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The blossoming of a community center

Newly expanded YMCA offers something for people of all ages

Homeward bound
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Editor's note



This issue of Lincoln County Magazine, "Live Well," offers three feature pieces that are all related to the theme of living a happy, healthful

"The Blossoming of a Community Center," by Lincoln County News reporter Jessica Picard, on page 8, offers a thorough look at the many offerings for people of all ages at the newly expanded Central Lincoln County YMCA.

"A Healing Retreat," on page 22, was penned by Picard after she took a boat trip out to lovely Monhegan Island and interviewed Tara Hire, who runs yoga-and-wellness venue Monhegan Wellness. It's an informative, inspiring

"Homeward Bound," on page 18, is contributor John Maguire's touching piece on the Homeward Bound Hospice Choir, which sings to residents of Cove's Edge in Damariscotta on the first Monday of each month.

And do check out our Portfolio this issue, featuring the photographs of Dr. Rifat Zaidi, who is an orthopedic surgeon at LincolnHealth's Miles Campus.

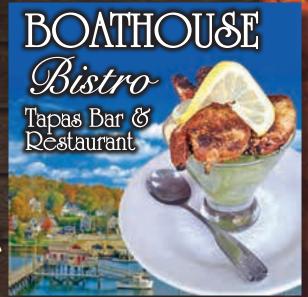
As always, we offer two recurring columns, the entertaining "50 Years Ago in Lincoln County" and "On the Trail in Lincoln County." The latter highlights the hiking trails of Monhegan this time around.

"Live Well" is the final installment in the five-magazine series of Lincoln County Magazine for 2018. We hope you have enjoyed our offerings! Drop me an email and let me know your thoughts.

Christine LaPado-Breglia clbreglia@lcnme.com

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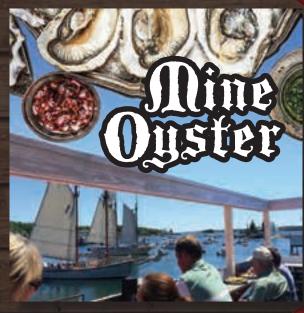


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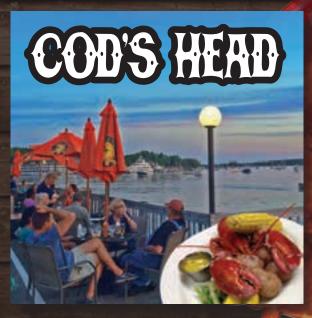


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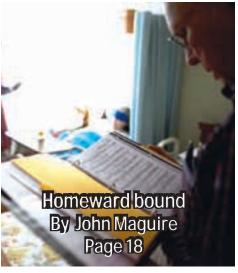


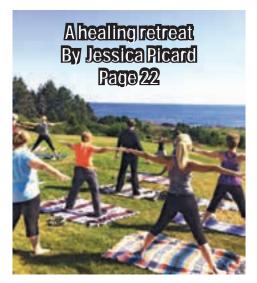
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COVER PHOTO: Yoga on Monhegan Island (Photo courtesy Tara Hire)

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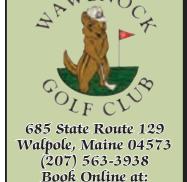
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Newly expanded YMCA offers something for people of all ages STORY & PHOTOS BY JESSICA PICARD

After roughly three years of researching, planning, and construction, phase one of the Central Lincoln County YMCA's expansion project is complete, creating a brand-new space full of natural light, new equipment, and fresh ideas.

"It was like a seed that just needed to be watered and nurtured so that it could blossom. It had so much potential," said Central Lincoln County YMCA CEO Meagan Hamblett of the newly expanded YMCA space in Damariscotta before its transformation.

The facility's expansion and

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renovation, which is the first part of a twophase project that began in May 2017, includes an elevated track, a kitchen, new locker rooms, a connection to public water and sewer, an air-handling system to increase air circulation in the building, air conditioning, a gas-fired furnace, new insulation, new sprinkler and security systems, fiber-optic cables to provide internet and free Wi-Fi, elevators in order to provide accessibility according to ADA guidelines, LED lighting, and new exercise spaces and equipment. A private pre-kindergarten program will begin in September.

"We wanted to be more of a community center," Hamblett said. "We couldn't do that the way that our Y looked before." The renovation and expansion has created multiple brand-new spaces for the community's use, and enough new programming and features that there is something for everyone.

One new feature that Hamblett called "a lifeline" is the new elevated track that goes around the gymnasium. The track, while valuable for all ages, allows a place for the community's seniors to walk safely.

"We want our seniors to be able



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to exercise, and do so safely all year round, but particularly in the winter months," she said.

The gym space, which was renovated and had its track raised into the air, has been named the Janice and Neil Sprague Family Gymnasium, honoring the CLC YMCA's beginning as a recreation center started by Janice Sprague and

her late husband, Neil Sprague, in the 1970s.

The brand new Healthy Living Center features all new weight equipment, and the cardio equipment is less than three years old. The cardio equipment is on a three-year lease, meaning it can be traded in for new equipment every three years. There is also a new functional

training system, the SYNRGY 360, for small group classes led by a personal trainer. The CLC YMCA is the second YMCA in Maine to have the SYNRGY 360 equipment, which involves cardio, endurance, strength, and core conditioning.

"We knew that we needed a healthy living center that was worthy of this community," Hamblett said.

The CLC YMCA also grew from having only one exercise studio, and being able to accommodate about 30 classes per week, to having three studio rooms providing over 60 classes a week. New classes include Barbell Blast; Barre, a fusion of Pilates, yoga, and ballet; BOSU; Fit to Drum; yoga; and Tabata, along with the usual cardio tennis, cycling, HIIT, TRX, Total Body Challenge, Pilates, and others. BOSU uses a multidimensional training device that integrates core strengthening, functional training, and balance work, and HIIT gives a high-intensity interval training through quick intense bursts of exercise, followed by short, sometimes active, recovery periods.

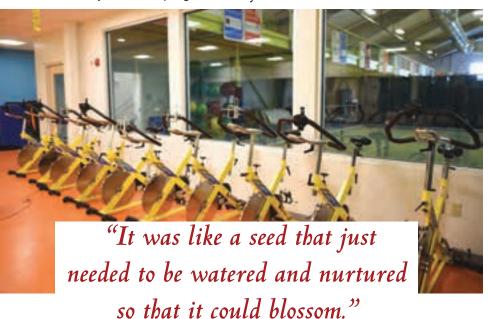
The renovation also created a bright social space at the entrance of the building, which includes chairs, cozy couches, and a fireplace. Multiple tall windows flood the space with natural light.

According to Hamblett, youth and teens enjoy using the social space, being able to be in the middle of everything and also watch the parking lot for when they are picked up by their parents.

Many other YMCAs in the country designate a specific room for teenagers; however, when researching for the renovation, Hamblett said she realized that these rooms are often not fully utilized, and that teenagers often want to be where the action is. "We want to start having our youth and teens here in a way that that they can be part of the whole facility, and not tucked away in a room," she said.

A new multigenerational room next to the social space is available for meetings and community events, and Spectrum Generations, which provides adult and senior services, has also moved into the building.

Child Watch, a babysitting service provided by the YMCA, will also be offered, during which parents or guardians can work out, take a class, or relax in the lounge. The service will be available in two-hour increments





Janice Sprague and her grandson, Nate Masters, cut the ribbon during the grand reopening ceremony at the Central Lincoln County YMCA on April 29, surrounded by board members and staff.



The new Farms at the Y kitchen at the CLC Y.

weekday mornings from 8-11:30 a.m., Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 4-7:30 p.m., and Saturday mornings from 7-10 a.m. The cost is free for family members, \$5 per hour, \$45 for a 10-visit punch card for members, or \$10 per hour for nonmembers.

One issue that the YMCA wanted to tackle was how to keep its members not just physically healthy, but also strong nutritionally.

The solution came in the form of FARMS at the Y, a collaboration between the YMCA and the FARMS program, which was previously a nonprofit located above Rising Tide Community Market in Damariscotta.

With the Y's new instructional teaching kitchen, more programs can be offered to the community, such as cooking classes for seniors. There are also planting beds in front of the facility, in order to grow fresh food for the kitchen's use.

"When you come into a YMCA, you are getting every bit of the community," Hamblett said. "This was a really good location for FARMS to be."

Hamblett is hoping that the CLC YMCA can grow even more when it









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comes to nutrition, such as having a farmers market set up once a week in the colder months.

"In the winter, we don't have a farmers market, and there's plenty of food to be had, between honey and breads and root vegetables, and farmers that are canning their goods," Hamblett said. She hopes that a farmers market could be made a reality soon, but for now is calling it her "vision" for the future.

ith its newly revamped space, the YMCA is also putting more focus on mission-based programming, or programming that is specifically tailored for certain individuals and diseases. One such program is Livestrong at the Y, a 12-week program for cancer survivors. The group program was first piloted in 2011 in various YMCAs across the country, and the CLC YMCA is one of 13 YMCAs in the United States that will be newly offering it this year, starting in September.

The Livestrong at the Y program is about building strength in a variety of ways, according to Hamblett. "I think it's going to be one of the best programs we've ever run," she said.

continued on page 34







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"We're really experimenting and putting our passion into this," Ungureanu said. "We're offering things no one in the area is really doing."

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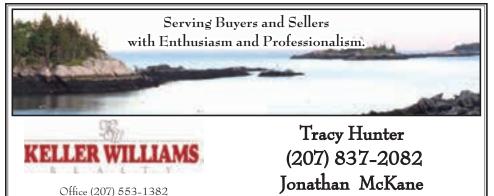
of food," Busteed said. "It's a melting pot of flavors and tastes."

Most of the small plates at the Fin Bar fall within the \$10-\$15 range, while larger entrees are available for a slightly higher price.

The Fin Bar also boasts a boutique list of wines not commonly found at The Contented Sole to further elevate the dining experience. Add in the bar seating and a view of the sunset over Pemaquid Harbor — a night at Fin Bar is one that will not easily to be forgotten!

The 12-seat dining room fills quickly, and reservations are only accepted for the first seating at 5 p.m. The Fin Bar is open 5-9 p.m. Thursday-Sunday and will be remain open through Columbus Day.

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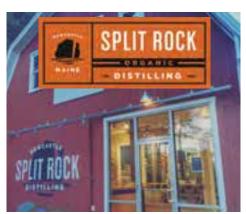
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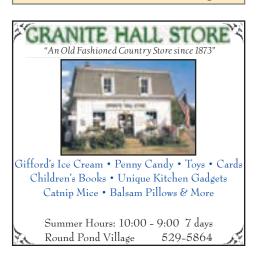


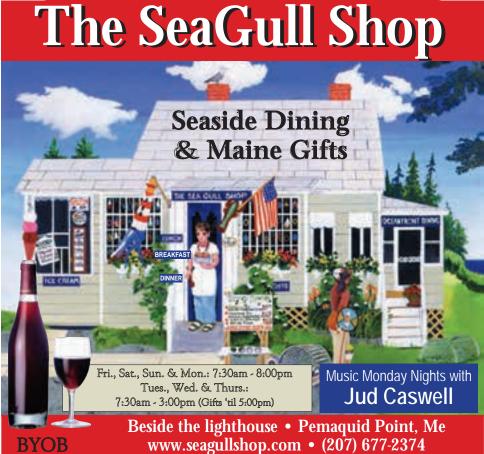


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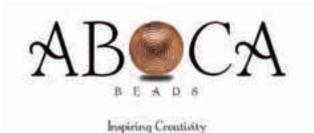








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Portfolio

RIFAT ZAIDI

Newcastle photographer Rifat Zaidi, who relocated to Maine from Pakistan in 2002, is also an orthopedic surgeon at LincolnHealth's Miles Campus in Damariscotta. He has become well-known in the area for selling his vibrant photographs - of people, places, and things around the world, including Midcoast Maine - to help raise much-needed funds for the IDRF/ROF Girls Primary School in Basti Awan, in rural Pakistan.

In November 2016, Zaidi had a six-week-long show of his photographic work in the Hall Gallery at the LincolnHealth - Miles Campus. Sales of his photos at the show netted more than \$5,000 for the school – enough for a computer lab.

"A photograph is the pause button of life," says Zaidi on his website, rifatzaidi.com. Viewers can delight in the numerous "pauses" that Zaidi has taken over the years, which are viewable on the site. Colorful flowers, butterflies, and tropical birds appear alongside boats, buildings, food, and people from all over.

Rifat Zaidi Photography can be found on Facebook.





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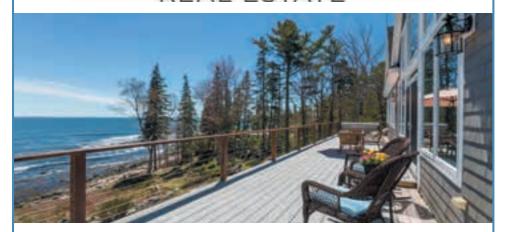
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Homeward bound

Choir sings to soothe the hospice journey

BY JOHN MAGUIRE PHOTOS BY JESSICA PICARD

Twelve volunteers of the Homeward Bound Hospice Choir sang for an open rehearsalat Cove's Edge in Damariscotta on March 5 this year. Their voices filled the room in which several residents had gathered after lunch, knowing the singers would perform.

The Homeward Bound Hospice Choir sings at Cove's Edge the first Monday of each month. The choir sings for small audiences in hospitals, at long-term care facilities like Cove's Edge, and at private homes.

Cove's Edge residents listened.

Some arrived late, and one or two left before the end. A resident cradled her face in one hand, her eyes closed. Another grimaced as if in pain and then a nurse wheeled her out of the room. The residents were silent for the most part. There was no applause, and as the choir practiced, parakeets in a cage chirped and rustled around, covering the sounds of monitors, telephones, and other hospital sounds.

The singers were engaged with their work. Occasionally, they would look up from their song sheets to smile at one another. During breaks between songs they shared jokes and short stories. Volunteer Gordon Isleib led the group in song on this particular day, asking fellow choir members to emphasize certain parts of words, or for the men and women to balance their voices on different verses.

One singer commented on the tuning whistle Ed Wynne uses to start the group on each song. "It looks like a flask from here," Lynn Norgang said of the whistle, while another singer chimed in: "It sounds like a sick moose." They all laughed.

The choir sang a number of songs after about an hour of practice. Residents often will look expressionless while the choir members sing, one member said, but as the group made its way out the door, she saw many of them smiling.

Connie Jones thanked the residents







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for attending the group's open rehearsal. Jones leads the Homeward Bound Hospice Choir in addition to her work as community liaison for Miles & St. Andrews Home Health & Hospice. She takes requests from family members and individuals for private choir performances.

On this particular day, the choir gave private performances to a number of individuals at Cove's Edge. While they do sing for people who are dying, often the choir members perform for patients who simply benefit from the soothing melodies.

Phyllis is one such patient at Cove's Edge. She sang with her family for many years and asked Jones if the choir would sing for her. Phyllis said her children inherited her and her husband's love for music. "They have wonderful singing voices," she said from beneath a floral comforter. The choir had crowded into her room and surrounded her bed to sing "In the Garden," "Angels Hovering Around," and "All My Trials."

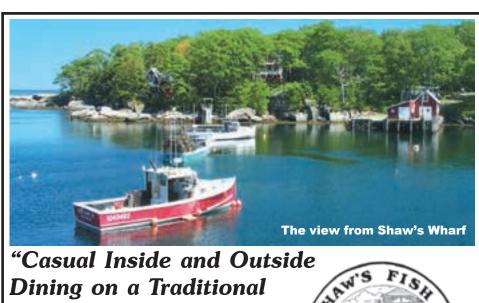
Jones said the choir chose the songs the members believed Phyllis would appreciate, which are spiritual and religious in theme. "It's beautiful," Phyllis said, glancing around at the smiling faces surrounding her bed. "I just love it."

"I think it's about this generation wanting to deal with death differently than how their parents or elders dealt with death,"

- Homeward Bound Hospice **Choir leader Connie Jones**

The Homeward Bound Hospice Choir formed in August 2016. It took volunteers a year to practice and to come into harmony with one another. Choir members must perform for audiences before singing at the bedside of patients, according to Jones.

The Homeward Bound Hospice Choir was inspired by the Solace Choir, based in Camden, which sang at a Miles

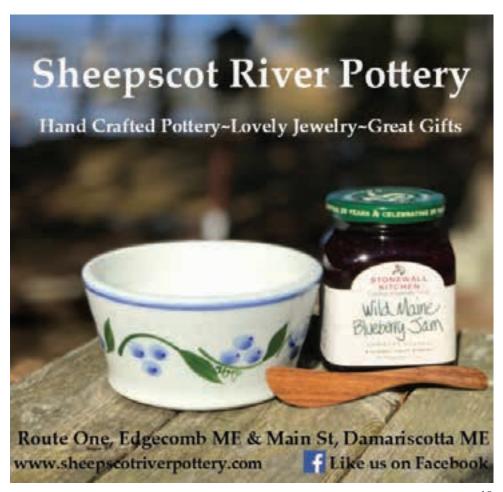


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Memorial Hospital Hospice League luncheon. So moved were they by the Solace Choir performance, Hospice League members decided they wanted to launch their own choir and asked Jones and Miles Memorial Hospital Hospice League secretary Paula Christensen to launch an informational session at the Schooner Cove retirement community in Damariscotta for this purpose.

"Everybody who came to that session signed up," Jones said. Word about the choir quickly spread and choral director Peter Asche put together a group of songs with which to teach the choir. After six months had passed, the choir was pretty much self-directed. Jones said this was an important step for the choir. The members must be as versatile as possible, as not all choir singers will be available to sing on any given occasion.

When the choir is needed, Jones sends out an email to all members (there are approximately 19 so far) requesting volunteers. This is why all singers must provide an email address when they sign up. Singers must also submit to a background check and attend introductory training in hospice care.

"We need to be able to say to folks that all choir members have been vetted," Jones said. This way, individuals and family members can feel comfortable knowing singers have had the training and are going to be sensitive to patients' needs.

"Individuals and family members absolutely deserve privacy and confidentiality," said Jones. "It's about the person we're singing to and their families -- it's not about you."

For many of these volunteers, whose ages range from 50-70 years, the opportunity to sing is rewarding. Ed Wynne is a resident of The Lincoln Home in Newcastle and a retired clergyman. He has been singing in the choir for the past year. "I find it very fulfilling," he said. "I do it because I sense that it is a continuation of my ministry."

Jones said the decision to form the choir may also reflect a generational shift in the way people view the process of dying. "I think it's about this generation wanting to deal with death differently than how their parents or elders dealt with death," Jones said, adding, "It's a wonderful way to bring that interest and

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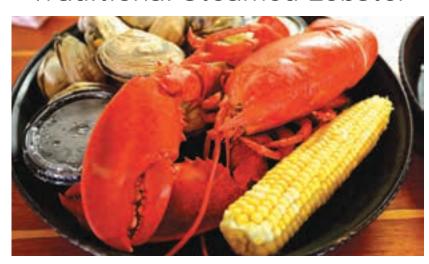


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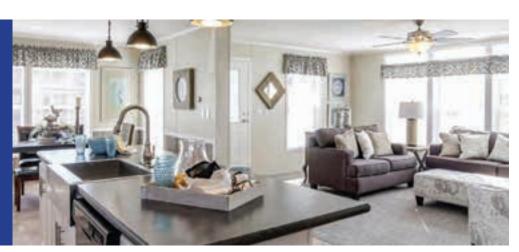


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MONHEGAN WELLNESS OFFERS YOGA, **HEALTH COACHING IN BEAUTIFUL SURROUNDINGS**

BY JESSICA PICARD

alty waves crash against rocky cliffs, and a subtle breeze makes purple lupine flowers dance. This is the scene on Monhegan Island, where Tara Hire offers health coaching and yoga through her business, Monhegan Wellness.

Monhegan Wellness, which Hire started in 2014, provides support and services to help people find their own healthy lifestyle.

Hire, who moved to Monhegan in 2004, is also the operations manager at the Monhegan Museum of Art & History and is the island's first assessor. She is originally from Ohio, and came to Monhegan in college for a summer job. She then moved to Maine, finishing her degree in nutrition at the University of Maine in Orono.

"Monhegan just is a healing place all on its own. So sharing this place with people is part of what motivates me," Hire said. "Getting out onto the cliffs and practicing yoga just makes you more connected with the healing energy that's here."

Hire holds Vinyasa flow yoga classes outside on Horns Hill Knoll, overlooking the ocean and the island's quaint main street, from 9-10 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Weather permitting, they are held from Memorial Day to Columbus Day. The classes are free to

attend; however, donations appreciated.

"My philosophy with yoga is that it's a meditation motion." Hire said. flowing, moving meditation helps people become more centered and grounded,

because you're moving your body, not just sitting still."

In Vinyasa flow yoga, every movement

is synchronized with breath.

"Yoga is good because it's movement, you're getting your exercise, you're getting your meditation and spiritual practice. It's good for your well-being emotionally and physically," Hire said.

"You're not supposed to beat

> yourself up in yoga. You're supposed to move slowly, and with intention and body awareness, she said. "The body awareness helps people understand not only their

and how it relates to their body."

"9t's just a great atmosphere for taking that break and then taking the time for selfcare. Sometimes when you remove yourself, you can go back to your life with a new inspiration. Tara Hire, of Monhegan Wellness

physical body, but also understand food





(Jessica Picard Photo)

n addition to yoga classes on Monhegan Island, Hire offers remote services coaching people both on and off the island on how to live a happy, healthy life.

"It's primarily finding how to get the healthy stuff into someone's routine that they already have," Hire said. "Everyone's busy, and so they have lots of excuses as to why they can't eat healthy, or be active, or start a meditation practice. So, it's looking at their life and lifestyle and seeing where we can fit these things in."

For example, Hire may work with someone to schedule when to go grocery shopping, or when to fit meditation or exercise into their everyday routine.

"If they want to text every day, or email every day, or if they want to have a session once every two weeks where we FaceTime, or over the phone, I'm very flexible and work with what the person's lifestyle is and how it can work into their routine easily," Hire said.

Hire said that she works with people on whatever they need help or guidance with, such as nutrition, or creating a schedule for food shopping and exercise that works for them.

Hire said that many of the people she coaches have tried dieting, and are looking for a more individualized approach, or are people who know how to live healthily, but need the support to get back on track.

"I tend to work toward including 11 servings of vegetables a day, and some fruits. That's one easy strategy that can help all of your health, whether it's weight loss, or high blood pressure, or cardiovascular disease," Hire said, adding that she is also a big promoter of reducing sugar in the diet.

"My approach is more that it should come from the person, and from inside," Hire said. "You know what the right thing is, and you know you can make the right choice, but having someone to support you through that and guide you a little bit really helps."

continued on page 39



Tara Hire, of Monhegan Wellness. (Jessica Picard photo)





THE FINANCIAL BENEFITS OF Control of Control

We have a unique situation here in Maine. Not only do we boast of being the "oldest" state in the nation demographically but we also have some of the oldest housing stock and most of it is RURAL! The question being asked is: how do we create a safe and accessible living environment for our seniors and those with mobility issues out of old often unsafe homes that are mostly in rural areas? The answer is as complex as the question. Aging in place, sometimes referred to as Design for Independent Living, referrers to remodeling or renovating a home, primarily the bathroom, to become a safe and familiar environment where one can

be independent and comfortable regardless of age or mobility level and not have to be moved to an assisted living facility as one ages.

According to the National Council on Aging, falls are the leading cause of fatal and non-fatal injuries for older Americans and most falls occur in the bathroom. Falling is not an inevitable result of aging and the risk for bathroom falls can be substantially reduced by making accessibility modifications.

A recent article published in Consumer Reports states that the average bathroom safety and accessibility remodel project can cost less than 2 months of assisted living care. Because the bathroom is the

number one obstacle to the safe living at home, the importance of planning and incorporating safety modifications during a routine bathroom update or remodel cannot be overly emphasized. In actuality, spending \$5,000 - \$7,000 on bathroom modifications will SAVE money, not cost money.

On behalf of Mid-Coast Energy Systems

The most compelling information supporting this growing concept commonly known as Aging in Place is that these home safety modifications rarely cost more than the equivalent of just four to six weeks in an assisted living facility. And, accessibility modifications, properly done, may very well add to the resale value of a residence.

MOST COMMON AGE-IN-PLACE MODIFICATIONS

The most common modifications are done in the bathroom. A bathtub is as difficult to get in and out of at 5 years of age as it is at 75 years of age. Removing that tub and replacing it with a low-threshold shower will have the greatest impact on bathroom safety. Strategically placed grab rails are a must and there is no "typical" location for them. Each individual should be actively involved in determining where grab rails are placed based on how they use the shower, their height and strength. Resist the urge to install shower doors. A heavy duty curtain with a weighted hem will keep water in the shower and not prevent a caregiver from offering assistance if needed. Choose a stylish pedestal sink or a counter-top instead of a vanity with cabinet below. Not only will the room feel larger, it will enable you to get closer to the sink with a cane, assistive walking device or chair.

IS AGE-IN-PLACE RIGHT FOR YOU OR A LOVED ONE?

Is your aging mother, father, aunt or grandfather having trouble navigating the bathroom? Are you worried about getting a phone call that your mother has fallen in the bathtub and broken a hip, or worse, suffered scalding burns? Does your father complain about the humiliation of needing to ask for help to get in and out of the tub?

As you gather with friends and family this summer, begin the discussion about the safety and accessibility of your aging loved ones' bathroom. Begin to think about having a plan in place should the need suddenly arise for a safety modification. Contact the Certified Age-in-Place Specialists at Mid-Coast Energy Systems today for your no-cost safety evaluation and estimate.

Your family will be glad that you did.



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50 Years Ago in Lincoln County By J.W. Oliver

From The Lincoln County News, August 1968:

New fire truck: Then as now, the purchase of a new fire truck was a significant investment for a rural community and its arrival cause for celebration.

The front page of the Aug. 8 edition featured a photo of some 20-plus members of The Sheepscott Volunteer Fire Co. and the "Fire-ettes" auxiliary with the company's new addition, a 1968 International tank truck with a 300-gallon capacity.

"The arrival of the new fire truck on Saturday, Aug. 3 marked a long-awaited day for the community," the caption reads.

'A spectacular mass of flames': The front page of the Aug. 22, 1968 edition reported a warehouse fire on Depot Street in Waldoboro that damaged several surrounding buildings. The fire started at about noon, Saturday, Aug. 17.

"The fire, discovered by Cedric Achorn, appeared to be coming from beneath a warehouse building owned by Victor Burnheimer," the newspaper reported. "In less time than it took for the fire department to be summoned for help and arrive at the scene, an explosion of

unknown origin blew out the north wall of the building, giving vent to a spectacular mass of flames leaping high into the air."

The flames spread to the Winchenbach Hardware warehouse, 30 feet away, and to a boxcar on a nearby railroad siding. It "blistered paint and shattered several windows" of the Joe Dinapoli house, more than 150 feet away; ignited a small outbuilding on his property; and caught fire to railroad ties, trees, and utility poles.

The blaze destroyed the Burnheimer warehouse, which stored beet pulp, fertilizer, hay, and hen crates.

For the catastrophic extent of the damage, an estimate for property owners' losses seems underwhelming today.

"Loss of property, which is still under investigation, is expected to reach well over the (\$10,000) mark," the newspaper reported.

National politics in Newcastle: Supporters of the anti-war presidential candidate U.S. Sen. Eugene McCarthy, D-Minn., met with U.S. Rep. Peter Kyros, D-Maine, at the Newcastle fire station Aug. 20, according to an article on the front page of the Aug. 22 edition. Kyros was in town to address local Rotarians at a dinner meeting.

To the dismay of the overflow crowd at the fire station that Tuesday afternoon, McCarthy would go on lose the nomination to Vice President Hubert Humphrey the following week. Humphrey, in turn, would go on to lose the election to former Vice President Richard Nixon.

'A long affair but not boring': The editorial in the Aug. 29 edition reported a rocky start to the Democratic convention in Chicago and predicted things would go downhill.

As any U.S. history buff knows, it wasn't wrong. The editorial was likely written and the newspaper published before bloody clashes between police and protesters Aug. 28 and 29, amid a backdrop of the Tet Offensive in Vietnam and racial tensions at home.

"There is noise within and without and while all kinds of protection has been made available, demonstrations by all types of groups, including the hippies, are feared," the editorial reads.

"It will be a long affair but not boring." ("50 Years Ago in Lincoln County" brings news and other tidbits from the archives of The Lincoln County News to readers of Lincoln County Magazine. The columnist, J.W. Oliver, is the editor of The Lincoln County News.)





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Throughout the day, breakout sessions will cover everything from economic development through collaboration, to the art of the side-hustle, to customer opinion "damage control," navigating multi-generational company culture, and even the many ways to fund your startup or expansion, some of which may surprise you.

The Twin Villages Business Forum is a collaborative effort put on by the Damariscotta-Newcastle Rotary Club, the Damariscotta Region Chamber of Commerce, the Neighborhood Economy Alliance, Tidewater Telecom, the Lincoln County Regional Planning Commission, the U.S. Small Business Administration, and the towns of Damariscotta and Newcastle.

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ON THE TRAIL IN LINCOLN COUNTY

BY PAULA ROBERTS

Monhegan Island



The beautiful view at the end of Whitehead Trail, Monhegan Island. (Jessica Picard photo)

Monhegan Island, 10 miles off the coast in Lincoln County, is a hiker's paradise, featuring 17 miles of trails and spectacular views of elevated cliffs, islands, and the Atlantic Ocean. The fishing community and artist colony is home to roughly 75 year-round residents.

Monhegan Island is approximately 1 square mile in size. It is 7/10 of a mile wide and 1.7 miles long. Eighteen trails crisscross the island and range in difficulty from easy to difficult, with most falling into the moderate category. Portions of Pebble Beach Trail, Blackhead Trail, and Cliff Trail fall into the difficult range.

The best way to get to Monhegan Island is by charter boat, although there are a few visitor slips available on the island. The trip should not be attempted by small boat. Hardy Boat Cruises out of New Harbor (677-2026), Balmy Days Cruises out of Boothbay Harbor (633-2284), and Monhegan Boat Line out of Port Clyde (372-8848) all offer charters to Monhegan.



Before setting out on the trails, purchase a Monhegan Associates trail map at one of the island shops or from the boat. The map is well worth the nominal cost.

Monhegan Associates works to preserve and protect the wild lands of the island and to maintain its trails. Visitors are asked to obey the rules of the trail to protect the fragile ecology of the island. These rules include: no bicycles, no camping, no campfires, no smoking outside the village, dogs must be on a leash (be sure to bring doggy bags), carry out all trash, do not pick wildflowers or any other vegetation, stay on the trails, and no trespassing on private property. Vehicles have the right of way on the island roads. Pedestrians do not, so please move to the side

There are no bathroom facilities on the trails. It is strongly suggested to use the facilities aboard the boat before landing on the island. Paid toilets are available behind Monhegan House.

Drinking water is scarce on the island. Be sure to carry in all the water you will need for your hike.

All hikers on the island should be aware of tidal currents and severe undertows along the coast. The only place safe to swim is Swim Beach, near the wharf on the west side of the island. Stay well back from the surf and stay off wet rocks to avoid an accidental slip into the frigid waters of the Atlantic.

Cliff Trail (#1) is about 5 miles long and goes around the perimeter of the island. It is rocky and steep in portions. Many steep portions can be averted by taking bypass trails (1A) around them. This trail offers many spectacular views of open ocean, cliffs that drop 160 feet straight down, and fabulous views of nearby islands and ledges.

From the wharf, head up hill and turn right

onto the main road. The road narrows and turns into a trail to Lobster Cove, where the wreck of the tugboat D.T. Sheridan can be seen to the left. The trail follows the coastline to the east with views of Christmas Cove and Norton's Ledge. The trail then turns northward along the eastern shore, where spectacular views of the cliffs soon loom into view. First is Gull Rock (elevation 75 feet), then Burnthead (140), Whitehead (160), and finally Blackhead (160). Pay attention to your footing and watch young children carefully along this portion of the trail.

The hike from Whitehead to Blackhead is extremely difficult, but a bypass is available from Whitehead to Squeaker Cove, where a less daring hiker can take the Cathedral Trail (#11) back to the village.

Cathedral Trail is a favorite of children, as scattered on the forest floor are whimsical little "fairy houses" made of twigs, moss, shells, leaves, and other natural materials gathered by the young and young-at-heart builders.

Hikers who wish to take in the spectacular views of the cliffs, but have time limitations or do not want to hike difficult trails, should take Whitehead Trail (#7) or Burnthead Trail (#4) out of the village. Both of these trails take about a half-hour to hike from the village to the eastern cliffs.

To get to Whitehead Trail (moderate), go uphill from the wharf, turn left onto the main road, and proceed a short distance up the hill; the trailhead will be on the left. To get to Burnthead Trail (easy), go uphill from the wharf, turn right onto the main road, walk past the marsh, turn left up Horn Hill, then bear right at the fork with Gill Cove Trail.

Adventurous hikers wishing to complete the 5-mile Cliff Trail Loop will continue on the steep trail at the intersection with Cathedral Woods. The trail goes over rocky and steep terrain to Blackhead, then turns inland and crosses mixed terrain, difficult in some portions. After meeting the Pebble Beach Trail, there is easy hiking to the main road. There are fabulous views of Nigh Duck, Smutty Nose, and Manana islands from Calf Cove on the western shore of Monhegan.

Be sure to bring a camera, binoculars for seal and bird watching, and a picnic lunch.

(Paula Roberts writes the column "On the Trail in Lincoln County" for The Lincoln County News. The fifth edition of the book by the same name, which collects columns about 114 trails, is available at the Lincoln County Publishing Co. in Newcastle and many other locations in the region. Proceeds from the sale of the book benefit local conservation organizations.)











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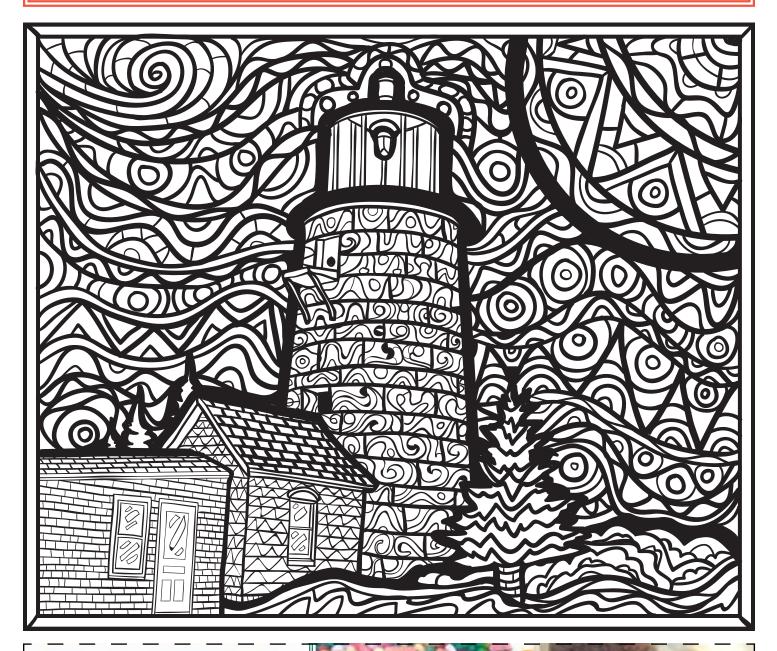


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COMMUNITY CENTER

continued from page 11

The CLC YMCA will also continue offering its Diabetes Prevention Program, a year-long program for those at risk for diabetes.

"We're going to be doing more and more and more of those kinds of programs, given our new facility lends well to that," Hamblett said, noting the brand-new equipment and expanded space.

second phase of the Y's renovation project will add a swimming

pool, a family locker room, and a social space overlooking the pool. The YMCA's current day care center, located in Nobleboro, will also be moved into the CLC YMCA.

"For us, building a pool is all about water safety and teaching kids how to swim, and getting our seniors in a pool where they can do therapy," Hamblett said. "And having a place for families to recreate."

Construction of the second phase of the project will begin whenever enough money is raised, according to Hamblett.

The cost of construction, with the "soft



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costs" of equipment, architecture fees, furniture, etc., will cost about \$5 million dollars, Hamblett noted.

"We currently have about \$1.2 million in hand toward phase two construction and soft costs," she said.

The CLC YMCA is looking to also create a large enough endowment that the interest will be enough to cover the cost of sustaining the pool. The pool will cost about \$150,000 a year to run, according to Hamblett.

"We don't want to build anything that we know that we can't sustain, Hamblett said. "We are trying to be smart about everything we are doing."

"The new multigenerational spaces, lounge, and conference spaces are not only used by Y staff, but also our community partners," Hamblett said. "Whether a person comes to the Y to be educated in our new pre-kindergarten program, to participate in one of our several evidence-based health initiatives aimed at prevention and intervention, or to learn new skills in the kitchen or on the courts, the YMCA represents the essence of our entire community."

For a class schedule and more information, go to clcymca.org.

The Central Lincoln County YMCA is located at 525 Main St., Damariscotta. It can be reached by phone at 563-9622.

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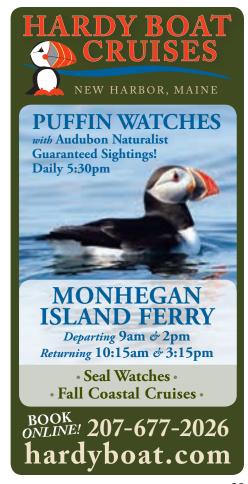
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I hope you enjoy this Live Well edition of Lincoln County magazine.
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HOMEWARD BOUND

continued from page 20

passion for music to service."

People in the medical profession say that a person's hearing is the last sense to go before they die, which is another reason why choir singers continue to sing for even the most unresponsive patients.

Jones remembers several stories of patients' reactions to the choir's singing. One such memory is of a mostly unresponsive man who lay dying as the choir sang his favorite hymn. When the choir finished, the members began to disperse. The man didn't show any sign that he had heard. Jones knelt next to the man's bed and quietly spoke to him. She said she hoped he enjoyed the music and asked if he would like it if they returned to sing to him again. The man reached in beneath his shirt and patted his chest over his heart. Jones took his signal to mean the music had touched his heart.

Lynn Norgang, executive director of The Lincoln Home, started singing with the Homeward Bound Hospice Choir in January of this year. "I love its mission, its spirit, and the people in it," she said.

Norgang said she likes the informality of the hospice choir: "It has a different focus. It's not about us; it's about them."

As director of a retirement home, Norgang is familiar with the process of dying and the role hospice care provides for people, particularly for those who have no family members by their side. "Being with someone for the last moments of their life is a great honor," she said.

Staff at The Lincoln Home have a heightened sense of what families experience as their loved ones die and are sensitive to individual needs, Norgang said. This choir has given Norgang and her fellow singers a different way to help soothe the hospice journey.

Norgang said the public is welcome to hear the group sing at The Lincoln Home, which is located at 22 River Road in Newcastle. The Homeward Bound Hospice Choir holds open rehearsals at The Lincoln Home every second and fourth Monday of each month from 1-4 p.m. For more information about the choir, contact Jones at 563-4177.





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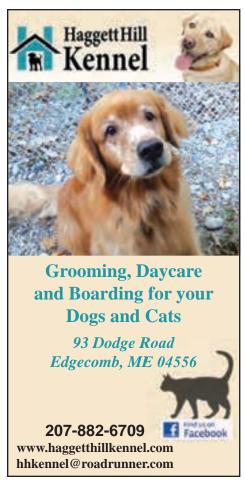




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A HEALING RETREAT

continued from page 23

onhegan Wellness also offers retreats for visitors, helping them unplug and explore their creative side.

"It's such a great retreat space, because you are physically removed from the mainland," Hire said.

The Monhegan Wellness Art and Yoga Retreat, which is offered in May and October, includes daily yoga sessions and art workshops taught by local artists.

"The idea is to provide the space and time for people to explore their

Monhegan Island boasts much painting-worthy scenery. (Christine LaPado-Breglia photo)

creativity, and using yoga to help center and release inhibitions, loosening up that creative spirit and that sense of expression," Hire said.

Hire does all of the cooking during the retreat.

"They're really there just to really enjoy and relax and explore their creativity and health," she said of retreat attendees.

The second retreat, which will be launched in the summer of 2019, is the Women's Reboot Retreat.

"It's really all about giving women the space and time to reconnect with themselves, and find that space to remember to nourish themselves in a variety of ways: creatively, getting back into their bodies, and remembering that movement is fun and joyful, and eating good foods," Hire said.

Those who can meet with Hire in person on the island can also set up a "day retreat by design," where they can choose what they want to do and design their own retreat.

"It's just a great atmosphere for taking that break and then taking the time for self-care," Hire said. "Sometimes when you remove yourself, you can go back to your life with a new inspiration."

Monhegan Wellness is located at 60 Woods End Lane, Monhegan. For more information, go to monheganwellness. com, email monheganwellness@gmail.com, or call 210-2544. Monhegan Wellness can also be found on Facebook and Instagram. Hire keeps a blog on her website, where she posts recipes and meditations.



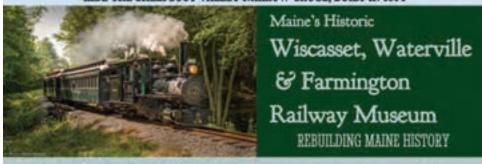








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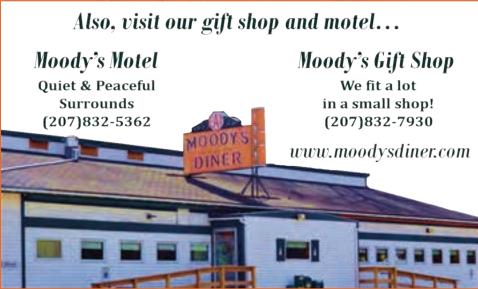
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