828-2005. The properties will be sold "AS IS, WHERE IS" WITHOUT WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, as to the condition of the property or the status of title.

A bidder who wishes to bid must submit as a qualification to bid at the auction a deposit of \$5,000.00, in cash or by certified or cashier's check, with said deposit to be increased to 10% of the purchase price within five (5) business days of the auction. The deposit(s) of unsuccessful bidders will be refunded by the auctioneer upon completion of the public sale. The deposit of a successful bidder will be retained by the auctioneer as a non-refundable, non-interest bearing down payment to be applied to the purchase price. Checks should be made payable to Taylor, McCormack & Frame. Lincoln Capital, LLC reserves the right to submit a junior bid at the conclusion of the auction. Lincoln Capital, LLC, reserves the right to modify or add to the terms of sale. The terms and conditions of sale, including additions to or modifications of the terms set forth above, will be announced at the sale.

Sale to be conducted by attorney for Lincoln Capital, LLC: Andre G. Duchette, Esq., Taylor, McCormack & Frame, 30 Milk Street, 5th Floor, Portland, Maine 04101 207-828-2005.

DATED: October 22, 2015

*Andre G. Duchette, Esq.*

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# What's Going On

## CMCC to add hockey for 2016-17

Central Maine Community College has announced that it will launch a men's hockey program, to begin play in the 2016-17 season. The team plans to compete in the American Collegiate Hockey Association, an organization of over 415 college- and university-affiliated programs. Now celebrating its 24th season, the ACHA provides structure, regulates operations



and promotes the quality of collegiate ice hockey.

The CMCC Mustangs will play an independent schedule for the first season. Some of the teams identified as possible opponents

that year include Tufts University, Bryant University, the Coast Guard Academy, Bates College, USM, UNE, Dartmouth College, Thomas College and SNHU. All practices and home games will be played at the Norway Savings Bank Arena in Auburn. College officials have been working closely with city officials to secure the necessary ice time.

"Bringing ice hockey to CMCC is the next logical step in increasing athletic opportunities for our students," said school president Scott Knapp. "As everybody knows, Lewiston-Auburn is a hotbed for hockey, and with a new arena located less than a mile from campus, this is another opportunity for the school to showcase its athletic program."

Athletic Director Dave Gonyea noted that the top priority now is to hire a coach who can recruit quality student-athletes and build the program from the ground up. "The hockey coach will spend the first year recruiting and making sure the team will be ready to go when the 2016-17 season starts next October," he said.

Recalling that the college had a hockey team in

the 1990s, Knapp observed that the time seemed right to bring the sport back to CMCC. "One big reason is the presence of a first-rate facility so close to our campus," he said. "Also, we know that a significant number of high school varsity hockey players in Maine have been unable to find opportunities to play at the collegiate level. We expect that many such students will find Central Maine Community College to be an attractive option."

"As I've seen firsthand, CMCC has been a place that can attract great athletes and help them channel that work ethic into the classroom and career preparation," said Auburn Mayor Jonathan LaBonte. "The addition of ice hockey not only creates expanded opportunities for young people to have the community college experience, but adds to the growing importance of the Norway Savings Bank Arena as an anchor in our community."

Those interested in learning more about hockey at CMCC should contact Dave Gonyea at 755-5251 or [dgonyea@cmcc.edu](mailto:dgonyea@cmcc.edu).

Prospective students can also learn more at the school's next Open House on Saturday, October 24, from 9 a.m. to noon.

## Auburn Economic Development Director to retire

The City of Auburn has announced the retirement of Economic Development Director Roland Miller. Miller, who has been employed with the city for 35 years, started work on January 7, 1980 as Director of the Community Development Department and was promoted to Economic Development Director in December of 2000. He will retire at the end of November.

A native of Wisconsin, Miller received his Bachelor's Degree from the University of Wisconsin at Oshkosh and later served on the school's faculty. He served as the Deputy Director of the Community Development Department of Oshkosh, where he oversaw Planning, Grant Administration, Redevelopment, Housing, Codes and Ordinances and Transportation, and later as the Planning Analyst for the Portage County Area-wide Planning Committee in Stevens Point, Wisconsin.

Miller's accomplishments for the City of Auburn over the course of his 35-year tenure have included preservation of the historic buildings that line Auburn's Main Street, production of various municipal Comprehensive and District Plans, development of the Mall District, attraction and subsequent expansion of some of the city's largest

industries, building and ten-anting of Auburn's first Industrial Parks, development of the Intermodal Railroad Facility, establishment of the Port of Auburn, creation of healthy and high-quality affordable housing, production and improvement of municipal zoning regulations, provision of loans and grants to small business owners, development of neighborhood parks and green spaces, and revitalization of the Downtown Auburn Riverfront.

"One thing that sets him apart from many Economic Development professionals is his motivation," said Deputy Director of Planning and Development Eric Cousens. "For Roland, it's not about profit for himself or profit for just the individuals doing the project. He recognizes that people need to make money to keep doing projects, but what really motivates him is job creation and creating opportunity for others to better themselves."

When he's not at work, Miller enjoys singing in his church choir, fishing, reading and spending time with his wife and three children. He is also a tournament-level Bridge player.

The city will conduct a nationwide search for his replacement in the immediate future.

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