

## Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services receives national recognition for suicide prevention efforts



Pictured here (l. to r.) are VA Secretary Dr. David Shulkin; Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services Director Adria Horn; and National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs President Verdie Bowen.

The Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services has received the 2018 Abraham Lincoln Pillar of Excellence Award for Suicide Prevention from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Since 2011, the VA has recognized its state partners for programs and initiatives that support veterans in their respective states. The award was presented to MBVS Director Adria Horn by VA Secretary Dr. David Shulkin at the 2018 National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs' Mid-Winter Conference held in Washington, D.C.

All fifty states, as well as the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands, are represented as members of NASDVA.

Maine was one of five states to receive a Pillar of Excellence Award.

"Maine has been on the front line of numerous innovative undertakings in the last few years, and the success of these ventures is evident by the number of veterans who walk through our office doors and call our

Veteran Service Officers on a daily basis," said MBVS Director Adria Horn. "This past December, we had the honor of co-hosting the first annual Military Veteran Symposium on veteran suicide. This issue is the top clinical priority for Secretary Shulkin and the VA, and we are thrilled

that Maine's program will be used as a best practice model across the country to bring awareness to suicide prevention efforts."

"Despite our efforts, we know Maine Veterans struggle daily," Horn continued. "As seen in California last Friday, veteran suicide is still very much a chronic issue, which makes events like the symposium all the more significant. The VA Office of Suicide Prevention estimates that when one person commits suicide, 135 individuals are affected. Here in Maine, the effects are profound."

The Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services emphasizes that anyone who knows of someone contemplating suicide - a family member, child, husband, wife, or an employer worried about a veteran in their workforce - can contact the Bureau for assistance in understanding and accessing available resources.

Veterans and their families can also call the See **Maine**, page 3

## SPRING WEDDING GUIDE

page 7

## Community Credit Union Ribbon Cutting



Pictured l. to r. Betsy Sibley, Christina Carter, JoAnn Jackson, Jennifer Hogan, Laurie Pelletier, Alfreda Fournier, and Kayleigh Ogden. Photo by Colby Michaud

Community Credit Union celebrated the completion of renovations to their Lewiston and Auburn branches with a ribbon cutting and open

house. The event was held at their Lewiston branch as they hosted the LA Metro Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours on March 15.

## Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Services plans 18th annual Celebrity Waiter Dinner

Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Services will host its 18th annual Celebrity Waiter Dinner on Saturday, April 7 at 6 p.m. at the Carriage House in Lewiston.

This year's Celebrity Waiters will include Sharon Rose Vannis of NewsCenterMaine; Lori Voornis and Kristen Wears of Q97.9; Danielle Waugh of New England Cable News; Dustin Wlodkowski of NewsCenterMaine; Christina Frank of WMTW; Molly McGill of the Brand Collective; Lindsey Sawyer-Brown of the University of New England; Dr. Rose Shelton of Maple Way Dental Care; Mamie Ney of Auburn Public Library; Sabrina Best of the Auburn Recreation Department; Mike Davis, Principal of Walton School; Barry Schmeiks and Marshall McCamish of the Auburn Police Department; Adam

Higgins of the Lewiston Police Department; Mike Chavez of the Maine State Police; and District Attorney Andrew Robinson. This year's emcee will be Jeff Peterson, morning anchor of WGME TV news.

Waiters will be assigned to a table and will share their talents with the crowd. Music for the event will be provided by Magical DJ. Included in the event are a silent and live auction of items from

local artisans and businesses, including sports memorabilia, art prints, jewelry, quilted items, Sea Dogs tickets, restaurant gift certificates, and more. Tickets for the event are See **Prevention**, page 5

## NewsCenter sponsors statewide blood drive for Red Cross Month

In observance of Red Cross Month, NewsCenter Maine will join forces with the American Red Cross to host a statewide blood drive on Wednesday, March 28. The local event will take place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Ramada Conference Center at 490 Pleasant Street in Lewiston. Other events across the state will take place in Portland, Waterville, Bangor, and Rockland.

"For the past 75

years, March has been proclaimed Red Cross Month by the sitting U.S. president," said Patricia Murtagh, chief executive officer of the American Red Cross, Maine Region. "We are so pleased that NewsCenter is joining us to celebrate our volunteers who support the Red Cross every day to fulfill our mission."

"We encourage Mainers across the state to join us on Wednesday, March 28 and 'roll up a

sleeve' to continue helping their neighbors by keeping the blood supply strong," said Brian Cliffe, President and General Manager of WCSH 6. "NewsCenter is proud to be working with the Red Cross to recognize local heroes who quietly do good deeds every day."

Donors are encouraged to make their appointments early and use sponsor code NewsCenterMaine. To make an See **Red Cross**, page 5

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# Newsmakers, Names & Faces

## St. Dominic Academy student wins 2018 Amirault Scholarship



Pictured here with Bishop Deeley, St. Dominic Academy senior Madison “Maddie” Leslie plans to attend Franklin Pierce University in the fall.

Madison “Maddie” Leslie, a senior at Saint Dominic Academy in Auburn, is one of two Maine students selected by the Catholic Foundation of Maine to receive a 2018 Lila Grace Sullivan Amirault Scholarship. The award

was presented by Bishop Robert P. Deeley on Friday, March 16.

The scholarship fund, which helps Maine Catholic high school students with college tuition costs, was established in 2013 by the late Patrick Amirault in memory

of his wife. Amirault, who grew up as one of nine children in a poor family in Malden, Mass., created the fund to show his appreciation for the care and quality education he received at a Catholic school there.

To be eligible for the scholarship, students must be accepted at an accredited college or university and must plan to work while attending college. Each recipient will receive \$4,500.

“I remember opening the award letter when it arrived,” said Leslie. “It was such an exciting moment. I am honored and blessed to have been awarded this scholarship... as it helps pay such a large amount of my first year of college.”

Leslie will attend Franklin Pierce University in Rindge, New Hampshire, where she intends to major in media and communications and minor in political science and music. An outstanding athlete, she will play lacrosse in college while pursuing her dream job of being a sportscaster. She also plans to explore another of her passions: singing.

Leslie won Miss Maine’s Outstanding Teen Competition during her sophomore year and was named the top vocalist at the national level, receiving the non-finalist talent award in the process. She frequently serves as cantor during Masses at St. Dom’s.

“Music ministry has helped me connect to my faith through sharing the gift God has given me,” she says. “This also allowed me to participate in Mass which I truly believe God intended for me.”

Faith has always been an important part of her life. “I often pray before games to ask God for strength and courage to be the best athlete.”

See St. Dominic, page 4

## American Legion names Libby “Legislator of the Year”



Sen. Nate Libby (c.), with Matt Jabaut (l.) and Jerry DeWitt

Sen. Nate Libby (D-Lewiston) has been named “Legislator of the Year” by the American Legion Department of Maine. The award was presented to Libby at a recent ceremony by Lewiston native Matt Jabaut, Second Vice Commander, American Legion Department of Maine, and Jerry DeWitt, commander of

Legion Post 153 of Auburn. Libby was recognized for his work helping veterans access benefits owed to them.

In 2017, Libby sponsored LD 465, “An Act to Assist Veterans in their Applications for Service-Related Benefits,” which would have required the Maine Bureau of Veterans Services

to take all benefit claims cases that veterans bring to them, rather than allowing them to cherry-pick cases under the current system. While the bill failed to pass, it raised awareness of the problem. Other non-governmental partners, including the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars, have become engaged in the issue and are working to fill gaps in services.

“Ensuring that all veterans are treated fairly, regardless of the difficulty or complexity of their benefit claims, is just a small way that we can ensure we’re repaying our debt to America’s veterans,” said Libby. “I’m honored to be recognized by the American Legion in this way, and I will strive every day to live up to this honor in the State Senate.”

## Lewiston Adult Education students learn about Franco-American history



Here with guest speaker Doris Bonneau (center front) are Lewiston Adult Basic Education students (l. to r., from front) Alexander Wilson, Edmundo Kipo, Mohamoud Abdillahi, Evandro John, Yussuf Mahamud, Julio Catumbela, Hana Omar, and Iqbal Jashaami.

A history lesson about Franco-Americans turned into a discussion about working hard and meeting new challenges recently, when retired English teacher and former assistant school superintendent Doris Bonneau spoke to an Adult Basic Education class at the B Street Community Center in Lewiston.

ABE classes help students prepare for post-secondary study at universities and community colleges, and Bonneau’s presentation was the last part of a local history unit taught by College Transitions and Adult Basic Education instructor Amy Hatch.

Bonneau told the class about the history of French

Canadian immigration to the Lewiston-Auburn area, including the overland routes immigrants took from Quebec to the northeastern United States, the 10-hour shifts they worked in the region’s booming textile mills, and the widespread prejudices they faced throughout Maine and New England.

Bonneau asked students to consider the similarities and differences between immigrants to Lewiston today and in the past. A student said he thought Lewiston had more tolerance today. “That made my heart feel good,” said Bonneau after the class. “I really think we are working hard in this community to assure that there is a certain level of tolerance.”

Bonneau then showed photographs of various local landmarks, including the Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul and the F.X. Marcotte

See Adult Ed, page 4

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# Governor's Address: Conforming to the Federal Tax Code is the Right Policy for Maine

The federal tax cuts will provide about \$1 billion in tax relief this year and next to Maine families and businesses.

Dear Maine Taxpayer,

To make things easier for taxpayers when the federal government changes the tax code, each state generally adopts that federal code. Adopting the same code at the state level is called "tax conformity." It simplifies how Mainers pay income and business taxes.

Most of the time, tax conformity requires minor fixes that are relatively easy for the state to adopt. This year, because the federal tax reform was long overdue, we must determine whether we will conform our tax laws to the significantly revised federal code.

The tax code is confusing enough. Having two sets of laws for federal and state tax returns will create problems.

If we do not conform, Maine businesses will have to keep two sets of tax books. Tax administrators will have to comply with different state and federal tax rules. This is a giant headache for Maine businesses.

Not conforming will also require the state to create a new tax bureaucracy. We'll need to create our own regulations and then hire new state employees to audit state income and business taxes separately from IRS audits. Folks, we don't need to do this.

To avoid these problems, I've introduced the "Conformity and Family Tax Relief Act" to conform our tax laws to the updated federal code.

Conforming Maine to the federal code, however, will result in Mainers paying additional income tax that you are not currently paying. That's not right. The last thing I want is for Mainers to pay more taxes.

Therefore, my bill makes an important technical change to Maine tax law that avoids a tax increase.

For small businesses, my bill provides a tax cut of nearly \$20 million in the current biennium. For corporations doing business in Maine, the bill mitigates a tax increase caused by conformity by reducing our corporate income tax rate from 8.93 percent to 8.33 percent.

I also propose more than \$200 million in tax reductions over the next three years. We will return much of the tax revenue surplus to Maine taxpayers.

Most of this tax relief is through a new \$500 child and dependent tax credit. Coupled with my proposal to provide \$30 million per year in student debt relief, we will encourage recent college graduates to remain in our state and raise their families here.

Yet, liberals in the state Legislature don't want you to keep your money. They see this as a windfall, even though their counterparts in Congress called this tax savings nothing more than "crumbs."

If you keep the savings, they say it's "crumbs." If they get to spend the savings, they call it "revenue."

My bill maintains simplicity in our tax structure, and it returns surplus tax revenues to Maine families. Let your legislators know you want to keep it simple. Let them know you want to keep your money. You've earned it.

Thank You,  
Paul R. LePage  
Governor



Governor Paul R. LePage

## Letter to Editor

At Advocates For Children we work to empower children and families to lead healthy and productive lives, so whenever we see horrific cases of child abuse, like the recent death of Marissa Kennedy, we are heartbroken.

We know child abuse happens across socio-economic lines; across racial and ethnic lines and across age and gender. We each have an important role to play in stopping child abuse; if you suspect child abuse please speak up!

Sometimes it takes multiple reports before authorities will open an investigation. It is always advised to report any suspicion, even if the information you have seems insignificant; sometimes all that is needed to open an investigation is one final piece to the puzzle. It is not your job to prove abuse is happening, only to provide details and information for why you suspect abuse is happening.

Here are some things to look for:

Babies: marks on the skin and injuries in babies not yet walking, like bruises or fractures, can forecast more severe abuse. Even babies who are crawling and walking will not bruise (or fracture) easily on their own. Bruising in places that are inconsistent with a fall (such as on their stomach, neck, top of head) should be cause for concern.

Preschool and School-Age Children: Sudden unexplained changes, such as decreased self-esteem, anxiety or depression. Children who have knowledge about topics that are too mature for the child's age (such as sexual information) or behavior that is too mature for the child's age (such as extremely aggressive behavior); animal abuse by a child or caregiver usually correlates with child abuse.

Other things to look for are bruising on both arms or legs or both sides of the face. Marks that show a pattern of a hand or a belt; adult bite marks or burns.

## Maine

Continued from page 1

Bruises, welts, fractures or other injuries that can't be explained or don't match with the child or caregiver's story are always a red flag.

The number to report Child Abuse in Maine: 1-800-452-1999

To learn more about the risk factors, warning signs, and how to report, please visit: [www.advocatesforchildren.net](http://www.advocatesforchildren.net)

Gillian Roy,  
Executive Director  
Advocates for Children, Lewiston ME

Veterans Crisis Line 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year at 1-800-273-8255. Text messages can also be sent to 838255 to receive confidential support. For more information on the Veterans Crisis Line, see <https://www.veteranscrisisline.net>.

For more information on the Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services, or to contact the Veteran Service Office nearest you, call 430-6035 or see <http://maine.gov/veterans>.

## What do you think?

We strongly encourage Letters to the Editor, Op/Eds, columns or any other submissions from our readers.

Agree with us or another columnist? Disagree? Write to us and let us know!

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# St. Dominic

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lete that I can be,” she says. “I trust in Him. I always look to God for guidance, for strength and courage. I know He has a plan for everything, so I have to trust in that.”

Leslie is known for inspiring others with her positive attitude and dedication to service as a participant and organizer of fundraisers, food and blood drives, visits to Barbara Bush Children’s Hospital and Camp Sunshine, and by using her gifts to spread joy.

Her contributions to

the school community will not be forgotten, nor will she forget the indelible moments she experienced at St. Dom’s.

“I have forged beautiful friendships and have been blessed to have had so many tremendous teachers,” she says. “The academics have challenged me, and the faculty has driven me to do my very best to achieve great grades. The rigorous courses have taught me how to time manage and be disciplined.

“Saint Dominic Academy and the community as a whole has been a supportive and loving family, for which

I am eternally grateful.”

The Amirault Scholarship Endowment was established through the Catholic Foundation of Maine. Established in 2003, CFM provides opportunities for people to create or contribute to charitable funds that will enhance the work of the Church in Maine. The foundation manages the funds to ensure the long-term viability of the endowments so that the charitable wishes of the donors are carried out. For more information, see [www.catholicfoundationmaine.org](http://www.catholicfoundationmaine.org).

To create an endowment with the Catholic

# Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Services presents Breakfast with the Easter Bunny

Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Services will host Breakfast with the Easter Bunny on Sunday, March 25 from 8 to 10 a.m. at Applebee’s in Oxford. Children and their families are invited to hop in for a pancake breakfast with bacon, juice, and coffee.

The event is \$10 for adults and \$7 for children under 12. Tickets are available by calling Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Services at 784-5272 or at [donate.sapars.org/easter](http://donate.sapars.org/easter). Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Services provides education

fee. The Easter Bunny will be on hand for photos with the children. The cost of the event is \$10 for adults and \$7 for children under 12. Tickets are available by calling Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Services at 784-5272 or at [donate.sapars.org/easter](http://donate.sapars.org/easter).

Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Services provides education

## Adult Ed

Continued from page 2

Furniture building, illustrating how Franco-Americans persevered in holding on to parts of their culture while making major contributions to the community.

Remembering how she worked to gain her father’s support to attend the University of Maine at Orono, Bonneau told the students how special and important they each were and encouraged them to consider ways to continue furthering their own educations. “I think that is what America is all about,” she said after her presentation. “America is about opportunity, people who are ready to work hard.”

Hatch invited Bonneau to speak to her class because many of her students are immigrants, and she thought they could benefit from learning that they are not the first to arrive in Lewiston from another country, and not alone in their experiences of struggling to build a new life.

“The moment I met Doris, I knew she had to meet my students and tell

and services in Androscoggin, Oxford, and Franklin Counties to prevent and eliminate sexual violence and to promote healing and empowerment for people of all genders and ages who are affected by rape, sexual assault, child sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, stalking, and sexual harassment. For more information, see [www.sapars.org](http://www.sapars.org).

them about those earlier immigrants to Lewiston, the French Canadians,” said Hatch. “She is such a wonderful speaker, and her connections with the Gendron Franco Center show how those immigrants made their way through and persevered.”

Bonneau serves as chair of the Franco-American Collection at the University of Southern Maine’s Lewiston-Auburn College and as a volunteer at the Franco Center. She has also performed at the Maine Music Society.

Send all items for What’s Going On to [Editor@TwinCityTimes.com](mailto:Editor@TwinCityTimes.com). Deadline is Friday by five.

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## Handbell ringers gather in Auburn for Spring Ring



Ringers gathered at Winthrop High School in 2016

Handbell ringers from across the state will gather on Saturday, April 7 at Auburn Middle School for their 2018 Maine Spring Ring. The day will conclude at 4:30 p.m. with

a concert in the school gymnasium, where the audience will be treated to seven massed-rung pieces, along with solo performances by several individual ensembles. The concert is free

and open to the public, but a free-will offering will be collected for those who wish to help with expenses. All Maine handbell ringers are encouraged to participate in this ex-

citing day-long event. The schedule includes a variety of educational workshops led by guest clinicians, as well as instructional rehearsals of the massed-rung pieces with Area 1 clinician and conductor Larry Berdensey, director of the Hockanum Valley Ringers of Vernon, CT.

The final registration deadline is March 23. Auburn Middle School is located at 38 Falcon Drive. For more information about the event or to register,

contact event registrar Laura Begenwald at 480-1404 or lbegenwald@gmail.com, or see <http://area1.handbellmusicians.org>.

The Spring Ring is sponsored by Handbell Musicians of America, Inc. for the benefit of its member ringers. HMA is dedicated to uniting people through the musical art of handbell and handchime ringing. For more information about HMA, see [www.handbellmusicians.org](http://www.handbellmusicians.org).

## Red Cross

*Continued from page 1*

appointment, visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org).

To meet demand, donations of all blood types are needed year-round. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. In most states, those ages 17 or older (or age 16 with parental consent) who weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and those ages 18 and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements. For more information or to make an appointment to donate, download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767), or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org).

Blood and platelet donors can save time at their next donation by using RapidPass to complete their pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire online, on the day of their donation, before arriving at the blood drive. To get started, use the Blood Donor App or follow the instructions at [RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass](http://RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass).

## Bangor Savings Bank sets \$15 starting wage

As of February 25, Bangor Savings Bank has raised the minimum rate it pays employees in all positions to \$15 per hour. This is the bank's third minimum wage increase since January of 2016. Company officials say it supports the company's objective to pay a living wage to all employees, regardless of location, position, or whether they are full-time or part-time.

"We have the best employees, and our Living Wage initiative is just one of the many ways we can support them to make their lives and the lives of their families better," said Bangor Savings President and CEO Bob Montgomery-Rice. "This initiative, however, goes far beyond our organization. It stands as an investment in the communities where we live and work. The

wage allows employees to save and provides an ability to spend. That spending, in turn, strengthens local businesses and the towns we serve. We are committed to strengthening our local economies and proud to support the financial stability of our team."

The wage increase will impact about 40 percent of the bank's 836 employees in Maine and New Hampshire, either by bringing them to the new minimum or through a "compression" wage adjustment. The company's minimum wage is now \$5 more than the State of Maine's minimum wage, and more than double the State of New Hampshire's minimum wage of \$7.25 per hour.

The investment in its workforce comes as Bangor Savings continues to grow

in Bangor and beyond. The first building in its new headquarters on the Bangor waterfront will open in June and, with the completion of its second building later this year, the campus will house more than 400 Bangor-based employees, with capacity to grow to 500.

The bank will relocate branches in Biddeford and Pittsfield to new locations within those communities over the next four months, and expects to complete the acquisition of Colebrook, New Hampshire-based Granite Bank in early April. Additionally, voting recently ended for Bangor Savings Bank Foundation's popular Community Matters More grant making program, which was expanded to include Rockingham County, New Hampshire for the first time this year.

## Prevention

*Continued from page 1*

\$30 per person or \$250 for a table for 10. They can be purchased by calling 784-5282 or online at [donate.sapars.org](http://donate.sapars.org).

Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Services provides support and assistance to people affected by sexual assault, sexual abuse, stalking, and sexual harassment. Services include a 24-hour response line; support groups; drop-in programs at local high schools and elder housing units; accompaniment to local hospitals and law enforcement and court proceedings; outreach services; and school and community awareness and prevention presentations. For more information, call 784-5272 or visit [www.sapars.org](http://www.sapars.org).

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## Historical Society hosts program on “Littlefield Mysteries”

Who doesn’t like a whodunit? Percy Turner first learned of the questions surrounding the bizarre homicides of Dr. James Littlefield and his wife, Lydia, as a Maine State Trooper patrolling the foothills of Western Maine for almost three decades. Now retired, Turner will present a program on the “Littlefield Mysteries” on Tuesday, March 27 at 7 p.m. The event will take place in Androscoggin Historical Society’s Davis-Wagg Museum on the third floor of the County Building in Auburn.

The town of Paris, Maine made national

news in 1937 when the bodies of the doctor and his wife were discovered in the doctor’s car in New Jersey, having been driven there by local 17-year-old Paul Dwyer. Dwyer would give authorities several different versions of how the murders came to pass, but his initial admission of guilt, along with the physical evidence, would lead to a conviction that landed him in the Maine State Prison.

Meanwhile, local deputy sheriff Francis Carroll also became a suspect when authorities claimed that the doctor knew Carroll

had been accused of incest with his daughter. Twists and turns in the case, manipulated by corrupt law enforcement officials, led to Carroll’s conviction for the murder. Therefore, while evidence suggested that only one person committed the crime, two people were actually convicted of it.

Admission for this program is free, but donations will be gratefully accepted. Please enter the County Building on the Court Street side, where an elevator is available. For more information about the society, call 784-0586.



The farm’s oxen pose for a photo in front of the sap house (Photo by Ryan Burnham)

Maine’s oldest living history farm and museum invites visitors to celebrate Maine Maple Sunday with them on March 25 from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Those visiting Norlands that day may enjoy a hearty breakfast of fresh hot pancakes and sausage, drizzled in Norlands’ own maple syrup, in the historic farmer’s cottage and original 1867 Washburn family kitchen. Guests may also visit the Sap House to see boiling demonstrations,

meet the farm’s working team of oxen, and help tap trees and collect sap.

The one-room schoolhouse will be open so visitors may journey back to 1853, when the schoolmarm will be ready to share the basics of reading, writing, and arithmetic using materials of the time. Bring snowshoes or boots to burn breakfast calories by walking along the tranquil fields and wooded carriage trails of the historic, 445-acre

homestead. Before you leave, visit the gift shop for Norlands’ own maple syrup and other maple treats to take home.

The only charge is \$5 or \$7 for breakfast; otherwise, the event is free of charge and no reservations are required. Norlands is located at 290 Norlands Road in Livermore. For more information, call 897-4366, email [norlands@norlands.org](mailto:norlands@norlands.org), or visit [www.norlands.org](http://www.norlands.org).

The Washburn-Norlands Living History Center is a multifaceted museum site offering in-depth experiences of 19th-century rural life. Their mission is to preserve the heritage and traditions of Maine’s rural past, to celebrate the achievements of Livermore’s remarkable Washburn family, and to use living history methods to make values, activities, and issues of the past relevant to present and future generations.

## Long-time educator to discuss recent work with teachers of English in Poland

Auburn Public Library will host a program by long-time educator Annette Vance Dorey on Tuesday, March 27 at 2 p.m. Dorey will discuss her experiences working with three dozen teachers of English in rural village and small-town schools in the Eastern European country of Poland last September and October.

Eastern European countries have been man-

dating the teaching of English in their public schools for the past decade. While Poland is making strides at every grade level to teach their youth to become proficient in English, students in the country’s rural areas and small towns have few opportunities to hear English spoken.

Dorey’s time in Poland consisted of working in a different school each day.

In all, she estimates that she interacted with about 1,300 students in grades three through ten. For most of the students, it was their first experience meeting and hearing an American. Faculty, headmasters, and students all eagerly anticipated her visits.

As her work took her across 300 miles of scenic countryside, Dorey enjoyed

See **Poland**, page 12

## Open interviews for RNs and CNAs today at St. Mary’s d’Youville Pavilion

St. Mary’s d’Youville Pavilion in Lewiston will hold open interviews for registered nurses (RN) and certified nursing assistants (CNA) on Thursday, March 22 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The interviews will take place in the residential dining room on the second floor.

Located on 102 Campus Avenue in Lewiston, d’Youville Pavilion is one of New England’s largest nursing homes and the cornerstone of the elder care services program at St. Mary’s Regional Medical Center. It offers skilled and long-term nursing care, a

state-of-the-art rehabilitation center, and a specialized memory care unit. All care services are delivered in an environment focused on respect and compassion.

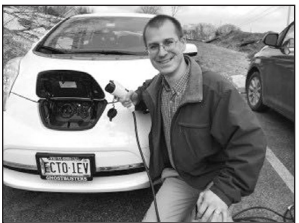
Qualified RNs and CNAs of all experience levels are invited to attend, complete an application, submit their resume, and interview with a hiring manager. In addition, a recruiting representative will be on hand to answer questions about compensation, benefits, work schedules, and more.

“We’re interested in adding compassionate professionals to our growing

team,” said Traci O’Neill, a recruiter for Covenant Health. “We encourage qualified candidates to stop by our open interviews, share their experiences, and learn more about the opportunities available at d’Youville Pavilion and across our health care system.”

Those unable to attend the open interview session may visit St. Mary’s careers page to review open positions and submit an online application. For more information, contact Traci O’Neill at 907-1710 or [toneill@covh.org](mailto:toneill@covh.org) or visit [www.stmarysmaine.com/careers/careers](http://www.stmarysmaine.com/careers/careers).

## Spring Super Saturday to have environmental focus



Bill Hensley shows how his Nissan Leaf gets recharged in advance of his upcoming “Electric Cars” class, part of Lewiston Adult Education’s Spring Super Saturday on April 7.

Spring Super Saturday will bring an environmental focus to Lewiston Adult Education on April 7, when returning favorites will appear alongside new classes on electric cars, organic gardening, and butterflies.

A 4-H instructor will teach the “Butterflies” class, which is open to parents and children, while a member of the

Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association will explain the basics of “Organic Gardening.” Bill Hensley, a technology support specialist for Lewiston Public Schools, will pop the hood of his Nissan Leaf during his lesson on “Electric Cars.”

Hensley has a YouTube channel featuring videos about what he has learned by driving his Nissan Leaf. In addition to showing how an electric car works, he will talk about recharging stations and how renewable energy contributes to the American electrical supply. His YouTube channel can be found at [www.youtube.com/user/bmhsonic](http://www.youtube.com/user/bmhsonic).

Other classes with openings include “CPR,” “First Aid & AED,”

“Yoga and Meditation,” and “Henna.” Yoga and Meditation is a half-day class, while CPR and Henna will run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. All classes will take place at Lewiston High School. For more information about Super Saturday classes or other classes at Lewiston Adult Education, call 795-4141 or see [www.lewiston.maineadulted.org](http://www.lewiston.maineadulted.org).



This year’s fundraiser has the theme “I Am the Future” and will feature a silent art auction.

Tree Street Youth, in collaboration with the Lewiston-Auburn chapter of the Union of Maine Visual Artists, is now accepting original artwork for Tree Street Youth’s annual fundraising event, “I Am Tree.”

New for this year’s event will be a silent auction of local artist and youth art. The agency is calling upon

artists to submit artwork in any medium interpreting this year’s theme: “I Am the Future.” The theme is open to interpretation by the artists and may touch on such areas as unity across lines of difference, aspirations, leadership, connection to the community, and resilience.

Accepted artworks will be displayed at the I

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Wedding Planning 101

First comes the proposal then comes the wedding planning. There are dozens of decisions that need to be made before it's time to walk down the aisle, which can be overwhelming for brides and grooms.

To help make it less stressful, these tips from Macy's can help couples through the entire wedding-planning process, from on-trend apparel and accessories for the entire wedding party to all the essentials to create a perfect registry.

Dressing the Ladies

When it comes to bridesmaid dresses, the mix-and-match approach is trending in popularity. Start by deciding on a color palette, such as lilac, champagne and petal pink. Then have each bridesmaid choose her favorite style within that range of hues. Bring it all together by choosing a uniform look for makeup, shoes and accessories.

There is no better time to thank the ladies than the morning of the big day. A few thoughtful gifts can go a long way, such as matching robes, tumblers to stay hydrated throughout the day and cosmetic cases to stow makeup essentials.

Dressing the Gents

Similar to bridesmaid dresses, groomsmen attire can be dependent on the venue and overall event aesthetic. While a suit can fit the bill for a country club wedding, a city affair may call for the sleek finishes of a tux. Tuxedo accessories, such as cuff links or bow ties, make great groomsmen gifts and are classic pieces they can use time and time again.

Creating the Perfect Registry

When building a registry, it's never too

early to start. People want to give gifts as soon as they know a couple is engaged. Start by taking inventory of what you already have, what you need and what you want to upgrade. It's also recommended to update the registry regularly so there are enough gifts to choose from, especially if there is an engagement party and bridal shower coming up. To get started, some popular registry items include stand mixers, craft beer glasses, Dutch ovens, bath towels and vacuums. For extra guidance, couples can speak to advisors who can help with the full registry building process at Macy's stores.

For more wedding ideas and inspiration, and to find the right attire and gifts for your wedding planning, visit [macys.com](http://macys.com). (Family Features)



Photo courtesy of Getty Images #13827 Source: Macy's

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Red Cross honors local heroes for extraordinary acts in service to others



From l.: Farmingdale Assistant Fire Chief Michael LaPlante, Captain Julian Beale, Junior Firefighter Aiden Beale, and Hallowell Fire Chief James Owens.

The Central and Mid Coast Chapter of the American Red Cross recently honored several individuals and one organization for going above and beyond in service to others at its 15th annual Real Heroes Breakfast. “We’re celebrating the Real Heroes of the community - everyday people who perform extraordinary acts of courage, kindness, and unselfish

character to help people in need,” said Nicole Lajoie, a Chapter board member and co-chair of the Real Heroes Committee. “They exemplify the spirit at the heart of the American Red Cross mission of preventing and alleviating human suffering,” said Johanna Lloyd, another Chapter board member and co-chair of the Real Heroes Committee. Area recipients of 2018 Central and Mid Coast Maine Real

Heroes awards are listed below. The recipient of the Public Service Real Heroes Award was Officer Phil DiLuca of the Clinton Police Department, who was recognized for saving Shawn Skehan from his burning home. The recipient of the Gift of Life Real Heroes Award was Joe Maher of Turner, who was recognized for donating blood platelets more than 500 times over a forty-year period.



Thomas Freitas and Ryan O’Sullivan

The recipient of the Community Service Real Heroes Award was Brayden Bashaw, age 12, of Auburn, who was recognized for raising \$7,000 to provide toys and special mobility carts for children spending Christmas at the Barbara Bush Children’s Hospital. The recipient of the Workplace Safety Real Heroes Award

was Assistant Chief Michael LaPlante and the Farmingdale Fire Department, who were recognized for installing free smoke alarms that later saved the lives of eight Farmingdale residents. The recipient of the Good Samaritan Real Heroes Award was Lincoln and Stacey Wheeler of Bowdoin, who were recognized for aiding Ve-

ronica Dumais in her burning car until first responders arrived. The recipients of the Adult Life Saving Real Heroes Award were Thomas Freitas and Ryan O’Sullivan of the Lewiston Public Works Department, who were recognized for intervening to prevent a stranger from attempting suicide.

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Joe Maher



Brayden Bashaw, with his parents Stacey and Travis



Officer Phil DiLuca

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# TWIN CITY NIGHTS

## Weekly Arts & Entertainment

### Final weekend for "Marjorie Prime"



In this provocative new play running at the Public Theatre in Lewiston, it's the age of artificial intelligence, and 85-year-old Marjorie is kept company by a handsome, computerized replica of her deceased husband who's been programmed to remind her of the good old days. But is talking about the past as satisfying as actually sharing the present? This recent off-Broadway hit plays for its final performances Thursday through Sunday, with a free, pre-show wine sampling on "Wine-Down Thursday" at 6:30 p.m. For show times or ticket information, call 782-3200 or see [www.thepublictheatre.org](http://www.thepublictheatre.org).

### Local organizations mark International Francophone Month with programs on March 28

In observance of International Francophone Month, the Gendron Franco Center, the Quebec Delegation in Boston, and the

Franco-American Collection at USM's Lewiston-Auburn College will host two programs on Wednesday, March 28. Both are free and

open to the public.

At 2:30 p.m. in Room 170 at Lewiston-Auburn College, Julie-Ann Baumer will discuss her research on the

### Chocolate Church Arts Center welcomes Dave Mallett

American singer-songwriter Dave Mallett and the Chocolate Church Arts Center have grown up together since Mallett first started performing on the center's main stage almost 40 years ago. On Friday, March 23 at 7:30 p.m., he'll return to take the audience on a musical tour of the Maine northlands and byways that have inspired his songs for decades.

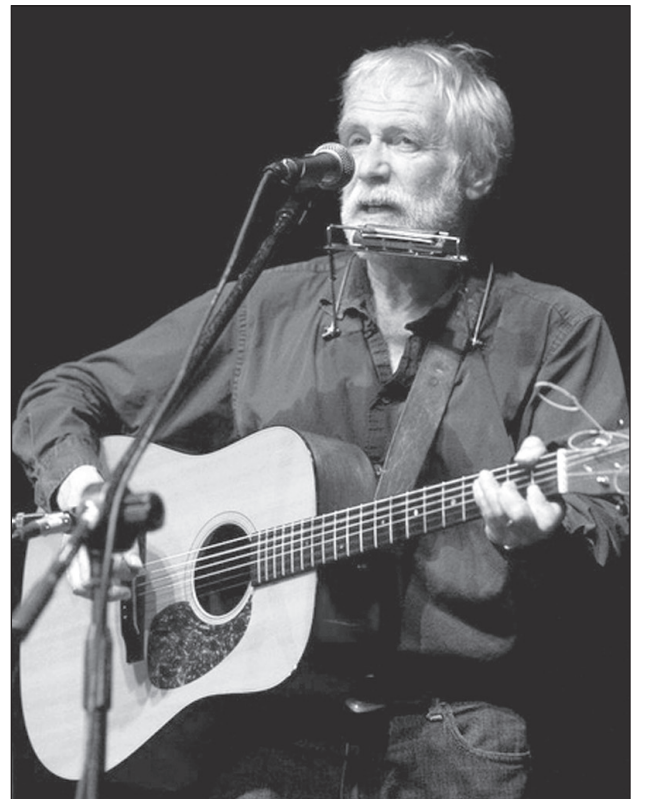
Mallett, who was named one of our "Most Memorable Mainers" by the millennium edition of the Bangor Daily News, is best known for his authorship of the "Garden Song," which has since been recorded hundreds of times, attaining a place in the lexicon of American music.

"It was never that big a hit - never blared at you ten times an hour on the

radio," says Mallett, "It's gotten around, but in a very human way, through the mouths of children, at campfires and wedding ceremonies. It's like every kid in America - and a lot of them around the world - learns my song at one time or another. I'm so proud to be associated with such a simple and beautiful thing."

In a career spanning four decades, Mallett has recorded 14 albums and appeared on numerous broadcasts, including National Public Radio's "A Prairie Home Companion." After living in Nashville in the 1980s, he moved back to Maine and established his own label, North Road Records.

Poetic and carefully written, Mallett's songs are filled with passion, See **Concert**, page 12



Best known for his authorship of the "Garden Song," Mallett first started performing on the center's main stage 40 years ago.

### Marine Corps League to mark Vietnam War Veterans Day

The Marine Corps League's Central Maine Detachment 810 will observe Vietnam War Veterans Day on Thursday, March 29, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Veterans Park in Lewiston.

The event is free and open to all, with Vietnam-era veterans and their spouses and children especially encouraged to attend. Please come and help say "thank you" for their sacrifices.

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## Marjorie Prime

By Jordan Harrison

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Image © Center Theatre Group

Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul in Lewiston. Her presentation, "Great on their Shoulders," will include a historical overview of the Basilica's construction, its role as a focal point in the identity of Lewiston's Franco-Americans, and how her research and writing on the subject - which appeared over a year's time as feature articles in the Lewiston Sun-Journal and will soon be released in book form - affected her personally.

"I always had a sense of being French," Baumer says. "Maybe it was the dis-

See **Franco**, page 12

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# Twin City Nights

## Concert

Continued from page 10

evocative imagery, and a sense of the passage of time. Enduring themes are the struggle of the common man and the loss of American rural landscapes. His body of work has provided material for an eclectic list of artists, including Alison

Krauss, Pete Seeger, Hal Ketchum, Emmylou Harris, John Denver, and the Muppets. Chocolate Church Arts Center is located at 804 Washington Street in Bath. Tickets are \$23 in advance or \$27 at the door. They may be purchased by calling 442-8455 or at [www.chocolatechurcharts.org](http://www.chocolatechurcharts.org).


## Franco

Continued from page 10

tant memory of hearing the language and living in the traditions. But spending so much time at the Basilica and being immersed in 150 years of Lewiston's French-Catholic history has increased my reverence for these ancestors who imagined a grand church on that hill.

### Performance by the Youth Orchestra of Lewiston Auburn

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The Youth Orchestra of Lewiston-Auburn will be giving its spring concert on March 24 at 2pm. The

performance will be at Free Grace Presbyterian Church (160 Canal St., Lewiston) and will include L'Arlesienne by

Georges Bizet and music from the Harry Potter films by John Williams. The concert is free, but donations will be accepted.

## Hugh Keene to receive SeniorsPlus' Ikaria Award



Auburn resident Hugh Keene will be honored by SeniorsPlus with the agency's 2018 Ikaria Award at its annual Fill the Plate Breakfast to benefit Meals on Wheels on Friday, March 23, from 7 to 9 a.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn-Riverwatch of Auburn. The event will also feature a presentation by Elizabeth Peavey, creator and performer of the award-winning one-woman show "My Mother's Clothes Are Not My Mother." Tickets are \$20 per person in advance or \$25 at the door and are available by calling 795-4010 or at [www.seniorsplus.org](http://www.seniorsplus.org).

### Franco Center plans maple sugar trip to Québec

Mitch Thomas, executive director of the Gendron Franco Center, and Bert Dutil, popular bus trip leader, will lead a group on a maple sugar day-trip to Quebec on Saturday, April 14. The "Cabane à Sucre" in Lac-Mégantic will be the destination. As an added feature, local Québec musicians will provide entertainment during the meal at Cabane à Sucre. Seats on the bus are still available. The public is

invited to join those already signed up for the tour. This is a great trip for all ages, and families are encouraged to attend. Departure from the Franco Center will be at 6:45 a.m. Coffee and breakfast snacks will be offered starting at 6:15 a.m. The return time is expected to be by 7 p.m. on the same day. There will be a brief stop for shopping before returning to Maine. The cost of the trip, which includes transportation and the noon-time

home-cooked meal at the Cabane à Sucre, is \$70 per person. A valid U.S. Passport is needed for travel to Canada. A home-cooked feast at the site, live music by local artists, bus fare, and all-day parking are all included with each ticket. Space is limited. To reserve a spot on the trip, call the Franco Center at 783-1585, email [boxoffice@francocenter.org](mailto:boxoffice@francocenter.org), or visit their box office at 46 Cedar Street in Lewiston.

### Chamber Power Trip spotlights Center for Workforce and Professional Development

Are cookie cutter training options not working for your organization? The Center for Workforce and Professional Development at Central Maine Community College develops customized soft and technical skills training programs to address your specific needs. Come learn how

CMCC can develop a flexible, cost-effective training program for your organization, at little or no cost through its Maine Quality Center Training Grant program, when the LA Metro Chamber of Commerce hosts a Power Trip event called "Customized Training Impacts Your Bottom-Line!" on Thursday, March 29 from noon to 1:30 p.m. The event

will take place in Tower Room 405 at Central Maine Community College, 1250 Turner Street in Auburn. Lunch will be provided. The chamber's Power Trip series takes participants on-site to see fellow chamber investors and their businesses and organizations in action. For more information, call 783-2249 or see [lometrochamber.com](http://lometrochamber.com).

## Poland

Continued from page 6

delicious Polish cuisine and spending time with the families who hosted her on the weekends, many of whom escorted her on day trips to beautiful and impressive historical sites and cities. She says the experience was quite different from the summer she spent in Lithuania a few years ago, when she worked with one large group

of English teachers. Dorey has taught students of all ages in various states and was a professor of teacher education in Canada. In recent years, she has devoted herself to researching and writing about several historical Maine subjects, including the state prison and the state's earliest female physicians. For more information about the program, call 333-6640, ext. 4.

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**Thursday, March 22**  
HR Thursdays Workshop. Noon to 1:30 p.m. Chamber of Commerce, 415 Lisbon St., Lewiston. Tawny Alvarez of Verrill Dana in Portland presents “Creating Handbooks & Policies that Work.” \$50 (Chamber members \$25, CMHRA members free). 783-2249. Register at [www.LAMetroChamber.com](http://www.LAMetroChamber.com).  
Rotary Club Lunch Meeting. Noon to 1 p.m. Village Inn, 165 High St., Auburn. The guest speakers are John Newlin and Theda Lyden, co-founders of nonprofit farming agency Growing to Give. Free; no reservation required. 713-7045; [monica.millhime@maine.gov](mailto:monica.millhime@maine.gov).  
Girl Scouts Info Session. 5:30 p.m. Buker Elementary School, 28 High St., Richmond. Come learn about Girl Scouts’ Sprouting Daisies program for girls entering kindergarten or first grade. Free. 888-922-4763; [girlscoutsofmaine.org](http://girlscoutsofmaine.org).  
Theater: “Marjorie Prime.” 7:30 p.m. The Public Theatre, 31 Maple St., Lewiston. This provocative new play is set in a futuristic Twilight Zone where no home is complete without computer-generated companions who keep the old days alive. Again 23-25 (Sun. at 2 p.m.). \$20/5. 782-3200; [thepublictheatre.org](http://thepublictheatre.org).  
**Friday, March 23**  
Fill the Plate Breakfast. 7 to 9 a.m. Hilton Garden Inn, Auburn. Writer Elizabeth Peavey is the speaker, and Auburn resident Hugh Keene is honored, at this benefit for SeniorsPlus’ Meals on Wheels program. \$20 adv./\$25 at door. Register at 795-4010 or [www.seniorsplus.org](http://www.seniorsplus.org).  
“Energy for Performance” Workshop. Noon 1 p.m. LA Metro Chamber of Commerce, 415 Lisbon St., Lewiston. Learn how to manage stress, fuel your body, and establish routines for peak performance at work and in life. \$50 (members \$25). 783-2249; [lametrochamber.com](http://lametrochamber.com).  
Concert: Dave Mallet. 7:30 p.m. Chocolate Church Arts Center, 804 Washington St., Bath. Best known for his authorship of the “Garden Song,” singer-songwriter Dave Mallett has recorded 14 albums. \$23 (\$27 at door). 442-8455; [www.chocolatechurcharts.org](http://www.chocolatechurcharts.org).  
**Saturday, March 24**  
Bird Club Field Trip. 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Steve Reed leads the annual Stanton Bird Club Field Trip to Plum Island National Wildlife Refuge in Mass. Meet at Staples parking lot in Lewiston for carpooling. Dress warmly and bring a lunch. All welcome. Free. 319-6630.  
Art Workshop. 9 a.m. to noon. Harlow Gallery, 100 Water St., Hallowell. Ceramic artist Juliette Walk-

**Calendar**  
See more Calendar at [www.TwinCityTimes.com](http://www.TwinCityTimes.com)  
er leads a workshop in crafting ceramic letters. \$30/35 (\$20 kids 8-17). Register at 622-3813.  
Concert: Youth Orchestra of Lewiston-Auburn. 2 p.m. Free Grace Presbyterian Church, 160 Canal St., Lewiston. The program includes Georges Bizet’s “L’Arlesienne” and music from the Harry Potter films by John Williams. Free, but donations accepted.  
Bean Supper. 4:30 to 6 p.m. Sixth St. Congregational Church, 109 Sixth St., Auburn. Two kinds of beans, brown bread, coleslaw, red and brown hot dogs, American chop suey, asst. desserts and beverages. \$6 adults, \$3 kids ages 5-12, under 5 free. Take-out available.  
Bean Supper. 5 p.m. United Methodist Church, 439 Park Ave., Auburn. Baked beans, casseroles, hot dogs, coleslaw, bread, beverages, and pies; entertainment by the Park Avenue Pickers at 4:30. All welcome. \$8/4 (kids ages 5- free). 782-3972.  
Bean Supper. 5 p.m. First Congregational Church, Rte. 115, Gray. Baked beans, casseroles, salads, homemade breads and desserts, beverages. \$8 adults, \$4 kids under 12. Wheelchair accessible. 657-4279; 657-3279 (day of supper).  
Concert: Maine Music Soc. Chorale & Orchestra. 7:30 p.m. Franco Center, 46 Cedar St., Lewiston. Joined by professional soloists, the group performs Mozart’s “Requiem” and “Solemn Vespers for the Sabbath.” Again 3/25 at 3 p.m. \$25/22/10 (add \$2 at door). 333-3386; [www.mainemusicsociety.org](http://www.mainemusicsociety.org).  
**Sunday, March 25**  
Breakfast with the Easter Bunny. 8 to 10 a.m. Applebee’s, Oxford. Children and their families are for a pancake breakfast with bacon, juice, and coffee and for photos with the Easter Bunny. \$10/7. Get tix at 784-5272 or [donate.sapars.org](mailto:donate.sapars.org).  
Maple Sunday at Norlands. 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Washburn-Norlands Living History Center, 290 Norlands Rd., Livermore. Enjoy a pancake breakfast, visit the sap house, walk the trails, and purchase some of Norlands’ own maple syrup. Breakfast \$7/5; otherwise, free. 897-4366; [www.norlands.org](http://www.norlands.org).  
**Monday, March 26**  
Girl Scouts Info Session. 6 p.m. Agnes Grey School, 170 Main St., West Paris. Come learn about Girl Scouts’ Sprouting Daisies program for girls entering kindergarten or first

grade. Free. 888-922-4763; [girlscoutsofmaine.org](http://girlscoutsofmaine.org).  
**Tuesday, March 27**  
“Travels in Poland to Work with Teachers of English.” 2 p.m. Auburn Public Library. Long-time educator Annette Vance Dorey discusses her work with three dozen teachers of English and their students in rural Poland last fall. Free. 333-6640, ext. 4.  
Andro. Historical Society Meeting. 7 p.m. County Building, Court St., Auburn. Retired Maine State Trooper Percy Turner discusses the enduring questions surrounding the 1937 Littlefield murders of Paris, Maine. Free; donations welcome. 784-0586.  
**Wednesday, March 28**  
Oasis of Music. 12:30 to 1 p.m. Trinity Church, 247 Bates St., Lewiston. Lewiston native Rebecca Grube performs Irish music for fiddle, much of which she learned during her graduate studies in Ireland. Free.  
Franco-American Forum. 2:30 p.m. Franco-American Collection, Room 170, L-A College, 51 Westminster St., Lewiston. Writer Julie-Ann Baumer discusses “The Unique Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul,” followed by a French-language sing-along with Les Troubadours. Free. 753-6545.  
Public Feedback Session. 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Callahan Hall, Lewiston Public Library. The Cities of Lewiston and Auburn and the Maine Dept. of Transportation invite local residents to come share whether and how they would use passenger rail service if it were expanded to Lewiston.  
Celebration and Reception. 5 p.m. Franco Center, 46 Cedar St., Lewiston. Following a Presentation of the Flags and singing of the anthems of Canada, France and Québec, leaders from the Maine Franco communities will be recognized. R.S.V.P. at 783-1585 or [box-office@francocenter.org](mailto:box-office@francocenter.org).  
**Thursday, March 29**  
Vietnam War Veterans Day Ceremony. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Veterans Park, Lewiston. Pres. by the Marine Corps League’s Central Maine Detachment 810, this event is free and open to all; Vietnam-era veterans and their families are especially encouraged to attend.  
Rotary Club Lunch Meeting. Noon to 1 p.m. Village Inn, 165 High St., Auburn. The guest speaker is Lisbon High School music director Jonathan Carsley. Free; no reservation required. 713-7045; [monica.millhime@maine.gov](mailto:monica.millhime@maine.gov).  
Chamber Power Trip. Noon to 1:30 p.m. Tower

Room 405, Central Maine Community College, 1250 Turner St., Auburn. Come learn about the flexible, cost-effective training opportunities available to your organization through CMCC’s Center for Workforce and Professional Development. Lunch provided. 783-2249; [lametrochamber.com](http://lametrochamber.com).  
Marine Corps League Meeting. 6 p.m. Armory, 65 Central Ave., Lewiston. Central ME Detachment 810 holds its monthly meeting. They need members: all Marines, FMF corpsman, Navy chaplains, and those interested in Marines Helping Veterans are invited to attend.  
**Tuesday, April 3**  
Girl Scouts Info Session. 6 p.m. Longley Elementary School, 145 Birch St., Lewiston. Come learn about Girl Scouts’ Sprouting Daisies program for girls entering kindergarten or first grade. Free. 888-922-4763; [girlscoutsofmaine.org](http://girlscoutsofmaine.org).  
**Wednesday, April 4**  
Girl Scouts Info Session. 6 p.m. Lisbon Community School, 33 Mill St., Lisbon. Come learn about Girl Scouts’ Sprouting Daisies program for girls entering kindergarten or first grade. Free. 888-922-4763; [girlscoutsofmaine.org](http://girlscoutsofmaine.org).  
**Thursday, April 5**  
Girl Scouts Info Session. 6 p.m. Libby-Tozier School, 466 Academy Rd., Litchfield. Come learn about Girl Scouts’ Sprouting Daisies program for girls entering kindergarten or first grade. Free. 888-922-4763; [girlscoutsofmaine.org](http://girlscoutsofmaine.org).  
**Friday, April 6**  
Theater: “Urinetown.” 7:30 p.m. Great Falls Performing Arts Center, Academy St., Auburn. Community Little Theatre presents this Tony-winning musical satire about what happens when public corruption and corporate greed clash with the right to go. Again 4/7-8, 12-15 (Suns. at 2 p.m.). \$18/15/12. 783-0958; [www.laclt.com](http://www.laclt.com).  
**Saturday, April 7**  
Handbell Concert. 4:30 p.m. Gymnasium, Auburn Middle School, 38 Falcon Drive. Handbell ringers convened for 2018 Maine Spring Ring perform several mass-rung and solo ensemble pieces. Free. 480-1404; <http://area1.handbellmusicians.org>.  
Baked Bean & Casse- role Supper. 4:45 to 6 p.m. Parish hall, Holy Trinity Church, 67 Frost Hill Ave.,

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I Can Only Imagine (PG)	2:55	3:55	6:55	9:25
Love, Simon (PG-13)	1:05	4:05	7:20	9:50
A Wrinkle In Time (PG)	1:00	4:00	7:00	9:30
Black Panther (PG-13)	12:40	3:40	6:40	9:35
Pacific Rim: Uprising (PG-13)	1:10	4:10	6:50	
Pacific Rim: Uprising 3D (PG-13)				9:20
Peter Rabbit (PG)	1:15	4:15	7:05	
The Strangers: Prey At Night (R)				9:40

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Celebrity Waiter Dinner. 6 p.m. The Carriage House, Lewiston. This annual event benefits Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Services. \$30 (\$250 table for 10). 784-5282; [donate.sapars.org](mailto:donate.sapars.org).  
**Sunday, April 8**  
Country Sunday. Noon to 4:30 p.m. Sportsmen’s Club, 2261 Hallowell Rd., Litchfield. Country Fest Maine presents an afternoon of live country music.; raffles, concessions. \$5; kids 12 and under, free. 536-9647.  
Second Sunday Art Workshop. 2 to 4 p.m. Harlow Gallery, 100 Water St., Hallowell. Artist Andrea Lani leads “Nature Journaling.” Open to all ages, experience levels; space limited for some workshops. Free. Register at 622-3813.  
**Tuesday, April 10**  
Girl Scouts Info Session. 3 p.m. Gilbert Elementary School, 16 Sunset Ave., Augusta. Come learn about Girl Scouts’ Sprouting Daisies program for girls entering kindergarten or first grade. Free. 888-922-4763; [girlscoutsofmaine.org](http://girlscoutsofmaine.org).  
**Thursday, April 12**  
Girl Scouts Info Session. 6 p.m. Montello School, 407 East Ave., Lewiston. Come learn about Girl Scouts’ Sprouting Daisies program for girls entering kindergarten or first grade. Free. 888-922-4763; [girlscoutsofmaine.org](http://girlscoutsofmaine.org).  
Theater: “Urinetown.” 7:30 p.m. Great Falls Performing Arts Center, Academy St., Auburn. Community Little Theatre presents this Tony-winning musical satire about what happens when public corruption and corporate greed clash with the right to go. Again 4/13-15 (Sun. at 2 p.m.). \$18/15/12. 783-0958; [www.laclt.com](http://www.laclt.com).  
**Saturday, April 14**  
Spring Breakfast. 6:30 to 10 a.m. Fire Station, Rte. 106, Leeds. Pancakes, French Toast, eggs, bacon, sausage, ham, home fries, homemade donuts, coffee, juice. Adults \$6, children \$4. Proceeds will help purchase Personnel Structure firefighting equipment.  
**Friday, April 20**  
Theatre: “The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee.” 7:30 p.m. Cumston Hall, Monmouth. Monmouth Community Players presents this funny, touching play about six middle schoolers vying for the coveted prize. Again 4/21-22, 27-29 (Suns. at 2 p.m.). \$14/12. 370-9566; [www.monmouthcommunityplayers.org](http://www.monmouthcommunityplayers.org).  
**Monday, April 23**  
Girl Scouts Info Session. 6 p.m. Hall-Dale Elementary School, 26 Garden Lane, Hallowell. Come learn about Girl Scouts’ Sprouting Daisies program for girls entering kindergarten or first grade. Free. 888-922-4763; [girlscoutsofmaine.org](http://girlscoutsofmaine.org).  
**Friday, April 27**  
Theatre: “The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee.” 7:30 p.m. Cumston Hall, Monmouth. Monmouth Community Players presents this funny, touching play about six middle schoolers vying for the coveted prize. Again 4/28-29 (Sun. at 2 p.m.) \$14/12. 370-9566; [www.monmouthcommunityplayers.org](http://www.monmouthcommunityplayers.org).  
**Saturday, May 5**  
Baked Bean & Casse- role Supper. 4:45 to 6 p.m. Parish hall, Holy Trinity Church, 67 Frost Hill Ave., Lisbon Falls. Includes desert and beverage. Pres. by Knights of Columbus. \$8 adults, \$4 children 11-, \$18 family with children.

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## Green Dot L-A now available to provide bystander intervention training



Green Dot L-A instructors and supporters at a recent Auburn City Council meeting



Displaying the Green Dot L-A quilt at Bangor Savings Bank are (l. to r.) Wendy Mitchell, Bank VP Christine Bosse, Kitsie Claxton, and Linda Matzen

Green Dot Lewiston-Auburn recently enjoyed a successful Launch Week, during which they shared their approach to violence prevention through bystander intervention training with various groups in the community. Launch Week in-

cluded presentations to the Auburn City Council, Lewiston City Council, and Lewiston-Auburn Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce. The week concluded with a celebratory walk up Lisbon Street by Green Dot instructors and supporters who carried

a Green Dot banner and visited offices and businesses to introduce the movement. Launch Week also marked the unveiling of the Green Dot L-A quilt, a multi-material work of art consisting of fabric, stitching, handwritten text, buttons, and beads. The quilt is currently on display at launch underwriter Bangor Savings Bank on Lisbon Street. Green Dot Lewiston-Auburn is now available to provide bystander intervention training to businesses, organizations, and other community groups. For more information about how to bring Green Dot bystander intervention trainings to your workplace or community, email [info@greendotla.org](mailto:info@greendotla.org).

## “Little Hats, Big Hearts” program raises awareness of congenital heart defects



The American Heart Association-American Stroke Association teamed up with eight Maine hospitals this year for the “Little Hats, Big Hearts” initiative, which provided 700 newborns with volunteer-made red infant caps during February to observe American Heart Month. The purpose of the project was to celebrate heart health while raising awareness of congenital heart defects, the most common type of birth defect in Maine. The participating hospitals were Central Maine Medical Center, Eastern Maine Medical Center, Maine Medical Center, Mercy Hospital, Mid Coast Hospital, Southern Maine Health Care, Aroostook Medical Center, and York Hospital. In addition to the hand-made hat, new parents received information about CHDs and the AHA’s Support Network for families

affected by heart disease and stroke. CHDs are structural problems with the heart that are present at birth. They result when a mishap occurs during heart development soon after conception and often before the mother is aware that she is pregnant. Defects range in severity from simple problems, such as “holes” between chambers of the heart, to very severe malformations, such as the complete absence of one or more chambers or valves. The AHA put a call out to knitting and crocheting enthusiasts in December and the little red hats came pouring in from across the state. The initial goal of 700 hats was well surpassed, with the AHA receiving nearly 800 hats and counting. Extra hats will be used in 2019, when the AHA plans to expand this program to all Maine hospitals. “It was quite over-

whelming to open the boxes of hand-knitted red hats and read the notes sent with the donations,” said Brenda Vitali, AHA Communications Director for Maine. “Some people were donating hats in memory of a child lost to congenital heart disease, while others were donated to honor a child whose life was saved because of funded research or surgical advances. We are so grateful for everyone’s generosity and support to help raise awareness of this important issue.” The AHA is committed to raising awareness for CHDs and helping children live stronger lives through education, research and public policies. In fact, the AHA’s funding for pediatric cardiac research is second only to the federal government’s. Thanks to efforts of the AHA in Maine, all hospitals and other birthing facilities in the state are required by law to administer a pulse oximetry test to each baby 24 hours after birth, which can help identify most heart defects. The AHA also creates guidelines and trains parents, caregivers, and medical professionals on CPR specifically for infants and children. For more information about the Little Hats, Big Heart program in Maine, visit [www.heart.org/little-hatsbighearts](http://www.heart.org/little-hatsbighearts).

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