

Press Release for Immediate Distribution

Date: August 25, 2015

Contact Person:

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COUNCILOR CROWLEY ANNOUNCES RED TABLE PICNIC

In support of the first Art Walk held in Auburn locations, Councilor Crowley and the Recreation Senior

Programs invite the community to a Red Table Picnic to be held on Friday, August 28, 2015 from 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM in Festival Plaza, located in downtown Auburn. Come experience Auburn, its great restaurants and shops while enjoying art and the park.

Although modeled after the diner en blanc concept founded in Paris almost 30 years ago, Auburn's pop up picnic will be uniquely Auburnthe hometown of the "Red Eddies." Maybe the inspiration was the small "bistro sets" (tables & chairs) in Festival Plaza which provide an opportunity to spontaneously sit, socialize, be near the beautiful water fountain feature, and enjoy the public space that is Festival Plaza.

Downtown will be a hub of activity on Friday night as the Art Walk expands to Auburn and the wonderful locations of:

- Auburn Public Library 49 Spring Street
- Cafe LA 49 Spring Street



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- Designs by Skip 140-144 Main Street
- Kait Lavin Photography 154 Court Street
- Maine Gourmet Chocolates 170 Main Street
- Top It Frozen Yogurt 168 Main Street

Red Table Picnic is a unique community dinner party. The soiree on Friday functions much like the Paris experience except diners, dressed in red, attend the picnic-style evening meal. Everyone brings his/her own food, tables, chairs and glassware to one of Auburn's best public location- Festival Plaza. The festivities always occur in a public space, which diners are expected to leave just as clean as it was before they arrived.

Of course, anyone coming to the picnic could pick up delicious, local takeout food from these conveniently located restaurants:

- 84 Court Pizza & Restaurante -84 Court Street
- 207 American Grill 34 Court Street
- Gritty's Auburn Brew Pub- 68 Main Street
- Hilton Garden Great American Grille 14 Great Falls Plaza
- Café LA 49 Spring Street
- The Village Inn 165 High Street

Or other dining locations as listed on the City of Auburn website: <u>http://www.auburnmaine.gov/Pages/Visiting/Dining</u>

The Red Table Picnic will give guests a chance to experience a public space in their city, but in a unique way. You will likely be surprised at what's in your own backyard, so to speak. The company of diners is meant to be integrated into the community and the Art Walk.

Guests set up their own belongings for a magical night in our magnificent city! Anything goes; it's really your participation that's desired. Here are some of the guidelines, but feel free to make up your own. Participants can bring the following items from home:

- Tables and Chairs-- any size is acceptable- but hopefully it will be covered in red. No table? No problem- bring your favorite red blanket.
- Food-- Although we dine al fresco, keep the elegant spirit of the event in mind. Whether you bring a splendid creation from home or pick-up from your favorite gourmet counter, plan to enjoy an appetizer, main course, dessert, and non-alcoholic beverage. You must also bring your own trash bag and dispose of any waste at home. Once at home, you're encouraged to recycle!
- Tableware--The overall effect of your table should be red, elegant, and chic- or offbeat and kooky. Some may bring fine china, others dramatic paper place settings. Feel free to bring flowers and other charming extras.
- Dress Code-- guests are encouraged to "see red"- pants, shorts, shirts, skirts, dresses, and jackets. Hats and creative attire are encouraged.

We hope to fill the park!

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