



The Buzz

Rockland Metro Magazine

Issue 236, October 1, 2021, Rockland, Maine



The Old School Fellowship Education



Rockland's Petite Jardin

Before the winds pick up speed and the clouds start to spit snow, come to the perfect garden space to celebrate Autumn with perhaps a picnic in the park. The park is nestled in between Water Street and South Main. It is a lovely little secret garden with Black Eyed Susans, Hostas, Phlox and big beautiful Hydrangeas, just to name a few plants. A picnic table is there and a round circular pathway invites you in.

---Anne Pavalkis

Last Chance for Public Rights Here is What the Council Must Do



The proposal by Safe Harbor Marinas (SHM) to build huge floats and park mega yachts in front of the public landing, taking over a large territory now used by the public and blocking our view from Harbor Park, can easily be stopped by the City Council. All they need do is put on their agenda and pass a resolution that "The proposal by Safe Harbor Marinas unreasonably interferes with traditional public access." If they do this by October 15, the State will reject the proposal and the people will win. If the Council does not act, we lose.

The Council meets for agenda setting on Monday October 4 at 5:30 pm. They could pass the resolution at their regular meeting on October 11.

---Publius

On WRFR: Tune in to 93.3 fm Rockland, 99.3 Camden, & Worldwide at wrfr.org

Friday, October 1

- 7:00am the babypaw press
- 8:00am The Chris Wolf Show
- 10:00am Snacks in Bed After Dark
- 12:00pm Odds and Ends
- 3:00pm ArtBeat (first Friday)
- 5:00pm Village Soup
- 6:00pm Happy Hour
- 8:00pm Hip Hop w/ Blue Heff
- 10:00pm Stranger Beats with Jonny Black

Saturday, October 2

- 7:00am On the Road (Repeat)
- 8:00am Meat & Potatoes
- 9:00am Urania's Mirror
- 10:00am Morning Mental Health
- 12:00pm Penobscot Bay Report
- 1:00pm Weekend Round Table
- 2:00pm Old Time Radio
- 5:00pm The Beacon
- 6:00pm The Flipside
- 7:00pm Rotary Time
- 8:00pm Two Hours of Reggae Power
- 10:00pm Blue Highway Radio

Sunday, October 3

- 12:00am Stranger Beats with Jonny Black
- 6:00am The Barnaby Druthers Mystery Hour
- 7:00am Classical Music
- 9:00am Blue Highway Radio

- 11:00am The Flipside
- 12:00pm Still Swingin'
- 4:00pm Built For Comfort
- 5:00pm The Bonnie Farmer Show
- 7:00pm The Beacon
- 8:00pm The Vinyl Hour
- 10:00pm Late Night Groove

Monday, October 4

- 7:00am MONDAY MORNING METAL
- 8:00am The Chris Wolf Show
- 12:00pm Waking the Dead
- 3:00pm Uncle Paul's Jazz Closet
- 5:00pm Kalimatxo
- 6:00pm Random Rules
- 7:00pm Professor Bop

Tuesday, October 5

- 8:00am After Words (returning in January)
- 9:00am Life is a Highway
- 10:00am Grounded Local
- 11:00am Vintage Country
- 3:00pm Rotary Time
- 4:00pm Happy Hour
- 6:00pm Ghosts
- 8:00pm Cheech's Radio Hour
- 9:00pm Ask the Ages
- 11:00pm Late Night Groove

Wednesday, October 6

- 7:00am On the Road
- 8:00am The Chris Wolf Show
- 10:00am Totally Tami-Lyn the Lady of the 80s
- 3:00pm Mix Tape
- 5:00pm Rockland Metro
- 6:00pm The Center Must Hold
- 7:00pm Imbibe the Vibe
- 8:00pm I Just Came to Play Music
- 9:00pm The Double Entendre Roots Hour
- 10:00pm Rawkus Radio with Peter D.

Thursday, October 7

- 6:00am Grey Owl
- 7:00am Cheech's Radio Hour (repeat)
- 10:00am Dublin to Dingle
- 12:00pm Friendly Society
- 2:00pm The Vinyl Hour
- 4:00pm Rogue Planet
- 5:00pm Bonnie Farmer
- 7:00pm Taking No Chances w/ Grumpy
- 8:00pm Live from the Pit with J-Lunatic
- 11:00pm Feezable Tracks

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Local Talk Radio (and TV) With Hosts Joe Steinberger and Steve Carroll Wednesdays, 5-6 pm on WRFR 93.3 and MCTV Ch. 7

Reader comments and other contributions are always welcome at the Buzz: email steinberger@gwi.net - or on the Metro Show: call 593-0013

Two Hours of Jazz Monday nights on WRFR

Ronald van Heeswijk hosts two hours of jazz every Monday night from 7 to 9 pm. on WRFR, where he wears the moniker Professor Bop.

“It’s mostly jazz,” says Bop, “Every once in a while, I throw in a little Dusty Springfield for my own sanity.”

Bop has been listening to jazz since age 13 and started when he lived in Holland as a child. He’ll turn 80 this year.

“It was different from whatever was going on in Holland at the time which was boring to me,” said Bop. “Jazz to me was always like a mystery and it was from my favorite country in the world, the USA.”

“I came to New York City when I was 27 years old but didn’t get immersed in the jazz scene. The heyday of jazz had pretty much passed me by, by that time though I did go to some of the clubs. The Five Spot and The Half Note are two that come to mind and it wasn’t outrageously expensive to go.”

The Five Spot Café was a jazz club located in the Bowery neighborhood of New York City. It was a hive of jazz music frequented by painters, writers, music fans, and neighborhood residents.

The Half Note was a jazz club located in lower Manhattan. The club was known for showcasing up-and-coming jazz musicians in the 1950s and 1960s. The Half Note was one of a handful of legendary Manhattan nightclubs, including the Village Vanguard, the Village Gate, the Five Spot, and Slug’s Saloon, that featured world-class jazz on a regular basis.

“The first jazz album I bought was Miles Davis, Bags’ Groove (Released December 24, 1954) and I listen to it a lot,” said Bop.

“I came to Camden, Me. In 1979. It was the last harbor on the chart for my sailboat which I was living on at the time. I had been living in Nantucket, MA. for the summer and someone offered me a job in Maine and I said sure and never left.

Professor Bop has been doing his jazz show on WRFR for 12 years.

“Jazz is just jazz,” said Bop. “It’s from early on New Orleans to Dixieland and then it became a little whiter with the Chicago crowd and the Big Bands from the ’30s and ’40s which is where a lot of the big guys got their start except for Duke Ellington. Duke Ellington was always in a class by himself.”

Bop said swing gave birth to Charlie Parker.

“Out of that era,” said Bop, “came a person named Charlie Parker from Kansas City. He wanted to be a musician from the age of 13 and he was terrible because he only knew two tunes in one key, so when they switched keys on him, he was lost.”

The story goes someone threw a big cymbal at him and he left and was “woodshedded” as they call it.

“By the time he came back,” said Bop, “he could play anything in all 12 or 13 keys. And that’s where bebop started which is what I like because it is the most improvised jazz that I know of based on chord changes.”

Bop has what he calls, “a ridiculous,” amount of jazz in his library. It is literally the whole third floor of his house. So every Monday night from 7 to 9 p.m. enjoy Professor Bop on WRFR.

by Chris Wolf

WRFR is community radio in Rockland

We have been broadcasting 24/7 since 2002.

At WRFR we are all volunteers - now more than 60 strong. We play the music and host the talk shows - and we play what we like and say what we think, subject only to the fcc rules against profanity and our own principle that we must treat all members of our community with respect. We serve also as our own administrators and our own technicians.

We are open to all and would very much like to have your help! To learn more, go to wrfr.org, or tune in to 93.3 fm!

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To learn more, email Amie Daniels: sponsorwrfr@gmail.com.

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The Buzz is composed and printed by the Fellows of The Old School at the WRFR studios, 20 Gay Street, Rockland. Email: wrfr93.3@gmail.com

WEEK EIGHTY-ONE

COVID-19 RANDOM NOTES WHILE SHELTERING IN PLACE

By Phyllis Merriam

The end of summer and the first day of fall bring beautiful sunny weather to our mid-coast. Open windows allow lovely fresh breezes into our house until cold hits.

My husband and I celebrated our wedding anniversary at home with two professional musician/friends, Vince (“Blind Albert” and Lynn (also a longtime midwife), accompanied by appetizers. Then we enjoyed a roast lamb dinner with two relatives. Karen, another friend, catered all the tasty food. Everyone was fully vaccinated. Despite the virus, we safely enjoyed Love in the Time of Covid (with apologies to “Love in the Time of Cholera” by Gabriel Garcia Marquez).

Today we were blessed with four relatives who brought a lunch of lobster rolls from a nephew’s catch, Maine Island grown pickled beets, Cape Cod chips and homemade Maine blueberry pie topped with Maine vanilla ice cream as we gathered at the table and told family stories. I have been equally blessed with wonderful in-laws of my husband’s large immediate and extended family.

LOCAL CURIOSITIES:

Overheard a passing jogger wearing ear buds, say: “He wasn’t sure if the guy was sleeping or dead.”

Why is our Rockland government willing to give away our working harbor to mega yachts?

City Counselor Dorr wants council’s addresses removed from the November ballot. (He must not know there are public records and any numbers of ways to find someone’s address via the Internet?)

City council can’t make up their minds if they want resident/taxpayers to double council’s stipend to \$4,000 & the mayor’s to \$4,500.

Pfizer boosters are now available locally at area pharmacies and Walmart. PenBay Medical Center is offering drive-thru flu shots at their new medical building on the following Mondays in October from 9am -1 pm: October 4, 11, 18 and 25.

I must be as obsessed with getting my Pfizer booster as anti-vaxers are with denying any Covid vaccines.

The California wild fires consuming hundreds of thousands of acres and threatening the giant Sequoias, our national treasures, seem to be metaphors for the hot divides in our federal government.

OLD COUNTY ROAD SUGGESTED FOR ROUTE ONE BYPASS

An opinion and observation by Steve Carroll

Talk is cheap, perhaps that’s why a lot is going around about the suggested Thomaston Route one bypass. Town officials are finding it’s hard to keep such a controversial story a secret. The Courier seems to have ruffled a few feathers by shall we say “letting the cat out of the bag”. In the latest piece by reporter Steve Betts Thomaston’s town manager has given the paper a stern reprimand suggesting they were out of line by releasing such a story long before April Fools Day So I thought I should include this in “the Buzz” since around town it seems to be “all the Buzz”. Although I can’t believe many people are really taking this serious. The town could potentially spend millions in land acquisition and highway costs as well as cause quite a bit of dissension from Main Street business and land owners abutting the new Route One bypass. Then of course the State would need to approve this boondoggle and then there’s the question of what this would do to the traffic flow on the already overburdened Old County Road and why not just purchase a few road signs directing traffic down Route 90. Hasn’t Thomaston had enough construction? It does seem like the town has been torn up for several years now and is just returning to a welcome period of normalcy As a person who has spent most of his life living on Old County and has watched the many changes over the years as more & more heavy trucks and trailers rumble past my house everyday along with a fleet of emergency vehicles rushing to and from Pen Bay medical center. Recalling the cave in several years ago and the dangerous eroding of road portions inches from a two hundred foot plus deep quarry, one must question why heavy trucks are even allowed on this roadway let alone making it the new Route one bypass. One can only hope Thomaston officials are only kidding - perhaps this is an early April fools joke.