Bangor Rotary presents Bangor Assistant City 11th annual Music Off **Broadway**

Rotary Club of Bangor will present its 11th annual Music off Broadway production on Friday, April 22 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, April 23 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. All three shows are set for Peakes Auditorium at Bangor High School.

The theme of this year's show is "A Salute to the Grammys". With Bob Potts producing and Heather Astbury-Libby directing, a cast of talented local community members will perform songs from past Grammy Award winners including James Taylor, Whitney Houston, Billy Joel, John Denver, The Judds, Nat King Cole, Beach Boys, Fleetwood Mac and more.

Proceeds from the 2016 show will benefit area nonprofit organizations including Good Shepherd Food Bank, Literacy Volunteers of Bangor, Bangor Humane Society, Bangor Area Children's Choir, Phillips-Strickland House, EMMC Auxiliary, The Salvation Army, and the Bangor Public Library. In addition, the event helps fund various other charities supported by Bangor Rotary, including Bangor East & West Little League, United Way of Eastern Maine and Rotary scholarships. Since 2006, Bangor Rotary Club has raised more than \$200,000 through Music Off Broadway.

'Music Off Broadway is by far our most visible and successful fundraising effort," said, Deb Sanford, the club's president. "So many non-profit organizations are struggling these days; the need is real and it is significant. Our Club is thrilled to be able to support these worthy causes in such a fun, lively, and entertaining way.'

General admission tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for youth and \$35 for patrons who receive preferred seating. Tickets are now available from Rotary Club members and also on sale at Rebecca's Gift Shop and Book-Marc's in downtown Bangor, Patrick's Hallmark at Broadway Shopping Center, Huckleberries Card & Gift in Brewer, Machias Savings Bank in Brewer, all area branches of Camden National Bank and local branches of The First Bank. They will also be on sale at the door on the performance dates.

Since its inception in 1905, Rotary has become an international organization with more than 1.2 million members. Rotarians volunteer their time and talent to further the Rotary motto "Service above Self."

The Rotary Club of Bangor meets Tuesdays at noon at Wellman Commons, 300 Union St.. Bangor. For more information visit bangorrotary.org

Manager Robert Farrar

Conlow announced recently that Robert "Bob" Farrar, assistant city manager and human resources director will retire from city service effective Sept. 23. Farrar will have served the city for 27 years, beginning in 1989 as director of administration. Before relocating to Bangor, he served as Topsham's town administrator and assistant to the Brunswick town manager for more than 8 years.

"During his lengthy career with Bangor, Farrar has served in a variety of key leadership roles including his current position, director of administration, chief labor negotiator, interim city manager, acting finance director and acting treasurer. He has been involved in virtually every aspect of the city's operations, and his knowledge and experience will be difficult to replace. He also has represented the city on the Chamber of Commerce board of directors and the municipal review committee, and has been active in supporting community affairs including the Boy Scouts of America and the United Way," said Conlow. "Bob has been a trusted adviser and dedicated municipal servant for his entire career in Bangor and has provided excellent guidance and leadership on a number of difficult and sensitive management and employment related matters to the City Council, our management team and me."

"I have been very fortunate to have served the city for the majority of my professional local government career," said Farrar. "My time in Bangor has been both challenging and rewarding, and I am grateful for the opportunity to have worked with two outstanding city managers. I am proud of the management team and the workforce that I have helped to hire, guide and worked with in my various capacities with the city. Our employees form the backbone of city government, and have earned and continue to deserve respect and appreciation.

Farrar indicated that he is looking forward to spending more days skiing with his wife Bonnie and visiting with family and friends.

Conlow noted that she will begin the process to replace Farrar in the near future with a goal of having the position filled before Farrar departs in Sep-

Volunteer anglers sought for brook trout

Maine Audubon, Trout Un-City Manager Catherine limited and the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife are seeking volunteer anglers to survey remote Maine ponds and coastal streams for brook trout this fishing season. Information gathered by volunteers will be used to identify populations of previously undocumented

wild brook trout statewide. Brook trout require clean, cold water, extensive interconnected stream networks and a lack of competing species to survive and thrive. Wild brook trout have significantly declined throughout their native range due to development, land use practices, the introduction of competing fish species and angler exploitation.

Although Maine has the most extensive distribution and abundance of brook trout in the U.S., the quality and abundance of some of Maine's brook trout populations has declined. To protect the last stronghold in the U.S. of these iconic fish, understanding the extent of its current range is crucial.

Volunteer anglers are needed to survey hundreds of ponds in northern Maine and coastal streams north to south. Project partners will provide maps, data sheets and instructions on how to survey. Surveys must be completed before Sept. 30, 2016. The prime time for coastal stream surveys is mid-April-June, while pond fishing is productive in both spring and Volunteers should be comfortable fishing in remote locations.

This year marks the sixth year of the Remote Pond Survey. To date, volunteers have surveyed 380 remote Maine ponds for which no data were previously available, and 166 of those ponds were recommended to MDIFW for further surveys after volunteers found brook trout in them. Fisheries biologists subsequently confirmed wild brook trout in 57 new ponds. As a result, Maine has added 21 new ponds to the list of State Heritage Fish Waters.

The Coastal Stream Survey was initiated in 2014 to collect data about which coastal streams sustain wild brook trout populations. Wild brook trout that live in coastal streams may migrate between fresh and saltwater. Any coastal stream with access to the ocean where wild brook trout are present has the potential to harbor a population of these sea-run brook trout, or "salters". Volunteers have surveyed 76 coastal streams and confirmed the presence of brook trout in over half of them.

To volunteer, contact Emily Bastian at 781-2330 x207 or ebastian@maineaudubon.org. For information, visit maineaudubon.org/brooktrout.

From Page 1 The choral concert features the University Singers and the University of Maine Oratorio Society, as well as the Bangor Area Children's Choir. This year's vocal soloists will do double duty — much more than just singing the parts with a score in front of them.

"It's all memorized, so the storytelling is immediate and visceral," said Richman.

Starring in the roles of Rudolfo and Mimi are tenor John Bellemer and soprano Emily Birsan; other roles include soprano Jamilyn Manning-White as Musetta, baritone Dan Kempson as Marcello and baritone Aaron Engebreth as Schaunard. Other singers include Ralph Cato, who performed with the BSO in 2011, and Bangor residents Ira Kramer, seen in Penobscot Theatre productions, Justin Zang, a UMaine choral conducting instructor; and Mihan.

Mihan got his start in opera while studying music at Hamilton College in New york; across Lake Otsego lay the Glimmerglass Opera in Cooperstown, where Mihan sang for three seasons in the 1990s — and where Mihan met his future wife, Christine Bragg Mihan, a Bangor native who was working backstage during a production of

"Aida." Several years singing throughout the East Coast and in Europe followed, but by 2006, Mihan decided that the not-particularly-lucrative life of a touring opera singer was not for him, and moved full-time into the wine industry. In 2009, he and his wife bought Bangor Wine & Cheese Company and moved to Bangor to run a business and raise a family.

That's not to say that Mihan has given up music altogether: for the past five years has been the lead singer and a guitarist for OneSixtyOne, a local hard rock band known for covering Black Sabbath, Van Halen and Neil Young. Ozzy Osbourne isn't exactly opera — and that's a bit of an understatement but Mihan says that opera and rock have far more in common with each other than you might expect.

"It's all about interpreting the music, and you have to have a certain kind of stamina and skill and ability to command a stage," Mihan. "You have to really know how to sing properly, or else you'll ruin your voice and you'll run out of energy... the end result is very different, but the method is surprisingly similar.... And I just love to sing, whatever the genre."

Tickets for the BSO's concert at the Collins Center for the Arts are available at the CCA box office, or by calling







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