

## Marché Kitchen and Wine Bar Ribbon Cutting



Chip Morrison, president of the Androscoggin County Chamber, Patti Gagne of Allstate Insurance, Susan and Gary Hall of Marché, and Lewiston Mayor Bob Macdonald (TCT photo by Jen Pike). See story and more photos on page 4.

## Former Bruins lace up for PAL All-Star Game



Former Boston Bruins players will take to the Androscoggin Colisee ice for the annual Lewiston PAL All-Star Hockey Game on Friday, December 19.

The Lewiston Police Athletic League will present its annual Lewiston PAL All-Star Hockey Game, featuring former Boston Bruins players, on Friday, December 19 at 7 p.m. at the Androscoggin Bank Colisee in Lewiston. Now running for more than decade, the game has become a local tradition,

last year bringing out a near capacity crowd to watch former Bruins, including Kenny "The Rat" Linseman, Reggie Lemelin and John Carter, take to the Colisee ice. In addition to the game, there will be opportunities for autographs and photos with the players.

Proceeds from this fundraising event will

benefit Lewiston PAL youth athletics programs throughout Androscoggin County. Tickets are being sold on a donations basis and can be purchased by calling East Coast Marketing Group at 432-6968 or the Lewiston Police Department at 513-3139. Families are welcome and children under age 12 will enter at no charge. Doors will open at 6. p.m. The Colisee is located at 90 Birch Street in Lewiston. For more information about this event, email alex@ecmgevents.com.

Licensed in Maine as a charitable organization, the Lewiston PAL serves Androscoggin County by providing funding and support for various youth athletics programs. It has donated at least one golf cart to each high school in the county to assist school athletic directors to more

See **Bruins**, page 5

## Twin Cities Holiday Celebration

Lewiston-Auburn was aglow with lights, smiles and excitement on December 4 as residents and friends celebrated December holidays at the 8th annual Twin Cities Holiday Celebration. The event featured a beautiful Parade of Lights, story time sessions, arts and crafts, greetings from the mayors of Lewiston and Auburn, greetings from Rabbi Dresdner of Temple Shalom, the lighting of a menorah and Lewiston and Auburn's Christmas trees, ballet presentations, music



All smiles with Santa and Mrs. Claus

by Dionne Entertainment, free photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus compliments of Photo Finish, free dental bags from event sponsor Center Street Dental, See **Holiday**, page 5

## College for ME-Higher Education Awards Luncheon

Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup> – Hilton Garden Inn Auburn Riverwatch



Ann Weaver and Julie Shakley, Androscoggin Home Care & Hospice (Corporate Leader Award); John Cook, Lewiston Regional Technical Center and Sharon Lewis, Safe Voices (Advocate Awards); David Perreault, Anthony Harmon and Wendy Blaney (Student Awards); Rick Vail, Mechanics Savings Bank (Corporate Leader Award). (Photos by Jen Pike).

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# Newsmakers, Names & Faces

## Androscoggin Bank supports United Way



United Way loaned executive Susan Lindkvist accepts a \$16,500 donation check from Androscoggin Bank employees Terri-Ann Boisvert, David Pease, Chris Logan and Joani Derocher-Gamache.

Androscoggin Bank recently donated \$16,500 to the United Way of Androscoggin County to support its funding of local community programs that touch the lives of all ages in areas such as early education, financial literacy, food security, rides for medical needs and more.

“Androscoggin Bank employees have continued to show their support for what community means

by volunteering, serving as board members and donating in excess of \$141,300 over the past six years,” said United Way Executive Director Joleen Bedard.

“Androscoggin Bank is proud to be a corporate sponsor of United Ways in the four counties that we serve,” said Androscoggin Bank Chief Resource Officer David Pease. “In addition to creating and providing jobs, we believe it’s important as a Maine bank to give financially

and to volunteer time to support and thank the communities we serve.

“United Way’s focus on prevention and its proactive approach aligns with Androscoggin Bank’s vision to empower our employees, clients and citizens through education, excellence, and building relationship to foster prosperity,” he added. “Together we are making a meaningful impact in our community.”

## St. Mary’s adds Hickey as VP of Elder Care Services

Philip Hickey has joined St. Mary’s Health System as its new vice president of Elder Care Services. Hickey has more than 30 years of experience

in the senior living field, with an extensive background in independent living, assisted living, skilled care and rehabilitative care.



Philip Hickey

## SeniorsPlus supports Good Shepherd

SeniorsPlus, Western Maine’s designated agency on aging, recently delivered a 540-pound donation of food to Good Shepherd Food Bank. The two nonprofits work year-round as partners in the fight against senior hunger, so this donation by SeniorsPlus employees carried special meaning.

“By initiating this food drive, the staff of SeniorsPlus is not only contributing to the fight against hunger on a personal level, but is also saying ‘thank you’ to everyone at Good Shepherd Food Bank,” said Betsy Sawyer-Manter, executive director of SeniorsPlus. “Without the support of the food we

36,000 Mainers each week by providing supplies of food to pantries and other anti-hunger initiatives throughout the state.

The Meals on Wheels program benefitted from 14,352 hours of volunteer time during the past year. SeniorsPlus works with many nonprofit agencies through informal agreements of collaboration to create strong networks of referral, collaboration and service delivery to serve seniors in need.

The overall program goal of SeniorsPlus, headquartered in Lewiston, is to assist older adults and adults with disabilities in Franklin, Oxford and Androscoggin counties to remain safely in their homes for as long as possible. The majority of older adults (greater than 95 percent in an AARP survey) wish to remain at home until they die. The provision of Meals on Wheels can make the difference between staying at home and going to a nursing home or other facility. Each meal provides one third of the recommended daily allowance of nutrition, a safety check and a friendly visit. The majority of program recipients are lower income, on a fixed income or on MaineCare.



SeniorsPlus Executive Director Betsy Sawyer-Manter (r.) presents a plaque commemorating a recent 540-pound food donation by SeniorsPlus employees to Clara Whitney of Good Shepherd Food Bank.

Since 1972, SeniorsPlus has provided Meals on Wheels to senior residents of Franklin, Oxford and Androscoggin counties, delivering more than 100,000 meals to 600 individuals each year. To keep food costs low, it receives food, when it is available, from Good Shepherd Food Bank.

obtain from Good Shepherd, we would not be able to have fresh and seasonal food to use in our Meals on Wheels kitchen.”

More than 200,000 Mainers struggle against hunger. The Auburn-based nonprofit Good Shepherd Food Bank feeds more than

Most recently, Hickey was the CEO/executive director of Twining Village in Holland, Pennsylvania, an eldercare complex with 225 independent living units, 117 personal care suites and 82 skilled and rehabilitative care beds.

“Working with seniors and their families is incredibly rewarding,” said Hickey. “I look forward to getting to

know the residents, patients and their families. I am fortunate to be able to do what I love at an organization so driven by mission and values.”

Hickey earned his Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Management at Century University in Albuquerque, New Mexico and his Masters of Business Administration, Healthcare Administration Distinction, at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut.

Hickey will oversee St. Mary’s Residences, a 128 unit independent living residence, and St. Mary’s d’Youville Pavilion. D’Youville Pavilion is one of the largest nursing homes north of Boston and the flagship component of the elder care services offered through St. Mary’s Health System. It is home to two specialized rehabilitative care units, a secure dementia unit and skilled long-term care units.

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**Letter to the Editor**

**We must focus on our moral compass**

To the Editor:  
Lewiston Mayor Bob Macdonald's column in Twin City TIMES, dated December 4, 2014, about the outcome of the grand jury finding in the Michael Brown case is directly in line with my own views as to the outcome of this case.

May I compliment our mayor for having the courage to openly share his views on this highly controversial and extremely important case.

We are a nation of laws with a foundation based upon freedom. A line

within The Declaration of Independence states "that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights." Is not the answer to our present-day social problems found within this very line?

Our form of government is no longer an experiment; it has helped in developing the most successful nation on the face of this planet. But I believe we are headed for failure when we draw our focus away from our creator and allow government to attempt to resolve all of our

social ills.

If we are to continue improvement and success within our governmental process, we must focus upon our creator. Ask yourself this question: when is the last time you have heard or read the words "discernment," "unalienable rights" and "creator" within our media?

My belief is that our social ills travel deeper than the outcome of any one grand jury case. We need to return to focusing on our moral compass.

**Ivan Boudreau  
Lewiston**

**Church sale won't affect St. Francis Center**

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Portland has sold the recently revised St. Louis Church parcel to Pilotage, LLC, a local development group that plans to use the former church as a multi-use facility, with hopes of maintaining the building's architecture and prominent presence in the neighborhood's rich history. A purchase and sale agreement has been signed and awaits expected state approval regarding minor changes to the lot line of the adjoining property.

On November 18, the Auburn Planning Board approved the diocese's "Special Exception and Site Plan Review" application that

asked that the city establish a new property line between two structures that already exist on a single parcel of land. That parcel included St. Louis Church and the St. Francis Recovery Center, a facility dedicated to bringing health, recovery and stability to individuals struggling with substance abuse. A new property line now exists between the two structures, enabling the diocese to sell the St. Louis Church parcel while allowing the recovery center to continue its mission of providing a safe setting for those in need of housing and support.

"It is hoped that the sale will allow a church building that served as a spiritual home for generations of area Catholics to flourish in a new form," said Fr. Robert D. Lariviere, pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Auburn. "It will remind us of the impact and

the closeness derived and felt by those who made St. Louis Church a part of their lives."

Since its closing Mass in August 2013, many items from St. Louis Church have received new life: the granite statue of the Savior and the statue of the risen Christ are now located at St. Peter Cemetery in Lewiston; many pews, the Stations of the Cross and vestment chests were given to the new St. Faustina Church in Jackman; other pews are now in use at Our Lady of Ransom Church in Mechanic Falls; the altar, baptismal font, ambo and tabernacle were moved to St. Philip Church in Auburn; and other small liturgical items were distributed between St. Philip Church and Sacred Heart Church, also located in Auburn. In addition, the St. Louis Church bells are currently stored at Cote Crane in Auburn while the city raises money for their purchase.

**Buyers work to give St Louis Church new future**

The future of the former St. Louis Church in New Auburn became a little less uncertain last week, when a group of local citizens, who hope to repurpose the building in a way that maintains its important place in the community's history, purchased the building from the Roman Catholic Diocese of Portland.

Led by Lewiston architect Noel Smith, the group, called Pilotage, LLC, includes Daniel Dube, Christine Holden and Donna LeBrun of Lewiston and Mary Callahan of Auburn. The group will lead an effort to maintain a community role for the church that for generations played a central part in the spiritual and social fabric of its New Auburn neighborhood. While specific plans have not been made public, meetings are underway and more information will be provided in the near future. For an update on where Pilotage is in this process, call Noel Smith at 333-3060.

Local residents are also working to keep the church's bells within the community. As a separate undertaking from the church purchase, the bells project seeks to raise \$12,000 to purchase the church's rare bells, cast in

the world-famous Paccard Bell Foundry of Annecy, France, from the diocese. The effort is currently more than half way to meeting its goal and a push to complete the fundraising by the end of the year is underway.

Donations to the bells project are tax-deductible and checks can be made out to Museum L-A, with "St. Louis Bells" on the memo line, and mailed to Museum L-A, 35 Canal Street, Box A7, Lewiston ME 04240. For more information about the bells project, contact Alan Manoian at 333-6601 ext. 1214 or amanoian@auburnmaine.gov.



*The future of St. Louis Church became a little clearer last week when a group of local citizens purchased the vacant building from the Diocese of Portland.*

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# What's Going On

## New Marché Kitchen and Wine Bar open for business



Chef and restaurant manager Kevin Cunningham and bar manager Thomas Ardia (TCT photos by Jen Pike).

The new restaurant on Lisbon Street in Lewiston is an old one. Marché Kitchen and Wine Bar (formally Marché) is bringing a renewed energy to the upper

end of Lisbon Street. The restaurant had been part of the Fuel Group, run by Eric Agren and considered to be trailblazers for opening not one, but two restaurants in a

downtown area that was less than thriving. Susan and Gary Hall bought the restaurant from Agren in July, envisioning "Wine Bar."

Since the change of hands, the Halls have added Bar Manager Thomas Ardia, who has been making waves by bringing in some exceptional draft beers and making classic cocktails. Ardia started his bar career in California, where he learned the craft of cocktail making. He did a stint at Orchid, just across the street from Marché, while splitting his time working with Susan Hall to develop the beer selection at The Vault. Ardia has done his homework; the selection of spirits behind the new bar is not made up of the usual suspects. When you sit at the bar and ask him what he has for vodka or gin, you will not only get an exceptional beverage but an education on the spirits he stocks.

Their second hire was chef and restaurant manager Kevin Cunningham. Cunningham has been in Maine for nine years, working for ARAMARK campus dining at University of Southern Maine, briefly at Mac's Grill in Auburn and, most recently, opening the Brunswick Hotel and Tavern, where he received high praise for such creations as his crab cakes and his braised short rib shepherd's Pie. Cunningham likes to call his style of cuisine "comfort food done exceptionally well," meaning simple classics done to the best of his ability. He is a "train and grow from within" professional who feels that passion and desire are the essential ingredients of a great chef.

One of the first things the new team at Marché Kitchen and Wine Bar did was to change from classic deli counter service to bistro

table service. They kept most of the menu in place, re-vamping some of the recipes and adding a few new ones. The changes have been well received. The biggest change has been the addition of a dinner service. The restaurant is now open Wednesday through Saturday evenings, serving a menu of small plates (think tapas) paired with wines hand-picked by owner Susan Hall.

The menu changes regularly as various seasonal items become available. Risottos and crepes are available, as well as pan-seared salmon and an ever-changing pan-seared scallop dish currently paired with chorizo-braised kale topped with a white grapefruit balsamic vinaigrette. The smaller portions allow guests to try different items and allow the kitchen to keep prices low, between \$8 and \$14 per plate.

Bar manager Tom Ardia has already orchestrated two large craft brewery events at Marché, including a Baxter Brewing Company Bootleg Fireworks Double IPA after party and a Bissell Brothers Brewing Night. Bissell Brothers is a craft brewery in Portland whose products can only be found in the Lewiston-Auburn area at The Vault. There will be more to come.

In addition, there will be wine dinners hosted by owner Susan Hall and beer vs. wine dinners where Chef Cunningham will create a special menu to pair with both beer and wine selections to show how the two can be paired with any course of any meal.

The new Marché Kitchen and Wine Bar is located at 40 Lisbon Street in Lewiston. For more information, call 333-3836 or see [www.marchemaine.com](http://www.marchemaine.com).

## Lewiston agencies to tackle lead poisoning issues

What do the City of Lewiston, Pine Tree Legal, the Lewiston School Department and Healthy Androscoggin have in common? They have all received grant funding recently to support initiatives designed to protect children and families from home environmental hazards, including lead poisoning.

The City of Lewiston was awarded \$3.3 million by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to protect area children and families from the hazards of lead-based paint and other home health and safety hazards. This funding consists of a \$400,000 Healthy Homes Initiative grant, with the balance coming from the Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control Program.

The City will use the funding to address lead hazards in 225 housing units for low-income families with children. The City will also perform healthy homes assessments in 160 units. The work will be coordinated by the City's Economic and Community Development Department, Community Concepts, Healthy Androscoggin, the State of Maine's Public Health Department and other agencies.

Pine Tree Legal Assistance, a statewide non profit law firm dedicated to ensuring equal justice for those who may not be able to afford legal help, was awarded \$555,000 over a three-year period from the John T. Gorman Foundation to address legal issues resulting from lead poisoning in the Lewiston-Auburn area. Pine Tree Legal will hire additional staff to focus upon increased education and enforcement efforts, and to address issues that result from lead poisoning, including health problems, unsafe housing, family instability and poor academic achievement.

The Lewiston School Department has received a number of literacy-related grants from the John T. Gorman Foundation because early childhood exposure to lead often correlates to low literacy rates. The grants were \$75,000 to support planning for a Campaign for Grade-level Reading program to bring young students up to grade-level proficiency by third grade; \$100,000 to support Summer Learning 2014, a high-quality summer enrichment program for students entering grades K through 3; and \$12,000 to support the Summer Learning Scan Project, which assesses available summer learning opportunities for youth.

Healthy Androscoggin has received a \$313,469 grant to support work to improve health and reduce health disparities in the Lewiston-Auburn area. This work will focus in part upon lead hazards in Lewiston-Auburn to reduce incidences of chronic environmental illness. The funding will improve access to chronic disease prevention, risk reduction and management opportunities. This Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health award is funded by a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services initiative to support public health efforts that reduce chronic diseases, promote healthier lifestyles, reduce health disparities and control health care spending.

"Reducing chronic disease rates and controlling health care costs is good for everyone," said Healthy Androscoggin Executive Director Steven Johndro. "It saves our whole system time and money if our population is healthier. We are also more productive and have better quality of life. We need to invest more in staying healthy rather than treating disease."

## Churches seek mittens for kids in need

The Auburn United Methodist Church, High Street Congregational Church, St. Michael's Parish and West Auburn Congregational Church are looking for volunteers to help make mittens for children and youth ages 5 to 15. The goal is to distribute 500 pairs of mittens to needy children during the month of January. They can be knitted or fleeced. Mittens may be dropped off at the High Street Church at 106 Pleasant Street or the United Methodist Church at 439 Park Avenue during regular office hours. The deadline is December 31. For more information, call the High Street Church at 784-1306 or the United Methodist Church at 782-3972.

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*Enough is Enough*

# Business as usual, welfare and the state treasurer

By Robert E. Macdonald  
MAYOR OF LEWISTON

Do you think you're smarter than a fifth grader? Well, that apparently depends on your political beliefs.

If you are a conservative and you supported Governor Paul R. LePage, your education is supposedly lacking, your educational achievements seemingly wanting. The almond-shaped area part of your brain known as the amygdala is apparently larger than the typical liberal brain.

Now before you get all puffed up and cocky, this condition means that you spend a great amount of time dealing with non-existent boogeymen.

Then we have liberals. They consider themselves smart and well educated. The part of their brain known as the anterior cingulate cortex is larger than the average conservative, supposedly enabling them the ability to deal with complexities.

These are also the people who supported soon-to-be-former-Congressman Mike Michaud.

Michaud's congressional accomplishments are difficult to find. He operated a forklift in a mill. He had no formal education after high school. Mike is very personable and always a gentleman. His characteristics would seem to put him firmly in the LePage supporters' camp.

Meanwhile, Eliot Cutler, another nice man, has all the characteristics liberals fashion themselves possessing. Their support of Mike Michaud over Eliot Cutler can only rationally be explained in one of two ways. Either they felt Michaud was someone they could control or they have a small anterior cingulate cortex and (heaven forbid) a large amygdala—just like us plain, uneducated folk.

During the last three years as mayor of Lewiston, we have been fighting for comprehensive and fair



Mayor Bob Macdonald

welfare reform. Governor Paul R. LePage has been a solid ally in this quest. A few weeks ago, Republicans swept to victory on the Governor's coattails. The resonating issue: welfare reform.

Shortly after the election, Lewiston city officials sat down with newly elected Senator Eric Brakey (R-Auburn) and discussed legislation that would tighten up the system. Also hot on this issue was Senator Garrett Mason (R-Lisbon). Meaningful legislation has been submitted, and it

appears welfare reform is just around the corner.

Then last Monday and Tuesday, my blood pressure rose as politics as usual raised its ugly head. The legislature was tasked to elect constitutional officers: attorney general, secretary of state and state treasurer.

Matt Dunlap was re-elected to position of secretary of state. He is fair and has done a good job. Janet Mills was re-elected attorney general. She is a lawyer, a former Androscoggin district attorney and former state attorney general.

Both Governor LePage and I have a problem with many of her decisions, but an argument is easily made that her credentials firmly establish her qualifications to hold the position.

Now let's turn to the state treasurer's office. Over the years, state constitutional offices have served as green pastures for termed-out legislators. If

you were unable to provide a resume, articulating the skills necessary to successfully carry out your obligation, you didn't have to worry. So long as you can show you're a termed-out legislator, you got the job.

Last week this scenario again played out in Augusta. Democrats re-nominated treasurer Neria Douglas, a lawyer, as their choice to continue in that role. She faced Terry Hayes, a termed-out legislator from Buckfield who makes her living as a guardian ad litem.

Hayes had served in the Legislature as a Democrat. During her final legislative term, she ran against Representative Mark Eves for the position of Speaker of the Maine House of Representatives. Upon losing to Eves, she left the Democratic Party and became unenrolled (no party). She also supported Eliot Cutler for governor.

Hayes convinced Republican leadership them that she could garner enough Democratic votes,

which combined with support from Republican lawmakers, would assure her election as treasurer. They agreed, and she won.

But there is more to the story, a story you won't read in our statewide media. Local retired banker, Robert Stone of Auburn, a Republican and a good friend of mine, threw his hat into the race for treasurer. Governor LePage and newly elected Congressman Bruce Poliquin, the former treasurer, both recognized that Bob's credentials made him a very good candidate.

But Bob's years in banking failed to overcome his biggest deficit: he was not a member of the Maine State Legislative alumni. I guess it's business as usual.

Last Wednesday, L-A hosted its annual Christmas Parade. It concluded with the lighting of both a menorah and a Christmas tree in Kennedy Park. Have a Happy Hanukkah and a Merry Christmas (and a Happy Festivus to the rest of us).

## New healthcare job training program seeks local enrollees

The Maine Departments of Labor and Education are launching a new job-training initiative for those who have been out of work six months or longer. The first phase of the initiative will launch in the Lewiston-Auburn area and will target those interested in a career in healthcare.

"This program helps our long-term unemployed get back to work with industry-specific skills in growing industries," said Governor Paul R. LePage. "It's a gateway to a new career with good wages."

Presented by the CareerCenter, in partnership with Lewiston Adult Education, St. Mary's Health System and other providers, the program

consists of a Ready2Work course combined with a certified nursing assistant training course. Participants will receive a Ready2Work-certified nursing assistant certificate recognized by St. Mary's Health System and other health care facilities.

Qualified participants who complete the training will be guaranteed a job interview at St. Mary's. Participants can start earning wages during the course.

All job seekers interested in participating must first pass a background check, a physical exam verifying their ability to perform essential job functions and a drug screening. This will ensure that the minimum

eligibility requirements of participating employers are met before service dollars are invested to provide training.

The first Ready2Work-CNA class will start on January 5. To learn more about the program, contact the Lewiston CareerCenter at 753-9001 or 800-741-2991. TTY users should call Maine Relay 711.

The Ready2Work: Careers in Health Care Setting program aims to develop a skilled pipeline to address the projected growth and anticipated replacement needs of Maine's healthcare workforce using a regional, sector-partnership model.

The first level of training will focus on developing essential "soft See Job, page 9

## Holiday

Continued from page 1

refreshments compliments of Dunkin Donuts and the Salvation Army Canteen and free horse-drawn wagon rides. The event was organized by the Lewiston Downtown Holiday Celebration Committee and the Auburn Business Association. See more photos on pages 6 and 7.

## Bruins

Continued from page 1

quickly move medical and other needed gear from field to field and has been an avid supporter of annual Easter, Halloween and National Nite Out events.

Yearly telephone solicitation and mailings to support PAL programs in 2015 are currently underway.

For more information or to make a donation, contact Lewiston Police Detective

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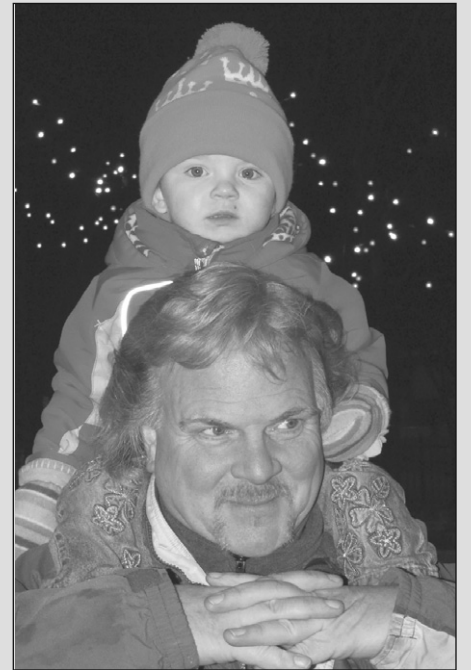
# 8th Annual Parade of Lights & Twin Cities Holiday Celebration



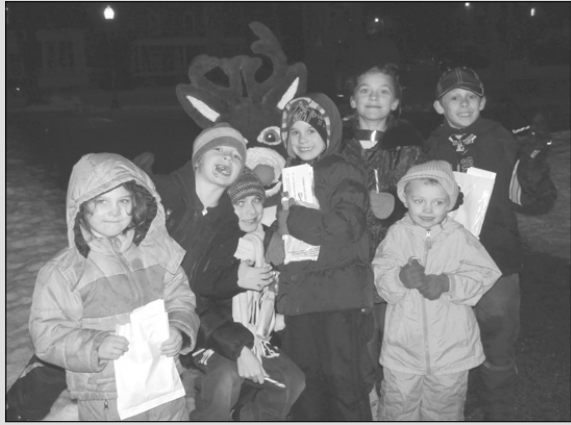
Santa and the Mrs. in the parade



Event sponsor Center Street Dental hands out free dental bags to children



Ready for the parade



Rudolph and friends

Photos by  
Dot Perham-Whittier



Holiday arts and crafts at Auburn City Hall



Rabbi Dresdner and family



Horse-drawn wagon rides were a hit!



Ballet instruction at Lewiston Public Library

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# 8th Annual Parade of Lights & Twin Cities Holiday Celebration



(TCT Photos by Jen Pike)



## HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE



To see more photos of this event



facebook.com/twincitytimes

Send all items for **What's Going On** to [Editor@Twin CityTimes.com](mailto:Editor@TwinCityTimes.com).  
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## Lost Valley a go for upcoming season

Just weeks away from the start of its ski season, Lost Valley recently announced that it will in fact open its second chair lift this year, thanks to an outpouring of financial and in-kind support from the community. This development means that the popular local ski area will be fully operational for opening day on December 19.

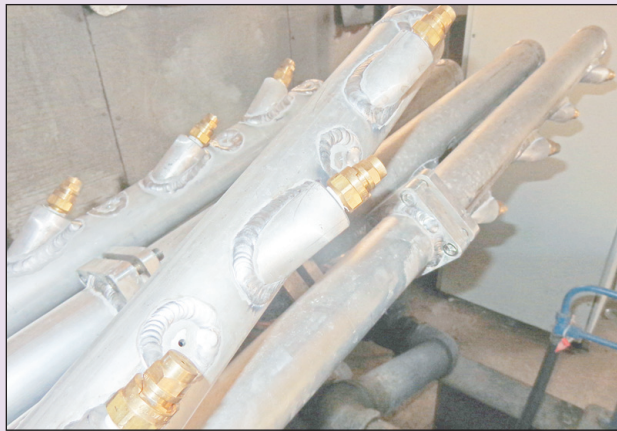
"We're able to do this because of the generous and overwhelming support of the community," said Lost Valley co-owner Connie King. "In fact, if it wasn't for all the support we've received, we wouldn't have been able to open at all this year. It's heart-warming to know that so many people have come to the aid of our mountain. I think it shows just how many people feel a personal connection to Lost Valley."

King especially recognized the hard work of a group of volunteers, skiers and other benefactors who call themselves the Friends of Lost Valley. That group launched an online fundraising campaign on the crowd sourcing

website Crowdrise that, within a few weeks, raised \$26,000 to support the ski area's operations.

Lost Valley has experienced financial challenges over the last few years, due in part to poor weather conditions and a lingering recession. Late last summer, King and co-owner Linc Hayes announced that they might not open for the winter season.

However, a number of developments have since worked in the ski area's favor. An energy assessment conducted by Efficiency Maine revealed that significant savings could be achieved by replacing old



These new energy-efficient HKD Focus Tower Snow Guns are expected to save about \$60,000 a year in energy costs. Along with an outpouring of community support, this will allow Lost Valley to open for its upcoming season.

snow guns and lighting with more efficient equipment. New snow guns alone could save as much as \$60,000 a year.

Also, a number of local businesses came forward in support. Emerson Toyota and Sunday River each donated \$5,000, and local restaurants, including Mac's Grill and Buffalo Wild Wings, held Lost Valley nights, donating part of the evening's meal sales to help the resort.

On a recent Volunteer Day, more than 100 volunteers converged upon Lost Valley - some with heavy machinery - to limb trees, clear debris

from trails and spruce up the lodge. Some have even donated fuel for the machinery. These in-kind contributions have saved thousands of dollars in labor and rental costs.

Finally, sales of season passes have also been very strong, surpassing those of last year.

"This facility is critically important to kids who are tomorrow's athletes," said co-owner Linc Hayes. "It gets them off their electronic devices and gives them an opportunity to enjoy the great outdoors. If it wasn't for Lost Valley, athletes like former World Cup Champion and Olympic competitor Julie Parisien would not have achieved the success they did."

"Connie and Linc have always been there for the community, offering reasonable prices so the kids of young families could learn how to ski," said Friends of Lost Valley volunteer and Volunteer Day organizer Whitney Condit. "This place means a lot to the community. Generations of families

have learned to ski here, and people have told us they feel it's their turn to give back to Lost Valley."

The Friends of Lost Valley have now established a new Crowdrise site, this time to support needed maintenance and improvements to the facility. To make a donation, see [www.crowdrise.com/friendsoflostvalley](http://www.crowdrise.com/friendsoflostvalley).

# What's Going On

## Job

Continued from page 5

skills" and other core abilities identified by participating employers. For the healthcare sector, these skills relate to confidentiality in healthcare, generational differences, basic computer skills, critical reading in science and technology, CPR, hand hygiene, managing stress, career exploration, job shadowing, workplace safety and customer service. Students who complete the Phase I training will earn an employer-recognized readiness certificate.

Successful first-level trainees will then have options to choose among

specific occupational paths, will be assessed for their "fit" to their chosen occupation, and, if appropriate, will receive continuing (Phase II) training in the form of on-the-job training, customized training, an apprenticeship or some other training mechanism(s) until they are prepared for placement. Graduates who meet the host hospital's minimum entrance criteria for the job will be guaranteed a job interview at that hospital.

This program is a collaboration between the Department of Labor, the Department of Education, the Central Western Workforce Investment Board, the Western Maine Community Action Program, the Department of Health and Human Services and St. Mary's Health System. Kennebec Valley Community College also provided assistance in the initial design of the program.

The program is funded by the Department of Labor's Bureau of Employment Services through a \$4.85 million Job Driven National Emergency Grant it received in July.

# Holiday in Lights

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# TWIN CITY NIGHTS

## Weekly Arts & Entertainment

### French language holiday sing-along

A special French-language holiday sing-along session will take place on Friday, December 12 at 2 p.m. in the Chapel at D'Youville Pavillion in Lewiston. The program is free and all are invited to attend. Songbooks will be available, so those who are unfamiliar with the songs or less-than-fluent in French may easily follow along.

Jacynthe Jacques, Alette Couturier and friends will lead those attending in a selection of festive local holiday favorites, such as "Le P'tit Rene au Nez Rouge" and "Il Est Ne le Divin Enfant." Providing musical accompaniment will be pianist Jeannette Gregoire.

"We're looking forward to sharing our music with the residents of D'Youville Pavillion and with the community," said Couturier. "This venue allows us to accommodate many people, and we certainly welcome anyone who likes music - Francos and non-Francos alike - to come join us for this special event."



(L. to r., from front) Irene Mercier, Jeannine Doucette, Mary LeClerc, Jeannette Gregoire, Alette Couturier, Helene Sylvain, Jacynthe Jacques and Gail Lawrence will lead a French-language holiday sing-along session on December 12.

Organized in 2010 by the Maine Folque Co-op, in collaboration with USM LAC's Franco-American Collection, an ongoing series of monthly French-language sing-along sessions takes place September through June, usually at the college, along with

occasional outings to local retirement communities and nursing homes and this annual holiday edition.

D'Youville Pavillion is located at 102 Campus Avenue in Lewiston. For more information, call Jacynthe Jacques at 576-4109.

### Music Society presents "Heritage Christmas"

The Maine Music Society will present "A Heritage Christmas" on Saturday and Sunday, December 13 and 14, at the Franco Center in Lewiston. Saturday's program will take place at 7:30

p.m. and Sunday's program will take place at 3 p.m.

Featuring the Androscoggin Chorale, with Artistic Director John Corrie, and the Oak Hill High School Voices of Color,

### Public Theatre presents "A Christmas Carol"



The Public Theatre's original adaptation of Dickens' classic tale, featuring six actors and a fiddler, brings the holiday story to life in exciting new ways.

For one weekend only, Lewiston-Auburn's professional theater company, The Public Theatre, will present its acclaimed original adaptation of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," followed by a holiday sing-a-long featuring "A

Christmas Carol" fiddler Jennifer Armstrong, on Friday, December 12 at 7 p.m., Saturday, December 13 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. and Sunday, December 14 at 2 p.m.

The Public Theatre's adaptation of Dickens' classic, featuring six actors and a fiddler, has become a fa-

vorite holiday tradition in Lewiston-Auburn and around the world. In this delightful version, much of Dickens' original text is used, with six actors sharing narration and portraying various characters. A live fiddler underscores the story with traditional Christmas music, while a hand-cranked wind machine and a thunder sheet create a delightfully theatrical atmosphere, allowing the classic story to come to life in exciting new ways. Tickets are \$5 for children under 18, with a top ticket price of \$20 for adults. Gift certificates for tickets to this production, or any play throughout the season, are available for holiday giving. To buy tickets, call the box office at 782-3200 or see [www.thepublictheatre.org](http://www.thepublictheatre.org).

under the direction of John Neal, the program will include seasonal favorites along with Ralph Vaughn Williams' "Fantasia on Christmas Carols." The

concert will conclude with the ever-popular Christmas Carol Sing-along.

Advance tickets are \$20 for adults, \$18 for seniors and \$10 for students.

Children under age 12 will enter for free when accompanied by an adult. To purchase tickets, call L/A Arts at 782-7228 or see [www.mainemusicsociety.org](http://www.mainemusicsociety.org).

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## Mitch Thomas & Friends present "Holiday in Lights"



Pianist-singer-songwriter Mitch Thomas leads a talented ensemble of local performers in two "Holiday in Lights" concerts on Saturday, December 20.

Mitch Thomas & Friends will present their annual "Holiday in Lights" concert on Saturday, December 20. The regular evening performance will take place at 7:30 p.m. at the Franco Center in Lewiston. A special matinee performance will take place at 2 p.m. at the United Methodist Church at 439 Park Avenue in Auburn.

Thomas, a local pianist-singer-songwriter who is the center's executive director and also directs and

performs at Community Little Theatre, will present several seasonal favorites, including some of his own compositions and arrangements such as "Light A Candle for Peace."

The event will also feature several other talented local artists, including "Maine's Got Talent" winner Erin Menzer, soprano Kristen J. Thomas, Community Little Theatre favorite Maddy Leslie, her sister, Mia-Angelina Leslie, CLT performer Tiffany Warren,

who played "Dorothy" in "The Wiz," and her sister, CLT performer and director Nakesha "Kay" Warren, who appeared in "Hairspray" and "Nonsense."

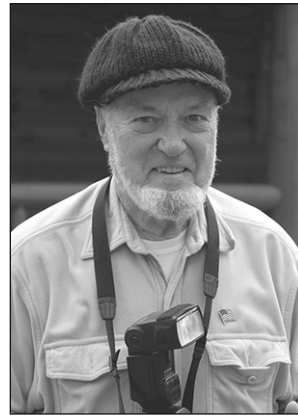
Also performing will be popular local singers Carl Steidel and Caroline Young Coffin, trumpeter Jody Steidel, violinist Ryan Spooner, bassist Jeff Munson, guitarists Neil James and Paul Kinney, organist Jon Whitmore, pianist Stephen Saxon, drummer Jeff Mayerson and vocalists Hayden and Elias Thomas.

Both venues are wheelchair accessible. Tickets for the Franco Center performance are \$15 for reserved seating. To buy tickets, call 689-2000, visit the box office Monday through Friday from noon to 4 p.m., or see [www.franco-center.org](http://www.franco-center.org).

Admission to the church performance will be free of charge, but a free-will offering to support the church's local mission projects will be received.

# Twin City Nights

## Veteran photographer speaks tonight



Veteran photographer Russ Kinne will discuss his work, adventures and tricks of the trade on Thursday, December 11 at the Topsham Medical Building in Topsham.

First Light Camera Club will present veteran photographer Russ Kinne for a slide talk about his work and adventures called "My Life As a Professional Photographer" on Thursday, December 11 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. The club meets at the Topsham Medical Building at 4 Horton Place in Topsham. Program admission is \$10 (no charge for club members). Doors will open at 6 p.m. and ample parking is available.

Kinne has had a rich and varied life. He once had a job delivering boats - both sail and motor - from Nova Scotia to Bermuda, Trinidad and Key West. As a student, he earned a degree in psychology and holds a commercial pilot's license. As a pilot, he has flown coast to coast six times in a Cessna 107

to editor at the National Audubon Society whether she thought he could make a living that way. She discouraged him, but he was not put off. He quit his job, took up his camera and married the editor, who later became his agent.

Kinne, now 86 and living in Topsham, has done many types of photography, including nature, bird, aerial, underwater, landscape, forensic and wildlife. He has sold photographs to and worked for magazines, encyclopedias, textbooks, the National Audubon Society and the military. He has written and photographed for several books (including "The Complete Book of Nature Photography," "The Complete Book of Photographing Birds" and "Fishes of the Shallow Sea"). His book "Life on a Coral Reef" has sold more than a million copies and he recently published his first work of fiction, "Rosie's Lightwork: An Amusing

and once had an assignment photographing in 38 states over four months. He's visited 65 countries around the world and, with the Navy, traveled to the Antarctic seven different times, documenting wildlife through photography at temperatures that reached 63 degrees below zero.

As a young man, Kinne became so enamored with wildlife photography that he asked the pho-

See Kinne, page 13

## Theater company reprises "Celtic Christmas"



The American Irish Repertory Ensemble (AIRE) brings its holiday family entertainment "A Celtic Christmas" back to Studio Theater at Portland Stage December 11 through 21.

There will be new actors and musicians - including a bagpiper - but the same sense of infectious fun and heartfelt Christmas

cheer will prevail as the American Irish Repertory Ensemble (AIRE) brings its popular holiday family See Celtic, page 12

## L.L. Bean Fly Tying Classes

L.L.Bean has resumed offering its popular Fly Tying Classes at its flagship store in Freeport. The sessions take place Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m.; participants meet in the hunting department. Each session covers a different fly. The schedule is listed below.

The classes are free and open to all ages and abilities; no equipment is required. For more information or

to register, see [www.llbean.com/adventure](http://www.llbean.com/adventure).

December 17 - Clouser Minnow; January 7 - Woolly Bugger; January 14 - Mickey Finn; January 28 - Lefty's Deceiver; February 4 - Bucktail Streamers; February 11 - Hare's Ear Nymph; February 18 - Grey Ghost; February 25 - Egg Patterns; March 4 - Ant Patterns; March 11 - Hollow Fly; March 20 - Spinning Dear Hair Techniques.

## Tommy's Feral Felines presents Bake Sale

Tommy's Feral Felines will hold its annual Christmas Bake Sale on Saturday and Sunday, December 20 and 21, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Sports Trader, 707 Main Street in Lewiston. Due to a lack of an available indoor venue, the event will take place in a tent in the Sports Trader parking lot. A wide variety of delicious treats will be available for sale and coffee and hot chocolate will be served. There will be 50-50 raffle and other prizes.

Tommy's can use as many baked goods as possible for this popular two-day event. Since many of us bake during the holiday season, why not turn out an extra dozen cookies or bars to donate? If you would like to be one of

Tommy's Little Baking Helpers, call Norm Blais at 240-3604 or write to him at [normblais39@yahoo.com](mailto:normblais39@yahoo.com) or P.O. Box 274, Greene, ME 04236.

All proceeds from the event will support Tommy's Feral Felines, a volunteer, no-kill organization that relies solely upon donations and bake and yard sales to fund its work supporting local cats living a feral existence due to human abandonment.

Tommy's builds and maintains outdoor winter shelters and provides food, water, spaying and neutering, vaccinations and medical care for sick and injured animals, as well as foster care and placement for cats that can still be re-domesticated.

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# What's Going On

## A new bike for Don Robitaille



Don Robitaille proudly displays the new specialized bike he received from Patrick Dempsey for being the oldest biker in the Dempsey Challenge every year so far.

Story and Photo by Rachel Morin

When Don Robitaille called me from Center St. Cycles in Brunswick, he was brimming with excitement. "My bike is here!" he said. I knew what he meant. I see Don everywhere I go: art exhibits, book signings, theatrical performances, lectures, Senior College "Food for Thought" programs - if there's a cultural, artistic or educational program going on, Don will be there. So I learned early on that Don was going to get a free bike

from Patrick Dempsey. It seems that Patrick's sister, Mary Dempsey, noticed that Don - still going strong at age 83 - has been the oldest participant in the Dempsey Challenge every year since its inception. When Don came in for the event this year, Mary called this to Patrick's attention. Patrick went over to Don to congratulate him on his yearly participation and promised him a new bike! A recent November Tuesday was the day. Don got the call from Center St. Cycles, notifying him that

he could pick up his bike. Don went over and met shop owner Lee Huston, who wheeled out a brand new specialized bike for Don's inspection. Lee encouraged Don to try it out before loading it onto the bike rack on the back of his car and taking it home.

After riding the paved bike trail along the Androscoggin River to Bath and back, Don deemed the bike a keeper. Lee made a few minor adjustments, including a softer seat, a water bottle holder and a kickstand, and it was good to go.

When not biking, Don is out walking daily. He brings a trash bag with him to pick up the litter he sees on his hikes. "I like to do my part in cleaning the environment," he says.

## Celtic

Continued from page 11

entertainment, "A Celtic Christmas," back to the Studio Theater at Portland Stage December 11 through 21.

A Celtic Christmas will offer audience members of all ages a unique and delightful way to get into the holiday spirit. New

cast members will join Susan and Tony Reilly in a lively performance of "A Child's Christmas in Wales," the classic poem by Dylan Thomas recollecting boyhood holiday memories. This will be paired with a music-filled original piece, "The Legend of the Wren," featuring Irish step dancers from the Stillson School of Irish Dance. The piece is based upon the Irish tradition of the Wren Boys, who go from house to house on St. Stephen's Day (December 26) singing and collecting donations for a celebration. AIRE's exuberant presentation will invite the audience to join in the fun.

"We're happy to be able to present this joyous production again," said AIRE Artistic Director Tony Reilly, who is directing the show. "It struck a chord with audiences when we last performed it in 2011, and it's especially timely to be bringing it back this year as we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the birth of Dylan Thomas."

Featured in this year's festivities will be juggler Matiss Duhon; musician Thomas Ian Campbell, who plays bagpipes, mandolin and tin whistle; and step dancers from the Stillson School of Irish Dance in Portland. Playing the

## Catholic churches offer Confession Dec. 15-19

All Maine Catholics are invited to experience God's love, mercy and forgiveness through the Sacrament of Reconciliation at "The Light is On for You," a diocese-wide event held during the third week of Advent, from Monday, December 15 to Friday, December 19.

In preparation for Christmas, each parish in Maine will offer confessions on at least three weekday evenings from 6 to 7 p.m. In the Catholic faith, Reconciliation, also known as Penance or Confession, is one of the two sacraments of healing (the other is the anointing of the sick) given to the church by Jesus, who offers sinners forgiveness for offenses committed against

God and neighbor.

Penitents who confess their sins with sincere contrition receive absolution from the priest, whose ministry in the name and person of Jesus effectively extends his forgiveness, and thus reconciles the individual to the Lord and his church. The "seal of confession" guarantees the absolute confidentiality of both the penitent and the sins confessed.

To search by county for a church offering "The Light is On for You," visit [www.portlanddiocese.org/lightison](http://www.portlanddiocese.org/lightison).

To search by parish, visit [www.portlanddiocese.org/light-is-on-parishes](http://www.portlanddiocese.org/light-is-on-parishes).

These sites will be updated frequently leading up to December 15.

children in the show will be Grace Blankenship, Jonathan DeRoche, Aliza Erickson, Ellie Lomangino, Jacob Orenstein and Helen Strout. The adult cast includes Thomas Ian Campbell, Lisa Boucher Hartman, Susan Reilly and Tony Reilly.

Performances of Celtic Christmas will take place Thursday through Saturday evenings at 7 p.m., with Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m., and on Wednesday, December 17, at 7 p.m. Ticket prices range from \$12 for children under 12 to \$22 for adults. Portland Stage is located

at 25A Forest Avenue in Portland. For more information or to reserve tickets, call 799-5327 or see [www.airetheater.com](http://www.airetheater.com).

Since 2004, AIRE has been dedicated to presenting the best in classic and contemporary Irish and Irish American theater to New England audiences in order to share the power and beauty of Irish theater while raising awareness and understanding of Irish culture. Its recent productions have included "Da," "A Couple of Blaguards," "Someone to Watch Over Me," "Faith Healer" and "Ulysses for Beginners."

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**Thursday, December 11**  
 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 govt. agencies. No appt. necessary. FMI call 1-800-432-1599.

Toys for Tools. 5 to 9 p.m. Blush Beauty Boutique, 140 Canal St., Lewiston. Guests who bring new, unwrapped Toys for Tots get gift card rewards, discounts on all styling tools; refreshments and hands-on demos by visiting Paul Mitchell of N.E. educators. 513-1130.

Public Information Session. 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Community Room, Auburn City Hall. The City demonstrates and seeks feedback on its new MapAuburn portal, which provide public access to City information. 333-6601 x1068; auburnme.maps.arcgis.com.

Photography Program. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Topsham Medical Building, 4 Horton Place, Topsham. First Light Camera Club presents veteran photographer-adventurer Russ Kinne. Ample parking; doors open at 6 p.m. \$10 (free for club members). 729-6607.

Christmas "Nativity." 7 p.m. Pathway Vineyard Church, 12 Foss Rd., Lewiston. This live presentation of the Christmas Nativity story features drama, music, dance and live animals; caroling, wagon rides follow. Again Fri. 6 & 7:30 p.m. and Sat. 2 & 5 p.m. All welcome. Free. 784-9500.

A Celtic Christmas. 7 p.m. Studio Theater at Portland Stage, 25A Forest Ave., Portland. The American Irish Repertory Ensemble reprises its popular family show featuring Irish holiday dance, music and theater. Again 12/12-14, 17-21; add'l Sat. & Sun. matinees at 2 p.m. Tix \$12-22. 799-5327; www.airetheater.com.

Theater: "Greetings!" 7:30 p.m. Community Little Theatre, Auburn. CLT presents this heartwarming holiday comedy about a

# Calendar

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

Catholic family's uproar over life developments involving their two sons. Again 12/12-13 7:30 and 12/14 2:00. 783-0958; www.laqlt.com.

**Friday, December 12**  
 Food For Thought Luncheon. 11:30 a.m. Room 170, Lewiston-Auburn College. Augusta attorney Newell Augur provides "A View Inside the Maine State Legislature"; includes lunch. \$8 (\$7 if reserved by noon on 12/11). 753-6510.

French Language Holiday Sing-along. 2 p.m. D'Youville Pavillion, 102 Campus Ave., Lewiston. Jacynthe Jacques, Aliette Couturier and friends lead in singing a selection of festive local holiday favorites; all invited, songbooks avail. Free. 576-4109.

Christmas Tree Sale. 4 to 6 p.m. Gray Mrktplace Plaza, Rte. 100, Gray. The Blue Liners Hockey Club sells trees to benefit the 26ers high and middle school hockey programs of SAD 15, RSU 4 and RSU 16. Fri-Sun thru Dec. 21 (10-4 on Sats & Suns). 272-6582.

Theater: "A Christmas Carol." 7 p.m. The Public Theatre, 31 Maple St., Lewiston. Lewiston's professional theatre company presents its acclaimed adaptation of Dickens' holiday classic. One weekend only. Again Sat. 2 & 7 p.m. and Sun. 2 p.m. For ticket info, call 782-3200.

Comedy Fix XVII. 8 p.m. Fireside Inn, 1777 Washington St., Auburn. Performers incl. Ian Stuart, Bill Picard, Paul Landwehr, JOKETRON and Kyron Hobdy. Benefits Andro. Humane Soc.; bring food or supply donation. Doors at 7 p.m.; ages 21+. \$10. 513-0742.

**Saturday, December 13**  
 Christmas Tree Sale. 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Freshly cut Balsam Fir trees on sale

for \$35 each to benefit the Lisbon-Mt. Ararat High Schools Ice Hockey Team. Two locations: Dairy Maid, Lisbon Street, Lisbon Falls and Wright-Pierce, Main Street, Topsham. Again 12/14.

Picture Painting Party. 2:30 p.m. United Methodist Church, 439 Park Ave., Auburn. The instructor will guide you in creating a beautiful winter evening scene to bring home. \$30 (incl. all materials). Seating limited; adv. regis. required. 754-4865.

Public Supper. 5 p.m. Paris Fire Station, Western Ave., So. Paris. Baked ham, potatoes, veggies, macaroni and cheese, salads, rolls, homemade pies with ice cream; 50/50, cash calendar raffles; pres. by the Paris F.D. Auxiliary. \$8 (\$4 ages 4-12, free ages 3-).

Concert: Arborea. 7 p.m. Trinity Church, 247 Bates St., Lewiston. The acclaimed wife and husband folk duo performs; poet David Weiss opens. Refreshments. \$10 suggested donation, kids free. 513-3922.

Teddy Bear Dance. 7 to 10 p.m. Cafeteria, Oxford Hills Middle School, So. Paris. Presented by the Swingin' Bears Square Dance Club; donations of stuffed toys gratefully accepted. Refreshments, door prizes, 50/50. \$6 (no charge for non-dancers). 782-4050.

Concert: A Heritage Christmas. 7:30 p.m. Franco Center, Lewiston. The ME Music Society's Andro. Chorale and the Oak Hill High School Voices of Color perform seasonal favorites. Again 12/14 at 3 p.m. \$20/18/10 (kids 11- free). 782-7228; www.mainemusicsociety.org.

**Wednesday, December 17**  
 A Celtic Christmas. 7 p.m. Studio Theater at Portland Stage, 25A Forest Ave., Portland. The Amer-

ican Irish Repertory Ensemble reprises its popular family show featuring Irish holiday dance, music and theater. Again 12/18-21; add'l Sat. & Sun. matinees at 2 p.m. Tix \$12-22. 799-5327; www.airetheater.com.

**Thursday, December 18**  
 Public Meeting. 6 p.m. City Council Chambers, Auburn City Hall. The City of Auburn hosts this forum to discuss future options regarding solid waste and recycling services. Those unable to attend may comment at 333-6670 or jbeebe@auburnmaine.gov.

**Friday, December 19**  
 Christmas Tree Sale. 4 to 6 p.m. Gray Mrktplace Plaza, Rte. 100, Gray. The Blue Liners Hockey Club sells trees to benefit the 26ers high and middle school hockey programs of SAD 15, RSU 4 and RSU 16. Fri-Sun thru Dec. 21 (10-4 on Sats & Suns). 272-6582.

PAL All-Star Hockey Game. 7 p.m. Androscoggin Bank Colisee, 90 Birch St., Lewiston. Former Boston Bruins take the ice to benefit the youth athletic programs of Lewiston PAL; autographs, photos avail. Tix sold on donations basis; kids ages 11- free. 513-3139.

## Kinne

Continued from page 11

Retrospection." He once owned a complete line of Nikon gear, but traded it all to go back to Canon, because he couldn't give up one particular camera that he loved.

With such full experience, Kinne's talk will be interesting. Among the topics he plans to address are "Trying to Make a Living as a Wildlife Photographer," "How to Pack and Carry Photographic Equipment," "How to Get through Customs" and many other aspects of the trade.

First Light Camera Club hosts meetings three times per month from September through May, as well as photographic field trips all year long. Programs include technical nights, image critiques, photo outings,

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Penguins Of Madagascar (PG)	1:20	4:05	6:45
Horrible Bosses 2 (R)	1:50	4:30	7:25
The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 1 (PG-13)	1:05	3:50	7:10
Interstellar (PG-13)	1:00		
	2:05	4:40	6:55
Big Hero 6 (PG)	1:35	4:20	7:00
Fury (R)	2:00	xxx	6:40
The Judge (R)	1:45	xxx	7:15
Annabelle (R)	1:30	4:10	7:40
Guardians Of The Galaxy (PG-13)	1:15	3:55	7:30

### DECEMBER 12TH THROUGH DECEMBER 16TH

### AUBURN

746 Center Street  
 Auburn Movie Hotline — 786-8605

The Theory Of Everything (PG-13)	12:40	3:40	6:55	9:35
The Pyramid (R)	1:30	4:30	7:20	9:40
Penguins Of Madagascar (PG)	12:00	2:10		
		4:25	7:05	9:20
Horrible Bosses 2 (R)	1:10	4:20	7:10	9:45
The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 1 (PG-13)	12:20	1:20		
		4:00	6:50	7:30 9:30
Interstellar (PG-13)	12:10	3:35	7:25	xxx
Big Hero 6 (PG)	12:50	4:05	6:45	9:15
Dumb And Dumber To (PG-13)	1:00	4:15	7:00	
<i>Dumb and Dumber will not play @ 1:00 and 4:15 pm on Sunday 12/14/14</i>				
Exodus: Gods and Kings (PG-13)	12:30		7:15	9:25
Exodus: Gods and Kings 3D (PG-13)		3:50		
Birdman (R)		4:10		

\*Free\* Patriots vs. Dolphins @ 1pm (12-14) 35 Foot Screen Hi-Def \*Free\*  
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mentoring and guest speakers. Future speaker programs will include "Videography using your DSLR" with Kevin Fowler, "Capture to Print in Lightroom" with Rob Sylvan and "Photjournalism Tips" with Greta Rybus.

The Club welcomes new members from all areas who may join at any time throughout the year for an annual fee of \$35. For more information, call 729-6607, email info@firstlightcc.com, or see www.firstlightcc.com.

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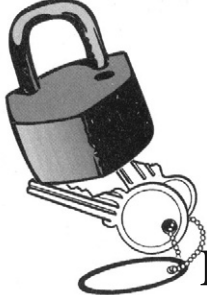
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# How To Keep That Holiday Party From Becoming A Holiday Disaster

From the American Counseling Association

If the holiday season brings office parties and social events that have you feeling nervous or fearful, you're not alone. We've all heard of office parties where a few drinks led to a terrible outcome, or that family gathering where a relative decided to tell everyone just what he or she really thought of them.

But holiday parties needn't be disasters. A little planning and common sense can help ensure that an upcoming event is a good time for you, not something to feel anxious about or to avoid altogether.

For starters, do go to that event, whether it's an office party, neighborhood gathering or a family get-together. It's good for your reputation to make an appearance, even if you just show up early, stay for a short

time, thank your host and leave. That's better than being a no-show, and there's always the chance that you might enjoy yourself and want to stay.

The most important tip is to avoid alcoholic drinks, the major factor in most holiday party disasters. Even one or two drinks can affect your judgment and have you saying or doing something you'll later regret. Have a juice or soft drink (cola or club soda looks like a mixed drink) and stay in control.

Planning ahead can also lessen the stress of holiday parties. Instead of worrying about what you'll wear, ask others how they're dressing. If there's a gift exchange, ask what gifts or dollar values are appropriate, and avoid gag gifts that can be embarrassing.

Even the most sober of

partygoers can cause problems with critical and negative comments. Inevitably, those comments will get repeated to all the wrong people. A holiday party is a time to enjoy, not vent frustrations about work or other people.

Lastly, make sure to use common sense and courtesy. Don't overdo it at the buffet table. Be sure to thank your host or hosts. And avoid problem people who might be there. If there's someone with whom you always clash, spend your time instead with people you enjoy. If someone tries to start an argument with you, simply refuse to respond and excuse yourself politely.

Holiday invitations shouldn't trigger fear or anxiety. They should be enjoyable events, even if you feel "required" to attend. Simply plan on staying sober and being sociable and polite and you may find that your "dreaded" holiday party is actually a pleasant experience. "Counseling Corner" is provided by the American Counseling Association. Comments and questions may be sent to [ACACorner@counseling.org](mailto:ACACorner@counseling.org) or via the ACA website at [www.counseling.org](http://www.counseling.org).

# College for ME-Higher Education Awards Luncheon

Friday, December 5 – Hilton Garden Inn Auburn Riverwatch



L. to r., front row: Mary LaFontaine, president; Joan Macri, associate director; Erica Watson, past president; Erika Bechard; Dottie Perham-Whittier; Dale Morrell, treasurer; L. to r., back row: Laurie McDonnell; Jan Phillips, executive director; Bill Grant; Christine Bosse; Amie Parker; Anne Ryan, vice president; Sue Poulin. (Photos by Jen Pike.)



Joan Macri, Sherri Jewell (First Class Scholarship recipient), Kristina Larracey (First Class Scholarship recipient), Autumn Reynolds (First Class Scholarship recipient), Mike Roy (Thomas W. and Beulah Long Musgrave Scholarship recipient). Photo courtesy of College for ME-Androscoggin. See more photos on page 16.

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