

## One more month to see exhibit at USM Gorham gallery



Installation view, *Embodying Softness/Excavating Delight*, 2023. University of Southern Maine Art Gallery, Gorham, Maine. Photo: Jack Stolz.

**GORHAM, ME** -- Embodiment Softness / Excavating Delight sees artists Jackie Milad and Libby Paloma paired for the joy they share in their processes. Works in this show range from mixed media wall hangings to free-standing soft sculptures. The artists consider the intersection of the lives of objects and language, and the point at which truths otherwise indiscernible manifest.

Milad's exhibition works stem from her interest in recently discovered artifacts of the Lenca people on Tiger Island in Honduras, where the artist traces her maternal lineage. The artwork examines how self-conception intertwines with objects' journeys. Milad's process mimics archaeology through excavation and even recalls resurrection as she tears down and reconfigures older pieces into new works. Alongside iconography, she often adds song lyrics from Bad Bunny, among other artists. In doing so, Milad interrupts a linear trajectory of history to expose the intersecting nodes, networks, and cultures that comprise selves and objects.

Drawing on her background as a

Speech-Language Pathologist, artist Libby Paloma locates her artistic investigation in idiomatic language and its capacity to convey more than straightforward speech. In *No Picnic*, Paloma makes figures of speech visible, conjuring cans of worms, spilled milk, pickles, and more in her installation's soft sculptures. These idioms are a metaphor for living with chronic illness and the inarticulability of affect and experience. A feeling of bitterness saturates Paloma's installation — a by-product as we build a new and, for Paloma, decidedly softer reality.

Paloma and Milad utilize their respective media to arrive at truths only conveyable through a layering of the visual and linguistic. In doing so, they ask what parts comprise our narratives around selfhood and heritage. How can we dismantle the false construct of objective linearity and embrace a more distributed, situated conception of our stories? If this is possible, then so is a softer and more accurate world for ourselves and all whose experiences do not hew to an orderly path.

See Exhibit, page 9

## Wind Symphony presents "Sounds of the Season" in Gorham



**GORHAM, ME** -- The Casco Bay Wind Symphony invites you to their upcoming concert!

This family-friendly concert features festive holiday tunes, a Christmas Carol Sing-Along, and a reading of "Twas' the Night Before Christmas" by special guest vocalist Matt LaBerge.

Tickets: Adults - \$13 in Advance, \$15 at the door; Seniors (65+) - Pay what you can; Students / Kids - Free

Tickets can be purchased at the door, or on our website - [cascobaywindsymphony.org](http://cascobaywindsymphony.org). Please see the attached poster for information! Feel free to share!

Details: A Musical Holiday Celebration on Saturday, December 2, 2023 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at McCormack Performing Arts Center, Gorham High School, 41 Morrill Ave., Gorham, Maine 04038

## Town of Gorham announces request for proposals

**GORHAM, ME** -- The Town of Gorham is seeking proposals from qualified and experienced vendors to create an Economic Development Strategic plan, which would include a Market Analysis, Local Asset Assessment and Action Items Matrix, in order to help guide economic development policies and strategies in Gorham.

The selected consultant must possess demonstrated expertise in land use planning and economic development, specifically in conducting market analysis, utilizing data sets, and synthesizing information to provide a clear understanding of the local economy.

The Plan will identify key drivers and emerging issues facing Gorham's economy, and serve as a playbook with actionable items and policies for Town staff,

elected officials and community leaders.

The goal is to establish a benchmark of findings and data from which a plan to create and maintain a strong, vibrant local economy can be formed and implemented.

RFP Schedule:

RFP Issued: November 7, 2023

RFP Questions Deadline: November 21, 2023

Responses to RFP Questions Posted: December 5, 2023

Proposal Submission Deadline: January 18, 2024

Optional Interview(s) Period: January 29, 2024 - February 8, 2024

Anticipated Award: February 8, 2024

Projected Start Date: March 1, 2024

Instructions for Viewing the RFP:

To view the RFP, please see the Town of Gorham's website.

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# Newsmakers, Names & Faces

## CMH welcomes President Biden to Lewiston



President Biden meets with Debbie Emmons, RN, and other Central Maine Healthcare team members.

**LEWISTON, ME** -- As part of his visit with local officials and families of those affected by the Oct. 25 mass casualty event in Lewiston, President Joe Biden today met with healthcare professionals from Central Maine Medical Center (CMMC).

The Central Maine Healthcare team was honored to personally escort President Biden to the podium. You can watch the video at [cmhc.org](http://cmhc.org).

The group of Central Maine Healthcare (CMH) team members consisted of surgeons, nurses, respiratory therapists, security and environmental service workers and others who

were part of CMMC's response on the night of the incident.

"Central Maine Healthcare deeply appreciates President Biden's support during this difficult time," said Steve Littleton, president and CEO, Central Maine Healthcare. "On the night of October 25, our team members faced substantial challenges to care for those members of our community who were wounded in the two attacks, and they met that challenge with the professionalism and compassion they display every day.

"For the President to come to our community and acknowledge our team

members for their efforts that night meant a lot to all of us."

All but one of the 14 patients who initially survived the attacks were transported to Central Maine Medical Center (CMMC). Three of those patients died at CMMC. One patient was transported to Mass General Hospital. The rest were discharged from CMMC.

On the evening of the tragedy, Central Maine Medical Center assembled a team of more than a dozen surgeons with expertise in orthopedics, cardiovascular, thoracic, colorectal, plastic, urologic and general surgery. They were aid-

ed by more than 100 other physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants and other healthcare professionals, all of whom received training in mass casualty incidents.

The doctors, nurses and team members of CMMC extend our deepest condolences to everyone affected by this tragic event.

As part of our ongoing responsibility to continue serving as the regional trauma center for central Maine, we have established the CMMC Compassionate Care Fund for Trauma Response and Support. To donate, please click here. Link: [cmhc.org/cmmc/ways-to-give/](http://cmhc.org/cmmc/ways-to-give/)

## Dempsey meets with patients injured in Lewiston mass casualty

**LEWISTON, ME** -- Actor, auto racer and Lewiston native Patrick Dempsey yesterday paid a visit to Central Maine Medical Center (CMMC).

While at CMMC, Dempsey stopped in the rooms of patients who continue to recover from the injuries they suffered in the Oct. 25 mass casualty incidents, taking the time to speak with them and their families to wish them well.

"What a pleasure it was for all of our team members to have Patrick stop by," said Kris Chaisson, RN, chief nursing officer, Central Maine Healthcare. "The patients were deeply touched by his visit following this difficult time in their lives. It was wonderful to see the team react to him with smiles that have been dimmed since the event.

"It has always been clear to all of us that, despite his fame, Patrick

Dempsey considers the people of this community his family."

The three remaining patients at CMMC are all listed in stable condition.

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Pictured: Patrick Dempsey meets with Dr. Tim Counihan, chief of surgery, and members of the CMMC nursing team

regional trauma center for central Maine, we have established the CMMC Compassionate Care Fund

for Trauma Response and Support. To donate, please see: [www.cmhc.org/cmmc/ways-to-give/](http://www.cmhc.org/cmmc/ways-to-give/)

## Camden National Bank collects donations for local nonprofits

**CAMDEN, ME** -- Camden National Bank has announced a community donation of more than 9,000 school supplies to nonprofits across Northern New England. Employees throughout the region collected pens, pencils, notebooks, and other supplies at the company's 57 banking centers and also made personal contributions at Camden National Bank's annual employee appreciation event.

"We look forward to recognizing and honoring our employees each year and celebrating our unwavering community spirit," said Greg Dufour, president and chief executive officer. "We were overwhelmed by the number of school supplies we received this year, but it wasn't surprising given our long history of supporting local shelters and other outstanding youth organizations that care for com-

munity members in need."

The nonprofits included numerous homeless shelters also supported by Camden National Bank's Hope@Home program, which was established in 2015 to provide critical assistance to people in need. Every time a customer finances a new home through Camden National Bank, the bank donates \$100 to a local homeless shelter on behalf of that customer. To date, more than \$730,000 in unrestricted funds have been donated to some 50 homeless shelters in Northern New England.

With locations across Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts, Camden National Bank is dedicated to making a difference in the communities where its employees live and work. Employees are passionate about providing financial expertise to customers and volunteer-

See Donations, page 4



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# Newsmakers, Names & Faces

## UUCB Concert for a Cause supports local organizations

**BRUNSWICK, ME** — Canadian folk singer James Keelaghan and David Woodhead will perform at the Brunswick Unitarian Universalist Church on Saturday, November 18 at 7:30 pm as part of the Concerts for a Cause series to raise money for Oasis Free Clinics and the Midcoast New Mainers Group.

James Keelaghan is one of Canada's most successful and respected musicians known for his lilting baritone voice, his driving rhythm guitar, and his finely crafted stories. He is a commanding performer, developing an intimate rapport with audiences through his stories and sense of humor. Over the course of thirteen albums, he has earned many nominations and awards, including a Juno, a Canadian Folk Music Award, and first prize in the prestigious USA Songwriting Competition. Aside from making music, Keelaghan broadcasts on CBC and hosts two shows on CKUA in Alberta.

Keelaghan studied history at the University of Calgary, and his passion for stories, old and new, informs some of his best-known songs. These aren't stuffy history lessons, but an inspired discovery of people and places in another time. Many of the lyrics



in his songs display a concern about social problems and justice in society. Examples of such themes include "Kiri's Piano", about the internment of Japanese Canadians and "House of Cards" about the financial crisis of 2007. And while many of Keelaghan's most celebrated songs draw from historical accounts, his accounts of personal journeys are remarkable too... tender and unflinching.

It was Dave Marsh, the award-winning American music critic who stated that James Keelaghan is "Canada's finest songwriter," and those few but powerful words of praise say it all about an artist who continues to set the bar at a lofty height.

For this concert, James will be accompanied

by renowned session musician, David Woodhead, on bass. Woodhead collaborated on about 300 albums and worked with many influential artists. His own music draws from the intimacy of the folk world, the harmonic sensibilities of jazz, and a sense of precision from classical arranging, with room for freedom in individual expression and improvisation.

Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door, Students/Children: \$10. Available at the church office, Gulf of Maine Books, or online at <https://ticket-stripe.com/keelaghan/>

Unitarian Universalist Church of Brunswick  
1 Middle Street,  
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Saturday, November 18, 2023  
7:30 pm

## Letter to the Editor: Drawbacks of green energy

I am writing in response to the Clean Car Rule and the Republican challenge to the rule, published November 9. I object to the ineffectual denigrating tone of the response and offer the following:

No doubt the intent of the Clean Car Rule is to reduce CO2 emissions thereby combating global warming. One problem with the rule is electric vehicles only reduce CO2 emissions when the electric grid is 100% green. Our own energy department predicts the grid will be only 60% green in 2050. Therefore, it is decades premature to force anyone to buy electric vehicles and in fact will do more harm to CO2 levels.

Another problem, electric vehicles are expensive to buy. Multiple analyses have shown that when all the expenses are considered over the lifetime of a gas powered auto compared to an EV, the savings

barely favor the EV. And the analyses have not factored in the miles tax we must implement to offset lost gas tax revenue. There go the savings.

Another problem, lifecycle analyses are incomplete for EVs. We are learning in bits and pieces that the extractions of rare earths are more expensive than predicted, mining and refining additional aluminum to make vehicles lighter is ripping up large pieces of whole countries in Africa, costs to install wind power offshore are doubling and tripling, and there will be more surprises. Germany is starting to reverse its quest for green power.

If one steps back and looks at all the machinations for green power and EVs, it is chaos with higher costs already in plain sight for minimal gain in CO2 reduction. The Board of Environmental Protection has been overly influenced

by 150 petition signers advocating for the Clean Car Rule. This is too much regulation from such a small group, which groups clearly do not have a full, clear picture of the chaos in the EV and green power industries.

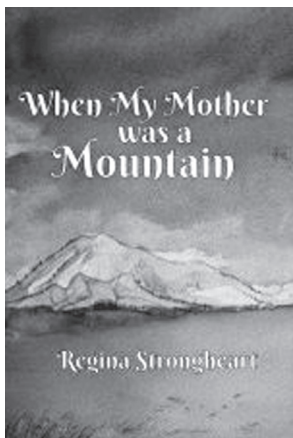
In one credible analysis, if all the passenger autos in the world were EVs, and the grid 100% green, the CO2 reduction amounts to less than 8% of the CO2 problem in the world. In the US, we might see a green grid in 2070, 2080? In the meantime, China's CO2 emissions are going up and up with 50-100 new coal fired power plants forecast.

In the meantime we can buy a Fort Maverick pick up truck for about \$25,000 and get 40 plus MPG. That beats the beans out of the Clean Car Rule even after the federal and state government subsidies.

Brian C. Jones  
Gorham, ME

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## Medical intuitive, healer, and author to speak Gorham's BML



**GORHAM, ME** — On Tuesday, November 28th 6pm, join us at Baxter Memorial Library in Gorham to meet Regina

Strongheart and learn more about her recent memoir *When My Mother Was a Mountain*.

In the summer of 1996 her life took a detour during a solo camping trip to South Dakota. She sensed emanations from the land, saw the ghosts of Indigenous people, and watched birds morph before her eyes. The journey lead to a spontaneous transformation from ordinary science teacher into medical intuitive and healer.

Relaxing in her tent on the prairie, she mused

about the connections between the Laws of Physics and the workings of the Universe. Soon after that, her intuitive and healing gifts began to unexpectedly appear and grow.

She now has a business, Forest Circles, where she hosts programs featuring various traditional practices and where she offers her own styles of medical intuitive and energy healing.

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# Seniors Not Acting Their Age

## Almost Heavenly West Virginia Whitewater



A canoeist surfs Five Boat Hole on the Gauley



A paddler descends Koontz Flume



A canoeist rides the waves at the bottom of Lower Mash



A kayaker navigates through Diagonal Ledges

In my opinion, West Virginia has more outstanding whitewater than any state east of the Mississippi. For nearly two decades beginning in 1990, my friends and I traveled to West Virginia almost every spring and fall to challenge its steep rivers and creeks. Then we got old, some passed, and we stopped making the semi-annual pilgrimages.

Probably no river better exemplifies West Virginia whitewater than the Gauley River near Summersville. A National Recreation Area, the Gauley offers world class whitewater as it flows for over 25 miles through a succession of scenic gorges and valleys. Each fall, special high volume releases are discharged from the Summersville Dam that attracts whitewater enthusiasts from all over the globe.

This year, my friend, Ryan Galway, planned a Penobscot Paddle & Chowder Society West Virginia whitewater trip that began with the Gauley River. When Ryan invited me, I was hesitant. Seventeen years have passed since I kayaked the Gauley; my skills have diminished and my Eskimo roll is less reliable. Ryan

suggested joining him on a shredder, a more forgiving two-person inflatable boat. Since my life insurance policy is paid up, I accepted the invitation.

Following a demanding 950-mile drive, I joined Ryan and eight more paddlers at the Gauley takeout in Belva. Ryan hired Hills to Hills Shuttle Service to transport us about 15 miles upriver to the put-in for the Lower Gauley at a location called Woods Ferry. The water level approximated a feisty 3,000 cubic feet per second. The launch area was bustling with activity.

We anticipated an extremely exciting day. Consisting of five kayaks, two canoes, and the shredder team, most of the group had never paddled the Gauley. Ryan and I were experiencing our first time shredding together. Ours would be on-the-job training.

After a few Class III rapids, we approached the first difficult descent called Backender. A long chaotic rapid filled with large waves and huge holes, the preferred route is center to far left at the bottom to avoid the gnarly backender wave/hole. Ryan and I almost got back ended. A canoeist flipped and swam. We clearly needed

to improve our game as Class V, Koontz Flume, was next.

Although there was some disagreement about how to navigate Koontz Flume, there was no doubt in my mind. Ryan and I intended to avoid holes and the dangerously undercut rock on the right by running tight left. Most followed us and everyone nailed it. A couple of boaters in our group surfed the famed Five Boat Hole at the bottom. Both flipped and rolled.

The next difficult rapids were Upper and Lower Mash. Upper is a complex trashy descent. Ryan and I negotiated around a maze of holes and pour overs before plowing through a powerful hydraulic at the bottom. A canoeist in our group swam most of the rapid. When we assisted him to shore, he summed up his experience with a succinct comment, "I got mashed." While helping him, two shredder teams swam past – a stark reminder we weren't exempt from mishaps.

Descending Lower Mash required completing a difficult ferry to river left followed by a twisting route through huge waves. One canoeist walked. Everyone else experienced

*See Seniors, next page*

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**Donations**  
*Continued from page 2*

ing locally in their communities. In 2022 alone, employees donated nearly 9,000 volunteer hours at approximately 287 non-profit organizations, and the bank donated \$29,250 to 107 nonprofits in honor of employee volunteers. To learn more, please visit [CamdenNational.bank](http://CamdenNational.bank).

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



# Registration open for forest product workforce course



MACHIAS, ME – FOR/Maine (Forest Opportunity Roadmap) coalition and Sunrise County Economic Council are pleased to announce registration is open for a new, free, online course called “The Business of Maine’s Forestry Products Sector”. The 10-week course is offered through Washington County Community College, is open to all working-age Mainers, and begins November 21st. It is a first-ever program to promote workforce op-

portunities and innovation across Maine’s Forest Products Sector and will leverage strong industry and workforce partnerships to link Mainers with job opportunities.

The asynchronous course will be delivered virtually, allowing learners to access the workshops live, as well as catch the weekly recordings at their convenience. Learners that complete the course will earn three college credits as well as Maine Forest Prod-



ucts Sector micro-credentials. Participants can also select individual workshops to attend/watch and forego college credit. Both options are completely free. The course is open to anyone with an interest in the field, students and entrepreneurs. Classes will be held weekly (except for holidays) on Tuesdays from 2-5 pm from November 21, 2023, to January 30, 2024.

This course will provide participants with an

understanding of opportunities across the industry, access to direct contact with industry professionals and subject matter experts across the field, as well as the knowledge to begin their own career journey. The course will commence with a virtual career fair where learners can meet employers in the sector.

Individuals are considered at a secondary level of employment after completing the 10-week course and achieving micro-credentials.

Financial assistance of up to \$500 per learner is available to address barriers, such as internet access or childcare costs.

The course and associated materials will also be

available in Spanish.

This course was developed through a partnership between Sunrise County Economic Council, Forest Opportunity Roadmap (FOR/Maine), Washington County Community College (WCCC), and Maine Development Foundation. The course is generously funded through a private trust grant. Barrier removal assistance is thoughtfully provided through a Maine Department of Labor and State Workforce Board Industry Partnership grant.

To register, please visit <https://mainestreetbusiness.org/forestry-products/> or use your smartphone camera to scan the QR Code.

# Bill to monitor mountain snowpack across Maine

WASHINGTON, D.C.— U.S. Senators Susan Collins and Angus King have introduced legislation to help monitor mountain snowpack across Maine. The Snow Survey and Water Supply Forecasting Act would establish a network of snow and water monitoring stations across Maine and the Northeast to better track mountain snow accumulation and precipitation rates – to help Maine’s communities and businesses adapt to changing dynamics.

As climate change continues to disrupt weather patterns, expanded resources are needed to help bolster both impact research and response. In Maine, decreased snowfall, increased rainfall and rising temperatures due to climate change have already had substantial effects on the environment, as well as the recreation and forestry industries which are critical to the state’s economic success.

“Access to more accurate weather data is

essential for informed decision-making, especially with recent unpredictable shifts in weather patterns,” said Senator Collins. “This bipartisan bill would establish a network of snow and water monitoring stations in Maine and across the Northeast, which will serve as crucial infrastructure in our efforts to closely track the effects of climate change on precipitation, sustain our seasonal winter economy, and safeguard our environ-

ment.” “On a global scale, climate change is one of the greatest existential threats we are facing today,” said Senator King. “Here in Maine, we are already seeing the impact firsthand with increased temperatures, above average precipitation and less snowfall — impacting not only our environment, but also the recreation and forestry industries which are important economic drivers for our state. The Snow Survey Northeast Expansion Act will help expand

the tools and resources needed to track the impacts of climate change to better inform the Maine industries that are heavily reliant on weather forecasting.”

Senators Collins and King helped lead the passage the Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA) into law; the legislation includes the Restore Our Parks Act – a bill led by King and cosponsored by Collins – and the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Permanent Funding Act.

## Seniors

*Continued from previous page*

successful runs. The next challenging rapid, Heaven’s Gate, is around the bend. Our group effectively navigated the center to left route before careening between or around two giant rocks at the end called Pearly Gate.

Several long rapids ensued but our minds were focused on the last major descent, a Class V delightfully named Pure Screaming Hell. Remaining in your boat at the bottom requires riding large waves on the left, skirting a wide keeper hole to the right, and then maneuvering hard left to miss a notorious obstacle called Hell Hole. A kayaker in front of us caught the edge of the keeper. He capsized and swam through enormous waves but missed Hell Hole. Ryan and I almost replicated his disaster but managed two last-second pry strokes to escape unscathed.

The last mile or so consists of easier rapids. At the takeout in Belva, we celebrated completion of one of the most demanding whitewater runs in the eastern United States. Tomorrow, we’re going to paddle another iconic West Virginia River, New River Gorge.

My book, *Maine Al Fresco: The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine*, narrates exciting descents of nine whitewater rivers and streams.

Ron Chase resides in Topsham. His latest book, “*Maine Al Fresco: The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine*” is available at [www.northcountrypress.com/maine-al-fresco](http://www.northcountrypress.com/maine-al-fresco) or in bookstores and through online retailers. His previous books are “The Great Mars Hill Bank Robbery” and “Mountains for Mortals – New England.” Visit his website at [www.ronchaseoutdoors.com](http://www.ronchaseoutdoors.com) or he can be reached at [ronchaseoutdoors@comcast.net](mailto:ronchaseoutdoors@comcast.net)

# \$14M for improvements at International Marine Terminal

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, U.S. Senator Susan Collins, Vice Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, announced that the Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT) has been awarded \$14,240,000 through the U.S. Department of Transportation Maritime Administration’s (MARAD) Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP). The funding will support components of MaineDOT’s “Enhancing Maine’s Three-Port Strategy for the Future” proposal.

Specifically, this funding award will be used to support critical modernization efforts at the Portland International Marine Terminal (IMT). The Maine Port Authority’s container handling facility at the IMT in Portland has seen huge cargo volume gains in recent years and requires improvements to facilitate this growth. Work will include tripling IMT’s current capacity of refrigerated container plugs, upgrading IMT’s emergency generator system to meet electricity demand from expansion,

and other facility improvements.

“Improving Maine’s infrastructure and modernizing our coastal economies are essential efforts for ensuring our state’s long-term growth and prosperity,” said Senator Collins. “This investment will help better position Portland for future expansions and increasing freight volumes. As the Vice Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, I will continue to advocate for programs that better Maine’s infrastructure and strengthen our

maritime economy.”

PIDP grants support efforts by ports and industry stakeholders to improve port and related freight infrastructure to meet the nation’s freight transportation needs and ensure our port infrastructure can meet anticipated growth in freight volumes. The PIDP provides funding to ports in both urban and rural areas for planning and capital projects. It also includes a statutory set-aside for small ports to continue to improve and expand their capacity to move freight

reliably and efficiently and support local and regional economies.

Senator Collins first joined the Appropriations Committee in 2009 and previously served as both the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies. In that time, she has helped secure more than \$1 billion for transportation and infrastructure improvements throughout the State of Maine.

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## MCPKIDS! to present “Elf the Musical JR”



**MONMOUTH, ME** -- The Monmouth Community Players, along with Marquis Season Sponsor, Great Falls Federal Credit Union, and season sponsors Readfield Insurance, Winthrop Area Federal Credit Union, and LWPE Law Offices, with MCP-

Kids! season sponsors Textech Industries, Community Credit Union, Mills Family Monmouth Lights, and Indie Stage Music are thrilled to announce their MCPKids! production of Elf The Musical JR. Based on the 2003 New Line Cinema hit, Elf

The Musical JR. features songs by Tony Award nominees Matthew Sklar (The Wedding Singer) and Chad Beguelin (Disney's Aladdin On Broadway, The Wedding Singer), a book by Tony Award winners Thomas Meehan (Annie, The Producers, Hairspray) and Bob Martin (The Drowsy Chaperone). It tells the story of a young orphan who mistakenly crawls into Santa's bag of gifts and is transported to the North Pole. The would-be elf is given the name Buddy and raised by elves in the North Pole. Buddy lives happily unaware that he is actually a human until his enormous size and poor toy-making abilities cause him to face the truth. With Santa's permission, Buddy embarks on a journey to New York City to find his birth father and discover his true identity. Faced with the harsh

reality that his father is on the naughty list and his stepbrother doesn't even believe in Santa, Buddy is determined to win over his new family and help New York remember the true meaning of the holidays.

The MCPKids! production of Elf The Musical JR. features 32 students, ages 7-13: from Auburn: Grace Garner, Dorothy Gaspary, Ender Gaspary, and Iana Helczyk-Postole; from Augusta: Harper Small; from Farmingdale: Alex D'Alfonso, Ben D'Alfonso, Callie D'Alfonso, and Polly Lutte; from Gardiner: Jocelyn Haskell; from Hallowell: Jackie Senft; from Lewiston: Mia Baril, Bella Lambert, and Jaxon Lambert; from Litchfield: Maddox Grondin; from Monmouth: Alastair Cote, Eleanor Cote, Mason Daniels, Lia Eagers, Kenedy Guilmet, Hannah Hoke, Grace Mills,

and Alice Turney; from New Gloucester: Gabe Lilley; from Oakland: Drea Wells; from Randolph: Ady Pitteroff and Ellie Pitteroff; from Wales: Avery Hamlin and Oliver Hamlin; from Wayne: Audrey Tucker; and from Winthrop: Addison Hunt and Molly Poirier. The Production Team includes Director Mary Melquist, Music Director Hannah Hanson, Choreographer Samantha Herriot, and Producer Emily Kalafarski.

MCPKids! is also running a poinsettia fundraiser along with this production to help spread joy and cheer! 1 plant can be purchased for 22.00, or 2 plants for 40.00, through our website. The profits of the fundraiser will go to support our MCPKids! program. Poinsettias can be picked up December 10th at Cumston Hall in Monmouth, between the

hours of 10am and Noon, from our own Elf Jr. Elves!

MCPKids! presents Elf The Musical JR. the weekend of December 15-17, 2023 at Cumston Hall, 796 Main St, Monmouth, ME 04259. For more information about the show, please contact the MCP Box Office at [mcpboxoffice@gmail.com](mailto:mcpboxoffice@gmail.com) or call 207-370-9566. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students, and they are available for purchase on the MCP website at: [www.monmouth-communityplayers.org](http://www.monmouth-communityplayers.org)

Elf The Musical JR. is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. 421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019 Phone: 212-541-4684 Fax: 212-397-4684 [www.MTI-Shows.com](http://www.MTI-Shows.com).

## Vivid Motion Dance marks 20 years with Winter Burlesque

**PORTLAND, ME** -- Celebrating its 20th anniversary, Vivid Motion Dance opens its annual winter burlesque Friday, December 8th. Portland's longest running burlesque tradition is co-directed by Brigitte Paulus and MJ Emerson and features live music and original songs by the NB Ensemble band.

In true innovative and quirky Vivid Motion Dance style, the company has revamped the classic holiday poem 'Twas the Night Before Christmas into a siz-

zling and sensual burlesque dance performance!

Santa and her sexy reindeer are sure to liven up your evening in Vivid Motion Dance's retelling of this popular poem. While no children are nestled anywhere in this show, there are plenty of mischievous and sexy elves to shake things up. What presents will come to life this year? Who will win the Hot Wheels race? Are the dolls naughty or nice? What's in the big green box? Exactly \*how\* many articles of



clothing can dancers take off before a rowdy audience? So many questions - and all will be revealed!

This adults-only show opens with its live band at 7:30 p.m. on Fri-

day, December 8th at The Hill Arts on Munjoy Hill in Portland ME. Performances will run through Saturday, December 16th. Tickets are on sale now at [vividmotion.org](http://vividmotion.org).

**WHO:** Vivid Motion Dance, Portland's innovative and kinda quirky dance company

**WHAT:** 'Twas the Night Before...Burlesque!

**WHEN:** Friday December 8, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday December 9, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday December 10, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday December 13, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

Thursday December 14, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

Friday December

15, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday December 16, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** The Hill Arts (formerly St. Lawrence Arts), 76 Congress Street, Portland

All tickets are \$25 in advance/\$30 at the door and are available at [vividmotion.org](http://vividmotion.org).

There will also be a pay-what-you-can dress rehearsal on Thursday, December 7th at 7:30 p.m. For dress rehearsal reservations, please email [tickets@vividmotion.org](mailto:tickets@vividmotion.org).

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## Clothes Galore at Gorham's Mission of Hope Clothes Closet

**GORHAM, ME** (April 29, 2023) -- The FREE Clothes Closet at Cressey Road Church (Mission of Hope Clothes Closet) is open to all who need Fellowship, Friendship and Clothes. We are located at 81 Cressey Road, Gorham, and we are open on the FIRST and THIRD Saturday of each month from 9 o'clock AM to 12 Noon.

We focus on clothes and accessories (gloves, scarves, hats, etc.) and welcome your donations during our operating hours. Clean clothes in good shape help the most, as they go right out to help people locally or in nearby communities. An attempt is made to have season appropriate clothes available to you. After we have dis-

played them for a time, they are donated to serve the people in need in Ukraine.

In addition to helping folks find clothes, we want to spend time with you! There are tables to sit, talk and to share a cup of coffee and usually a goodie with volunteers or others. Come see us! You might make a new friend. All are Welcome!



# Transgender Day of Remembrance Monday

**BRUNSWICK, ME** -- By a recent count, at least forty transgender or gender variant lives have been lost in the United States this year, 2023. Those forty are just the murders that have been made known. Many victims of transphobic violence never have their deaths publicly acknowledged. With the recent bombardment of anti-trans legislation aimed to suppress the trans and gender variant community in this country, the acknowledgement of these tragic deaths

is all the more critical. Now, more than ever, it is important to speak their names and honor their memories. To this end, local churches and non-profit organizations are joining together to host a Transgender Day of Remembrance gathering in Brunswick on Monday, November 20.

What is Transgender Day of Remembrance?

Transgender advocate Gwendolyn Ann Smith began Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR) in 1999. TDOR

began as a vigil to honor the memory of Rita Hester, a transgender woman who was killed in Alliston, Massachusetts in 1998. The vigil also commemorated all the transgender and gender variant lives lost to anti-Trans violence in the time following Rita Hester's murder. Thus began an important tradition that has become the annual Transgender Day of Remembrance observed throughout the world on November 20th.

TDOR founder Gwendolyn Ann Smith

says, "Transgender Day of Remembrance seeks to highlight the losses we face due to anti-transgender bigotry and violence. I am no stranger to the need to fight for our rights, and the right to simply exist is first and foremost. With so many seeking to erase transgender people -- sometimes in the most brutal ways possible -- it is vitally important that those we lose are remembered, and that we continue to fight for justice."

How can I get involved in the Transgender

Day of Remembrance?

Join organizers from the Unitarian Universalist Church of Brunswick, First Universalist Church of Yarmouth, First Parish Church in Brunswick, Allen Avenue Unitarian Universalist Church of Portland, the Sexuality, Women, and Gender Center from Bowdoin College in Brunswick, and the Brunswick Pride Committee in a service to honor the transgender and gender variant lives lost this year to transphobic violence.

This Transgender

Day of Remembrance event will be held at 6:30 pm on Monday, November 20 at the UU Church of Brunswick located at 1 Middle St. in Brunswick. Additionally, this service will be broadcast virtually on Zoom for those who are unable to attend in person. While this event is being held at a church, it is led and supported by both religious leaders and community members. This TDOR event is open to all who support the transgender and gender variant community.

## Maine adds eight new species to endangered species list

**AUGUSTA, ME** – Eight new species were added to Maine's Endangered and Threatened Species list, including five birds, one bat, one bee, and a beetle. Two of these species, the saltmarsh sparrow and Ashton's cuckoo bumble bee, are listed as Endangered, and the other six as Threatened. These additions, approved by the Maine Legislature, became official on October 25, 90 days after the end of the last legislative session.

"Maine is known for

its abundance of wildlife, but some species of wildlife are in danger of disappearing from Maine's landscape," said Commissioner Judy Camuso of the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. "The addition of these species to the state's endangered and threatened list will provide additional protections which will aid in their recovery."

Four of these additions to the list are threatened by climate change. The Saltmarsh Sparrow

(Endangered) breeds in coastal saltmarshes of south-central Maine where nests are vulnerable to flooding during high tides associated with sea level rise. Similarly, the Margined Tiger Beetle (Threatened) relies on a small number of saltmarsh-sand dune areas that are threatened by rising seas and associated storm surge. The Bicknell's Thrush (Threatened) and Blackpoll Warbler (Threatened) occupy high-elevation spruce-fir forests of central and west-

ern Maine, habitats that are predicted to retract to higher elevations, or disappear altogether.

As with many bat species across North America, the Tri-colored Bat (Threatened) has declined as a result of white-nose syndrome, a devastating disease that has caused declines of over 90% in Maine's hibernating bat species.

The Ashton's Cuckoo Bumble Bee (Endangered) was thought to be extirpated from Maine following

widespread bumble bee population declines in the early 2000's. However, a single population of the species was recently found during the Maine Bumble Bee Atlas in northern Aroostook County.

Two birds that eat flying insects, the Cliff Swallow (Threatened) and Bank Swallow (Threatened), have declined by >95% over the past fifty years, due to loss of habitat and declining insect populations.

There are fifty-seven

species that are now either listed as state Threatened or Endangered in Maine. This status affords extra protections under the Maine Endangered Species Act, which prohibits collection from the wild, take (killing), harassment (injury or significant disruption of natural behavior), and other harmful activities that might cause extirpation. Additionally, Maine's Endangered and Threatened species are prioritized for increased survey, research,

See *Species*, page 10



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# Maine State Ballet presents *The Nutcracker*



**PORTLAND, ME** – Maine State Ballet ushers in the holiday season with its classic production of *The Nutcracker* at Merrill Auditorium from November 24th through December 3rd. Artistic Director and former New York City Ballet dancer Linda MacArthur Miele directs and choreographs

the story of Clara and her Nutcracker Prince as they travel through the Land of Sweets to meet the Sugar Plum Fairy. Costumes and scenery by Associate Di-

rector Gail Csoboth. Robert Lehmann debuts as Conductor of the Maine State Ballet Orchestra and Chorus.

Emma Davis and Brooke Sowerby return to dance the role of Clara with Arie Eiten and Trevor Seymour dancing the role of Nutcracker Prince. Rachel Paradis joins Adrienne Pelletier and newcomer Agnes Norman

as the Sugar Plum Fairy with Glenn Davis and Arie Eiten as the Cavalier. David Jon Timm plays the mysterious Uncle Drosselmeyer. Thirty professional company members with over 300 additional dancers round out the cast.

Performances of *The Nutcracker* run two weekends - Friday, November 24, Saturday, November

25, and Sunday, November 26 all at 2:00 p.m.; Saturday, December 2 at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.; and Sunday, December 3 at 2:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$28-87 with discounts available for groups, seniors & children at [mainestateballet.org](http://mainestateballet.org), 207-842-0800, and at the Merrill Auditorium Box Office located on Myrtle Street in Portland.



A scene from Maine State Ballet's *The Nutcracker* finale



Trevor Seymour as the Nutcracker and Emma Davis as Clara in Maine State Ballet's performance of *The Nutcracker*.

## Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest offers joy and great shopping



Woodfield Farm's horse and wagon returns to Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest 2023 to shuttle shoppers from place to place. This and other free activities are featured throughout the weekend, Dec. 1, 2, 3, from 10am to 5pm each day. (Bob Bond photo)

Challenge for bakers, a wreath-making demo, for clever hands, and workshops to make your own holiday decorations. Familiar features return, like the beloved horse and wagon shuttle, wine tasting, tours of the Nickels-Sortwell House festooned for the season, and a free raffle for local dining, making a gift-shopping day in Wiscasset Village a satisfying Christmas tradition!

For more information and calendar details, visit [www.wiscassetholiday-marketfest.com](http://www.wiscassetholiday-marketfest.com)

Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest December 1, 2, 3, 2023

Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest offers plentiful shopping in unique shops and galleries, and special

artisan-made merch. in Holiday Gift Shop. Tour the historic Nickels-Sortwell House and free rides on the horse & wagon. Family-friendly with Santa, sheep to pet, hot cocoa, caroling! View Wiscasset [www.wiscassetholiday-marketfest.com](http://www.wiscassetholiday-marketfest.com)

The Major Sponsors to-date supporting Mar-

ketfest's free community activities are Carriage House Gardens, First Federal Savings & Loan, First National Bank, J. Edward Knight & Co., Midcoast Federal Credit Union, Red Bull Antiques, Red's Eats, Rock Paper Scissors, Sherri Dunbar/Tim Dunham Realty, and Wiscasset Ford with additional support

from BIRCH Home Furnishings & Gifts, Bradbury Art & Antiques, High Tide Printing, Old and Everlasting, and Water Lily Flowers and Gifts.

Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest is a partnership between Wiscasset Creative Alliance and Wiscasset Area Chamber of Commerce.



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The Holiday Gift Shop, with specialty gifts and artisan wares, like cat toys, is a feature of Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest 2023. (Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest photo)



The historic Nickels-Sortwell House in Wiscasset Village open its doors to visitors during Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest 2023. (Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest photo)

## Gorham Food Pantry Friends collecting donations

**GORHAM, ME** -- Our friends at the Little Falls Mini Mart are collecting donations for the Gorham Food Pantry!

As we begin to

assemble baskets for Thanksgiving for our clients, any Thanksgiving related food (stuffing, cranberry sauce, canned pumpkin, Jiffy box pie

crust) would be especially welcome!

Thanks to the Mini Mart for helping to feed our neighbors here in Gorham.



**Exhibit**  
*Continued from page 1*

The show will run until Saturday, December 9, 2023. The Gallery is open Tuesday – Saturday from 11 am – 4:30 pm and by appointment. A suggested donation of \$2 is requested for exhibition visits.

Jackie Milad (she/her) is a Baltimore City-based artist whose mixed-media abstract paintings and collages address the history and complexities of dispersed cultural heritage and multi-ethnic identity. She has participated in numerous group and solo exhibitions nationally and internationally. Select exhibitions include The Walters Art Museum (Baltimore, MD), The Baltimore Museum of Art (Baltimore, MD), Academy Art Museum (Easton, MD), Weatherspoon Art Museum (Charlotte, NC), The Mint Museum (Charlotte, NC), Arthur Ross Gallery at the University of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia, PA), and the Harvey B. Gantt Center (Charlotte, NC).

Milad is a multi-year recipient of the Individual Artist Grant from the Maryland State Arts Council. In 2019, she was named a Janet & Walter Sondheim Prize Finalist and a Robert W. Deutsch Foundation Ruby Grantee. In 2022, Jackie received the Municipal Art Society of Balti-

more City Travel Prize to conduct in-depth research on the Egyptian antiquities held at the British Museum and Petrie Museums in London. Her work is included in several public collections, including The Baltimore Museum of Art, Academy Art Museum, Johns Hopkins University Sheridan Library, Robert W. Deutsch Foundation, Pizzuti Collection and Meta (Facebook) Open Art Program. Milad received her BFA from the School of the Museum of Fine Arts at Tufts University, and her MFA from Towson University. She is currently represented by SOCO Gallery in Charlotte, NC.

Libby Paloma (she/they) is an interdisciplinary artist currently based in New York, NY. Paloma's work is informed by aspects of her/their Mexican-American, queer, disabled identity, using soft sculpture, installation, and performance to create gentle environments and often humorous encounters. Inspired by everyday objects and natural surroundings, Paloma's installations and performances are an invitation to rest in a fluffy, puffy, tender world.

Paloma has been an artist in residence at Space, Portland, ME; The Vermont Studio Center, Johnson, VT; and The Wassaic Project, Wassaic, NY. Re-

cently, Paloma was featured as a panelist on the roundtable, What is an Image? at The International Visual Sociology Association Annual Conference, which was subsequently published in Visual Studies Journal, February/May 2023. Work from Paloma's assemblage series Lo Que No Sabrías (What You Wouldn't Know) appeared in the same issue. Paloma's work has been exhibited at El Museo Del Barrio in New York, NY; Burlington City Arts (BCA), Burlington, VT; SOMArts in San Francisco, CA; SPACE Gallery, Portland, ME; Geary Contemporary, Millerton, NY, Unprofessional Variety Show, New York, NY, and the Dorsky Museum in New Paltz, NY where she received the Artist Purchase Award.

In July of 2023, Paloma received an Award of Excellence for their installation in the QUEERwerks exhibition at Silvermine Gallery, New Canaan, CT. Paloma holds a Bachelor's Degree (BA) in Liberal Studies, a Master's Degree (MS) in Communicative Disorders from San Francisco State University, and a Master of Fine Arts (MFA) from Parsons School of Design, The New School, where she/they received the President and University full Scholarship.



Libby Paloma, No Picnic (detail), 2023. Installation: fabric, armature, polyfill; dimensions variable. Photo: Jack Stolz.



Jackie Milad, Tanto Es (detail), 2021. Mixed media canvas collage, 60 x 55 in. Photo: Jack Stolz.

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# Combat engineer company changes hands



Capt. Jones and family (L to R) - grandmother Joan, grandfather Robert, Capt. Jones, mother Marcia, father Steve, sister Audrey, brother in law Mike. Photos courtesy of Sgt. 1st Class Anthony Plourde

**NORWAY, ME** -- On Oct 14, in a ceremony in front of family, friends and fellow soldiers, Capt. Ellen Morrison passed the company guidon to incoming commander Capt. Corey Jones, thereby handing off command of the 251st Engineer Company.

"In my time as battalion commander, I have appreciated Capt. Morrison at the 251," said Lt. Col. Lisa Sessions, commander of the 133rd Engineer Battalion. "You led the unit through difficult and challenging times during the pandemic, and most recently you survived and thrived during your JRTC mission. That is a testament to you and your leadership. The 251 has accomplished great things. You should be proud. It has been a true pleasure working with you, and I'm excited to see what your future holds."

JRTC, or the Joint Readiness Training Center, is located at Fort Johnson, Louisiana, and hosts national combined arms exercises designed to hone both active and reserve units' abilities to

perform in a realistic decisive action environment.

"To all the soldiers of the 251, it's because of you this company continues to succeed," said Morrison. "There's a reason why this unit won the best unit in the state of Maine in 2022 and will continue to win in upcoming years - it's because of you."

Morrison was awarded the Army Commendation Medal for her accomplishments during her command tour. She will continue her service as an operations section battle captain with the 133rd Engineer Company in Brunswick.

Adopted from Russia by American parents at an early age, Morrison spent her formative years in Silver Spring, Maryland, eventually following her brother and godfather into military service. She was also influenced by her father who worked for the National Security Agency. An ordnance officer turned engineer, Morrison previously served as the 251st's executive officer, as well as a platoon leader for both the 251st and Augusta's 152nd Support Maintenance Company.

She holds a bachelor's degree from New England School of Communications in Bangor and is employed by PatraCompany, a visual marketing company located in Brunswick.

Jones takes the company guidon after a tour as the training officer at 521st Troop Command in Bangor, during which time he served as a battle captain for the New England CERFP, a multi-state specialized National Guard response team, and also was heavily involved in supporting two international exercises with Maine's state partner nation of Montenegro.

Jones, like Morrison, was commissioned through the Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) at the University of Maine. He originally enlisted as a heavy equipment operator with the 185th Engineer Support Company in Caribou. Other previous assignments include platoon leader for both the 251st and 262nd Engineer Company. Jones also served as executive officer for the 262nd, and deployed to the Southwest border in support of U.S. Customs



Capt. Ellen Morrison and 1st Sgt. Jacob Poulin. Photos courtesy of Sgt. 1st Class Anthony Plourde

and Border Patrol.

"I stand before you today excited and thankful for the opportunity to lead the 251st Sapper Company," said Jones in his remarks. "Command is a privilege, and I owe this privilege to several people who helped me on my path."

Jones thanked multiple mentors for their guidance and advice over the years, culminating in his taking command of the 251st.

"Most importantly,

I want to say 'thank you' to the men and women of the 251st Sapper Company," said Jones. "As many of you in this formation know, this is my home, and many of you standing here challenged me as a young lieutenant to be the best sapper I could be. I promise to serve my time here with that same mentality, and push our new soldiers to live up to those same expectations."

The 251st "Sappers" consists of approximately 95 soldiers from

across Maine. The unit traces its lineage back to June of 1810 and saw its first campaign during the War of 1812. The 251st is task-organized to provide assault, obstacle emplacement, route and area clearance, and general engineering support to a brigade-sized element. The majority of the unit was mobilized in January 2021 to support civilian law enforcement in Washington, D.C. during the 59th Presidential Inauguration.

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**Species**

*Continued from page 7*

and recovery efforts by the Department and our conservation partners.

The Maine Endan-

gered and Threatened Species Listing Handbook (PDF) covers all aspects of the Department's Endangered Species Listing process, including both regulatory and poli-

cy level components. The Maine Endangered Species Act [MESA] statutorily establishes the categories of "endangered" and "threatened" species. Species are added to, or

deleted from, these categories via recommendations by the Commissioner of MDIFW to the Legislature, and ultimately, approval by the Legislature. Other adminis-

trative categories (special concern and extirpated) are established by policy, not by regulation, and are used for planning and informational purposes; they do not have the legal weight of the first two categories.

By rule, the Department must review all species under its authority once every eight years to determine which species qualify for listing. During this comprehensive review, Department biologists, guided by the Maine Endangered and Threatened Species List-

ing Handbook compile a list of likely candidates for listing and distributes it to species specialists in Maine and elsewhere. Based on input from these specialists, the Department may revise the list before presenting it to the public at public hearings. Ultimately, the Department submits its final recommendation to the Legislature for their approval. The last comprehensive review was in 2022, with the Legislature approving the recommendations of the Commissioner (effective October 25, 2023).

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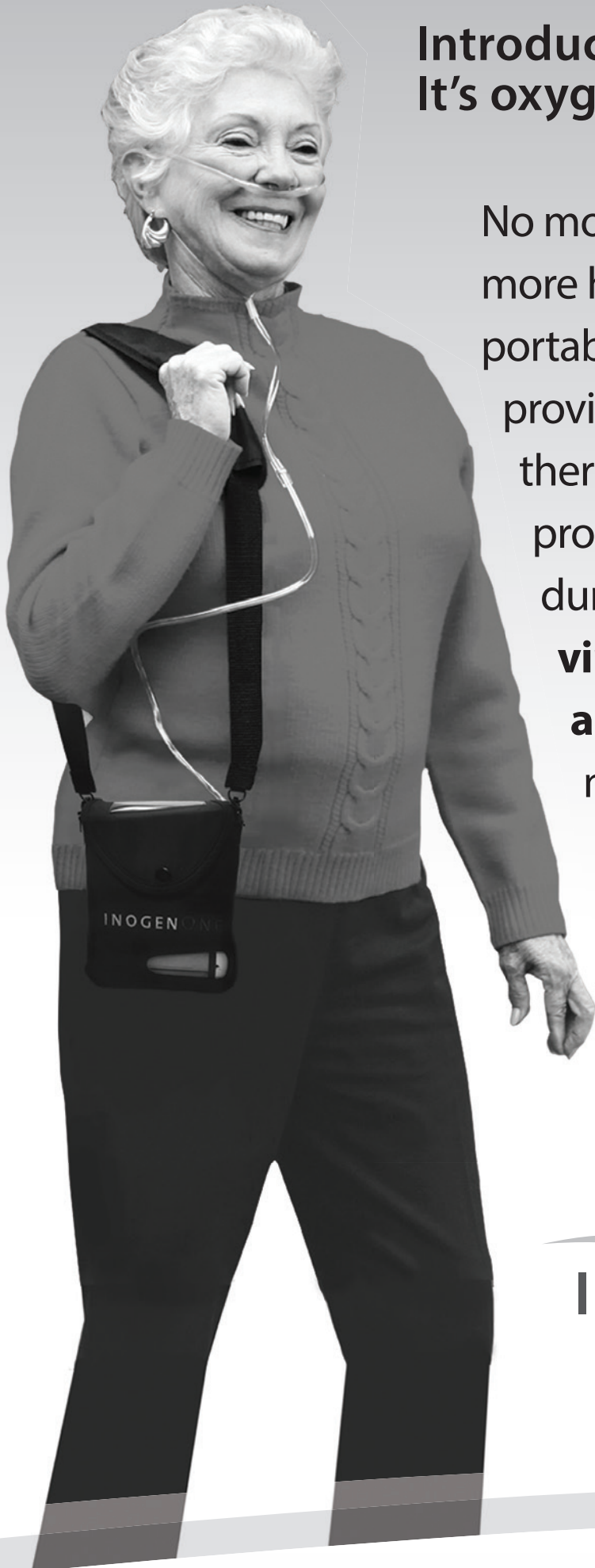
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# MaineCF awards \$409K to advance animal welfare



**Jubee, a 2-year-old terrier mix, is available for adoption from Kennebec Valley Humane Society. The organization was awarded a grant from the Maine Community Foundation's Animal Welfare Fund for its spay and neuter clinic. Photo courtesy Kennebec Valley Humane Society**

**PORTLAND & ELLSWORTH, ME** — The Maine Community Foundation awarded a total of \$408,980 to 29 nonprofit organizations that advance animal welfare in the state through its Animal Welfare Fund.

The grantees include: Franklin County Animal Shelter, for its low-cost spay and neuter program  
Kennebec Valley Humane Society, for a spay and neuter wellness clinic  
SPCA Hancock County, for general support.

The Animal Welfare Fund supports projects and organizations that help low-income people stay with their pets through hardships, support population control and/or educate pet owners and communities about humane treat-

ment of animals.

The Animal Welfare Fund was established in 2007 by an anonymous donor. The fund is further supported by the Doree Taylor Charitable Foundation, Bank of America, N.A. and the George F. Lyman and Ernestine Lyman Trust.

For more information about the Animal Welfare Fund, visit [www.maine.cf.org/animalwelfare](http://www.maine.cf.org/animalwelfare) or contact Community Partner John Ochira at [jochira@maine.cf.org](mailto:jochira@maine.cf.org) or 207-412-0837.

The Maine Community Foundation brings people and resources together to build a better Maine through strategic giving, community leadership, personalized service, local expertise and strong investments. To learn more

about the foundation, visit [www.maine.cf.org](http://www.maine.cf.org).

2023 Animal Welfare Fund Grants

Animal Refuge League of Greater Portland, for general support: \$15,000

Animal Welfare Society, for general support: \$15,000

Ark Animal Sanctuary, for general support:

\$15,000

Bangor Humane Society, for general support: \$15,000

Central Aroostook Humane Society, for free spay and neuter clinics: \$15,000

Eastern Area Agency on Aging, to keep low-income, older adults and their pets together through Furry Friends, distribution of pet food, supplies, and animal welfare education: \$12,980

Franklin County Animal Shelter, for its low-cost spay and neuter program: \$10,000

Give a Dog a Home German Shepherd Rescue, for general support: \$15,000

Halfway Home Pet Rescue, for its spay and neuter clinic: \$15,000

Harvest Hills Animal Shelter, for general support: \$15,000

Homeless Animal Rescue Team of Maine, for the Beyond the Walls program to assist low-income cat owners with urgent veterinary bills: \$15,000

Humane Society Wa-

terville Area, for general support: \$15,000

Kennebec Valley Humane Society, for a spay and neuter wellness clinic: \$15,000

Community Kritters, for spay/neuter collaboration with Greater Androscoggin Humane Society for Tree Street neighborhood pets: \$15,000

Maine Animal Health Alliance, to provide \$100 and up coupons canine spay/neuter/vaccine services for Maine families with financial need: \$15,000

Midcoast Humane, to help low-income communities keep pets in their homes, address Maine's feral cat population, and educate community about the human-animal bond: \$15,000

PAWS Animal Adoption Center, for general support: \$15,000

Pixel Posse, for general support: \$15,000

Pope Memorial Humane Society, for general support: \$15,000

Rattletrap Ranch, to defray expenses for care

of cats and kittens taken in and socialized, and to support the long-term needs of fostered aging and disabled cats: \$15,000

Red Rover, to conduct outreach especially in Androscoggin and Cumberland counties: \$15,000

Responsible Pet Care of Oxford Hills, for general support: \$10,000

SPCA Hancock County, for general support: \$15,000

Somerset Humane Society, for a low cost public spay/neuter voucher program: \$15,000

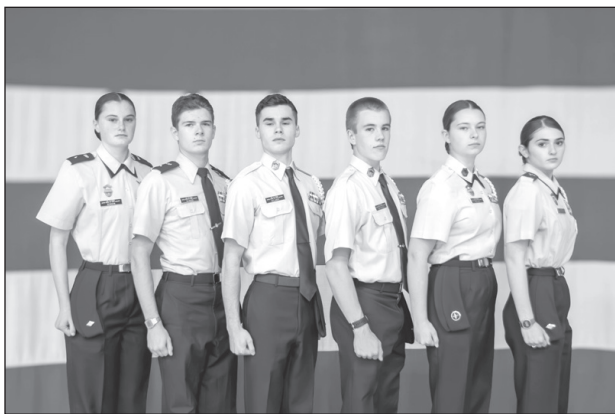
Spirits Place, for general support: \$15,000

The Ark, to help fund veterinary costs through the low-cost spay/neuter program, and the fund that assists with emergency veterinary costs within the community: \$15,000

Town of Dexter, to place older cats into the homes of older people and help with their help deposits and annual wellness exams: \$15,000

Waldo County Pet Food Pantry, for general support: \$15,000.

# Maine Civil Air Patrol Cadets aim high in competition



**L to R: Portland Composite Squadron Competition Team, Cadet Maj. Caroline Benson, CAP, Cadet 2nd Lt. Garner Klinger, CAP, Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Patrick Delaney, CAP, Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Lance Whitehead, CAP, Cadet Senior Master Sgt. Riley Record, CAP, Cadet Maj. Eva Levin, CAP**

**AUGUSTA, ME** – Integrity, excellence, and respect were on display at the Augusta Armory on Sunday Oct. 29 as Maine

Wing Civil Air Patrol cadets put themselves to the test, competing in the challenging annual Cadet Competition.

6 teams of 6 cadets from 6 squadrons throughout Maine Wing competed in physical fitness, presentation and posting of the colors, drill, team leadership and uniforms. In the months leading up to the competition, the teams practiced and prepared with fierce determination to bring honor to their squadrons.

Portland Composite Squadron earned first place in the competition with their exceptional color guard presentations standing out as a highlight of the day.

The Auburn-Lewiston Composite Squadron ultimately earned second place, edging out the Sanford Composite Squadron

by one point in a thrilling battle to the end.

The first and second place teams will move on to the regional competition in 2024 where they will compete for the honor of representing the Northeast Region, consisting of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, at the national competition.

“Maine Wing cadets impress me regularly, but this year’s competition went beyond even my high expectations,” said 1st Lt. Laura Decato, Maine Wing Director of Cadet Programs. “The extraordinary amount of work these teams put in to readying themselves for competition showed today and I am so proud of each and every competitor.”

Teams from Bangor-Brewer Composite Squadron, Brunswick



**L to R: Col. Blain Cote, CAP Maine Wing Commander, Cadet Maj. Caroline Benson, CAP, Portland Comp. Sq. Team Cadet Commander, Cadet Maj. Sean Haggerty, CAP, Auburn-Lewiston Comp. Sq. Team Cadet Commander, Cadet 2nd Lt. Bennett Gibson, CAP, Sanford Comp. Sq. Team Cadet Commander**

Composite Squadron and Waterville Composite Squadron rounded out the field of competitors, with each team representing the best of Maine Wing.

Maine Wing Civil Air Patrol has 10 squadrons throughout Maine that are open new cadets ages 12-18. For more information on how to join Civil Air

Patrol, visit [gocivilairpatrol.com](http://gocivilairpatrol.com) to learn more and find your local squadron.

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



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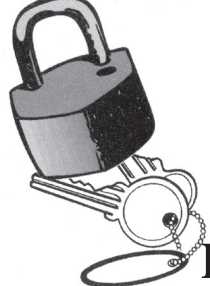
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# Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

**Nov 17**  
 BATH -- 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM the Chocolate Church presents Primo Cubano (Latin). Ticket Prices: \$20 ADV | \$22 DOS. Primo Cubano plays traditional Cuban dance music called "SON" dating back to the turn of the 20th Century. Get your tickets at [chocolatechurcharts.org](http://chocolatechurcharts.org)

**Nov 18**  
 GORHAM -- Christmas Craft Fair 9:00am - 2:00pm at 33 & 34 Wilson Road, Gorham. White Rock Friendship Club and the White Rock Grange #380 will host our annual Christmas Craft Fair. Join over 30 crafters this holiday season. All items are handcrafted: candles, ornaments, home decor, wreathes, jewelry, handbags, crochet animals & knitted items, and much more! Raffle for themed gift baskets. Check event out on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/events/2027697437587563>

**Nov 18**  
 BAR MILLS -- DER-EK GRIPPER - Guitarist - at Saco River Theatre, 29 Salmon Falls Road, Bar Mills, ME, Nov 18 at 7:30 pm. Tickets: \$15 General Admission at [www.sacorivertheatre.org](http://www.sacorivertheatre.org) or call 207-929-6473 for reservations.

**Nov 19**  
 SABATTUS -- Our Lady of the Rosary Christmas craft fair on Saturday, November 18th from 9

to 3. The fair will be located in the lower level of the church at 131 High St. in Sabattus. We'll have around 30 crafters and vendors, a basket raffle, and a bake sale. Come join us.

**Nov 21**  
 AUBURN -- Craft Club 4 PM-5 PM at Auburn Public Library. Come hang out in the Teen Space and work on your current craft project, or start something new with materials we provide! Snacks included.

**Nov 24**  
 BUXTON -- MULTI-CRAFTER SALE Friday, November 24 from 9-2 at 938 Long Plains Rd, Buxton, ME

**Nov 25**  
 BUXTON -- Tired of Turkey? Try our delicious Haddock Supper Buffet - Saturday, November 25, 2023 - 5:00 pm at Living Waters Church, Parker Farm Road, Buxton. Suggested donation: \$10 Adult, \$5 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 wish is optional. Hand sanitizer is available for those who wish to use it.

**Nov 25**  
 BATH -- 7:30 PM

- 9:30 PM the Chocolate Church presents Pat Colwell & The Soul Sensations Motown Christmas (R&B, Holiday). Ticket Prices: \$20 ADV | \$22 DOS. A beloved tradition here at the Chocolate Church Arts Center! Pat Colwell and the Soul Sensations bring down the house with a powerful mix of Motown and Memphis soul music that's guaranteed to get the party started. Get your tickets at [chocolatechurcharts.org](http://chocolatechurcharts.org)

**Nov 25**  
 BAR MILLS -- ERICA BROWN AND THE BLUEGRASS CONNECTION - at Saco River Theatre, 29 Salmon Falls Road, Bar Mills, ME, Nov 25 at 7:30 pm. Tickets: \$15 General Admission at [www.sacorivertheatre.org](http://www.sacorivertheatre.org) or call 207-929-6473 for reservations.

**Nov 27**  
 AUBURN -- Anime & Manga Club 4 PM-5 PM at Auburn Public Library. Discuss and watch your favorite anime, or share manga with the rest of the group, while enjoying some tasty snacks.

**Dec 1**  
 LEWISTON -- from 10:00am - 11:30am, the Lewiston Public Library Children's Department will

be offering the program Little Footprints Keychain Keepsake. During this program, caregivers and their young children will be able to create a keepsake featuring the unique footprint of their child. The program is recommended for kids ages birth to 5 years and their caregivers. Siblings are also welcome to attend. Free. In person. All material will be provided.

**Dec 2, Jan 6, Feb 3, Mar 2, Apr 6, May 4**  
 WESTBROOK -- Prides Corner Community Church, 235 Pride St. Bean Supper \$10 per person: Two kinds of baked beans, mac and cheese, ham, coleslaw, bread and brownie. Eat in at 5:00PM or Take Out from 4:30-5:30PM. Call 207-415-9260 to reserve your individual meal today.

**Dec 4**  
 LEWISTON -- "The Lost Art of Tea Leaf Reading Workshop" in Callahan Hall on the third floor of the Lewiston Public Library from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**Dec 4**  
 LISBON FALLS -- The Knights of Columbus Council 10019 will be sponsoring a dedicated blood drive in memory of Tracy Sautter on December 4th at the parish hall of Holy Trinity church 67 Frost Hill Avenue Lisbon Falls from 1:00 PM to 5:30 PM to make an appoint-

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ment please call 1-800-733-2767 or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter: HTC

No walk-ins accepted; must make an appointment.

**Dec 6**  
 LEWISTON -- Author talk with Clif Travers at the Lewiston Public Library at 5:30 PM. The event listing can also be found on our website at <https://lplonline.org/events/author-clif-travers-to-speak-at-lpl/>

**Dec 11**  
 LEWISTON -- From 3:30pm-5:00pm, the Lewiston Public Library Children's Department will be offering the program Kids' Collage Picture Frames. During this program, kids will be able to create a unique collage picture frame using a variety of materials, including old books, graphic novels, wrapping paper, and embellishments. The program is recommended for kids ages 6-12. Kids under 8

must be accompanied by a caregiver.

This activity is free, all materials will be provided, and there is no registration required.

**Dec 11**  
 LEWISTON -- Visit with Daniel Tiger at the Lewiston Public Library on Saturday, December 9th at 11am in Callahan Hall. This event is in partnership with Maine Public Radio and PBS Kids. Registration required on Eventbrite: <https://tinyurl.com/2vd-4kftu> If you previously registered for the canceled event, you DO NOT need new tickets for this event. You are still registered. Free. In person.

**Jan 20, 21**  
 LEWISTON, TOPSHAM -- "Song & Dance Music from Around the World" Saturday, Jan. 20, 2024, 7:00 p.m. - Franco Center, Lewiston; Sunday, Jan. 21, 2024, 2:30 p.m. - Orion Performing Arts Center, Topsham

## GORHAM LITTLE LEAGUE

# Field Funding Campaign

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
- Purchase seasonal fence for Shaw Park
- Repair dugouts and fencing, build storage centers
- Add infield mix and relevel current fields
- Acquire tarps and field maintenance equipment
- Add scoreboards

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**MAY 11 – 19, 2024 – BILTMORE ESTATE & ASHEVILLE, NC** - Trip includes 8 nights lodging including 4 nights in the Asheville area, 8 breakfasts and 6 dinners and a guided tour of the Asheville, North Carolina area. We will have a full day visit to the spectacular Biltmore Estate, America's largest privately owned home. We will visit the

Biltmore Village that connects the estates present and past and provides a place for dining, shopping and historical exhibits. We will also visit the Antler Village and winery. We will tour the Blue Ridge Parkway with a guide and stops along the way. A \$75.00 deposit per person is due when signing up. Price is \$1,245.00 pp double occupancy which includes all entrance fees, meal tips and bus driver tip.

**JUNE 15 – 23, 2024 – WESTERN CANADA'S ROCKIES, LAKES & WINE COUNTRY** - This trip includes 9 days and 8 breakfasts, 2 lunches and 3 dinners. Highlights of this trip are Calgary, Albertan BBQ, Banff, Bow Falls, Lake Louise, Revelstoke Railway Museum, Okanagan Valley, Vineyard Dinner and Wine Tasting, Stanley Park, Granville Island and much more. Call Claire or Cindy for more information.

**OCTOBER 6 – 14, 2024 - NOVA SCOTIA, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND & NEW BRUNSWICK** – Trip includes 8 nights lodging, 8 break-

fasts, 1 lunch, and 6 dinners. You will have a guided tour of Acadia National Park, Halifax, Peggy's Cove & Lunenburg. We will visit King's Landing Historical Settlement and have a guided tour of Prince Edward Island including Anne of Green Gable's Home. We will have admission to the Hopewell Rocks and you will visit the Waterside Town of Saint John, New Brunswick and much more. A \$75.00 deposit is due when signing up. Price is \$1,639.00 per person double occupancy and this includes all entrance fees, meal tips and bus driver tip.

If interested in any of these trips or upcoming trips, please contact Claire Bilodeau at 784-0302 or 576-8604 or Cindy Boyd at 345-9569. If we are not available, please leave a message and we will call you as soon as we can.

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# Be bold in the cold: Support NRCM's Polar Bear Dip & Dash

PORTLAND, ME -- Registration has officially opened for the 2023 Polar Bear Dip & Dash, National Resources Council of Maine's annual benefit for our team's work to fight the destructive effects of climate change on Maine's spectacular environment. The Dip & Dash challenges participants to be



**BOLD IN THE COLD!** All dollars raised support NRCM's work to reduce climate pollution, increase access to clean transportation, and promote energy-efficient solutions for homes and businesses. There are three ways to join us:

**Participate in Person:** Join us for a 5K "dash" out of Southern Maine Community College's (SMCC) South Portland campus followed by a polar "dip" in the icy waters of the Atlantic from Willard Beach. It's an exhilarating way to spend New Year's Eve morning with a community that is passionate about preserving Maine's environment.

**Participate Virtually:** Can't make it to South Portland on NYE? Register to participate virtually from wherever you'll be celebrating! Every dip, dash, & donation makes a difference.

**Donate:** Want to support the cause without going outside? You can donate to the event or an individual participant through the NRCM's website.

2023 Polar Bear Dip & Dash  
 Southern Maine Community College, South Portland  
 Sunday, December 31, 2023  
 Run/Walk 9:00 a.m.  
 Polar Plunge 10:30 a.m.  
 \$65/person for in-person registration (Register today to take advantage of "Early Bear" discount price of \$60/person before November 15)  
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Join Us for NRCM's 2023 Polar Bear Dip & Dash

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