BAR HARBOR — Local Solutions, the group working on the planned conversion of the former parish house at St. Saviour’s Episcopal Church into housing for young adults, presents its second annual Garden Party fundraiser Wednesday, Aug. 12, from 5-7 p.m. at 41 Mount Desert St. Refreshments, an update on the project and music by Acadia Ukulele Society are planned.

From 2-4 p.m., Darling’s Ice Cream Truck will give away free ice cream and accept donations next door, by the Bar Harbor Congregational Church at 29 Mount Desert St.

Renovation work on the parish house is likely to begin soon, said Local Solutions representative Roberta Raymond. The building is to be divided into six apartments, an office, kitchen, dining area and community room.
There also will be rooms to house two volunteers who will live at the house for a year at a time, according to Local Solutions press materials.

The nonprofit group is comprised largely of parents of young people with disabilities who have graduated from Mount Desert Island High School and want the option of keeping their adult children in the area in an assisted-living arrangement.

Community Housing of Maine is taking over ownership of the building and will oversee the renovations. Local Solutions continues to be engaged in grassroots fundraising for the project and will oversee the hiring of staff and management of the home.

The intent of the group is to provide a lifelong home for the residents where they can live independent lives to the extent that they are able, while being fully supported.

Six project-based Section 8 housing vouchers are being made available to support the individuals in the home. Residents also will pay rent, based on a percentage of their Social Security and income, according to Local Solutions.

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