

What's Up



DOWNTOWN



Quarterly

A quarterly publication featuring local Downtown Alliances, Main Street Programs and other Downtown Organizations within our communities

Special Advertising Supplement to the Kennebec Journal and Morning Sentinel | Wednesday, April 18, 2018

DOWNTOWN

A Great Place to Do Business!

Downtowns connect small businesses,
build community vitality, fuel economic growth and
strengthen our quality of life for future generations.



TOYOTA

Let's Go Places

**NO DOCUMENTATION
FEE**

NEW 2018 TOYOTA RAV 4 LE AWD

#JT0646, 4 Cyl., Auto., Power Pkg., Back Up Camera, Toyota Safety Sense P, All Weather Floor Liners, Mud Flaps

MSRP \$27,244
Rebate \$500

PURCHASE FOR \$25,352
Or Lease for \$274/mo.

36 Month, 36,000 Mile Lease. Total of Payments \$9,854 Net Cap Cost \$25,352 Purchase Price At Lease End \$15,529. 15c Mileage Penalty Per Mile For Excessive Mileage. Tax and Title Included \$0 Security Deposit. \$274 Due At Lease Inception. Includes \$1,750 TFS subvention cash. Lease Program Expires 4/30/18.

NEW 2018 TOYOTA CAMRY LE

#JT0229, 4 Cyl., Auto., Toyota Safety Sense P, Alloy Wheels, Entune 3.0 with Connected Nav, Back Up Camera, All Weather Floor Liners

MSRP \$25,149

PURCHASE FOR \$23,377
Or Lease for \$282/mo.

36 Month, 36,000 Mile Lease. Total of Payments \$10,152. Net Cap Cost \$23,374 Purchase Price At Lease End \$13,832. 15c Mileage Penalty Per Mile For Excessive Mileage. Tax and Title Included \$0 Security Deposit. \$282 Due At Lease Inception. Includes \$650 TFS subvention cash. Lease Program Expires 4/30/18.

NEW 2018 TOYOTA TACOMA SR 4X4 DOUBLE CAB

#JT0625, V-6, Auto., Toyota Safety Sense P, Tow Pkg., SR Convenience Pkg., All Weather Floor Liners

MSRP \$32,918

PURCHASE FOR \$30,967
Or Lease for \$315/mo.

36 Month, 36,000 Mile Lease. Total of Payments \$11,340 Net Cap Cost \$32,240 Purchase Price At Lease End \$24,359. 15c Mileage Penalty Per Mile For Excessive Mileage. Tax and Title Included \$0 Security Deposit. \$315 Due At Lease Inception. Includes \$0 TFS subvention cash. Lease Program Expires 4/30/18.

NEW 2018 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER LE V6 AWD

#JT0570, V-6, Auto., Toyota Safety Sense P, Back Up Camera, Entune 6.1" Touch Screen, All Weather Floor Liners

MSRP \$35,784

PURCHASE FOR \$33,185
Or Lease for \$332/mo.

36 Month, 36,000 Mile Lease. Total of Payments \$11,952. Net Cap Cost \$34,493 Purchase Price At Lease End \$23,617. 15c Mileage Penalty Per Mile For Excessive Mileage. Tax and Title Included \$0 Security Deposit. \$332 Due At Lease Inception. Includes \$0 TFS subvention cash. Lease Program Expires 4/30/18.

*Sale prices on in-stock units only. All sale prices expire on 4/30/18. Tax and title extra. As always, no doc fees. Must present ad for pricing. Price includes Toyota Manufacturer's Rebates and any applicable dealer incentives. 0% APR in lieu of rebates. With Approved Toyota Financial Credit. Cannot be combined with other offers.

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#HC0372, 3.6L V-6, Auto., A/C, Sunroof, Navigation, Leather Seats

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*Includes all available rebates. Sale prices on in-stock units only. Tax and title extra. Owner Loyalty for current owners of Chrysler Group vehicles. Includes Chrysler Capital Bonus Cash. Model shown may not represent actual vehicle. Expires 4/30/18.

NEW 2018 RAM 1500 QUAD CAB EXPRESS 4X4

#JC0205, Auto., A/C, Power Windows & Locks, Cruise, Tilt, Alloy Wheels, Tow Hitch, Popular Equipment Group

MSRP \$38,830

\$10,385 OFF

SALE PRICE \$28,445 OR \$119 MO.

*24 month lease. 10k miles per year. 25c per mile in excess of 20,000. \$2,999 due at signing. Total of payments \$2,856. Residual \$24,133. Tax & title extra. No security deposit required. Includes Chrysler Capital Bonus Cash.

NEW 2018 JEEP COMPASS LATITUDE 4X4

#JC0157, Auto., A/C, Power Windows & Locks, Cruise, Tilt, Alloy Wheel

MSRP \$26,890

\$3,695 OFF

SALE PRICE \$23,195 OR \$159 MO.

*24 month lease. 10k miles per year. 20c per mile in excess of 20,000. \$2,999 due at signing. Total of payments \$3,816. Residual \$19,091. Tax & title extra. Waive security deposit.

NEW 2019 JEEP CHEROKEE LIMITED 4X4

#KC0016, Auto., A/C, V-6, Leather Heated Seats, Loaded

MSRP \$35,065

\$4,070 OFF

SALE PRICE \$30,995 OR \$178 MO.

*24 month lease. 10k miles per year. 25c per mile in excess of 20,000. \$2,999 due at signing. Total of payments \$4,272. Residual \$24,836. Tax & title extra. Waive security deposit. Includes CCAP bonus cash.

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SALE PRICE \$17,371* LEASE FOR ONLY \$244* MO.

*39 month lease. 10k miles per year. 25c per mile in excess of 32,500. Total of payments \$9,519.12. Residual \$11,472.45. \$1,999 plus 1st payment, tax and title due at signing. No security deposit required. Expires 4/16/18.

NEW 2018 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500 4WD LT DOUBLE CAB

#JG0255, 5.3L V-8, Trailering Equipment Pkg., Remote Start, Power Seat, Auto Locking Differential, Chevy Complete Care and Much More

MSRP \$43,745

LEASE SALE PRICE \$34,345* LEASE FOR ONLY \$282* MO.

*36 month lease. 10k miles per year. 25c per mile in excess of 30,000. Total of payments \$10,185.12. Residual \$25,372.10. \$2,500 plus 1st payment, tax and title due at signing. No security deposit required. Expires 4/16/30.

NEW 2018 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500 CUSTOM 4WD CREW CAB

#JG0245, 5.3L V8, Trailering Equipment, Auto Locking Rear Differential, Keyless Entry, Rear Window Defogger, Chevrolet Complete Care and Much More

MSRP \$43,340

SALE PRICE \$39,340* OR LEASE FOR \$399* MO.

*39 month lease. 10k miles per year. 25c per mile in excess of 32,500. Total of payments \$15,568.80. Residual \$25,137.20. \$2,900 plus 1st payment, tax and title due at signing. No security deposit required. Expires 4/30/18.

NEW 2018 CHEVROLET EQUINOX AWD LS

#JG0290, Chevrolet Complete Care, XM Radio, OnStar, Rear Vision Camera, 1.5L Turbo, Power Windows & Locks, MyLink, G LTE Wi-Fi, and Much More!

MSRP \$28,395

LEASE SALE PRICE \$26,395* OR LEASE FOR \$277* MO.

*39 month lease. 10k miles per year. 25c per mile in excess of 32,500. Total of payments \$10,829.13. Residual \$16,469.10. \$1,500 plus 1st payment, tax and title due at signing. No security deposit required. Expires 4/16/18.

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A program of the MAINE DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

Maine downtowns offer interesting events and places to explore this spring

MAINE DOWNTOWN CENTER
Special to the Sentinel & KJ

Spring is a great time to visit Maine's unique downtowns. The snow is gone and the sidewalks are clear. There have been lots of changes in Maine's downtowns this winter. New breweries, distilleries and coffee shops continue to open along Main Street. Moderation Brewing opened in the heart of downtown Brunswick while Banded Horn Brewing Company and Dirigo Brewing opened in downtown Biddeford. Sebago Lake Distillery is a new addition in Gardiner and Cushnoc Brewing has opened along Water Street in downtown Augusta and includes brick oven pizza. These businesses are often in great spaces with a intriguing vibe and of course offer delicious product as well.

See a Maine downtown from a different perspective by taking advantage of walking trails, harbor walks and other trail systems that are connected to downtown. The Harbor Walk in Rockland, the Kennebec River Rail Trail in Gardiner and the Kennebec Riverwalk in Skowhegan are all located near their downtowns and Main Streets. Look for trail maps or way-finding signs to access these wonderful trail systems.

Events are always happening around the state. Bath will host Mayfair and a Citywide Yard Sale on May 5. The Belfast Farmer's Market opens for the season in April on Fridays from 9-1 p.m., and the United Farmers Market of Maine in Belfast also opens in April on Saturday's from 9-2 p.m.

Celebrate and enjoy Maine downtowns this spring. They offer a sense of place that you can't get anywhere else. Shop, dine and enjoy what Maine is all about.

MAINE DOWNTOWN CENTER
A program of the MAINE DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

MAIN STREET AMERICA
Coordinating Program

MAINE DOWNTOWN CENTER

Maine Reinvestment Statistics (2002-2017, 9 Main Street Maine communities reporting):

JOBS & BUSINESS GROWTH

- Net Gain Part time Jobs: **573**
- Net Gain Full Time Jobs: **1,381**
- Net New Businesses: **444**

LEVERAGING LOCAL VOLUNTEERISM

- Downtown Volunteer Hours: **310,422**

CAPITAL INVESTMENT

- New Construction Projects: **35**
- New Housing Units: **438**
- Building Rehabilitations: **1,030**
- Total Reinvestment of **\$272,019M** (including Private reinvestment \$206,634,349 - 76%)
- Reinvestment Ratio: **\$20.18** for every \$1 spent by the local communities

★ Main Street Maine Communities
● Maine Downtown Network Communities
▲ Making Headway Communities

The Maine Development Foundation's Downtown Center serves as the state coordinator for the National Main Street Center. We utilize the Main Street Four-Point Approach® which has earned a reputation as one of the most powerful economic development tools in the nation for vibrant, healthy downtowns.

The Center's mission is to advance preservation-based economic development in downtowns across Maine, resulting in business growth, job creation, building rehabilitation, cultural enhancement and organizational leadership. The Center and its Advisors serve as a resource for all Maine communities interested in undertaking downtown revitalization projects and developing sustainable programs. We are proud to work with 10 Main Street Maine and 17 Maine Downtown Network communities statewide.

The Maine Downtown Center Oversees and Manages the:

- Main Street Maine program – locally staffed programs in 10 Maine communities
- Maine Downtown Network – for communities exploring downtown revitalization options
- Green Downtowns, Healthy Maine Streets, Grants to Green Maine
- Making Headway in Your Community collaboration with GrowSmart Maine
- Annual Conference and Downtown Institute trainings

Anne Ball, Program Director Maine Downtown Center, aball@mdf.org, 207.512.4906, mdf.org



Welcome to Downtown Augusta

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

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

Want 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.

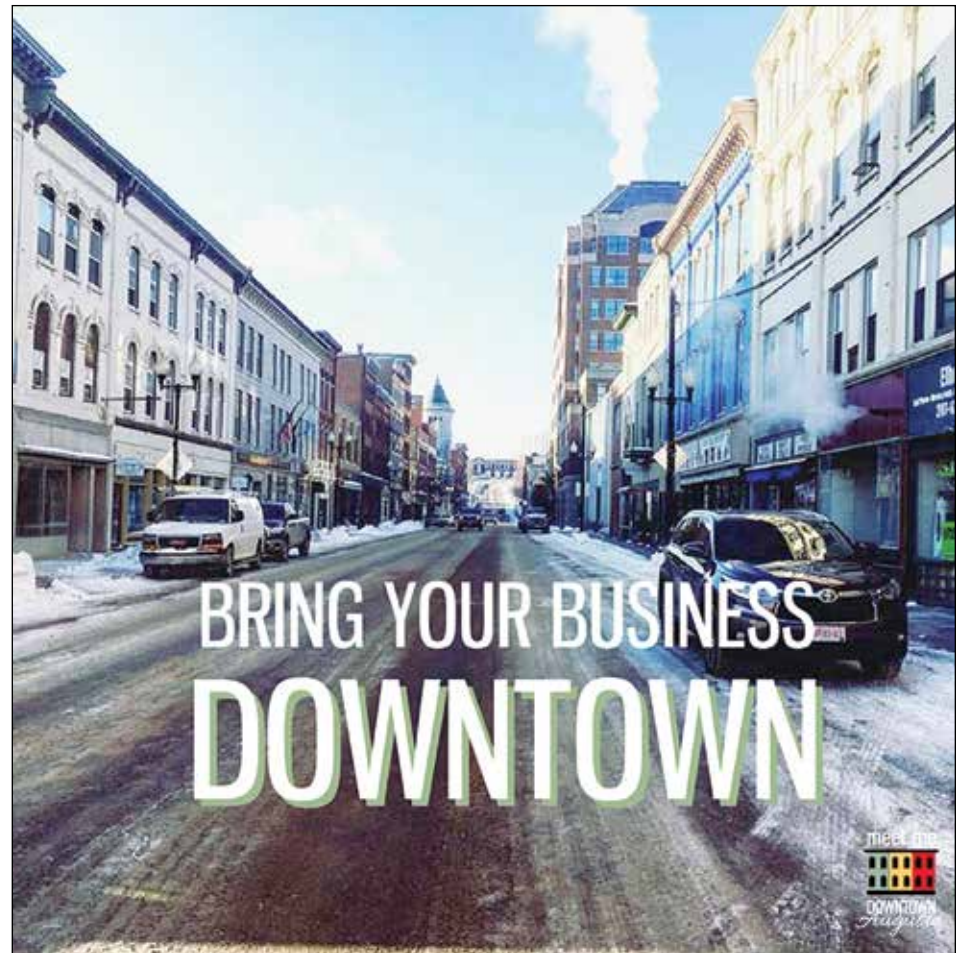
If you want to be a part of all the exciting things happening in Downtown Augusta, email augustadowntownalliance@gmail.com or call 207-458-8757 for more information.

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.

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.



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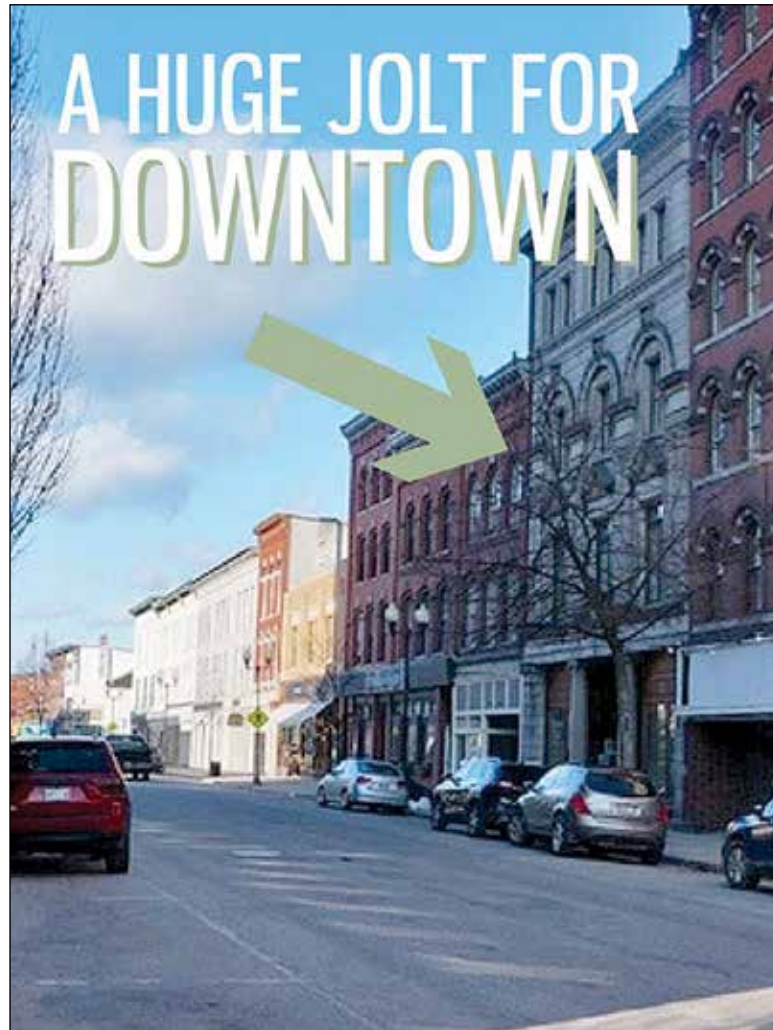
New Apartments coming to Water Street

Developers of a historic four-building 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.

The development will go up for review to the planning board on April 10. If approved, construction will break ground this summer and the building will be ready for occupancy by April 2019.



Moving on up

On April 2, SGC Engineering formally moved into their new location at 211 Water St.

Formerly housed above the Liberal Cup in Hallowell, the expanding engineering firm was attracted to Downtown Augusta because of the larger office space available, as well as the ever-increasing options for entertainment and dining.

We are very excited to have them for our new neighbors!



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Welcome to Downtown Gardiner

Artwalk, Cruise-Ins and The Great Race this summer

Gardiner 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.

The national vintage-car road race, which will run during the last week of June, 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 demonstrations.

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 children's' 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.

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World Fish Migration Day and Earth Day

BY DIANA TWOMBLY

Gardiner Main Street, Special to the Sentinel & KJ

With a population more than 5,000, Historic Gardiner is a city nestled along the picturesque Kennebec River. Gardiner's cultural past is balanced with a modern vibrancy – an active Waterfront Park, a weekly farmers' market and a dynamic downtown that includes a mix of shops, offices, restaurants and a performing arts center. Its central location and proximity to Augusta and Portland makes it an ideal place to visit.

Gardiner's growth is due in part to its intentional efforts centered on building cultural connections, promoting wellness and recreation, growing local business, ensuring a vibrant and welcoming community for all and preserving its history and heritage.

In April two unique events unfold, World Fish Migration Day and Earth Day on Saturday, April 21. World Fish Migration Day is a one-day global event to create awareness of the importance of open rivers and migratory fish. Local organizations rally around this day with various activities. In Gardiner, Upstream, a local non-profit working to restore fish passage and ecological health to Cobbossee Stream will host a Fish March and Clean-up on Cobbossee Stream from 10 a.m. to noon in downtown Gardiner. Those interested in helping with cleaning and picking up litter should meet on Bridge Street.

Nature and art converge for "Together is Better: The Marvel and Mystery of Fish Migration," an art show hosted by Monktree Gallery. Artwork focused on the magic, mystery and wonder of millions of migratory fish returning to their natal streams in the spring has been created and the sale of the work will support upstream work to restore fish passage on the Cobbossee.

"This show brought together artists, community members and children who contributed to the theme of Together is Better. Just like the fish migrating together, fish passage on the Cobbossee will only happen if we come together," says Clare Marron, owner of Monktree. The show opens on Friday, April 20 with

the Artist Reception taking place on Friday, April 27 at 5:30-8 p.m.

Also on Saturday, April 21, several independent music stores will take part in Record Store Day. Record Store Day is held on one Saturday every April and aims to celebrate the culture of the independently-owned record store. Gardiner, as part of this celebration, will again host the annual Music Walk bringing diverse musicians to downtown Gardiner.

In addition to special record releases at Niche, Inc. organizer of the Music Walk, at 1p.m. musician Jack Duggins kicks off a day of performances at Canton Village Restaurant. At 2 p.m. bring your own drum or just watch the fun at the drum circle performance at Dearborn Park (locally known as Johnson Park). Main activities start at 4 p.m. and folks are encouraged to take part in the festivities by visiting host businesses that will feature musicians playing everything from Jazz, Country and Folk to Indie American.

Also starting at 4 p.m. Craft Beer Cellar will have free tasting of Dogfish Head, the official beer of Record Store Day.

A collection of the world's most famous guitars such as Gibson's Les Paul, will be on display inside Johnson Hall, 280 Water Street, from 7-8:30 p.m. This experience will feature a collection of the iconic guitars formerly owned by Les Paul himself. Jim Wysocki, of "From Start to Finish" will give a presentation on the collection and share stories about the guitars and the legend. Music Walk will be the first time that this collection of guitars will visit the State of Maine. Don't miss this experience to see, touch, and even play the guitars! Also in Johnson Hall, Chasing Sound, a biographical film on Les Paul, starts at 1p.m.

Music lovers will enjoy this event, but there's something for everyone – bring the whole family and your friends because there will be face painting for the kiddos that starts at 3 p.m. at Johnson Park. Papa's Roadhouse food truck will be downtown serving delicious food. To stay up to date on the full schedule of music, visit their Facebook page at facebook.com/nicheinc.

GARDINER EVENTS CALENDAR

APRIL

20: "TOGETHER IS BETTER: THE MARVEL AND MYSTERY OF FISH MIGRATION"

show opens at Monktree.

21: FISH MARCH AND CLEAN-UP

10 a.m. to 12 p.m., Bridge St. in Gardiner

21: DOWNTOWN GARDINER MUSIC WALK,

1- 8 p.m. Downtown Gardiner

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.

23: GREATER GARDINER RIVER FESTIVAL,

9 a.m.-9:30 p.m., Downtown

Gardiner & Waterfront Park

26: THE GREAT RACE,

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

AUGUST

3: GARDINER ARTWALK, 5:30 -8:30 p.m.,

Downtown Gardiner, Water St.

MAY-SEPTEMBER: CLASSIC CAR CRUISE-IN,

Thursdays, Waterfront Park, 5-7 p.m.

June-September: FREE WATERFRONT CONCERT SERIES

by Johnson Hall, Waterfront Park, 6 p.m.

JUNE-OCTOBER:

GARDINER FARMERS' MARKET, Wednesdays,

Gardiner Commons, 3-6:30 p.m.

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

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.

Don't miss any of the fun

The next several months are fun-filled with several fantastic ongoing and one-time events along with all of the other "regular" happenings in Gardiner, including beer tastings at the Craft Beer Cellar, art shows at the Monktree Art Gallery, Trivia Tuesdays at Two Gramps Brewing, shows and performances at historic Johnson Hall, Open Mic Jam Night at Niche, Inc., the monthly Facetime Social Event on the first Wednesdays and more! Stay up-to-date on events, including community happenings and vendor applications by visiting gardinermainstreet.org/ to sign up for the newsletter. Check out the Calendar of Events at gardinermainstreet.org/welcome-to-gardiner-maine/calendar-of-events/. Like and follow Gardiner Main Street on Facebook. For more info regarding Gardiner events, contact Gardiner Main Street at 207-582-3100 or email info@gardinermainstreet.org.



Welcome to Downtown Skowhegan

Moose Festival, cheese, bread and brews are summer highlights in Skowhegan

BY MARIA LANDRY

Main Street Skowhegan, Special to the Sentinel & KJ

Main Street Skowhegan is coordinating the Skowhegan Moose Festival from June 8 - June 10 at Skowhegan Fairgrounds.

The festival is designed to enhance Maine Inland Fisheries & Wildlife's Moose Permit Lottery which Skowhegan will host at the fairgrounds on June 9, 2-6 p.m.

"We're excited about this opportunity to showcase Skowhegan, which has a long heritage of hunting, fishing, and outdoor recreation," said Kristina Cannon, Main Street's executive director. "We expect to draw thousands of visitors from all over the Northeast who will stay in local lodging, eat in local restaurants and shop in local stores during the weekend-long festival."

Sponsored by Cabela's outdoor sports store and the Hight Family of dealerships, the Skowhegan Moose Festival is free to all with the exception of the Saturday evening musical performance.

The event will include many exhibits, demonstrations and activities including Moose Maine-iah monster truck rides, a wild game and craft brew pairing and tasting, Axe Women Loggers of Maine shows, a K-9 field demo, an archery range, a moose calling competition, kids' activities, raffles, and more.

Following the moose permit lottery drawing on Saturday, country music stars Phil Vassar and Bryan White will perform on the fairgrounds stage at 7 p.m. Concert admission is \$35 in advance and \$45 at the gate. Tickets can be purchased online at SkowheganMooseFest.com/entertainment or at Skowhegan locations including Computer Improvements (101 Water St.), Hight Ford (242 Madison Ave.), and Main Street Skowhegan (48 Court St.).

For more information on the Skowhegan Moose Festival, including a tentative schedule of events, or to sign up as a sponsor, advertiser, or vendor, visit SkowheganMooseFest.com.

For more information on the moose permit lottery or to apply for a Maine Moose Hunting Permit, visit Maine.gov/online/moose.






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Skowhegan Brew Fest set for September 1

On Saturday, Sept. 1, a block in the heart of downtown Skowhegan will close to traffic from 2-7 p.m. as an anticipated 30 purveyors of Maine craft beer, wine, cider and spirits take to the streets at the third annual Skowhegan Craft Brew Festival.

The event will kick off with a VIP hour 2-3 p.m. featuring specialty brews not available during the general session 3-7 p.m. with free food samples from vendors specializing in local harvest. The general session will include an array of Maine-crafted libations, while merchants will offer farm-to-table fare such as wood-fired pizza, local chicken wings, and poutine.

The Nikki Hunt Band will perform throughout the festival. A pop/rock group based in Central Maine, Nikki Hunt covers artists Sheryl Crow, Joan Jett, Bruce Springsteen, Sublime, No Doubt, The Doors, U2, and others. Hunt is also known to show off her hula-hooping skills during performances.

Guided tours of Maine Grains at the Somerset Grist Mill will round out this Labor Day weekend event, one of the only festivals in the state featuring only Maine producers of beer, wine, cider, and spirits. This will make for an unforgettable close to summer.

Tickets will be available at *Skowhegan CraftBrewFest.com* beginning May 1.



Cheese, Beer, and Bread event June 24

The second annual Cheese, Brews, and Bread event is slated for Sunday, June 24, from noon to 4 p.m. at Bigelow Brewing Co. in Skowhegan.

This delicious celebration of local products will feature samples from local cheese makers and bread makers, plus beer from Skowhegan's own Bigelow Brewing Co.

Suggestions for cheese, bread, and beer pairings will occur throughout the day, as will bread-making demonstrations. Cheese, bread, and beer will all be available for purchase from a variety of Maine vendors.

Tickets, \$12 in advance or \$15 at the door can be purchased ahead of time at *WesArts.org/cheese-brews-bread*. All proceeds benefit Somerset Cultural Planning, a project of the Wesserunsett Arts Council. For more information visit *WesArts.org/cheese-brews-bread*.



Spring will color the city of Waterville with Arts in Bloom May 19

BY NATE TOWNE
Waterville Creates!
Special to the Sentinel & KJ

Spring has come to downtown Waterville and just like in the garden, things are looking very different from when the snow first started falling in December. Not only is the new Colby College Bill and Joan Alford Main Street Commons residence coming along nicely but there are many new projects to be seen if you're strolling downtown. Portland Pie Company is soon coming to town, the City of Waterville will start breaking ground this spring on the RiverWalk at Head of Falls and there shall be daffodils once more in Castonguay Square and along Main Street. Yes, daffodils. Spring, we welcome you!

In the spirit of that welcoming, Waterville Creates! and its art partners – the Colby Museum of Art, the Maine Film Center, the Waterville Opera House and the Waterville Public Library – are combining forces once again to host a day-long, family-friendly and arts-filled celebration of spring in downtown Waterville. Arts in Bloom is scheduled for Saturday, May 19. Building on the success of winter's Joy to the Ville event, Arts in Bloom will provide residents of Central Maine with an opportunity to get out and enjoy all things spring.

How can you participate in Arts in Bloom? Just show up and we'll do the rest! We've created a nifty Arts in Bloom Passport just for you – available at Common Street Arts, the Colby Museum of Art, Railroad Square Cinema, the Waterville Opera House and the Waterville Public Library. This Passport includes a listing of all the free events happening in Waterville on May 19.

The Arts in Bloom Passport features fun activity pages for kids of all ages that will get you thinking about what you're seeing, doing and feeling, encouraging you to create art based on those experiences. Each activity will offer something for all ages with special events for families, kids and adults – from flowers and bugs to sunshine and stretching, which we all

More WATERVILLE, **PAGE 10**



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Waterville

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

need after so much winter hibernating. When you visit an Arts in Bloom activity, you'll get a sticker for your Passport. Try to collect them all!

Arts in Bloom will kick off at 10 a.m. at Railroad Square Cinema, where the Maine Film Center is offering a free screening of the award-winning film *Microcosmos* followed by a presentation with live insects by Kathy Murray, a Maine State Entomologist. Attendees will learn all about our many-legged friends and have a chance to examine these wonderful insects up close and personal. If you are a nature-loving family, this is a wonderful activity for you.

If you're more of the type to sink into a good springtime read, join the Waterville Public Library at 10:30 a.m. for a special story hour with a very special guest – a character from the pages of Dr. Seuss to celebrate the coming of *Seussical the Musical* at the Waterville Opera House this June.

At noon, make your way over to Common Street Arts in The Center building at 93 Main Street to make your own American weathervanes with the Colby College Museum of Art. If you enjoy making the weathervanes, you should head to the Museum itself to see their super cool exhibition featuring American weathervanes – a fantastic free outing for the whole family.

Now that you've given your mind a stretch with all these art-tastic activities, it's time to focus on moving your body and getting ready for all those fun summer activities. Join School Street Yoga at their studio on School Street at noon for Yoga for Adults – a special yoga class to help you reconnect with yourself. You'll leave feeling grounded and refreshed. Beginners are welcome so if you've always

been curious about yoga but have never given it a try, try it during Arts in Bloom for free! But the yoga isn't just for adults – at 1:30 p.m. School Street Yoga will host a special Yoga for Kids class. It's a fun way to learn body awareness, creative movement and stress management techniques. Parents are welcome to stay and experience the class with their child – this activity is recommended for children ages 4 -10.

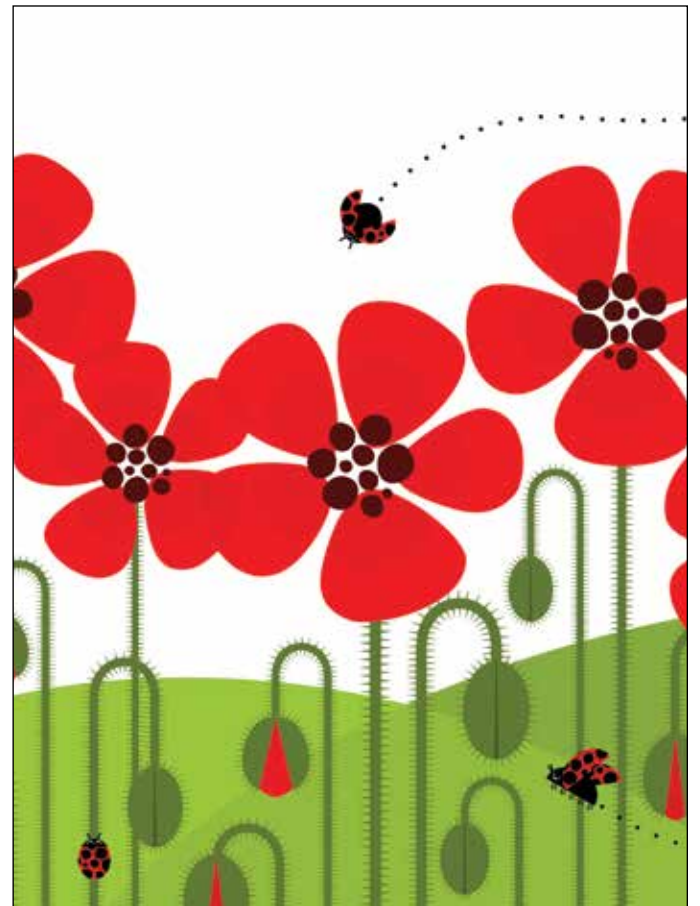
Do you like the 'peep peep' noises the peeper frogs make in vernal pools during the first days of spring? Then we think you'll want to head back to the Waterville Public Library at 1 p.m. for a special story hour and live amphibian show with Cathy Bevier, professor of biology at Colby College. Nothing says spring like salamanders, frogs and tadpoles too!

Wrap up this active day of art at 2 p.m. in Castonguay Square – for an interesting Tree Walk and outside drawing activity with Common Street Arts and state forester Patty Cormier. Go on a nice walk downtown, learn about the trees you see, and draw a tree on your walk. Those nice folks from Fedco Seeds will give away seed packets that you can take home to plant. They will also educate attendees on the basics of growing plants from seeds.

As you can see, spring is going to be amazing in downtown Waterville this May – mark your calendars today for Arts in Bloom May 19 and look for your Arts in Bloom Passport at a participating organization.

Local businesses and organizations interested in getting involved in Arts in Bloom are encouraged to call Common Street Arts at 207-872-ARTS. This event is made possible by the incredible community support of Central Maine Media, Colby College Center for the Arts and Humanities, the Colby Museum of Art, Fedco Seeds, GHM Insurance, the Maine Film Center, Waterville Creates!, the Waterville Opera House and the Waterville Public Library.

Spring has sprung in Waterville – come celebrate with us at Arts in Bloom!



The Arts in Bloom Passport features fun activity pages for kids of all ages that will get you thinking about what you're seeing, doing and feeling, encouraging you to create art based on those experiences.

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Experience the Arts in Waterville

April 18–June 27

Date	Event	Location
April 11–May 19	Side by Side: New Work by Cassie Jones + Will Sears	Common Street Arts
April 19	Afternoon RPG Adventure for Teens and Tweens	Waterville Public Library
April 21	Shakespeare's 454th Birthday Bash	Downtown Waterville
April 21	The Metropolitan Opera: Cosi Fan Tutte	Waterville Opera House
April 21	Peanuts and Cracker Jacks	Colby Museum of Art
April 21	Earth Day Parade	Common Street Arts
April 22	The Bolshoi Ballet: Giselle	Waterville Opera House
April 22	ACAT BETWEEN THE LINES: Much Ado About Nothing	Studio 93
April 24	Space for Conversation	Colby College
April 26	Artist Talk: Cassie Jones + Will Sears	Common Street Arts
April 26	Danika + the Jeb in Concert	Common Street Arts
April 26	Huck and Tom and the Mighty Mississippi - School Show	Waterville Opera House
April 27	PechaKucha Night Waterville Volume 27	Waterville Opera House
April 28	The Metropolitan Opera: Cendrillon	Waterville Opera House
April 28	Paper Pop-ups Community Art Activity	Common Street Arts
April 30	David Driskell: In Search of the Creative Truth	Railroad Square Cinema
May 3	Business Breakfast: Maine's Workforce Challenge	Thomas College
May 5	Intro to Wheel Throwing	Common Street Arts
May 5	Free Comic Book Day	Waterville Public Library
May 10	2018 Senior Exhibition- Opening Reception	Colby Museum of Art
May 12	Cool Cats in the Gallery	Common Street Arts
May 16	Business After Hours	Pete's Pig Catering & Barbeque
May 19	Arts in Bloom Community Art Day	Downtown Waterville
	Free Screening of <i>Microcosmos</i>	Railroad Square Cinema
	Story Hour with Dr. Suess Character	Waterville Public Library
	Make an American Weathervane with Colby Museum of Art	Common Street Arts
	Yoga for Adults	School Street Yoga
	Story Hour with Live Amphibian Show	Waterville Public Library
	Yoga for Kids	School Street Yoga
	Tree walk and Drawings with Common Street Arts	Castonguay Square
May 22	The Cat in the Hat - School Show	Waterville Opera House
June 2	National Trails Day Hike & Bike	Quarry Road
June 7	Business Breakfast: Challenges of Employment Law	Thomas College
June 27	Business After Hours	Kennebec Savings Bank
June 15–22	Seussical the Musical	Waterville Opera House



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