

Halloween

Continued from Page C1

Halloween events, such as Ghostport, stand out among others. Catapulting pumpkins into a river definitely deviates from the vegetables' traditional use. Perhaps most unique — and morbid — is the upcoming coffin races, but Bucksport isn't the only town racing to the grave this October.

The Calais Downtown Revitalization Coalition will host its first casket race at 11 a.m. Oct. 24.

The rules are simple: Each team must make, build or obtain a casket at least 3 feet wide by 6 feet long. A living "stiff" or "ghost" is the rider, and they aren't allowed to have any steering mechanism. They must depend on their loved ones to get them to the finish line.

The Calais Downtown Revitalization Coalition also will host a "Create Your Scarecrow" competition, during which time participants will secure a scarecrow frame to an assigned lamppost with zip ties.

From Fort Kent's Historic Haunted Dube House at the top of Maine to Kittery's haunted woods walk at the bottom, there isn't a shortage of spooky events to attend. There are haunted corn mazes, houses, trails and hay rides — but haunted lighthouses are a bit harder to come by.

The coastal town of Bath will offer a unique take on haunted tours this year with its Haunted Lighthouse Cruise, the first event of its kind hosted by the Maine Maritime Museum. As marketing and communications manager Katie Meyers believes, it's the only haunted lighthouse tour in Maine.

"We decided we'd try something different," Meyers said. "It's not just about ghost stories; it's about the history. ... Seguin [Island Light] itself has a long history."

According to legend, a lighthouse keeper and his wife years ago inhabited the lighthouse. The lighthouse keeper's wife played the piano incessantly, which drove him mad and led him to first destroy the piano and then murder her. There are rumors that piano music can still be heard floating from the lighthouse.

The cruise will offer attendees the chance to hear the history and legends surrounding seven of Maine's lighthouses, including Doubling Point Light, the Kennebec Range Lights, Squirrel Point Light, Perkins Island Light, Pond Island Light, Seguin Island Light and Hendricks Head Light.

The cruises will run Monday, Oct. 19 and Friday, Oct. 23. Each trip can accommodate 70 people, so space is limited. To register, visit Maine Maritime Museum's website.

Here are a few of the many Halloween events going on around the state:

BANGOR — UCP of Maine's Pumpkins in the Park community Halloween party for children, noon-5 p.m., Oct. 25, at Cross Insurance Center, 515 Main St. Admission at the door is \$3 per person, \$10 per family and free for under age 3. For information, call Jodi at 941-2952, ext. 323, or email jodi.fadrigon@ucpofmaine.org.

BAR HARBOR — The Nature of Halloween, sponsored by College of the Atlantic's George B. Dorr Museum of Natural History and Acadia National Park, 5-8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 23, at the museum, 105 Eden St. Creepy exhibits and activities. Costumes welcome. Admission by donation. For information, call the museum at 288-5395 or email cgraham@coa.edu.

BATH — Guided trolley tour of Oak Grove Cemetery, Oct. 21 and 26. Seating is limited; reservations are suggested. Members, \$20; nonmembers, \$27; under age 17, \$12. Fee includes museum admission.

BREWER — Pumpkin carving party to benefit local Big Brothers Big Sisters chapter, noon-4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 24, at Tiller & Rye, 20 South Main St. Sign up by Oct. 20 to reserve

a pumpkin. Tickets for \$7 can be purchased in the store or by visiting tillerandrye.com/pumpkin-carving/. For information, call 356-1981.

ELLSWORTH — DownEast Dancers' Spooktacular Halloween Dance, 7:30-10:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 24, Downeast Family YMCA gymnasium, 238 State St. Music by Crown Vics. Costumes encouraged. \$10 per person; \$6 for seniors and students. For information, call 288-5491.

FORT KENT — Historic Haunted House, 6:30 p.m. Oct. 23 and 9:30 p.m. Oct. 24, at the Dube House, Dube Street. \$5 per person. For information, visit facebook.com/events/489416451236848/.

GRAY — Halloweenfest, Oct. 23-24, at Maine Wildlife Park, Route 26. Admission to the park free for ages 3 and under; \$5.50 for ages 4-12 and seniors; \$7.50 for adults. Groups of 15 or more \$3.50 per person.

HALLOWELL — Walking tour of the Hallowell Cemetery, 1 p.m. Oct. 17. Meet at the fountain at the center of the cemetery. Rain date 1 p.m. Oct. 18. Tour is free and open to the public. Donations accepted.

HEBRON — Zombie Invasion Halloween Ride, 5-11 p.m. Friday and Saturday nights in October, at Harold Brooks' farm, 12 Harold Lane. \$18 per person; \$12 for age 12 and under. For information, visit facebook.com/Zombie-Invasion-Halloween-Ride-409498922576618/timeline/.

KENDUSKEAG — The Kenduskeag Haunted House, 7 p.m.-midnight Oct. 30 and 31, at Cole Memorial Ball Field, Kenduskeag-Levant Road.

KITTERY — Night Terrors Haunted Woods Walk, 7-10 p.m. Oct. 16, 17, 23, 24, 29, 30 and 31, at Take Flight aerial adventure course, 506 Blue Star Memorial Highway. \$15 general admission. \$25 RIP VIP, \$42 zipline with zombies, \$10 kid's scare-free event from 2 to 5 p.m. Oct. 17. For information, visit nightterrorshauntedwalk.com.

LEBANON — Destination Haunt, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays through Oct. 29, Destination Haunt, 249 Lord Road. Tickets are \$20 Friday and Saturday nights, \$18 Thursdays and Sunday nights. For information, visit destinationhaunt.com.

LINCOLN — Lincoln Haunted Trail Walk, 6-9 p.m. Oct. 17 and 24, at Lincoln's Community Walking and Fitness Trail, Lee Road. For information, visit lincolnmaine.org, call 794-6548 or email rec.director@lincolnmaine.org.

LINNEUS — Haunted Hayride, Oct. 16-17 and 23-24. Hayride tickets \$7 per person per ride. Proceeds go to the Linneus Rec Department. Members of the Linneus Rec Department will start selling tickets at 6 p.m.; the first ride leaves at dark, about 6:30 p.m.

NEW GLOUCESTER — Haunted Woods Walk, 6-8 p.m. Oct. 23 and 24, at Pine-land Farms, 15 Farm View Drive, New Gloucester. \$5. For information, visit pine-landfarms.org.

PARSONSFIELD — Haunting at Parsonsfield Seminary, 6:30-9 p.m. Oct. 16, 17, 23 and 24, at Parsonsfield Seminary, 504 North Road. Tickets are \$10 on Oct. 16; \$12 for other dates; \$5 for age 12 and under. For information, visit facebook.com/The-Haunting-at-Parsonsfield-Seminary-161300077291059/timeline/.

PRESQUE ISLE — Presque Isle Historical Society Haunted Lantern History Tours, Oct. 23-24. Tours begin at 6 and 7 p.m. each night at Historic Fire Station, 11 Church St. \$5. For information, call Kim Smith at 762-1151 or email orpihistoricalociety@hotmail.com.

PROSPECT — Fright at the Fort, 5:30-9 p.m., Oct. 17, 23, 24, 30 and 31, at Fort Knox. For information, visit fortknex.maine-uide.com/fright/.

SCARBOROUGH — Halloween at Ferry Beach, 3-8 p.m. Oct. 31, Ferry Beach, Scarborough. Tickets are \$50 family of two, \$85 for family of four. For information, visit ferrybeach.org/halloween.html.

UNION — Halloween Trunk or Treat, 5-7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 31, Vose Library, 392 Common Road.

Maine Music Mill in Brunswick offers new concert, recording venue

BY WALTER WUTHMANN
THE FORECASTER

BRUNSWICK — Lit by a backdrop of table lamps and strings of lights, McKay Belk and his band Bad Mariachi on Oct. 8 opened the second-ever show at the Maine Music Mill, Brunswick's newest concert venue.

The Maine Music Mill, according to founder and owner Jeb Enoch, is "the hybrid of an underground punk dive and a classical salon and everything in between."

The venue is in the basement of Fort Andross, under Cabot Mill Antiques. The foyer of the performance space is Enoch's recording studio, where he records each concert. The studio looks into a large room with 16-foot ceilings and a loft where concert-goers sit on chairs and couches across from the performers.

The venue is 11,000 cubic feet of "gorgeous acoustic space," according to Enoch, with antique pine flooring. It can fit about 40-50 people.

Last week, four acts were slated to play the Mill's sophomore concert, starting with Belk, who has helped Enoch get the venue off the ground.

"(Belk) is kind of the guardian angel of this place," Enoch said, sitting behind his sound equipment.

Enoch opened the studio in May, after moving to Brunswick from Farmington. He soon met Belk in the parking lot of Fort Andross, as Belk was leaving the



THE FORECASTER

Bad Mariachi, with lead singer McKay Belk, auto-harpist Kristen Kellas, drummer Chris Dibiasio and bassist Tim Alan Walker, opens the second show at the new Maine Music Mill in Brunswick on Oct. 8.

sculpture studio where he works for local artist John Bisbee.

Enoch showed the studio to Belk, and they started recording samples together.

On the day they met, Enoch added a layer of Belk's guitar work to a track he had been editing for another group.

"It's exactly what it was missing," Enoch said. "He's quite the player."

Since opening in Brunswick, Enoch has recorded a variety of artists in his studio space, from the Vox Nova chamber choir of Brunswick to Bath-based rapper Mills Bills.

The Brunswick studio is his first permanent recording space.

"I've been recording since

I was a kid," he said. "I just kept coming back to it."

One day, about seven years ago, Enoch said he was looking around his living room and kitchen at the piles of recording equipment when he realized he'd accumulated enough gear to try professional recording.

He started recording musicians in his home, in churches, and other miscellaneous spaces, but it was hard for him to engineer each space to get the sound he wanted, he said.

So last spring, "I took the leap off the cliff," he said, and got the spot at Fort Andross.

In September, Enoch had the idea to scale up the use of his space to produce live concerts. It was around this time

he once again ran into Belk in the parking lot, and the two got to work lining up acts and advertising the venue.

The first performance featured the Brunswick-based avant garde jazz act Titus Abbot Trio, and drew a crowd of more than 20.

About 20 people also came for the second show which, along with Belk and Bad Mariachi, featured music by Bisbee, New Hampshire singer-songwriter Footings, and blues guitarist Yazan of Brooklyn, New York.

"I don't think there's anything like this around," said Enoch after the show.

From the backdrop of antique lamps from his parents' home, to the homemade coffee and baked goods as concessions, to the live recordings of every performance, "my vision is to create an environment that allows both musicians and audience to connect in a special way," Enoch said.

The October line-up will finish out with a variety of Maine bands, starting with "punk night" Oct. 23, featuring Uncle Spudd and QQQQQ, singer-songwriter Ashley Storrow on Oct. 30, and world music group Inanna Sisters in Rhythm Oct. 31.

Tickets range from \$10-\$20.

"I think there's room for everybody here," Enoch said. "I think this place has something unique to offer."

Red Cross urges blood donations

BANGOR — During Liver Awareness Month this October, the American Red Cross encourages eligible donors to give blood and platelets to support liver transplant patients and others needing blood products.

To make an appointment to give blood, download the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit redcrossblood.org or call 800-RED CROSS (800-733-2767).

Upcoming blood donation opportunities:

— 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 17, Bay School, 17 Bay School Drive, Blue Hill.

— 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 17, American Legion, 79 Legion Memorial Drive, South China.

— 1-7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 19, Penney Memorial Church, 35 Grove St., Augusta.

— 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 20, Thomas College, 180 West River Road, Waterville.

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