

Halloween Shoppers Crafting DIY Costumes with Gorham Goodwill



GORHAM, ME (October 14, 2022) — Most people (62 percent) say that due to rising costs caused by inflation, they are more likely to create DIY Halloween costumes than purchase a new one from a store. This information comes from Goodwill Industries International's latest annual Halloween survey, which showed how much inflation is impacting "new goods" spending, and how thrift shopping is making a Halloween comeback. Here are some insights from the survey:

Seven in ten Americans say the economic impacts of inflation are limiting their ability to purchase new Halloween costumes or décor (70%).

More than three in five say that because of rising costs due to inflation, they are more likely to create DIY Hallow-

een costumes than purchase from a store (62%).

Additionally, 63% of adults are more likely to buy materials for DIY Halloween costumes or décor from thrift stores such as Goodwill to reduce costs.

10 percent more people will dress up this year, over 2021.

"Halloween is Goodwill's busiest season as customers embrace do-it-yourself costume and décor shopping at Goodwill stores," said Rich Cantz, the President and CEO Goodwill Northern New England. "For less than \$12 you can dress up as your favorite character while supporting our workforce programs — because honestly, dressing up as a Sanderson sister is scary, but joblessness is still far scarier." Goodwill Northern New England is a non-

profit that helped more than 16,000 people find jobs and job training in the last year. Revenue from stores helps fund that mission work.

This year's survey, which was administered by Big Village, also found that Goodwill stores top the list (89%) of favorite places to shop among those who prefer to look for materials for DIY costumes at thrift stores.

The survey also found this year's costume trends. Here's the breakdown:

The biggest trend is the classics: 29 percent of costume wearers want to wear an iconic costume, such as a witch, ghost, zombie, or werewolf.

The next most popular category is more current: 27 percent of people will make their selections based on pop culture trends, or a character from a movie, TV show, video game or book.

A one-of-a-kind costume was the top pick for 22% of respondents.

Two-thirds (66%) of adults who prefer DIY costumes say they or members of their household turn to social media and websites for DIY costume ideas and inspiration. YouTube (28%) and Pinterest (26%) are the top-cited social media platforms for DIY inspiration, followed by Facebook (23%), TikTok (20%) and Instagram (19%).

11 percent of pets will be costumed.

Close to half of adult respondents plan to coordinate their costume with someone else this year (45%).

Celebrate Halloween with Gorham's Courage House



GORHAM, ME (October 12, 2022) — Make an extra Jack-o-Lantern, bring it over to the Courage House, and we'll light it for you every night! If you'd like, we can also come pick it up from you. The more people who contribute, the cooler it will be! Come be part of a wonderful new annual Gorham tradition!

We'll begin collecting pumpkins on Friday, October 21.

Questions? CourageHouseMaine@gmail.com

Gorham Food Pantry Friends Seeking Items for Pantry



GORHAM, ME (October 12, 2022) — Here is an updated list of current needs for the pantry shelves as of October 13: tuna & canned chicken; peanut butter; canned pasta; baked beans; dry pasta (elbows, rotini, spaghetti).

We have two bins on our ramp where donations can be left at any time. We are so grateful to our Gorham community and businesses who help keep our community fed!

Recording of Gorham's Meet the Candidates Available Online

GORHAM, ME (October 14, 2022) — A video recording from GoCam of Gorham's Meet the Candidates event held on Tuesday, 10/11/22 at Baxter Memorial Library is now available via the address below.

Residents can also tune into GGETV Channel 3 at 11am, 3pm, and 7pm until election day - November 8th to watch the recorded footage on local programming.

<https://vimeo.com/759601696>



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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Red Cross: More People Now Eligible to Give Blood, Platelets

PORTLAND, ME (October 10, 2022) — The American Red Cross now invites those who spent time in the U.K., Ireland or France and have never tried to give blood due to concerns over variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (vCJD) — related to mad cow disease — to give blood and help save lives.

Recently, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration updated its blood donor eligibility guidance on vCJD, eliminating the deferral for those who spent time in the U.K., Ireland and France between 1980 and 2001. In alignment with FDA changes, the Red Cross began accepting donations Oct. 3 from individuals who have not tried giving blood before due to the prior donation criteria. In combination with prior eligibility updates in 2020 for those who spent time in

other European countries, this new change effectively eliminates the deferral related to vCJD for all donors.

“For many years, the Red Cross has heard from people who have spent time in these countries — often members of the military and their families — hoping for the opportunity to donate blood or platelets,” said Stephanie Couturier, CEO, American Red Cross Northern New England Region. “We now welcome all donors who may have spent time in Europe and avoided blood donation as a result to join us in our lifesaving mission to help patients in need.”

More blood donors — especially type O donors — are urged to donate now to prevent disruptions to essential medical care this fall. Book a time to give by using the Red Cross Blood

Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or by calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). As a thank-you, all who come to give Oct. 16-31, 2022, will receive a \$10 e-Gift Card by email to a merchant of choice.

Changes in progress for those with a Red Cross donor record

Those who have tried to give with the Red Cross and have been previously deferred from donating will be contacted by the Red Cross once system records are updated. This deferral is more complex to remove than others as there are decades of donors in the Red Cross system who have been deferred under the previous FDA requirements. Individuals who have questions about their donor record can contact the Red Cross Donor and Client Support Center at 1-866-236-3276.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities Oct. 16-31:

Androscoggin

Auburn
10/25/2022: 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Lost Valley Ski Resort, 200 Lost Valley Road

Greene
10/29/2022: 7:30 a.m. - 12 p.m., Greene Fire Department, 106 Patten Road

Cumberland
Bridgton
10/27/2022: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m., Masonic Hall, 166 Harrison Road, Route 117

Brunswick
10/21/2022: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., L.L.Bean Training Center, 29 Sewall St, LL Bean training center

10/25/2022: 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Morong Brunswick, 314 Bath Road

Falmouth
10/27/2022: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., The Episcopal Church of St. Mary, 43 Foreside Rd

10/28/2022: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Falmouth Fire Dept Falmouth, 8 Bucknam Road

Gorham
10/20/2022: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m., Cressey Road Unit-

ed Methodist Church, 81 Cressey Road

10/25/2022: 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Brooks Student Center, 32 Campus Avenue Portland

10/28/2022: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Cathedral Church of St. Luke, 143 State Street

10/31/2022: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., MMC 995 Congress Street, 995 Congress Street

South Portland
10/26/2022: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Eastpoint Christian Church, 345 Clarks Pond Pkwy

Westbrook
10/21/2022: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Westbrook Community Center, 426 Bridge Street

Yarmouth
10/21/2022: 12 p.m. - 6 p.m., Yarmouth Town Hall, 200 main street

How to donate blood
Simply download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enable the Blood Donor Skill on

any Alexa Echo device to make an appointment or for more information. All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver’s license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

Blood and platelet donors can save time at their next donation by using RapidPass® to complete their pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire online, on the day of their donation, before arriving at the blood drive. To get started, follow the instructions at RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass or use the Blood Donor App.

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CMMC Offering Stryker’s Mako Robotic Arm Assisted Procedures

LEWISTON, ME (October 11, 2022) — Central Maine Medical Center is the first hospital in central Maine to offer Stryker’s Mako robotic arm assisted total and partial knee re-

placement and hip replacement procedures. This latest advancement in joint replacement surgery is transforming the way joint replacement procedures are performed. Daniel Carlson, MD and Michael DeFrance, DO, launched this innovation with a Mako total knee replacement on Sept. 19. These surgeons have undergone special training in addition to their fellowship training to perform this procedure.

Our Mako robotic certified team also includes orthopedic surgeons Michael Regan, MD and Patrick Fallon, MD.

Robotic arm assisted surgery is an advanced approach to joint replacement that offers the potential for a higher level of patient-spe-

cific implant alignment and positioning. Joint replacement is designed to relieve the pain caused by joint degeneration due to osteoarthritis. Robotic technology allows surgeons to create a patient-specific 3D plan and perform joint replacement surgery using a surgeon controlled robotic arm that helps the surgeon execute the procedure with a high degree of accuracy.

“The availability of the MAKO robot, in the hands of a skilled surgeon and team, is changing the way joint replacement surgeries are performed,” said Dr. DeFrance. “Using a virtual 3D model, surgeons personalize each patient’s surgical plan pre-operatively, to determine how the surgeon will position the implant before enter-

ing the operating room. Robotic joint replacement surgery offers patients many benefits, including increased precision for more accurate joint replacements, fewer and less scarring, shorter hospital stays, and quicker recovery times.

“We are proud to be the first to use this innovative technology in central Maine,” said Lauren Adey, MD, chief of Orthopedics at Central Maine Healthcare. “It is part of our commitment to provide our community with the most technologically advanced care possible.”

Learn more about Central Maine Healthcare Orthopedics at www.cmhc.org.

Learn more about Mako robotic assisted joint replacement surgery at www.cmhc.org/mako

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Gorham Football's Players of the Week



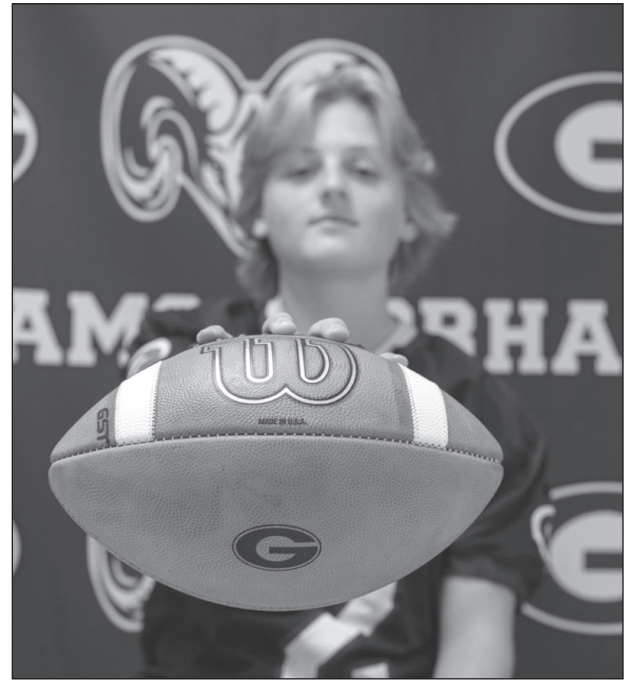
Malachi Scribner #54 – Upperclassmen Teammate of the Week

A Senior OL/DL in his first year of HS Football and he has added depth and strength to the OL/DL and is a tireless worker for the Rams!



Izak Young #11 – Offensive Player of the Week

The Junior QB had a great night for the Rams as he was 6-8 throwing for 101 yards and 3 TDs. Also added 57 Yards on the Ground and a TD.



Thomas Curtis #2 – Defensive Player of the Week

A Junior Linebacker Thomas had 2 Solo Tackles and assisted on 2 more tackles. Added in 1.5 tackles for loss and last but not least had the Rams only interception on the night.



Gabe Michaud #10 – Special Teams Player of the Week

Gabe continued his strong kicking game by booming 2 Touchbacks setting the Rams defense up in GREAT field position. On the night he had 6 kickoffs with each pinning Noble deep.



Atticus Whitten #23 – Underclassmen of the Week

Atticus a Freshman TE/LB has started every game at TE for the Rams this season. He had a strong game this past week and is a mainstay on the look teams each week.

Gorham Historical Society to Commemorate Boston Tea Party



GORHAM, ME (October 12, 2022) – Gorham Historical Society is excited to announce it will be hosting the Boston Tea Party Museum staff and members of the Revolution 250 committee to commemorate the anniversary of the Boston Tea Party next year by marking the grave of Ephraim Smith. Smith participated in the dumping of the tea, raised his family in Gorham and is buried here. The cemetery is not accessible to the public. We will have an exhibit at during the holidays at Baxter Library.

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Seniors Not Acting Their Age

A Surprise Ending on Scarborough Marsh



A kayaker passes under the Eastern Trail Bridge



Canoeists paddle along the Eastern Trail on Scarborough Marsh

Pine Point Road in Scarborough on a partly cloudy morning. Two couples were paddling tandem canoes while Nancy and I were in solo kayaks.

Tides and the resulting currents are an important factor to be considered when planning an excursion on the marsh. The tide was scheduled to be flowing in for the entire middle of the day. Shweta's plan was to paddle out against the flood tide, stop for a break, and ride the incoming tide back.

Since it was shortly after low tide, we encountered a relatively steep carry down to the Dunstan River when launching. Dunstan is one of several tributaries that feed the marsh.

A Snowy Egret was warily watching us from the left bank when we entered the pushy current. We enjoyed an exceptional day of bird watching. In addition to the Snowy Egret, sightings included four species of sandpipers, Great Blue Herons, Great Egrets, Double Crested Cormorants, Belted Kingfishers, Tree Swallows, Northern Harriers, Red-tailed Hawks, and Herring Gulls. From the viewpoint



Paddlers navigate into the parking lot at the takeout

By Ron Chase

Scarborough Marsh is the largest saltwater marsh in Maine. The 3,100 acre exceptionally scenic estuary is home to numerous species of birds, fish, mammals, and shellfish.

When Shweta Galway announced a Penobscot Paddle & Chowder Society paddling trip on the marsh, my wife, Nancy, and I enthusiastically signed on. Six of us met at the Audubon Center on

of a fledgling birder, this was an impressive list for a few hours on the water.

Steady, aggressive paddling was required to overcome the strong tidal currents as we navigated through a serpentine route in the grassy marsh. High banks and a muddy shoreline resulting from the relatively low tide left the impression of paddling in an enclosed corridor with grasslands high above. The Dunstan River joined Nonesuch River from the left as we passed near Pine Point Road.

Soon after, we arrived at the Eastern Trail Bridge. Bicycle riders, walkers, and runners were seen passing above. The channelized currents were particularly powerful under the bridge. Turning left, we paralleled the trail for a short distance before rounding a bend and heading downstream towards Scarborough River and the sea.

The northern trailhead for the Scarborough to Saco sector of the popular Eastern Trail is located a couple of miles north of the bridge near Black Point

Road. The segment of trail that travels through the marsh is probably the most picturesque area in the entire network. Another trailhead is situated close by on Pine Point Road.

The river widened and the character of the shoreline changed as we progressed. Tall swamp grass replaced the muddy precipitous banks and the undeveloped marsh was supplanted with housing on the right shore. Larger birds seemed more prevalent in this area.

After passing a boat landing on the right and another tributary, Mill Brook, on the left, the Amtrak Downeaster railroad bridge was spotted ahead. The low profile trestle was supported by wooden pilings with narrow passages between. As we approached, strong currents pushed towards us under the trestle. Proceeding with some trepidation, the robust flow forced our boats against the pilings despite our best efforts. Everyone managed to get through without additional problems.

Beyond the railroad bridge, Scarborough River

entered from the left creating a wider body of water that seemed more like a bay than the mouth of a river. The marsh behind us, we decided to return.

Having the tide at our back provided an immediate benefit. Navigating between the trestle pilings was far easier paddling with the current. We stopped at a nearby landing for a snack and break. A small picnic table and a toilet were welcome accommodations.

The flood tide helped propel us inland at about twice the speed of our paddle out. The Eastern Trail was even busier with large numbers of cyclists and walkers crossing the bridge.

As we approached the landing at the Audubon Center, there was a surprising revelation. An unusually high tide had overflowed the bank and partially flooded the parking lot. Our vehicles were sitting in several inches of water. We were able to paddle right up to our cars without carrying up the hill; a pleasant unexpected ending to an exceptional day.

Read about many more exciting canoe and kayak excursions in my book Maine Al Fresco: The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine.

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Maine to Receive \$298.55M for Roads, Bridges and More

WASHINGTON D.C. (October 11, 2022) – The U.S. Department of Transportation’s Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) today announced that it has released \$298.55 million to Maine in Fiscal Year 2023 apportionments for 12 formula programs to support investment in critical infrastructure, including roads, bridges and tunnels, carbon emission reduction, and safety improvements utilizing funding from the President’s Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. The funds go directly to Maine, providing transportation leaders within Maine the flexibility to continue the important work of rebuilding roads and bridges and making their transportation system more efficient reflecting their state’s particular needs.

“America’s roads and bridges are the vital arter-

ies of our transportation system, connecting people and goods across the country,” said U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg. “Because of President Biden’s Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, today we are sending historic levels of funding to every state to help modernize the roads and bridges Americans rely on every day.”

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law makes the single largest dedicated investment since the construction of the Interstate Highway System in the 1950s and 1960s to help address tens of thousands of bridges in need of repair or replacement. In Fiscal Year 2023, Maine will receive a total of \$45 million in Bridge Formula funding to address highway bridge needs. The funding is available to improve the condition of about 355 bridges in poor

condition and to preserve and improve about 1,470 bridges in fair condition in the state, that are at risk of falling into poor condition.

Nationwide, \$59.9 billion in Fiscal Year 2023 formula funding was sent to States, representing an increase of \$15.4 billion as compared to Fiscal Year 2021, the last fiscal year before the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law began to be implemented. This Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding is distributed annually by FHWA based on Congressionally mandated formulas.

“Formula programs give states the flexibility they need to determine how to allocate funds in order to replace deficient bridges, improve safety for all road users, and reduce carbon emissions by improving transportation infrastructure for communities throughout each

state,” said Acting Federal Highway Administrator Stephanie Pollack. “This funding we are announcing today will allow states to continue the important work of President Biden’s Bipartisan Infrastructure Law that will make our infrastructure safer and more efficient for the tens of millions of American families that count on it to get to school, work, and critical medical care every day.”

Today’s Apportionment Notice can be viewed at FHWA’s Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Funding web page, which organizes notices by fiscal year. FHWA has additional information for transportation agencies and others interested in grants and other discretionary funding opportunities as well as information on new and existing FHWA programs available under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law web page.

National Highway Performance Program	\$135,289,675
Surface Transportation Block Grant	\$65,816,599
Highway Safety Improvement Program	\$14,087,947
Railway-Highway Crossings Program	\$1,252,936
Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Program	\$11,443,952
Metropolitan Planning	\$2,478,760
National Highway Freight Program	\$6,529,829
Carbon Reduction Program	\$5,868,647
PROTECT Formula Program	\$6,673,072
National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program	\$4,110,043
Bridge Formula Program	\$45,000,000

WinterKids Announces Downhill 24 Outdoor Fund Winners



WESTBROOK, ME (October 11, 2022) – WinterKids is awarding \$25,000 to organizations working on getting kids outside and active more often! In honor of the 10th anniversary of the WinterKids Downhill 24, WinterKids created the Downhill 24 Outdoor Fund to help get even more kids outside and active across Maine and beyond. This fund will help to address the barriers to healthy outdoor activity, including but not limited to equipment, clothing, and transportation.

For the inaugural year of the WinterKids Downhill 24 Outdoor Fund, Win-

terKids is granting \$25,000 to 4 organizations to help get kids outside and active more often. These winning schools were determined by community vote: \$10,000 winner – Noble Middle School in Berwick (York County); \$5,000 winners: Bruce M. Whittier Middle School in Poland (Androscoggin County), Auburn Middle School (Androscoggin County), and Mt. Abram Regional High School in Strong (Franklin County).

The following organizations will receive \$500 honorable mention awards for receiving top votes in their categories of schools,

recreation departments, and community nonprofits: Memorial Middle School in South Portland (Cumberland County), Bangor Parks & Rec Department (Penobscot County), and Alford Youth & Community Center in Waterville (Kennebec County).

Funds must be used to get more kids outside and active more often. WinterKids reached upwards of 50,000 kids and teachers last year – and plans to do the same in the coming year. This Fund will help additional kids with unique ways to get them outside. This year’s winners plan to utilize funds for snowshoes, cross-country skis, trail system development, winter camping gear, a youth ski league, and winter boots and gear.

“We are thrilled to be able to support like-minded organizations working to make our kids more active in the outdoors,” says Julie Mulkern, Executive Direc-

tor. “The Downhill 24 Outdoor Fund is a direct result of the incredible fundraising our participants do each year to support WinterKids programs and strategic priorities in the community,” says Mulkern. “Each year, we will use the Downhill 24 Outdoor Fund to break down barriers to outdoor activity – including transportation, equipment, and clothing, to name a few.” Winning organizations were determined by a community voting period from September 1 – September 30, 2022. For further information, please visit <https://winterkids.org/downhill-24/winterkids-downhill-24-outdoor-fund/>.

ABOUT WINTERKIDS

WinterKids is the nonprofit organization that helps children develop healthy lifelong habits through education and fun outdoor winter activity. The organization delivers innovative outdoor programs



for families, schools, and communities. WinterKids’ Major Community Sponsor is L.L.Bean. WinterKids’ Supporting Sponsors are Agren, CMP, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care, WEX, and WMTW 8 and The CW. The WinterKids Winter Games are made possible with support from Hanaford Snack Pals, Backyard Farms, Aroma Joe’s, Subway, Anthem, MMG Insurance, and Kittery Trading Post. Learn more at [WinterKids.org](https://winterkids.org).

Send all items for What’s Going On to the Editor. Deadline is Friday by five.

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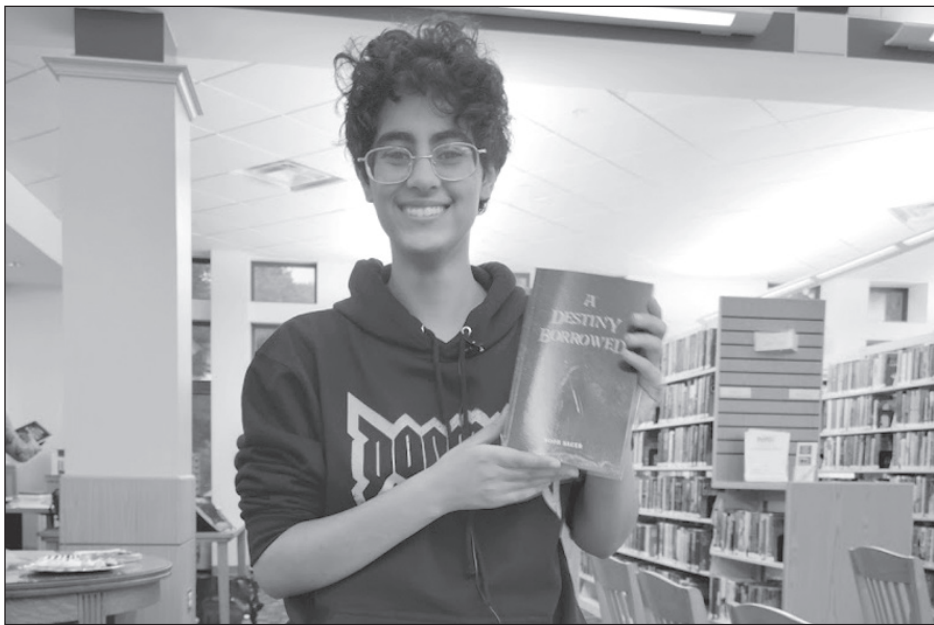


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Arts & Entertainment

Gorham High School's Noor Sager Publishes First Novel



GORHAM, ME Gorham High School's Noor Sager just published his first novel, *A Destiny Borrowed*, on October 14, 2022. Copies are available here at The Bookworm. Congratulations to Gor-

Peaks & Summit Cosign for Multi-State Clean Hydrogen Hub

YARMOUTH, ME (October 10, 2022) – Peaks Renewables (Peaks), and parent company Summit Utilities, Inc., (Summit) are honored to announce that they have cosigned a multi-state Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) for a U.S. Northeast clean hydrogen hub. Peaks and Summit join more than 60 clean hydrogen ecosystem partners on this MoU.

“Summit is honored to be a part of this new collaboration featuring a blend of diverse and dynamic organizations,” said Kurt Adams, Chief Executive Officer at Summit. “Together, we will help meet our shared climate goals while strengthening innovation and strong economic growth in our region. It’s exciting to be on the cusp of a game-changing clean energy alternative as we decarbonize and work toward achieving a zero-emission economy powered by clean renewable energy.”

Under the MoU, the parties will collaborate to develop a proposal that will enable the Northeastern United States to become one of at least four regional clean hydrogen hubs designated through the federal Regional Clean Hydrogen Hubs program,

included in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

“Clean hydrogen is an exciting technology with potential for economic growth that can reduce greenhouse gas emissions from our energy system,” said Angus King III, President of Peaks. “We look forward to working with regional partners to advance opportunities for clean hydrogen and help the state of Maine reach its climate goals.”

The coalition of six States (Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Jersey, New York, and Rhode Island) and more than 60 clean hydrogen ecosystem partners, are laying the groundwork for a proposal for the United States Department of Energy funding opportunity anticipated to be announced in September or October 2022, with up to \$8 billion in total funding available.

With the execution of these agreements, the partners will work together to:

Define the shared vision and plans for the regional clean hydrogen hub that can advance safe clean hydrogen energy innovation and investment to address climate change, while improving the health, resiliency, and economic development of the region’s residents.

Advance a Hub proposal that makes climate

and environmental justice central to its strategy, which will deliver opportunities and improved quality of life to under resourced areas across the region.

Perform research and analysis necessary to support the hub proposal and align on approach to quantifying greenhouse gas emissions reductions as a result of deploying this technology.

Develop a framework to ensure the ecosystem for innovation, production, infrastructure, and related workforce development is shared across all partner states.

Support environmentally responsible opportunities to develop clean hydrogen, in accordance with participating states’ policies.

The coalition will continue to focus on the integration of renewables - such as onshore and offshore wind, hydropower, and solar PV - and nuclear power into clean hydrogen production, and the evaluation of clean hydrogen for use in transportation, including for medium and heavy-duty vehicles, heavy industry, and power generation applications or other appropriate uses consistent with decarbonization efforts.

About Peaks:

Peaks Renewables is a renewable energy developer. See Peaks, page 8




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Witnesses Knocking on Doors Again in Southern Maine



Karen Diakou and Christine Pelletier of Sabattus, Maine, engage in a door-to-door ministry delivering a message of hope and comfort. Photo Courtesy of Jehovah's Witnesses.

S O U T H E R N MAINE (September 2, 2022) -- Jehovah's Witnesses will resume their trademark door-to-door ministry beginning September 1 when a two-and-half-year suspension of the work is officially lifted,

just in time to begin a global campaign featuring a new interactive Bible study program. The decision to resume their door-to-door ministry marks the complete restoration of all pre-pandemic in-person activities for the 1.3 mil-

lion Jehovah's Witnesses in the 13,000 congregations in the United States.

Houses of worship (called Kingdom Halls) were reopened April 1, witnessing in public places resumed May 31 and in-person conventions are

once again being planned for 2023.

"It will be a wonderful opportunity to comfort folks in our community who need to hear some good news of better times ahead," said Karen Diakou, of Sabattus, Maine. "I am eagerly looking forward to visiting folks at their homes."

The suspension of the public ministry was a proactive response by the organization to keep communities and congregants safe. The move was also unprecedented. Jehovah's Witnesses had been preaching from house to house without interruption for more than 100 years through an economic depression, two world wars and global unrest. But COVID-19 demanded a different response.

"We believe that the early decision to shut down all in-person activities for more than two

years has saved many lives," said Robert Hendriks, U.S. spokesperson for Jehovah's Witnesses. "We're now ready and eager to reconnect with our neighbors once again — person to person, face to face. It's not the only way that we preach, but it has historically been the most effective way to deliver our message of comfort and hope."

The move coincides with a global campaign to distribute a new interactive Bible study program available in hundreds of languages at no cost. The program comes in the form of a book, online publication or as an embedded feature within the organization's free mobile application, JW Library. Released in late 2020, the interactive study platform combines text, video, illustrations and digital worksheets to help learners of all ages.

"This new study pro-

gram is designed to match the learning needs of the 21st-century student," said Hendriks. "We're excited to begin sharing it with our neighbors as we return to making personal visits."

The pandemic forced Jehovah's Witnesses to quickly pivot to virtual meetings and conventions, while conducting their ministry exclusively through letters, phone calls and virtual Bible studies. This has led to growth in meeting attendance and the number of congregants, with more than 400,000 newly baptized Witnesses joining the ranks of 120,000 congregations globally in just the first two years of the pandemic.

For more information about Jehovah's Witnesses, their history, beliefs and activities, visit their official website, jw.org, with content available in more than 1,000 languages.

Lewiston Seniors Offered Property Tax Relief

LEWISTON, ME (September 21, 2022) -- "The new Property Tax Stabilization Program should provide eligible seniors living in Lewiston with some meaningful tax relief," notes Lewiston's Chief Assessor Bill Healey. Assessing staff has been processing stabilization applications since August 8th with nearly 1,000 applications received so far. The deadline filing date is December 1st.

Property Tax Stabilization for Senior Citizens, also known as the Property Tax Stabilization Program (the "Program"), is a State program that allows eligi-



ble senior citizen residents to stabilize, or freeze, the property taxes on their homestead. If an individual is at least age 65 and has owned a homestead in Maine for at least ten years, that person may qualify for the property tax stabilization at the amount billed in the year when applying for the program. Eligible residents who move may transfer the fixed tax amount to a new homestead, even if that new homestead is in a different Maine municipality.

What is a homestead? According to the Maine Revenue Services, homestead means residential real property owned by an individual or individuals and occupied by those individuals as their permanent residence. Residential real property held in a revocable living trust for a beneficiary who occupies the property as his or her permanent residence also qualifies as a homestead. In addition, a resident homeowner who is subject to foreclosure and subsequently purchas-

es the home back from the municipality is considered to have no interruption in homeownership for purposes of this exemption.

If one's application for stabilization is approved, this will first affect the property taxes owed for the property tax year following the year of submitting the application. One's respective municipality may also request additional documentation to prove eligibility for the stabilization program.

Mayor Carl L. She-

line notes, "Older adults on fixed incomes shouldn't have to choose between which necessities to pay for if we can avoid it. With this program, older adults will be less burdened by property taxes."

For Lewiston seniors, the application is available at the Lewiston Assessor's Office and online at www.lewistonmaine.gov/stabilization. Each completed application must be submitted to the municipal office for the town/city in which the homestead is located. For Lewiston, the address is: Lewiston Assessor's Office, Lewiston City Hall, 27 Pine Street,

Lewiston, ME 04240. Applications are reviewed and applicants notified as to approval. The City of Lewiston has also learned that last week, the State of Maine mailed applications to who they deem as qualifying seniors.

If an individual has been previously approved to participate in the program and wants to continue stabilization, a Renewal Application for Property Tax Stabilization must be annually completed and is available on the Maine Revenue Services web site at www.maine.gov/revenue/tax-return-forms/property-tax.

Project Started, Breaks Ground to Restore the Sabattus River

LISBON, ME (September 14, 2022) — The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, in partnership with the Maine Department of Marine Resources (DMR), the Atlantic Salmon Federation and other partners, today broke ground on a restoration effort funded by President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law that will remove two dams on the Sabattus River, restore habitat for fish and wildlife, increase public safety, and reduce flood risk for communities around Lisbon and Sabattus, Maine.

Through a \$38 million investment in the Service's National Fish Passage Program this year, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is bolstering efforts to address outdated, unsafe or obsolete dams, culverts and other barriers to our nation's rivers and streams for the benefit of people

and wildlife.

"I am thrilled to join this important day for the local community and for our national investment in conservation, recreation and public safety," said Winnie Stachelberg, Department of the Interior Senior Advisor and Infrastructure Coordinator. "The Upper Town Dam removal is one of the first Bipartisan Infrastructure Law-funded projects from the National Fish Passage Program to break ground. This project will reduce flood risk upstream of the dam, decrease risk of catastrophic failure and impacts to neighboring infrastructure, and improve aesthetics and recreational opportunities for the community."

"The removal of these dams will result in many benefits not only for the local community

but also for the ecosystem of this important watershed," said Maine DMR Commissioner Patrick Kehliher. "I'm excited to celebrate the start of this project with the many partners who've been instrumental in its success."

"We are thrilled to be able to support this important dam removal project on the Sabattus River," said John Burrows, Executive Director of U.S. Operations for the Atlantic Salmon Federation. "Completion of this project will not only be a huge step forward for sea-run fisheries restoration in the Sabattus, but it will also address long-standing public safety and infrastructure issues for the Town of Lisbon."

Today's groundbreaking ceremony at the Upper Town Dam in Lisbon highlighted the project, which will remove the

Upper Town Dam and the Mill Remnant Dam and restore and revegetate adjacent riverbanks. Removing these two unstable dams will eliminate public safety hazards, reduce flooding risk, and improve access to nature and recreation opportunities for neighboring communities. The project was made possible in part by \$350,000 in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife's National Fish Passage Program. An additional \$300,000 came from Atlantic Salmon Federation, Maine Department of Marine Resources, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation National Coastal Resilience Fund, and partners.

Removing these dams in combination with other restoration projects will benefit wildlife by improving aquatic habitat

and opening fish passage in the Androscoggin watershed. Restoration of the Sabattus River is expected to result in 2,429 acres of lake and pond habitat and 75 miles of river and stream habitat becoming accessible to alewife, blueback herring, American shad, federally endangered Atlantic salmon, and American eel, which need to migrate between fresh and saltwater to complete their lifecycles. Once access is restored, a self-sustaining run of nearly 500,000 adult alewife from Sabattus Pond could return to the Androscoggin Watershed each year.

The Service's National Fish Passage Program supports aquatic ecosystem restoration projects and restores free-flowing waters, allowing for enhanced fish migration. These projects also help

mitigate the effects of climate change by removing or bypassing natural and man-made barriers that could be problematic during flooding events.

These projects will help support the America the Beautiful initiative to conserve, connect and restore our nation's lands, waters and wildlife.

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Contact Samantha Norris for additional information at samantha.norris@maine.edu (207) 780-5475

Hosted by the University of Southern Maine Department of Athletics in collaboration with the Gorham Recreation Department

Evergreen CU Volunteers in 3 Local Communities



25 employees of Evergreen Credit Union took shovels in hand on Indigenous Peoples Day to clear trails at Mill Brook Preserve in Windham.

MAINE (October 14, 2022) -- Evergreen CU recognized Indigenous Peoples Day by volunteering in three Cumberland County communities. Taking shovels and saws in hand, employees helped clear

trails at Blue Point Preserve, part of the Scarborough Land Trust, and Mill Brook Preserve managed by the Presumpscot Regional Land Trust in Windham. A third group dedicated time and energy to the South Portland

Food Cupboard.

Evergreen Credit Union is the 5th largest in the state based on asset size, serving all Southern Maine. Forbes recently named the credit union to their Best-In-State Credit Unions 2022 for Maine.

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Peaks

Continued from page 6

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New Teacher Residency Program Seeks To Address Shortage

PORTLAND, ME (October 14, 2022) — Aspiring teachers throughout Maine can now get paid to teach while they continue taking classes for their degree and certification.

Nearly 40 college students will participate in the new Maine Teacher Residency Program this fall, with 70 more slots

open next year. The unique program is administered by the University of Southern Maine, but it is open to education students throughout the University of Maine System and to students from other Maine colleges, as well as to new teachers who are emergency or conditionally certified.

In this new program,

school systems hire the students to teach as ed techs, long-term substitute teachers, or classroom teachers for the full school year. Schools provide mentors and pay students a regular salary. Students, in return, fill needed positions, get on-the-job training and experience, receive the support of a mentor,

and get paid by the school system. They also receive a \$3,500 scholarship from the Residency Program to go toward tuition.

“You feel supported by your mentor. . . and you learn to adapt and grow with a class that looks at you like you are their teacher just as much as your mentor is,” said Alex-

is Howe, a USM senior majoring in Elementary Education and a resident teaching first grade at the Biddeford Primary School. “The residency program has allowed me to worry less about finances and focus more on becoming the educator I want to be for my students.”

Nearly two dozen

school systems have hired Teacher Residents this fall. Those school systems include: Bangor, Biddeford, Lewiston, SAD 6, SAD, 27, SAD 17, SAD 28, SAD 72, Portland, RSU 2, RSU 10, RSU 13, RSU 16, RSU 24, RSU 25, RSU 34, RSU 71, SAD 52, Sanford, Scarborough, and Westbrook.

See Residency, page 11

Mini Photo Shoot Fundraiser



Gorham Cooperative Preschool, in conjunction with our generous sponsors, is hosting a mini photo session.

When: Saturday November 5th with 10 minutes time slots available

Where: Beech Ridge Farm

193 Beech Ridge Road, Scarborough Maine

How: Sign up for an available time slot utilizing the following link

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4CA9AE2FABFFCE9-family>

Details: Please provide a suggested \$25 donation via cash or Venmo prior to session

Digital photos will be available via e-mail within 2 weeks

*Rain Date November 6th

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American Cancer Society Recognizes Rep. Cloutier

AUGUSTA, ME (September 17, 2022) – Rep. Kristen Cloutier, D-Lewiston, was named a 2022 recipient of the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network’s National Distinguished Advocacy Award at a reception held in Washington, D.C. on Wednesday, Sept. 14. The award recognizes lawmakers who have led efforts to fight against cancer and to support patients, survivors and their families.

The organization highlighted Cloutier’s work to advance tobacco

use prevention policies in Maine. As the sponsor of [LD 1868](#), An Act to Restore Funding to the State’s Tobacco Prevention Control Program, Cloutier led the effort to restore a program that aims to reduce tobacco use among those who tobacco companies have specifically targeted. This includes historically marginalized populations, individuals with low-incomes and individuals with mental and behavioral health conditions.

“I am so very honored and grateful not only

to receive this award, but to receive it alongside my dear colleagues, Representatives Michele Meyer and Jay McCreight,” said Cloutier. “Fighting the tobacco industry is a monumental task, and it will take hard work from all of us to ensure that our next generation is safe from an industry that preys on kids. I am so grateful to the American Cancer Society’s Cancer Action Network and the network of volunteers they have built to help support these efforts.”

The award is the American Cancer Society

Cancer Action Network’s highest national advocacy honor. The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, or ACS CAN, is the organization’s advocacy arm and works to make cancer response and prevention a top priority of public officials.

“Rep. Cloutier embodies what it means to be a passionate advocate for reducing health disparities,” said Lisa Lacasse, president of ACS CAN. “Undoubtedly, it is thanks to her relentless pursuit and leadership that this lifesaving legislation passed in

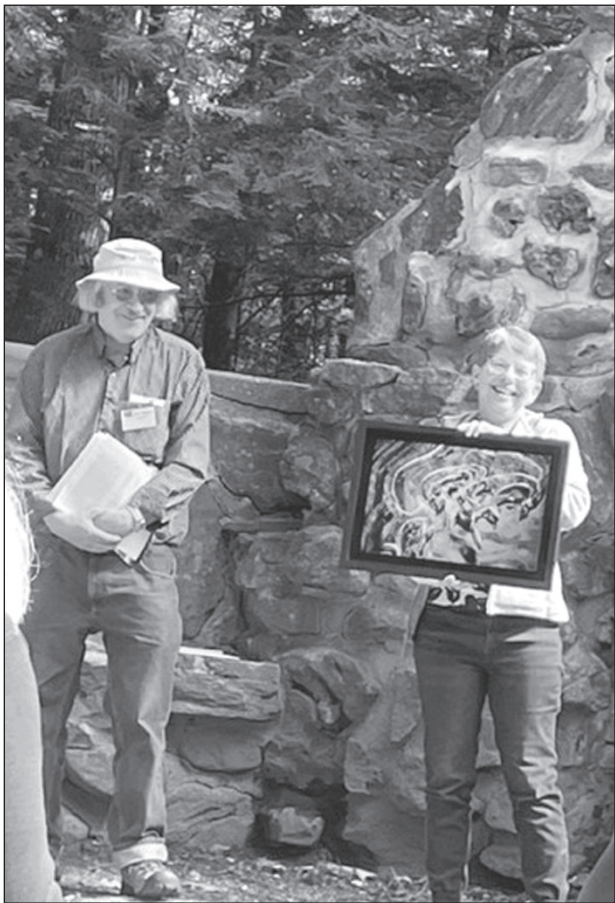
Maine to increase tobacco control funding, a significant step toward reducing cancer incidence and mortality rates. ACS CAN is grateful for her role in reducing the cancer burden through her steadfast commitment to improving public health. ACS CAN looks forward to continued partnership on behalf of all who live, work and visit Maine.”

“Thanks to her continued commitment and leadership on this issue, Rep. Cloutier put Maine on the top of the leaderboard when it comes to protect-

ing kids and all Mainers from big tobacco’s continued targeting,” said Hillary Schneider, director of Government Relations for ACS CAN in Maine. “This was a long and hard-fought win, and it would not have happened without her dedicated and passionate lobbying for the legislation to pass.”

Cloutier is serving her second term in the Maine House and sits on the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee. She represents House District 60, which is part of the City of Lewiston.

Stanton Bird Club Dedicates New Volunteer Memorial at Thorncrag



Land steward Gary Maurer being honored by board VP Nancy Kleckner with a gift of his favorite photograph from the “Thorncrag at 100” book. Photo by Dan Marquis.

LEWISTON, ME

(October 6, 2022) -- On September 25, the members of the Stanton Bird Club gathered for their annual meeting at the Anthony Fireplace in Thorncrag Nature Sanctuary to celebrate the 100th anniversary year of Thorncrag. This was a special occasion highlighted by the dedication of a volunteer monument at the height of land at Thorncrag which also happens to be the highest point of land in Lewiston. In his remarks at the dedication, volunteer land steward, Gary Maurer spoke about the “Many volunteers of all kinds: Bates Outing Club members, church groups, scouting groups, business and service groups and of course many, many individuals, clearing brush, planting trees and shrubs, trying to improve habitat for birds, plants and animals. Making it an oasis in the middle of this city

for people to walk here”. The monument was designed by Lew McCarthy, a volunteer with the bird club and is a tribute to the hundreds of volunteers who have donated thousands of hours in stewardship and education at Thorncrag.

The plaque embedded in the monument reads: “At this, the highest point in Lewiston (516 feet, 2 inches) the Stanton Bird Club gratefully honors all volunteers, past, present and future who have made and continue to make Thorncrag Nature Sanctuary a special place, open to all.”

As part of this anniversary year, five new benches have also been placed at Thorncrag thanks to the generosity of the club’s membership as well as other community members.

Other activities at the meeting included an auction of a quilt created



Dedication of volunteer monument. Pictured in photograph from left to right – president of the board of directors, Jeri Maurer; volunteer, Lew McCarthy; and retiring volunteer land steward, Gary Maurer. Photo by Dan Marquis.

by former Quiltessentials owner, Betsy Dorr, a talk about the trees of Thorncrag by Master Naturalist, Pam Davis-Green as well as special recognition for Gary Maurer who is retiring in his role for the bird club. As a parting gift to all members of the club, Gary and his wife, Jeri (president of the board of

directors) and in honor of Thorncrag’s 100th anniversary, published a book entitled “Thorncrag at 100” which is a collection of photographs through the seasons at Thorncrag by long-time club member, Dan Marquis. Books may be purchased by contacting the club at: stantombirdclub@gmail.com.

Lewiston’s Rinck Earns Four Golden Arrow Awards

LEWISTON, ME (September 13, 2022) – Rinck Advertising in Lewiston recently received recognition for their work with well-known brands, Dove and Dunkin’, winning four Golden Arrow Awards from the Maine Public Relations Council.

The annual Golden Arrow Awards recognize the best work of communications, public relations, and marketing professionals, in addition to student practitioners, based in Maine. Entries were scored by the Public Relations Society of America chapter in Phoenix, Arizona.

Rinck earned a Gold Award in the category of Integrated Communications Campaign and a Gold Award in the category of Innovative Use of Social Media, both for the Dove Everyday Hero Campaign. The campaign was developed in support

of Rinck’s client, Dove Nourishing Body Care, to build loyalty and advocacy with consumers. Rinck developed the Dove Everyday Hero program to recognize the heroes in communities around the country during the pandemic, including those who work in healthcare, public service, education, retail, hospitality, transportation, non-profits, and other areas. The primary element of the campaign was a partnership with TikTok influencer, Lexy Burke (@lexylately), and several other influencers around the country who recognized and surprised the heroes in their own communities with cash gifts. They shared the surprise videos on TikTok and Instagram and solicited nominations from their audiences for heroes deserving of recognition. The Dove and Rinck teams worked together to select

people from those nominated and partner with Burke to surprise them as well. A strategic partnership with Giving Tuesday and media relations outreach across the country helped bring awareness to the effort, which turned into a movement with several people continuing to pay it forward.

“This truly was one of the campaigns I’ve loved most in my career,” said Katie Greenlaw, Vice President of Public Relations and Influencer Marketing at Rinck. “To be able to partner with a globally recognized brand like Dove to do some good at a time when people really needed to be uplifted was so heartwarming. This campaign wasn’t about selling products, it was about supporting those who have supported the Dove brand and it was so nice to hear the feedback from those who were rec-

ognized, as well as those who just appreciated that the brand was making an effort to show they care.”

Rinck also earned two Gold Awards for their work with Dunkin’ of Maine. The Dunkin’ Blueberry Platform Launch took gold in the Paid-Earned-Owned Campaign category, and the Dunkin’ Maine Blueberry Mix-Off also took top honors in the category of Special Events. The blueberry platform launch was developed to celebrate the launch of the limited-time blueberry line-up including Blueberry Flavored Cold Brew and the first-ever Maine-exclusive limited-time-offer donut, the Blueberry Cobbler donut.

The launch campaign included sampling events, influencer partnerships, social media advertising, strategic partnerships, radio endorsements, and

perhaps the most “summer in New England” tactic of all — a Dunkin’ branded pontoon boat that went out on Maine’s lakes surprising and delighting Dunkin’ fans with gift cards and Dunkin’ branded merchandise. Perhaps the most exciting part of the launch was a contest the brand hosted, where mixologists from across Maine were invited to create new beverages using the Dunkin’ Blueberry Flavored Cold Brew. The event included four mixologists, celebrity judges, influencers, and Dunkin’ franchisees and fans, and was hosted by radio personality, Blake Hayes of WMGX Coast 93.1.

“This was such a fun campaign to plan and execute,” said Greenlaw. “We were thrilled to be able to work with the Dunkin’ team to do some new and out-of-the-box outreach and events for this launch.

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Residency

Continued from page 9

“Resident Interns who complete the year-long internship are well prepared for a successful year as a first year teacher,” said Mandy Cyr, a member of the program’s advisory board and Director of Instruction and Innovation for the Biddeford school system, which piloted the Residency Program and now has eight residents at its elementary schools.

The program’s goal is to address Maine’s teacher shortage in the short-term by filling needed positions with student-teachers and supporting not-yet-certified teachers. It hopes to address the shortage in the long-term by providing aspiring teachers with the support and training they need to be successful educators.

“Well prepared teachers remain in the classroom,” said Flynn Ross, Associate Professor in USM’s Extended Teacher Education Program and Administrator for the Residency Program.

Participating universities include the University of Southern Maine, University of Maine, University of Maine at Augusta, University of Maine at Farmington, and the University of Maine at Presque Isle.

The Residency Program is one of several

across the University of Maine System aimed at addressing teacher and school administrator shortages in the state. Other examples include fully-online graduate programs; CONTA-ACT-ME, a five-year UMaine initiative that will help 40 to 45 graduate students earn master’s degrees in special education with an early childhood intervention focus; and the Maine SEEDS program, a partnership between the University of Maine System and the Maine Department of Education that provides mentorship and resources to early career and conditionally certified special educators working in Maine schools.

The Residency Program is federally funded for two years.

Situated in Maine’s economic and cultural center, the University of Southern Maine (USM) is a public university with 8,000 undergraduate and graduate students taking courses online and at campuses in Portland, Gorham and Lewiston-Auburn. Known for its academic excellence, student focus and engagement with the community, USM provides students with hands-on experience that complements classroom learning and leads to employment opportunities in one of the nation’s most desirable places to live.

CRCofWM Receives Donation from The Comfort Angels



Left to right: Mary Dempsey, Founder of the Comfort Angels, and Diane Madden, Executive Director of the Cancer Resource Center of Western Maine.

to be involved or make a donation email comfortangels2020@gmail.com.

The Cancer Resource Center of Western Maine is a 501c3 non-profit organization embracing anyone affected by cancer in a community that offers hope and caring through support, education, and concepts in healthy living. They offer free programs, complementary therapies, weekly virtual classes, travel assistance, support groups and comfort items -

because no one should face cancer alone. CRCofWM is located at 59 Winter St, Norway. For more information, visit their website: www.crcofwm.org; find them on Facebook; or call 890-0329.

Send all items for What’s Going On to the Editor. Deadline is Friday by five.

NORWAY, ME (October 10, 2022) -- Diane Madden, the Executive Director for The Cancer Resource Center of Western Maine, recently received a donation from The Comfort Angels. The Comfort Angels founded by Mary Dempsey craft handmade items to bring support, comfort, and smiles to others. The group of more than a handful of volunteers came together over two years ago. Currently, over a dozen Comfort Angels meet once a week and make heart pillows, afghans and port protectors amongst other items. If you are looking for ways

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GORHAM LITTLE LEAGUE *Field Funding Campaign*



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The Gorham Youth Baseball & Softball Association is making a large capital investment to provide updates and add fields to accommodate practice and game schedules:

- Develop 2 fields at White Rock
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- Add infield mix and relevel current fields
- Acquire tarps and field maintenance equipment
- Add scoreboards

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Sen. Libby: Home Heating Help is Available This Winter

Guest Column by Sen. Nate Libby
AUGUSTA, ME (September 17, 2022) -- Even though we've been lucky to enjoy some beautiful warm days this month, there's no denying that cooler weather is just around the corner. Fall and winter in Maine offer so much to enjoy, from the changing foliage to winter sports. But this time of year also brings stress for those who struggle to keep their homes warm. As we prepare for another winter where energy and home heating prices are expected to strain the budgets of families across the state, it's important you know that there is help available to keep your lights on and your home warm.

The Home Energy Assistance Program, or HEAP, is a federally funded assistance program that helps income-qualified home owners and renters pay for heating costs. This program is administered by different community agencies all over the state, and in Androscoggin County that agency is Community Concepts. (In the interest of transparency, I am employed by Community Concepts directing programs not related to HEAP). While you can apply for HEAP at most points throughout the year, it is recommended that you do so as early as possible – so if you feel you may benefit from this program, don't wait. You can begin the application process by

calling Community Concepts at 1-800-866-5588, and you can find more information about HEAP by visiting www.ccmaine.org/HomeEnergyImprovement. If you ever find yourself in need of an emergency fuel supply or in danger of having your utilities shut off by your utility company, there could be additional help available, so be sure to reach out and ask for help if you need it. Those who are eligible for HEAP may also be able to receive additional help in making updates and repairs to home energy systems. This includes weatherization updates to make your home more energy-efficient and heating system repair and replacement. Finally, HEAP's

sister program, LIAP, can help you keep the lights on in your home by providing a credit on your electricity bill. Income guidelines also apply here, but you can discuss your LIAP eligibility during your HEAP intake appointment. Another program that can help you pay for utilities is the Emergency Rental Assistance Program, also administered by Community Concepts for residents of Androscoggin County. This program can help you pay for rent and utilities dating back to the beginning of the pandemic if you meet income guidelines and had your ability to pay these bills impacted by the pandemic. Applications are being accepted on a rolling basis through

this month, so apply now if you need this assistance. If you're not a renter but a homeowner facing similar circumstances, the Homeowner Assistance Fund may be able to provide you with help. Visit haf.maine.gov to learn more. No one should have to make the hard choice between keeping their lights on or their home warm and putting food on the table. While fuel and energy prices are greatly influenced by global factors, my colleagues and I in the Legislature have focused on doing what we can to keep prices down. This includes passing bills this year to improve access to existing relief programs by cutting red tape, giving consumers a louder voice

in the electric rate-setting process and making sure our utilities are accountable first and foremost to Maine consumers, not to their investors. We've also focused on making our energy grid more independent and reliable, so that it can carry us to and through the future. As always, I am here to help you and your family however I can. If you have questions about these programs or need help finding other resources, never hesitate to reach out. You can send me an email at Nathan.Libby@legislature.maine.gov or call my office at (207) 287-1515 any time. You can also sign up for my regular email updates by visiting www.mainesenate.org.

Resident Input Sought to Identify Concerns and Funding Priorities

LEWISTON, ME (October 13, 2022) -- Are you a landowner, woodland lot owner, or farmer? Are you interested in applying for NRCS funding next year to accomplish larger projects to help conserve your property and help the environment? Would you like to participate in deciding how this funding is distributed throughout Androscoggin and Sagadahoc Counties? We want your input. Androscoggin Valley Soil and Water Conservation District will be hosting the annual USDA

Natural Resources Conservation Service Local Working Group meeting on Wednesday October 26, 2022, from 9:30AM to 12:00PM. This meeting is open to the public. Topics include discussion of the 2023 USDA NRCS programs and the prioritizing of funding for the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) for Androscoggin and Sagadahoc Counties. This is a great time to learn about new NRCS cost-share programs and connect with others in the community who are committed to pro-

tecting our natural resources. Snacks and drink will be provided.
 Date: Wednesday 10/26/2022
 Time: 9:30AM - Noon
 Location: USDA Lewiston Office at 254 Goddard Rd, Lewiston, ME 04240
 Registration is requested but not required. To register please call or email Androscoggin Valley Soil and Water Conservation District. Phone: (207) 241-5374 Email: projectdirector@androscogginswcd.org

Lewiston's Early Voting Polling Place Opens October 13



LEWISTON, ME (October 10, 2022) -- Lewiston's early voting polling place for Lewiston residents opens Oct. 13 and continues through Nov. 3 from 9 AM to 4 PM, excluding weekends. The polling place will be in the City of Lewiston's City Hall, 27 Pine Street, City Council Chambers, first floor. Find more voting info at www.lewiston-maine.gov/elections

Maine Urgent Care Topsham to Consolidate with Lewiston

LEWISTON, ME (September 22, 2022) -- Central Maine Healthcare plans to make changes to its Maine Urgent Care and Topsham Family Medicine operations. The goal of these adjustments is to adapt to the continued challenges of the healthcare workforce shortage and rising operating costs, while continuing to provide the best possible care for our patients. Effective September 30, 2022, Maine Urgent Care at 105 Topsham Fair Mall Road will be consolidated into the Lewiston location at 685 Sabattus Street. This move will al-



low the organization to increase staffing and urgent care access in Lewiston. "Maine Urgent Care in Topsham has served as a vital resource to the local community," said Jason Krupp, MD, FACP, president, Central Maine Medial Group and senior Vice President, Central Maine Healthcare. "This was especially true during the beginning of the pandemic, when it offered

continual COVID-19 testing at a time when it was urgently needed." While this represents a change for Maine Urgent Care, it does not mean Central Maine Healthcare is decreasing its overall presence in the Brunswick/Topsham region. In fact, two new providers, Sean Close MD, and Ian Corbett DO, will both be joining the Topsh-

am Family Medicine this fall. In addition, Izzy Taylor, MD, will be joining the nearby Lisbon Family Practice, soon, as well. This will allow Central Maine Healthcare to meet the growing demand for primary care in the Brunswick/Topsham region. Maine Urgent Care is a fully owned subsid-

iary of Central Maine Health Ventures which is in turn a subsidiary of Central Maine Healthcare. Topsham Care Center will continue to offer the following Central Maine Healthcare specialty services:
 Breast Care Clinic
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Send all items for Names & Faces to the editor.
 Deadline is Friday by five pm.



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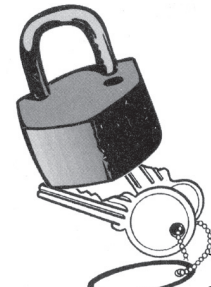
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Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

Tuesdays
LEWISTON – Baby Storytime held on Tuesdays, starting September 6th at 10:15am. Enjoy an interactive storytime with your baby that includes early literacy fun with books, songs, rhymes and body movement. Recommended for children ages 0 – 24 months old and their caregivers. Play and social time immediately follow the program. Siblings are always welcome. Please stay home if you or your child are sick and not feeling well.

Free. 513-3133; www.LPLonline.org

Wednesdays
GORHAM – 10:00am Weekly story time has resumed at the North Gorham Public Library! Storytime is open to children & their caregivers. Join us weekly for stories, songs and crafts every Wednesday at 10am. 2 Standish Neck Rd, Gorham ME.

September 20 – December

LEWISTON -- 3rd Tuesdays from September-December 2022, 3-5pm at the Lewiston Public Library: MAINE-TRANSNET TEEN TABLETOP TUESDAYS

This fall, LPL Teen and MaineTransNet Youth are joining up to host monthly tabletop role-playing sessions, on the 3rd Tuesday from 3-5pm

in person in the LPL teen space. All supplies will be provided and no previous RPG experience is required – just bring yourself and your creative mind!

This program is open to teens ages 13-19.

For more information, contact the Lewiston Public Library Adult & Teen Services Department at 513-3135 or LPLReference@lewistonmaine.gov. www.LPLonline.org

October 1 – October 31

LEWISTON -- TEEN MANGA CONTEST at LPL: Lewiston Public Library's Teen space is holding a manga drawing contest this fall. Submissions to the Teen Manga Contest can be made online via google form or in-person at the library's 2nd floor Reference Desk from October 1, 2022 through October 31, 2022.

Art will be displayed in the LPL teen space and shared on library social media for voting from November 9, 2022 through November 23, 2022. Two winners will receive a pack of manga-making supplies as a prize. Contact the Adult & Teen Services Department at lpreference@lewistonmaine.gov or 513-3135 for

more information; www.LPLonline.org

October 8 – November 13

BOOTHBAY -- Boothbay Region Art Foundation's 15th annual juried exhibition, Art in Maine, will be held at the foundation gallery Oct. 8 through Nov. 13. Art in Maine's exhibit presents a fresh and selective look at the fine art being created by Maine artists today, showcasing originality in the media of painting, drawing and sculpture. The opening reception is Saturday, Oct. 8 from 5-7 p.m.; over \$1,000 dollars in prizes will be awarded.

The prospectus and other details can be found on the gallery's website: www.boothbayartists.org.

Works will be juried by artist Kathleen Galligan who is represented by Portland Maine's Greenhut Gallery and Littlefield Gallery in Winterport.

October 20; November 3; November 17

LEWISTON -- Maine's first & only Backgammon club is looking for new members! Meetings October 6, October 20, November 3, November 17; 6pm - 8pm at Obscura Cafe & Drinkery, 108 Lisbon St.

Lewiston

October 20

LEWISTON -- SPECULATIVE FICTION BOOK CLUB – HORROR (5:30 pm at the Lewiston Public Library)

In this limited three session adult speculative fiction book club, LPL librarians will host interactive discussions on select genre novels. The horror read will be Nothing But Blackened Teeth by Cassandra Khaw. Open to genre fans and those who are new to genre novels alike.

Free. Registration required. Bottled water and small snacks available. Contact info. 513-3135; www.LPLonline.org

October 22

GRAY -- First Congregational Church of Gray, Saturday Night Church Supper, October 22, 2022 at 5:00 P. M., at the Parish House, 5 Brown St. Handicapped Accessible.

Reservations Required, Accepting Only 50 Reservations.

Contact Carol at 650-9093, and let her know your name, phone number, and how many in your party. Cut off for making Reservations is Wednesday October 19, 2022 at 2:00 P. M.

Meals are single-sized and are \$10.00 each. Please pay at the door! The Menu includes:

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October 27

LEWISTON -- The Lewiston Public Library will be holding a Throwback Thursday Movie Matinee event on Thursday, October 27, 2022 from 4 to 6pm in Callahan Hall. This is a free event open to all age groups will take place in Callahan Hall at the Lewiston Public Library Contact info. 513-3135; www.LPLonline.org

October 29

BUXTON -- Bar Mills Community Church will be hosting a Trunk or Treat on Saturday, October 29 at 5:30pm. Come in costume for fun and candy! How sweet is that! - 13 Hermit Thrush, Buxton.

October 29

Buxton -- Haddock Supper Buffet - Satur-

day, October 29 2022 - 5:00 pm at Living Waters Church, Parker Farm Road, Buxton. Suggested donation: \$8 Adult, \$4 Child, \$20 Family.

Please note: We will offer the option of takeout containers for those who do not want to come inside for seating. Wearing of face masks for those who are not vaccinated is suggested. Hand sanitizer is available for those who wish to use it.

November 5

MINOT -- Come to the Holiday Fair at Minot Corner United Methodist Church, Rt. 121 Corner of Minot Ave. & Empire Rd. 9 a.m. Until 1 p.m. Homemade Baked Goods, Candy and Fudge Table, Crafts, Soaps, Old Fashioned Cabot Extra Sharp Cheddar Cheese, Jams & Jellies, Pickles and More. Takeout Luncheon Available at 9:00 a.m. Silent Auction Table with great Christmas Gifts.



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CONCERT

South Parish Church State Street Augusta, Sunday, November 6, 3:00 p.m. Schubert Rosamunde Overture Tchaikovsky Rococo variations soloist Hyun-Ji Kwon, Bizet Symphony in C. Conductor Jinwook Park. Free admission. Donations accepted.

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Trip includes 1 night lodging and 3 meals, including the Grand Sunday Brunch, 2 different entertainment shows, Austrian Sleigh ride through Jackson Village with a Jingle Bell Chocolate Tour. Stop at the Christmas Tree Shop and Lunch on Sunday at Polly's Pancake Parlor. A \$100 deposit per person is due upon signing. Price is \$369 pp double occupancy.

Spotlight on San Antonio, Texas - April 2-6, 2023

Trip includes 5 days, 4 nights lodging, 3

breakfasts and 2 dinners, visit to two UNESCO world heritage sites, visit to the Mission San Jose, visit to the ALAMO, boat ride along the Paseo del Rio known as the River Walk, National Museum of the Pacific War and so much more.

Reflections of Italy - October 9 - 18, 2023

Trip includes 10 days, 9 nights lodging, and 12 meals, including Rome, Vatican Museums, Sistine Chapel, St. Peter's Basilica, Assisi, Perugia, Cortona, Florence, Michelangelo's DAVID, Chianti Winery & Cooking Class, Venice, St. Mark's square, boat ride to Murano Island, Milan and much more.

Virginia Beach, Colonial Williamsburg & Historic Norfolk - May 22 - 27, 2023

Trip includes 5 nights lodging and 8 meals, guided tour of Colonial Williamsburg, narrated

Norfolk Naval Base Harbor Cruise, admission to the Nauticus & Battleship Wisconsin, visit to Mariner's Museum and Park, admission to Virginia Beach Aquarium & Marine Science Center and free time on Virginia Beach and the Virginia Beach Boardwalk. A \$75 deposit pp is due when signing up. Price is \$809 pp double occupancy and includes bus driver's tip.

For more information on any of our trips, please contact Claire Bilodeau (207)784-0302 or Cindy Boyd (207)345-9569.

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Send all items for What's Going On to the Editor. Deadline is Friday by five.

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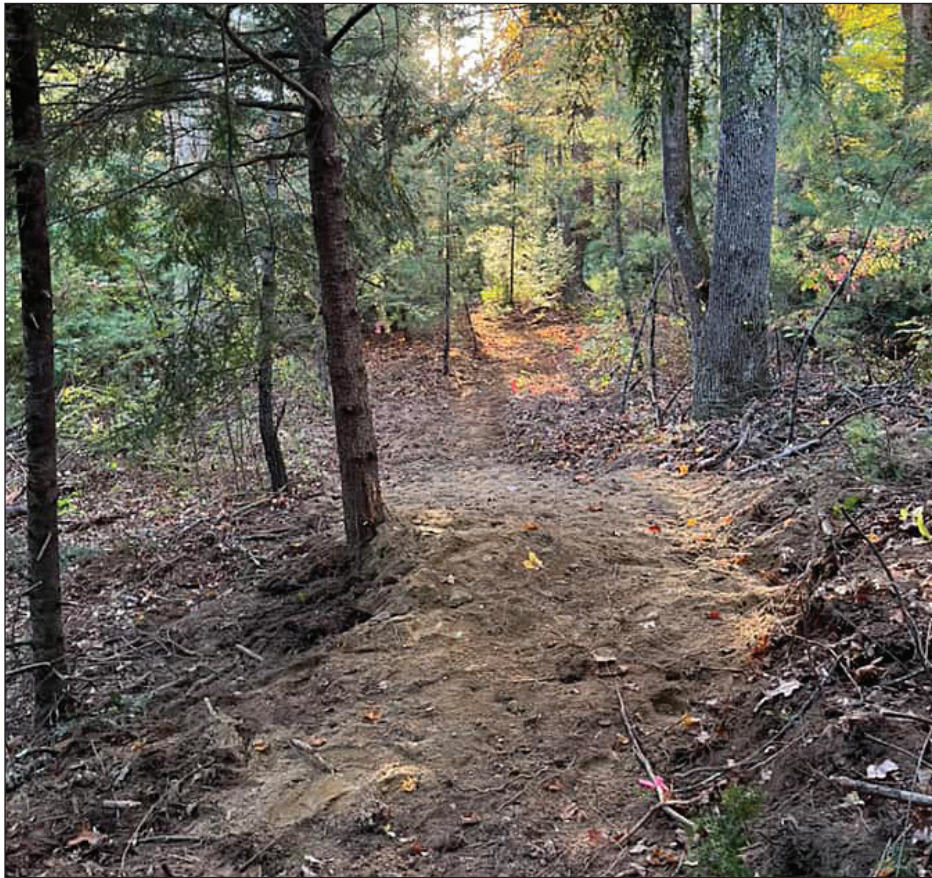
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Greater Portland NEMBA Begins Working on New Trail in Gorham

GORHAM, ME (October 12, 2022) -- Work has begun on a new trail in Gorham. Located behind the HopYard, it will connect to Cascade and Remembrance.



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