# Welcome to OUR TOWNS

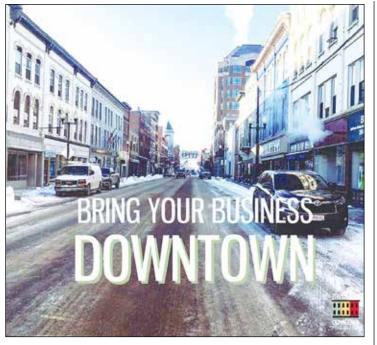
Augusta Our capital city





Special Supplement · Kennebec Journal

Wednesday, May 2, 2018



#### Tipping Point Small Business Development can open doors for new Augusta businesses

BY MICHAEL G. HALL Augusta Downtown Alliance Special to the Sentinel & KJ

ant to start a bakery? A cocktail lounge? A sporting goods store? The sky's the limit! Here in Downtown Augusta we have the retail spaces and the financial incentives to help any new or existing business get their feet wet.

Our Tipping Point Small Business Development Program is the ONLY program in the Kennebec Valley to offer 0% interest on small business loans up to \$50,000 or one-third of construction costs.

If you want to be a part of all the exciting things happening in Downtown Augusta, email augustadowntownalliance@gmail.com or call 458-8757 for more information.

# New apartments coming to Water Street

Developers of a historic fourbuilding block space on Water Street are planning to add 23 units, along with amenities that will include an office co-working space, a gym, a restaurant and

retail space.

Previously used for offices, the 43,000 square-foot space will house apartments ranging from mid-market rate to high-end, and will be the largest residential construction to occur downtown since the completion of the lofts at the old Ferrell's building at 283 Water St.

"We believe there should be an opportunity for everybody to live in a good place," said Andrew LeBlanc, a managing partner of Mastview Development which is overseeing the project.

If all is approved, construction is planning to break ground this summer and the building will be ready for occupancy by April 2019.

Colonial

Theater

major

undergoes

renovations.

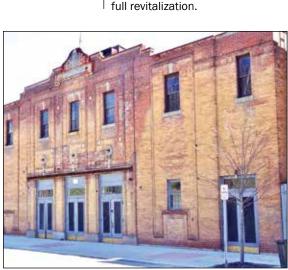
#### Major changes happening at Colonial Theater

You may have noticed a flurry of activity recently at the Colonial Theater, but did you know that this activity is the first step to a major change?

Beginning in March, construction crews began the process of abatement by removing the last bit of asbestos from the grounds of the theater. Gary Peachey, head of the Building Committee for Augusta Colonial Theater noted that asbestos had long mixed with debris and dust on old tanks and on metal items beneath the main floor, hindering efforts to repair and resurface the gaping hole near the stage.

near the stage.

Now, however, with the abatement process begun, the theater can once again resume construction and make the substantial repairs necessary to the subfloor, a significant change that will forever alter the look of the theater and signify yet another step towards full revitalization.



#### Gardiner Artwalk, Cruise-Ins and The Great Race this summer

ardiner Artwalk takes place three times each year on the first Friday of May, August, and December and features unique works of art ranging from paintings, drawings, fine art prints and photography to textiles, sculpture, jewelry and ceramics.

First launched in 2005 by Artdogs studios and a handful of other area artists, the mission of ArtWalk Gardiner is to increase community awareness and appreciation of the visual arts, to encourage interaction with local artists and the public, and to nurture a supportive network that also enhances the local economy. Experience Gardiner through the imaginative lens of local artists and artisans on Friday, May 4 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. For questions, email artwalkgardiner@gmail.com.

Summer events starts to kick into high gear mid-May as the popular Classic Car Cruise-In reopens for the weekly show on Thursday evenings 5-7 p.m. at the Waterfront Park. Check out the cool collection of rare cars without heated seats, cd players, and automatic windows. Talk with owners as they show with pride a Ford Mustang or Thunderbird.

Speaking of classic cars, have you heard of The Great Race? Gardiner will host a stop on the 2018 Great Race. The Great Race, the world's premiere classic car rally, will bring more than 100 antique automobiles to Historic Downtown Gardiner and the Waterfront Park. Gardiner Main Street and The Kennebec Valley Chamber of Commerce are proud to help Gardiner play host city for the race participants and event-goers. The race annually draws more than 500 participants who make up the 120 teams – driver, navigator, support team and truck. Food trucks will be on hand to feed the 3000-plus expected crowd, live music and fireworks round out the event. To accommodate the crowds, shuttle buses will be available to transport people from Gardiner High School, which will be open for public parking that day, to downtown Gardiner.

This year's route will take drivers on a course that starts in Buffalo and continues across upstate New York and through Vermont to Burlington. The course then continues east to Mount Washington and across Maine to Gardiner, Augusta, Bangor and Bar Harbor.

The final legs of the trip will take drivers across the Canadian border into Saint John and Moncton, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Truro and Dartmouth before the rally concludes in Halifax.

tia, Truro and Dartmouth before the rally concludes in Halifax. The national vintage-car road race, which will run on Tuesday, June 26, coincides with the region's Whatever Family Festival.

The annual Greater Gardiner River Festival takes place on Saturday, June 23. Activities run as early as 8 a.m. to as late as 10 p.m. Again this year, there will be several ways to get out on the river – from boat rides to kayak and paddleboard demonstra-

Historic Water Street in Gardiner will be transformed into a pedestrian mall with artists, crafters, and specialty vendors exhibiting their products from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Throughout the day, there will be entertainment and childrens' activities at Gardiner's Waterfront Park.

Festival organizers have continued to find ways to celebrate life on the Kennebec River – both on land and water. Most activities are free to the public, thanks to the area's generous sponsors. The evening concludes with fireworks.

# COLOR MOTOR NEWS WINTAGE RALLY! WATCH GREAT RACE ONE MANUAL WE REMINING MOTOR NEWS Bangor, ME Bangor, ME Bangor, ME Bangor, ME Bangor, ME Bangor, ME Remining MA Re

# Winthrop region offers something for everyone

he Winthrop Lakes region is a great place to visit in the summertime. The many lakes, ponds, and streams provide a multitude of opportunities for boating, fishing and other recreational activities. There are also shops, eateries, historic landmarks, and festivals for those who prefer to stay on shore. Like other waterfront communities, the town of Winthrop's population doubles during the summer.

Winthrop was once home to the Winthrop Mills Company which, according to the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, was one of the top manufacturers of woolen blankets in the U.S. Many residents were employed there. **The Winthrop Mills Company Historic District** has been listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Another landmark in Winthrop listed in the National Register of Historic Places is the **Ladies Delight Lighthouse**, which is a small lighthouse on Lake Cobbosseecontee (one of the longest lakes in Maine). The lighthouse was erected with the help of two oxen transported to the island. The story is told that only one oxen could fit on the barge that was used to transport it. As the mariners went back to retrieve the second oxen, they reportedly found the first oxen swimming back to the mainland. (It was thought to be lonely for the other oxen). The mariners finally got both oxen there and the lighthouse was constructed. It's the only Maine lighthouse on a fresh water lake. It's been maintained over the years by the Cobbosseecontee Yacht Club.

While some people are interested in the history found in the Winthrop Lakes area, others are more interested in the lakes, ponds, streams and the natural beauty of the region.

Columnist George Smith reported last year that, at one time, there were 39 camps for kids and inns for tourists in the Winthrop Lakes region. Winthrop is still home to a number of camps and lodging places today.

For those visitors looking for a nostalgic place to eat, **Fast Eddie's Drive-In Restaurant and Ice Cream Parlor** (located on Route 201 in Winthrop) will revive a lot of memories. Burgers, fries, and homemade ice cream are served by a carhop at the drive-in or inside, where the walls are filled with memorabilia from the 1950s. The restaurant is open April-October.

Every Fourth of July, the Winthrop Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce sponsors the **Fourth of July Fireworks** display at Norcross Point on Maranacook Lake. That event draws several hundred into town each year. There is also a **5K Race** that day sponsored by the Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed. It's open to all runners, joggers, and walkers. Most of the course follows the scenic eastern shore of Maranacook Lake. All proceeds are used for conservation of the Cobbossee Watershed. The registration deadline is July 3 at 12 p.m. See *runsignup.com/Race/ME/Winthrop/FriendsontheFourthAnnual5K* for more details.

Winthrop Sidewalk Art Festival Seeks Artists and Crafters
Plans for Winthrop's 31st Sidewalk Art Festival are underway,
and the Winthrop Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce is now
accepting applications from artists and crafters who would like

to take part in the event.

The festival will be held Saturday, August 18th, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. in downtown Winthrop.

Last year, the festival included live music and food from local restaurants and drew hundreds of people to downtown Winthrop. Ribbons and prizes will once again be given for Best in Show, Best Artist and Best Crafter.

This year, the Chamber hopes to add several new artists, increase community involvement and offer a variety of entertainment and refreshments. For more information: call 207-377-8020 or email info@winthropchamber.org.

The early registration discount for applications received before June 15th is \$50; after June 15th, the fee is \$60. The final deadline for registration is August 1.

The **Bailey Library in Winthrop** offers a number of weekly groups including an open ukulele group, an acoustic (open music) group, and other clubs for kids including a Pokémon Card Club every Monday at 3:30 and a Craft Time every Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. There's a youth craft hour every Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. Check out their schedule online at *baileylibrary.org*.

#### THE COMMUNITIES OF THE WINTHROP LAKES REGION

#### MOUNT VERNON

Mount Vernon is a rural town with a year-round population of around 2,000 residents.

Located about 20 miles northwest of Augusta, about one-third of the town's housing units are seasonal properties with frontage on Echo Lake, Torsey Pond, Long Pond, Parker Pond, Flying Pond, Minnehonk Lake or one of the other smaller ponds within the town boundaries. The major highway route through town is Maine Route 41.

Mount Vernon consists of a small commercial village home to several small locally-owned novelty shops, a cafe, the Fire Station, the Post Office, and a traditional Maine country store. It also includes town-owned access to Minnehonk Lake in the middle of the village area. The activity and economy of the town increases greatly during the summer months as owners from outside town and outside Maine flock to their waterfront camps and cottages for summer recreation. But even in the summer, Mount Vernon retains its small-town, rural qualities that its residents harbor and cherish.

#### MANCHESTER

Settled in 1775 and incorporated in 1850, Manchester is located immediately west of Maine's capital city of Augusta and also offers easy access to the abutting Kennebec River city of Hallowell. It has a year-round population of approximately 2,500. While it still has active agricultural properties, Manchester

More COMMUNITIES, PAGE 2



#### **Communities**

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1** 

is best-known today for its active business community along US Rt. 202, which runs east-west through the middle of the community, and for its substantial frontage on Cobbosseecontee Lake.

Local businesses are a veritable potpourri - with a mix that includes convenience stores, car dealers, a car wash, a commercial and residential glass company, gift shops, a bank, a lakeside motel, an antiques mall, a paving company, contractors, pizza and sandwich shops, the first retail fireworks store in Maine, and the venerable Augusta Country Club golf course.

The lakeshore community on the Cobbosseecontee Lake includes a yacht club which is said to be the oldest active inland-water yacht club in the United States. The club built a lighthouse on a prominent ledge in the Lake's North Bay in 1908 and proudly continues to maintain and operate it today. It is said to be the only continuously-operating landlocked lighthouse in Maine today, flashing its beacon 365 days a year.

In addition to US 202, other major highway routes in Manchester include Maine Routes 11 and 17 and 100.

#### **READFIELD**

Readfield is located about 10 miles from the State House in Augusta and offers a mixture of small town and rural community life. With a year-round population of about 2,500, it also serves as a summertime home to owners of waterfront properties on Maranacook Lake, Torsey Pond and Lovejoy Pond.

Readfield is home to three distinct "village" areas. The first, Readfield Corner, is at the intersection of Maine Routes 17 and 41. It hosts the town municipal offices, the town fire station, a bank, the Readfield Post Office, a restaurant, a natural foods store, a convenience store, and several local businesses. The second, "The Depot", where the town's railroad station was once located, is home to the Readfield Historical Society, a convenience store, a seafood shop, and a small-business incubator. The third area, Kent's Hill, is named after the well-known college preparatory boarding and day school which has been part of the community since the 1820's. Today, it hosts students from across the country and literally around the world. It is believed to be one of the first, and possibly the oldest, continuously operating, co-educational prep schools in the nation. Along Rt. 17 between Readfield Corner and Readfield Depot, the town hosts a campus that includes multi-town Middle and High Schools serving several area communities.

While it still has several actively-working farms within town borders, Readfield is also home to one of the world's leading manufacturers of aluminum form holders and plastic and aluminum clipboards. The headquarters of the Saunders Manufacturing Company sits quietly on one of the local roads off Maine Route 17.

Readfield also prides itself on protecting and preserving local outdoor recreational, opportunities, including operation of a town beach on Maranacook Lake and a

growing system of walking and hiking trails on a variety of town-owned properties.

In addition to Route 17, other major highway access is provided via Maine Routes 41 and 135.

#### **WAYNE**

Wayne is a small town 15 miles west of Augusta. Wayne's population of around 1,200 doubles in the summer as visitors from all over the country come here to swim, sail and paddle in seven water bodies, including Androscoggin Lake and Berry Pond, pick strawberries and blueberries and enjoy fresh, seasonal food from local farms.

A classic New England village, Wayne is a close-knit community with two churches, a library and a recreation center that offer enriching programs year-round. There are several specialty shops and Julian's General Store that boasts homemade breads, soups and deli take-out, as well as a large selection of wine and beer.

Opportunities to rent property for a week or the season abound and visitors can enjoy a peaceful stay that is a short drive from fine restaurants, the mountains and other artistic and recreational entertainment. Wayne is accessed via Route 133.

#### **WINTHROP**

Settled in 1771 and located about 10 miles West of Augusta, Winthrop is a business and service center for the Western Kennebec region. It has a population of about 6,200 that swells in the summer-

time as people flock to the shores of Cobbosseecontee, Annabesacook and Maranacook Lakes, as well as several sizable ponds. It has a vibrant downtown Main Street area that offers eateries, shops, ball fields, tennis courts, a skate park, town beach, the Norcross Point waterfront park and a public boat launch. With several navigable water bodies, the Mt. Pisgah trail and quiet country roads within the roughly 31-square-mile area, Winthrop offers residents and visitors alike plenty of opportunity year-round to embrace the town's slogan, We Play Outside.

One of Maine's traditional

Mill towns, Winthrop has a diverse economy and features high-tech, light manufacturing, medical and professional services, tourism and recreational businesses and several local farms that provide food at their farm stands, local farmers' market and nearby restaurants. Winthrop draws shoppers from the surrounding towns and commuters that travel between the Lewiston/ Auburn and Augusta corridor on Route 202. Additional road access is provided by Maine Routes 133 and 41.

Winthrop also offers a free summer concert series, sidewalk art festival, holiday parades, live music, theater

and dance at the Performing Arts Center and a multitude of programs for adults and children at the Bailey Library. Winthrop High School was listed as one of the best in the state in U.S. News and World Report's 2012 guide.

#### **MONMOUTH**

Located approximately halfway between Augusta and Lewiston/Auburn along Route 202, Monmouth has a population of around 4,000 which grows during the summer months as residents take advantage of properties along the shores of Cobbossee Lake, Annabessacook Lake, Sand Pond, Cochnewagon Lake, and Wilson Pond.

The town has a small commercial district that is currently undergoing some renovation and revitalization efforts. Local agricultural is a strong focus in the region, with farms producing a wide variety of produce, animal products, Christmas trees and maple products

Cumston Hall, built in the Queen Anne style in 1900, currently houses the town's Library, space for community gatherings and renowned Theater at Monmouth. The Theater draws audiences from across Maine to its widely-acclaimed seasonal performances ranging from traditional Shakespeare to those geared

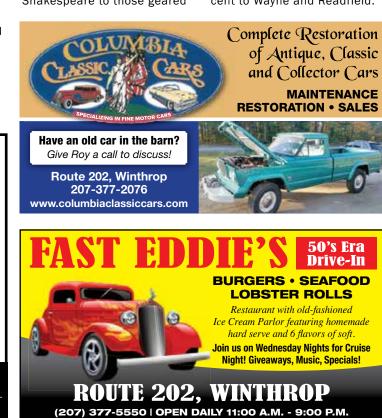
LOAN SPECIA

towards children and families. Monmouth is also home base for TexTech, a global leader in high-tech fabric development and manufacturing. In operation since 1904, they produce aircraft seat fire-blocking material, tennis ball felt, and ballistic fabrics and composite materials.

The town is also home to local banks, eateries and convenience stores. The town is currently engaged in downtown redevelopment efforts.

#### **FAYETTE**

The Town of Fayette is 18 miles northwest of Augusta and 10 miles east of Livermore Falls, which lies in Androscoggin County. Fayette is rural and a seasonal resort, with Echo Lake, Lovejoy Pond, Parker Pond, David Pond and Tilton Pond, and at least eight smaller ponds within its roughly 30 square miles. With a population of about 1,100 that doubles in the summertime, Fayette remains a scenic, rural community with no specific village center. Every summer Echo Lake comes alive as Camps Winnebago and Vega host hundreds of young boys and girls and anglers, boaters and during the winter, snowmobilers and Nordic skiers enjoy traveling the landscape. Fayette is accessed via Maine Route 17 and is adjacent to Wayne and Readfield.





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# Foshay-Carlton Cards and Gifts shop still happily serving customers

BY WANDA CURTIS

Correspondent

fter 47 years in business as the owners of Foshay-Carlton Cards and Gift Shop, Fred and Ann Carlton enjoy the business as much as ever. Ann Carlton said that what she enjoys the most are the people that she meets and being able to provide them with the type of gifts and cards they're looking for.

"It always pleases me when someone comes in and says 'That's just what I was looking for,'" she said.

The Carltons originally went into business with Ann Carton's parents who had previously run a gift shop in Milo. After moving to the Winthrop area, the two couples operated an ice cream business, a dry cleaning business and the gift shop. They eventually closed the other two businesses.

While the business has changed some over the years, Ann Carlton said that they still sell a lot of jewelry and candles. They used to sell Yankee® Candles but now sell Country® Candles which are marketed by the man who started the Yankee® Candles business.

so very affordable and popular jewelry lines.

"We sell Silver Forest (jewelry) from Vermont which is mostly earrings," said Carlton. "We also sell Lovell Designs from Portland."

The shop specializes in gifts for weddings, anniversaries, and holidays. In addition to jewelry, candles, and cards, patrons can also find stuffed animals, mugs, novelty pillows, holiday items, adult coloring books and puzzles. She said that handbags are a big seller as well.

"We sell Chala handbags with whimsical designs on the outside of the purse," she said. "We also sell Donna Sharp handbags."

Maine gifts and souvenirs can also be found in the shop.
The couple used to attend a

The couple used to attend a lot of gift shows in Boston but now they focus more on Portland shows. She said they don't buy much online and aren't really interested in learning about computers at their age so they spend a lot of time with catalogs and sales reps.

According to Ann Carlton, they aren't quite as busy as they were twenty years ago but they're still "trucking along," busiest during the holiday season and with sum-



mertime tourists.

Although many of their regular clients are older, they have a nice group of middle-aged customers as well as some younger ones who visit the shop.

A bonus of shopping at Foshay Carlton is "... free gift wrapping and we will box up and get packages ready to mail," she said.
Foshay- Carlton Cards and Gifts
located at 150 Main Street in
Winthrop is open for business
Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
and Saturday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. year
round.

Wanda Curtis photo The shop specializes in gifts for weddings, anniversaries and holidays. In addition to jewelry, candles, and cards, patrons can also find stuffed animals, mugs, novelty pillows, holiday items, adult coloring books and puzzles.

HOMESTEAD

1 MLS R





# KV YMCA Strong Kids Annual Campaign provides scholarships and opportunity for all

BY WANDA CURTIS Correspondent

favorite gathering place in Augusta for people of all ages is the Kennebec Valley YMCA at 31 Union Street. From infants to seniors, the YMCA offers something for everyone.

"To provide the community with an inspirational environment for the enrichment of all people. through social, recreational and learning activities. Caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility are the basis for all that we do" is the stated mission of KV YMCA.

While the funding for general operations of the YMCA is generated through membership and program fees, CEO Tom Warren said recently that about 20 percent of their revenue is generated through their fundraising efforts including the Strong Kids Annual Campaign currently underway.

Warren said that the annual fundraising campaign provides money for their Open Doors Financial Aid Program, which makes it possible for children, adults and families to participate in programs that they couldn't otherwise afford. He said that 100 percent of the money donated through the Strong Kids Annual Campaign is used for program and membership scholarships. Certain donations to the campaign can be designated for specific programs important to the donor.

"Last year our goal was \$240,000 and we exceeded that." he said. "This vear we raised our goal to \$260,000 to cover increasing needs for financial assistance.'

According to Warren, more than 1,500 community members received scholarships through KV YMCA's Strong Kids Annual Campaign last year and the entire board and the staff contribute because they believe that everyone in the community should be able to participate in programs.

"The board and staff believe in the Y's mission to strengthen the foundations of our community and that means everyone in our community," said Warren. "One hundred percent of the board contributes to the Strong Kids Annual Campaign and our staff is also very supportive of the campaign. Sometimes people fall on hard times and need a hand up. It is the generosity of our donors that provides our Y with the ability to provide that."

Marketing and Development Director Andrea Lowell also said that the scholarship program is critical because it provides opportunities that would otherwise be unattainable to some people. She said that many adults and children have been able to participate in programs because

One child, among the hundreds who have benefited from the Open Doors Financial Aid Program at KV YMCA, is threeyear old Lilly-Zoe who has a rare medical condition that affects her coordination, balance, muscle tone, and speech development. Her mother Tabitha Mc Clay said that Lilly-Zoe's participation in YMCA classes have made a big difference in her health and development.

"My little girl may be 1 in 800,000 statistically but all she wants is to be like every other child and she is proving it," said Mc Clay. "The KV YMCA's swim and music classes have given that to her. The swim class and movement class are good for her fine and gross motor skills. The music and movement class is amazing for her speech development. She loves going. Thank you for providing programs that can allow this to happen."

#### **Summer Programs**

KV YMCA has a full slate of activities planned for this summer. Camp KV, a state-licensed camp located on 70 acres of beautiful preserved land on Maranacook Lake in Readfield will be open for day campers on Monday, June 25. Children will have the opportunity to participate in traditional camp activities such as swimming, boating, arts and crafts, nature hikes, field sports, and archery.

Wacky Wednesdays is a new Camp KV tradition that will encourage children and staff to be creative and "wacky." Each week there will be a different theme and every child who comes to camp dressed according to that week's theme will have a chance to win a prize. Some of the themes planned are superheroes, party in the U.S.A., barnyard bash, color wars and Hawaiian.

#### Kindergarten Camp

For the first time this year, KV YMCA will be offering Kindergarten Camp to introduce first-time campers to the program. The Kindergarten Camp will follow the same KV schedule and will allow children to participate in swimming, sports, hiking, arts and crafts and more. Kindergarten

Camp is limited to 10 spots per session and is available for kids entering kindergarten this

For those interested in learning more about Camp KV, there will be an open house on Saturday, June 2, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. There will be an opportunity to take a tour of the lakeside camp facility, meet the camp staff and participate in activities such as archery, arts and crafts, boating and swim-





YMCA contributed photos

Hundreds of children of all ages have benefited from the Open Doors Financial Aid Program at KV YMCA to be able to attend the many programs offered, including: Camp KV on Maranacook Lake in Readfield, Kindergarten Camp, Julia Clukey Camp for Girls and the Counselor in Training Program to name a few.

Right, three-year old Lilly-Zoe, right, has a rare medical condition that affects her coordination, balance, muscle tone and speech development, has benefited from the Open Doors Financial Aid Program at KV YMCA.

#### **CIT Program**

Another program offered this summer is Counselor in Training (CIT) for teens entering grades 9 and 10. This program will give teens an opportunity to build skills that will help them both in the classroom and the workplace. The CIT program is four weeks long and will be held during sessions two through five. CIT participants will receive training in facilitating group activities as well as American Red Cross CPR/ First Aid training. They will also learn outdoorsman and leader-

ship skills, and be involved in Kindergarten Camp. Participants are required to attend all four weeks of training. Applications for this program can be obtained by emailing the camp director at mike@kvymca.org.

#### **Julia Clukey Camp for Girls**

The Julia Clukey Camp for Girls will be held June 18-22 this year. There will be traditional camp activities including swimming, boating, arts and crafts, nature hikes, field sports and archery. The girls will also have the

"One hundred percent of the board contributes to the Strong Kids Annual Campaign and our staff is also very supportive of the campaign. Sometimes people fall on hard times and need a hand up. It is the generosity of our donors that provides our Y with the ability to provide that."

TOM WARREN, CEO, KV YMCA







opportunity to spend time with Olympian Julia Clukey. The annual family campfire and fireworks show will take place on Thursday, June 21 followed by an overnight campout.

#### Splash N' Dash (425 Swim, 5 k Run)

KV YMCA will host its first Splash N' Dash on Saturday, August 11. The Splash N' Dash, pictured above right, will consist of a 425yard swim in the competition pool and a 5k run along the Kennebec River Trail to Maine Housing Authority and back through Capitol Park, ending at KV YMCA.



for beginners as young as ten years old up to the elite athlete. Teams of two are welcome. This event will replace the annual Capital Y Tri. Early bird registrants will receive a Splash N' Dash jersey. Early registration is \$48 per person or \$85 per relay team. After May 31 the cost will be \$58 per person and \$95 per relay team. Register online at kvvmca.com or stop by the membership services desk to reserve a space. Registration deadline is July 23. For more information, call KV YMCA at 622-9622 or email craig@kvymca.org.





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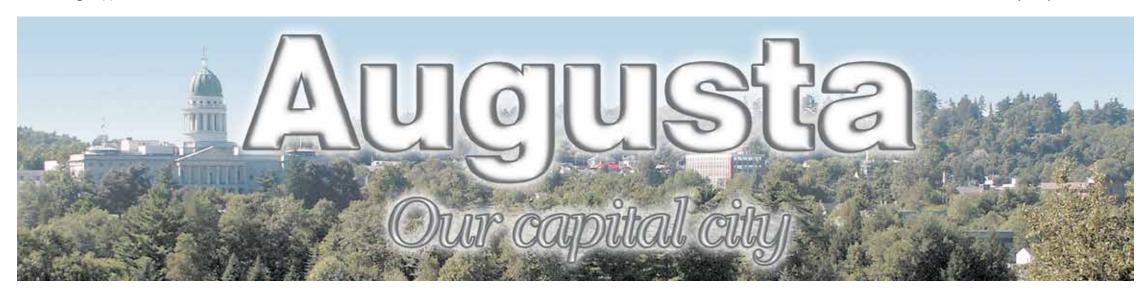
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"The trip to Saltbox is always relaxing. As you enter the shop, the scent of Candle of the Week makes you want your home to smell like that right away; the coffee pot is always going and just walking through the displays gives you every idea you need for your country home."

**MELISSA CAMERON TURNER, OWNER, SALTBOX PRIMITIVES** 



## Saltbox Primitives reproductions and home décor can create the ambiance of yesteryear

Correspondent

aine is a favorite place to visit for history buffs. From the historic house where Harriet Beecher Stowe wrote Uncle Tom's Cabin in Brunswick, to the many historic forts and lighthouses that line the coastline, to the Maine State Museum, Maine is bursting at the seams with reminders of the past. People enjoy reminiscing about days gone by and how life used to be.

In an effort to help homeowners recreate the look of those days gone by, antique and primitive gift shops have sprung up across the states. One of those is Saltbox Primitives at 290 Eastern Avenue in Augusta.

Melissa Cameron Turner, the owner, said that she first had the idea of opening the shop "because of her love for country primitives and all that it represents."

She said that when her husband Scott Laliberte and son Jeremy Cameron became interested in building reproduction chimney cupboards and country cabinets, the decision was made to open

a shop specializing in reproductions. They did so in 2005.

"The time-worn paint on the furniture, along with the linen patterns we offer, all help create the Old New England ambiance of a country home in Maine," said Turner. "Historical prints along with lighting, lanterns and chamber sticks filled with battery tapers, redefine how our ancestors lived in another time."

Along with serious decorating options, country cottage, farmhouse gifts and home décor are available at Saltbox Primitives. Jewelry, purses, Ledgeway Farms goat soap and Stonewall Kitchen items are also sold at the shop. Beautiful florals for all seasons and stuffed bunny rabbits are other popular items.

Candles and country cupboards are their best sellers, Turner said.

"What makes us different from other gift shops? The trip to Saltbox is always relaxing. As you enter the shop, the scent of Candle of the Week makes you want your home to smell like that right away; the coffee pot is always going and just walking through the displays gives you every idea you need for your country home," said Turner.

ers is a plus and your packages will always be wrapped with vibrant tissue, bags and plenty of ribbon.'

According to Turner, people of all ages patronize their shop because of the personal items and gifts. She said that "many men come in for gift cards, always trying to get on the good side of someone who loves Country Primitives.

More information can be found on their website SaltboxPrimitives Maine.com. Photos and videos of their products are also available at facebook.com/saltbox.primi-



#### It's all about quenching that thirst at Damon's **Beverage Mart** BY KATE CONE

Correspondent

here can you bring your empties and fill back up on your favorite beverages? Damon's Beverage Mart in Augusta and now in Waterville (formerly Jokas) offer that convenience under one roof. There are also tasting events and the chance to donate to local non-profit organizations, sports teams and other worthy causes.

Jim Williamson is one of the managers at the Augusta location. He spoke about their redemption facility: "We have a program where if you have a Damon's card, you get an extra ten percent added to the amount of money coming from your bottle or can deposit. Just come in, fill out our form with some basic information and we'll give you a card."

There is also a way to give back to the local community.

"We encourage local non-profits and other charities to come in and set up a bottle drive account. That way, customers bringing back empties can opt to donate all or part of the money they receive back to one or more of those groups."

Damon's has teamed up with a local radio station to run a bottle drive at the Augusta and Waterville stores. This will run until the end of the month of April, and the proceeds will go to the American Syringomyelia & Chiari Alliance Project. Damon's has offered to donate 6 cents per bottle or can to this effort to raise money and awareness of "Chiari," a neurological disorder. And those who donate their bottle fees will be entered into a contest to win tickets to Lee Brice or Billy Currington concerts this summer.

#### **Tasting Events**

Jim Williamson was enthusiastic about inviting customers in for tastings.

"If anybody finds us on Facebook, we announce events there and Instagram. We just had Rob from Baxter Brewing in Lewiston come with some interesting beers, including an East Coast IPA (India Pale Ale). The interest in Maine craft beer is exploding. If it's local, people want to try it.'

That includes wine and spirits. "We carry Cellar Door Winery, Dragonfly and more. The same goes for spirits."

Do you have a favorite? Call or Facebook message Damon's and ask for it. If they don't have it, they're happy to special order it. Damon's carries so many craft brews, Jim Williamson couldn't

"We have a program where if you have a Damon's card, you get an extra ten percent added to the amount of money coming from your bottle or can deposit. Just come in, fill out our form with some basic information and we'll give you a card."

JIM WILLIAMSON, MANAGER, AUGUSTA DAMON'S





Photos courtesy of Damon's Beverage Mart Left, owner Donald Damon, at right, Augusta manager Jim Williamson.

put a number on how many. "We carry beers from as far away as California and everywhere in between."

As for customers' favorite styles? "IPA is still king, especially now that we're moving out of winter. New England IPAs are popular."

#### **Drinks**

Margaritas, mud slides, and whatever you need to make other cocktails. It's five o'clock cocktails in your house, Damon's has what you need to make those tried and true Margaritas or Mud Slides, two drinks Jim Williamson said are still popular or whatever is popular among your crowd.

Digitally savvy Truly immersed in the digital

within an hour. Customers can find the answers to questions · Can you check the availability

age, Damon's responds to mes-

sages on their Facebook page

- of a product?
- · Can you check the price of a
- Where is your store located? · Can I find out more about a product?

The Facebook page also announces a multitude of monthly beer specials. Click on "Notes" see if your brand is on sale.

Damon's Beverage Mart (formerly Lou's Beverage Barn) is located at 75 Bangor Street, Augusta. Call 623-9864. Parking available. In Waterville, Damon's is located at 52 Front Street. Call 873-6228. See their Facebook page for events and updates.









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# Family Violence Project joins with community in the work to end domestic violence

or 40 years, from 1978-2018, the communities of Kennebec and Somerset counties have joined with Family Violence Project to increase safety for victims of abuse, hold perpetrators accountable, and build effective community and institutional responses to violence through education, training and collaborative initiatives.

Every single person and every business or organization with whom we have worked, has contributed to the effort in some way. And it is surely an uphill journey. If any one of us alone were to attempt to eradicate domestic violence, we would quickly become exhausted, discouraged and frustrated.

We know this is how victims often feel when they experience abuse by a partner, over time coming to believe they are solely responsible for what is happening and that they alone must find a way through it. But we also hear stories about breakthrough moments, when victims hear messages of support from co-workers, employers, teachers, nurses, police officers, parents and

We want to say thank you to our communities, to recognize the advancements we have made together, and to consider the path ahead of us. We are survivors who have moved through abuse and have set our intentions

We are helpers, across many disciplines, recognizing a shared purpose. We are policy makers and law enforcers who perceive a more just society. We are educators and faith leaders, standing alongside and guiding those who seek growth and connection. And we are people who have come to recognize how we may have used power in relationships to control our partners or our children, or our employees and we are committed to finding a better way.

What we say and how we say it, remains with the survivor, sometimes for years after. What we believe about domestic violence comes through in our actions, and what we do makes a difference.

When we learn more about resources available for victims and then demonstrate an awareness and willingness to help, a vital link is created. We may not know, we may never know, the impact of a single act or kind word. But the person experiencing abuse knows.

Every time anyone anywhere takes a stand against domestic violence, we chip away at archaic and destructive beliefs that harm all of us.

The person who learned that controlling one's partner is an effective relationship tool may learn to question those rules and the negative impact they are having

Throughout 2018, Family Violence Project will continue to recognize the journey that is now 40 years along. We hope you will continue to choose to join with us and with survivors of abuse. Please let us know you are out there and share your stories of survival, of providing assistance, of learning new ways to make a difference.

Visit our website. Follow us on Facebook and Twitter. Give us a call. Send money, if you have it to share; financial contributions in any amount are always appreciated!

But most importantly, think well of the work to end violence. Believe in it and in those who are living through it. Believe that people can and do

We will see an end to domestic violence.

It will take our communities working together to make it happen.

Call us at 207-623-8637 (administrative) or 877-890-7788 (24/7 Helpline).

Visit us at familyviolenceproject.org and follow us at twitter. com/FVP40.

Also find us at facebook.com/ familyviolenceproject/ and instagram.com/familyviolence-

#### Nominations for Maine Children's Alliance 2018 Giraffe Awards accepted

The Maine Children's Alliance is now accepting nominations for the annual Giraffe Awards, given to those who "stick their necks out for kids." This is an opportunity to say, "thank you," to the individuals, organizations and businesses that go above and beyond to invest their time, energy and talent into our kids.

Since 1996, MCA has recognized those who do extraordinary work on behalf of children in communities all over Maine. MCA has adopted

the giraffe as its symbol for our ongoing efforts to improve the well-being of children, youth and families in Maine. The annual Giraffe Awards program calls attention to the achievements of dedicated volunteers, professionals and organizations who also "stick their necks

The Giraffe Awards recognize winners in different categories including: outstanding individual award, youth award, business award and organization award. Past winners have included people working in children's mental health, youth camps, Maine businesses that have been generous to young people, volunteers, educators and many

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Each nomination is important and makes a difference in the work we're able to do on behalf of kids. All nominations must be received by Friday, May 30, 2018. The 2018 Giraffe Awards will be presented at the Champions for Children Luncheon on November 15, 2018 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Freeport.

The Maine Children's Alliance is a nonpartisan, nonprofit that advocates for sound public polices and promotes best practices for Maine children, youth and families.

To nominate someone, go to our website, mekids.org/nomination-form.php





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#### It's spring in Maine - a great time to give

Join The SpringShare giving day in May, and especially on May 18 to Celebrate Maine and the Causes We Care About! Endorse and support nonprofits in Maine dedicated to building an equitable, just community, and protecting our environment.

The SpringShare is an event-filled day of giving, encouraging people who love Maine to give to the organizations that work every day for economic opportunity, environmental sustainability, diversity, education, the arts, health, safety, animal welfare, social justice, and peace. Follow @thespringshare and go to thespringshare.org for events and more!

Our web portal for giving, thespringshare.org is open from May 1 to May 30. Our May 18 promotion will begin at 12 a.m. and we will keep the giving momentum going all day long, until 11:59 p.m.

Mark your calendars for an incredible day of generosity, partnership, and community-building in Maine and follow our progress @thespringshare and @maineshare.

Volunteer to Host TheSpringShare! We need help hosting and promoting our events!

Sign up and Volunteer at givegab.com/nonprofits/maineshare/opportunities/the-springshare-giving-day or contact us at giving@maineshare.

#### **EVENTS IN AUGUSTA**

Tuesday, May 15th

Mill Park Farmer's Market SpringShare 2 - 6 p.m.

Lemonade Stand/Kiosk Thursday, May 17th

4 - 6:30 p.m. SpringShare Garden Gathering at Viles Arboretum -MaineShare Augusta Member Groups will host a small summer gathering

Friday, May 18th

12 - 3 p.m. SpringShare Lemonade Stand at New Mainer's Farmers Market at Viles Arboretum, Augusta

This is our first year running this campaign and we genuinely appreciate your help in creating a foundation in outreach and support for this annual event. This year we hope to raise \$4,000 per MaineShare member organization. These funds will not only give a financial boost to our current campaign efforts, but, because of the ease and efficiency in reaching new donors through this single giving day during each spring, we are helping our member organizations spend more time doing their work and less time fundraising.

Visit thespringshare.org and @The SpringShare for more information.



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## Old barns become beautiful objects at Barn Boards and More

BY NANCY P. MCGINNIS Correspondent

my builds. I un-build." That is how Brett Trefethen captures the essence of Barn Boards and More: the unique business partnership that he and his wife, Amy Grant-Trefethen, have crafted over the past ten years.

They recycle old barns and other structures before these fade from the landscape, salvaging as much as possible and creating new furniture, decor and art from their finds. In the process, they have amassed enough architectural salvage, vintage timber and barn finds to open a retail shop and custom-made furniture studio in a repurposed warehouse at 521 Water Street, a half mile from downtown Gardiner.

It all started in 2008, when they learned of an enormous three-story barn in Manchester that had already been knocked down by someone who chose to use a chainsaw to extract a few timbers, and then walked away from the mess.

"A lot of it was salvageable and we hated to see it go to the dump or the burn pile," says Grant-Trefethen. "We offered to finish the job properly and ended up with a lot of good material for our own 1805 Mt. Vernon farmhouse that we were in the process of rehabbing.

Since then, the couple has completely torn down about 30 barns, and they have "picked" or reclaimed wood and other parts of 70 or 80 other barns and buildings across the state.

"We have yet to advertise—old barns seem to find us." they said. Each barn dismantling can take anywhere from a month to a year to accomplish, and begins with an inspection and a detailed proposal, including a timeline.

"It's great to think that by offering

Photos by Nancy McGinnis

Brett Trefethen and his wife, furniture designer and builder Amy Grant-Trefethen, proprietors of Barn Boards and More. Their shop is filled with treasures large and small, from barn doors to church pews to local railroad spikes now transformed into rustic coat hooks. He explains: "Every year we dismantle and remove structures of various types and sizes. Our main focus is to target barns that are no longer usable for their intended purpose but still hold lots of potential in their repurpose value. We still strongly believe that barns should be saved. If they cannot be saved, the historical wood should be salvaged and reclaimed for its beautiful appearance and texture. Every timber and board tells a wonderful story of the agricultural history of our state."

an alternative to bulldozing barns, we've saved the equivalent of a small forest. By my rough calculations, we've salvaged the equivalent of about 6,400 10-12" diameter trees," Trefethen said.

Besides their concern for the environment, they share a passion for preserving and restoring "old stuff, and creating a future for objects with a past. This is achieved by repurposing: using something old in a new way - or upcycling, transforming something old into something new. "Everything we come across has its own story, and that makes it so wonderful," says Trefethen.

"I learned a lot from my dad, who was a builder and had his own workshop as well," says Grant-Trefethen, who worked in visual merchandising for Patagonia in Freeport before starting this family business. The regional manager was so taken by a faux wall she had built of vintage barn boards and brought in to use

as a store backdrop that Grant-Trefethen was soon making replicas for Patagonia stores as far away as England and Australia.

Grant-Trefethen is the brains and beauty behind the operation,

"It's great to think that by offering an alternative to bulldozing barns, we've saved the equivalent of a small forest. By my rough calculations, we've salvaged the equivalent of about 6,400 10-12" diameter trees."

BRETT TREFETHEN, CO-OWNER, BARN BOARDS AND MORE



Barn Boards and More offers plenty of reclaimed doorknobs, hooks and hardware for do-it-yourself repairs or projects. In the background are salvaged doors from old houses and barns, ready to be upcycled or repurposed.

according to Trefethen who left a career in education to become the self-proclaimed "Materials Acquisition Department... and the delivery guy." He also handles wood order processing, which may entail cleaning, trimming, measuring, sanding, and applying polyurethane coating as requested, to the reclaimed barn boards that customers can select from their ever-growing, ever-changing inventory.

Customers and commercial clients can also order custom-designed tables and other furniture and installations made to order by Grant-Trefethen in their Mt. Vernon woodshop. For those who are not drawn to the appearance of reclaimed wood with its inherent imperfections and distinct markings,

"I can also plane the surfaces for a more polished and contemporary, mid-century modern feeling," says Trefethen.

"We enjoy working with contractors to replace old parts or to add rustic elements to new homes," said Trefethen. "It's amazing how much character one mantel or even a coffee table can lend to a space."

They take special pleasure and pride in incorporating salvaged items with sentimental value - such as wood reclaimed from an old family barn or homestead - to create new useful or decorative items with a built-in legacy, a story to tell for future generations of family members.

More BARN BOARDS, PAGE 8

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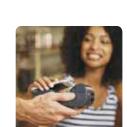
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#### **GARDINER EVENTS CALENDAR**

MAY 4: GARDINER ARTWALK, 5:30 -8:30 p.m. Downtown Gardiner

JUNE 22: FREE WATERFRONT SUMMER CONCERT SERIES by Johnson Hall, kickoff event, fireworks, 7-8:30 p.m. JUNE 23: GREATER GARDINER RIVER FESTIVAL, 9 a.m.-9:30 p.m., Downtown Gardiner & Waterfront Park JUNE 26: THE GREAT RACE,

2-9 p.m., Downtown Gardiner & Waterfront Park

#### ONGOING: MONDAY: YIN YANG YOGA,

Zardus Spa, 5:30-6:30 p.m., 1 Lincoln Ave.

TUESDAY: BALANCE, STRENGTH, & STABILITY,

Zardus Spa, 8:30-9:30 a.m., 1 Lincoln Ave.

TUESDAYS: STORY HOUR,

Gardiner Public Library, 10 a.m., 152 Water St.

TUESDAY: TRIVIA TUESDAYS,

Two Gramps Brewing, 7 p.m., 266 Water St.

TWO Gramps Brewing, 7 p.m., 266 Water St
TUESDAY: OPEN MIC NIGHT, Niche Inc., 5-8 p.m., 307 Water St.
WEDNESDAY: BINGO NIGHT, Gardiner Lions Club,
doors open at 4 p.m., 25 Lions Avenue
WEDNESDAYS: TIBETAN BUDDHIST MEDITATION,

Zardus Spa, 5:30-6:45p.m., 1 Lincoln Ave.

FACETIME SOCIAL NETWORKING NIGHTS:
first Wednesday of every month
hosted by different Gardiner businesses, 5-7 p.m.

For more info regarding Gardiner events, contact Gardiner Main Street at 207-582-3100 or email *info@gardinermainstreet.org*.



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#### **Barn Boards**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

Demand has grown enough that they have hired another builder, Nate Armstrong, while Teen Griffin often anchors the sales floor while Grant-Trefethen is in the woodshop and Trefethen is out on a job or a delivery. In this family business, the couple's 16-year-old son Bryce is also becoming a skilled craftsman in the woodshop, while 13-year-old daughter Ella helps Aunt Toosie create lovely handmade aprons and pillows and Uncle Robert offers upcycled wooden picture frames

and boxes. Among other local items available here are Birtwell Farm goat's milk soaps, photography by Norman Rodrigue and Mikaela Gibbs' custom signs.

The business, started just ahead of the DIY (do it yourself) curve, has been attracting a growing following since it first opened a retail storefront in downtown Hallowell two years ago. Now Barn Boards and More has settled into its spacious Gardiner location, with plenty of room to display finished products in their store as well as for their inventory of lumber and barn finds.

Grant-Trefethen has begun to offer some classes such as string art and paint night, setting up makeshift tables with old doors laid across sawhorses, offering light refreshments (BYOB) and even the occasional food truck. Their upcoming expansion into the adjacent warehouse space will soon make it easier to hold more classes here and to offer the rustic, loft-like venue for event rentals such as bridal showers and even wedding receptions.

Despite its impressive size, Barn Boards and More can nonetheless be easy to miss as it's built into a hill, below street level. Locals will recall the building, next to D&H Motors, as the longtime home of Standard Distributors.

"When we first saw it, the interior was dark and crammed with floor-to-ceiling shelves of motor oil, air filters, and tarps," says Grant-Trefethen.

After clearing out the old inventory, adding new windows and reconfigured lighting, the space is now attractive and welcoming. The high ceilings, old garage bay door and loading dock all remain, making it easy to maneuver furniture and oversize items. There is ample parking as well.

Barn Boards and More is currently open Wednesday through Friday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. and Sunday 11 a.m. 3p.m. as well as by appointment. Later in the summer, the hours will be extended. An open house is planned for June. For more information, visit barnboardsandmore.com or visit their Facebook page or call 213-6777

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