

## Updates for Gorham school budget, state primary elections

**GORHAM, ME --** A School Budget Validation/State Primary Election will take place on Tuesday, June 11, 2024.

You can request an absentee ballot by going to the Town of Gorham's website. Your ballot will be mailed to you once the Town receives them in early May.

### IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

May 13, 2024: Antic-

ipated date on which absentee ballots will become available.

May 21, 2024: Last day for the Town Clerk's Office to receive voter registration applications by mail.

May 22, 2024: Closed period begins. All voter registration applications must be submitted in person.

May 28, 2024: Last day to change political parties prior to the primary.

June 6, 2024: Last day for absentee voting.

June 11, 2024: Election Day. Polls open from 7am - 8pm.

### IMPORTANT ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

Effective January 1, 2024, Maine will be transitioning from a closed primary system to a semi-open primary. Unenrolled voters will now be able to participate in primaries including

the June 11, 2024 State Primary.

Unenrolled Voters, voters who are not enrolled in a party, may choose to vote in one party's primary.

Voters enrolled in a party Democrat, Republican or Green Independent may only vote in that party's primary.

Go to the Town of Gorham's website for helpful links & FAQs including How do I register to vote?

When do polls open and close on Election Day? Poll places open at 7am and close at 8pm. Where do I vote? How to view a listing of assigned polling wards based on odd/even residential street addresses in Gorham. Which voting district am I in?

Absentee Voting Absentee ballot requests are now available. You can request an absentee ballot by calling the

Clerks office or by going to the Town's website. Ballots will be mailed out the first week of May once the Town Clerk's Office receives them.

The last day to obtain an absentee ballot will be Thursday, June 6th at 7pm.

To be counted, absentee ballots must be returned to the Town Clerk's Office by 8pm on Election Day - June 11, 2024 by you or an immediate family member.

## Save some room for the Gorham Taste Walk 2024



**GORHAM, ME --** Purchase a map as your ticket to walk the streets and taste the eats of Gor-

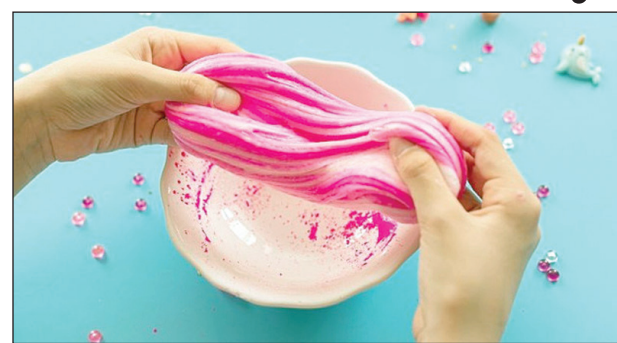
ham! All ticket purchases support Gorham and Windham middle school and high school students going to

summer Camp. Then vote on your favorite restaurant - the winning business gets the Golden Spoon award!

## Slime Time at Gorham's Baxter Memorial Library

**GORHAM, ME --** Join us at Baxter Memorial Library on this early release day for some SLIME TIME! We will be making slime, playing with slime, and talking about slime! All ages welcome. Children under 8 need an adult with them.

Wednesday, May 22nd  
12:30-1:30pm



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

**GORHAM, ME --** 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 displayed them for a time, they are donated to our local second-hand shops.

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!

## YARD SALE

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Everyone!

**SATURDAY**  
**5/18/24**  
**from 8:00-4:00**

12 Canterbury Pines  
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in Gorham

## Town of Gorham revives Boston Post Cane

**GORHAM, ME --** The Town of Gorham is reviving the tradition of the Boston Post Cane. We are looking for the oldest living resident of Gorham. The person must have lived in the Town of

Gorham for a minimum of the most recent 10-year period and must be willing to receive the honor. If you know of someone who may qualify, please contact the Town Clerk's Office at 207-222-

1670 or go to the Town's website to fill out a nomination form.

Additional supporting documentation may be required. Nomination papers will be available until May 30, 2024.

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## SRT, Jr. New Offerings For Kids



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**Andrew Silver**  
**in The Silver**  
**Circus**

SUN, MAY 19 · 2:30PM



**Michael**  
**Trautman in**  
**Body Talk**

SUN, MAY 26 · 2:30PM



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SUN, JUNE 2 · 2:30PM



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# Newsmakers, Names & Faces

## \$28M for Maine to advance safe drinking water

**BOSTON, ME**—The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced \$28,650,000 from President Biden's Investing in America agenda to help Maine identify and replace lead service lines, preventing exposure to lead in drinking water. Lead can cause a range of serious health impacts, including irreversible harm to brain development in children. To protect children and families, President Biden has committed to replacing every lead pipe in the country. Today's announcement, funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and available through EPA's successful Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF), takes another major step to advance this work and the Administration's commitment to environmental justice. This funding builds on the Administration's Lead Pipe and Paint Action Plan and EPA's Get the Lead Out Initiative.

Working collaboratively, EPA and the State Revolving Funds are advancing the President's Justice40 Initiative to ensure that 40% of overall benefits from certain federal investments flow to disadvantaged communities that are marginalized by underinvestment and overburdened by pollution. Lead exposure disproportionately affects communities of color and low-income families. The total funding announced

through this program to date is expected to replace up to 1.7 million lead pipes nationwide, securing clean drinking water for countless families.

"The science is clear, there is no safe level of lead exposure, and the primary source of harmful exposure in drinking water is through lead pipes," said EPA Administrator Michael S. Regan. "President Biden understands it is critical to identify and remove lead pipes as quickly as possible, and he has secured significant resources for states and territories to accelerate the permanent removal of dangerous lead pipes once and for all."

"Our goal is simple, yet essential: to assure that everyone has clean, safe drinking water. That's why identifying and replacing lead service lines is crucial; it can protect our communities, especially the most vulnerable, from lead exposure," said EPA Regional Administrator David W. Cash. "New England has some of the oldest housing stock in the country, and no one—no matter where they live—should have to worry about lead in their drinking water and what comes out of the tap. This funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law provides the much-needed resources to help deliver on that promise—to replace every lead pipe and ensure clean, safe drinking water for all."

"We know there is no safe level of lead consump-

**Anthem** 

**InStrideHealth** 

tion, especially for children. And while Maine was decades ahead of the nation on banning lead pipes and plumbing fixtures, thousands of lead service lines are still in use across the state," said Senator Angus King (I-Maine) and Representatives Chellie Pingree (D-Maine) and Jared Golden (D-Maine). "Thanks to the landmark Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, this \$28 million federal investment will help identify and replace remaining lead pipes across Maine so we can eradicate this known health threat for good. We're proud to see this historic law continue to deliver for Maine people."

"The Maine CDC remains committed to assisting Public Water Systems with identifying and replacing any lead service lines that may still be present across the State," said Dr. Puthiery Va, Director of the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention. "The U.S. EPA funding is available to Public Water Systems in Maine to support that important work."

President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invests a historic \$15 billion to identify and replace lead service lines. The law mandates that 49% of funds provided through the DWSRF Gen-

eral Supplemental Funding and DWSRF Lead Service Line Replacement Funding must be provided as grants and forgivable loans to disadvantaged communities, a crucial investment for communities that have been underinvested in for too long. EPA projects a national total of 9 million lead services lines across the country, based on data collected from the updated 7th Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey and Assessment. The funding announced today will be provided specifically for lead service line identification and replacement and will help every state and territory fund projects to remove lead pipes and reduce exposure to lead from drinking water.

The Lead Service Line-specific formula used to allot these funds allows states to receive financial assistance commensurate with their need as soon as possible, furthering public health protection nationwide. The formula and allotments are based on need—meaning that states with more projected lead service lines receive proportionally more funding.

Alongside the funding announced today, EPA is also releasing a new memorandum that clarifies how states can use this and other funding to most ef-

fectively reduce exposure to lead in drinking water. Additionally, EPA has developed new outreach documents to help water systems educate their customers on drinking water issues, health impacts of lead exposure, service line ownership, and how customers can support the identification of potential lead service lines in their homes.

The Biden-Harris Administration's ambitious initiative to remove lead pipes has already delivered significant results for families across the nation. Today's latest funding will ensure more families benefit from these unprecedented resources, and support projects like these:

The Greater Augusta Utilities District has received \$1,000,000 through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law for Lead Service Line Inventories including the purchase of a vacuum truck and trailer.

The Stonington Water Company has received \$65,000 through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law for service line inspection and replacement associated with a transmission line replacement.

The Presque Isle Utilities District has received \$479,596 through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law for Vacuum truck purchas-

ing for Lead Service Line inventory and replacement.

To view more stories about how the unprecedented investments from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law are transforming communities across the country, visit EPA's Investing in America's Water Infrastructure Story Map. To read more about some additional projects that are underway, see EPA's recently released Quarterly Report on Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Funded Clean Water and Drinking Water SRF projects and explore the State Revolving Funds Public Portal.

Today's allotments are based on EPA's updated 7th Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey and Assessment (DWINSAs) including an assessment of newly submitted information. To date, this is the best available data collected and assessed on service line materials in the United States. Later this summer, EPA will release an addendum to the 7th DWINSA Report to Congress which will include the updated lead service line projections. EPA anticipates initiating data collection, which will include information on lead service lines, for the 8th DWINSA in 2025.

For more information, including state-by-state allotment of 2024 funding, and a breakdown of EPA's lead Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, please visit EPA's Drinking Water website.

## MaineCF grants available to support animal welfare

**PORTLAND & ELLSWORTH, ME**—Grants from the Maine Community Foundation's (MaineCF) Animal Welfare Fund are available to organizations

and projects that advance animal welfare for small companion animals in the state.

In 2023, the Animal Welfare grant program awarded a total of

\$408,980 to 29 organizations. Grantees included Somerset Humane Society, for a low-cost spay and neuter program, and general support for Give a Dog a Home German



**Maine**  
Community Foundation

Shepherd Rescue and Greater Androscoggin Humane Society.

The application dead-

line is Monday, June 3. For more information and to apply, visit [www.mainecef.org/animalwelfare](http://www.mainecef.org/animalwelfare).

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



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# Newsmakers, Names & Faces

## UUCB Concerts for a Cause presents John Gorka

**BRUNSWICK, ME** -- The last concert of the 2023-24 Concerts for a Cause series will be world-renowned singer-songwriter, John Gorka. The concert will be held at the Brunswick Unitarian Universalist Church on June 1, 2024 at 7:30 to raise money for Midcoast New Mainers and Oasis Free Clinics.

John Gorka is an honored icon of folk tradition, known for his stunningly soulful baritone voice and his uncanny abil-

ity to work every nuance of language. He captures a wide array of topics and experiences and weaves them into memorable melodies. His versatility on guitar and piano keeps his sets musically interesting and he's never short of the sly comment or clever joke that invariably ignites his audience.

Hailed by Rolling Stone as "the leading singer/songwriter of the New Folk movement," John Gorka is perhaps the quintessential singer-songwriter



of the 90's folk scene. The old songs ring as true today as they ever did, and the new ones are just as

good. With 19 critically acclaimed albums and countless national and in-

ternational tours, he has collaborated with the likes of Nanci Griffith, Mary Chapin Carpenter, Ani DiFranco, Lucy Kaplansky, Patty Larkin and many more. The Boston Globe extols, "Gorka is widely heralded for the sophisticated intelligence and provocative originality of his songs."

Many well-known artists have recorded and/or performed John Gorka songs, including Mary Chapin Carpenter, Nanci Griffith, Mary Black and

Maura O'Connell. John has graced the stage of Austin City Limits, Mountain Stage, etown and has appeared on CNN. His song "Where No Monuments Stand" was featured in the documentary Every War Has Two Losers.

Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door. Students/Children \$10. Available at the church office, Gulf of Maine Books, or online at <https://ticket-stripe.com/johngorka>

For more info: 207-729-8515

## Opera in the Hill presents The Crucible at Old Red Church

**STANDISH, ME** -- May 17-19 at 7 pm, parking in front limited,

accessory parking at Congregational Church a short distance from the Old Red

Church. Please don't block anyone's driveway if you park along Oak Hill Road.

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### WHY PEOPLE CHOOSE CHAMPOUX INSURANCE



Jonathan Knowlton  
Licensed Agent

Jonathan Knowlton joined Champoux Insurance Group in February as an Account Executive, with 20 years of experience in the insurance and investment field. After graduating from Thomas College with honors, he went to work for MetLife as a personal financial representative. From there he worked for Allstate insurance and within 3 years, had opened his own agency on Sabattus Street in Lewiston. Jonathan closed the agency after 13 successful years. Making sure clients are educated about the risks they face and protecting them with auto, home, and life insurance products has always been important to him; local families truly are in good hands with him. Jonathan lives in Auburn with his wife and son and enjoys ice fishing, ATVing, hiking, growing hot peppers and volunteering with the Boy Scouts. Champoux Insurance Group welcomes Jonathan to our Team.



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# Seniors Not Acting Their Age

## Chaotic Paddling on the St. George River



A damaged kayak is rescued

I've been leading Penobscot Paddle & Chowder Society whitewater paddling trips on the St. George River for many years. Organizing one this year wasn't easy. My outing was originally scheduled for March 24, but that was cancelled due to one of many March bad weather days.

My second choice was March 30th. Then I learned that was the date of the St. George River Race. Actually, that revelation really wasn't a disappointment because another cold windy day was forecast. The following day had more favorable weather predicted so that was my final decision. When I posted a club trip, I noted the water level was high.

"High" was an understatement. On the day of the race, a club member who participated reported that 42 of 96 boats that entered did not finish due to the highest water in about 40 years. As many as 22 kayaks and canoes were pinned in the river.

The racer's report was sobering. That was particularly true for me as I flipped and swam on the Sheepscot River for the first time in decades on my initial outing of the year. Although I practiced my unreliable kayak roll in the interim, I wasn't feeling confident. After consulting with the other four participants, who were all strong paddlers, we decided to complete the trip but approach it conservatively.



Kayakers paddle Ghent Road Bridge Rapid

Two Chowderheads, Ryan and Shweta Galway, were paddling a small raft providing an additional level of safety.

When the five of us met at the takeout on Route 105 in Appleton, a Game Warden informed us that based on reports he had received, there were several boats pinned in the rapids that might pose hazards. We promised to remain alert and report our findings.

After leaving my vehicle for the return shuttle, we drove about five miles north to the put-in on Route 131 in Searsmont. Although we had paddled the St. George many times and the difficulty level even at high water is no more than Class III,

the ominous reports left us with a sense of trepidation.

The St. George begins with a long stretch of flatwater; the calm before the storm. A huge boulder in the middle of the river marks the start of the first rapid. On this occasion, it was almost completely submerged.

We entered lengthy Ghent Bridge Rapid on the left. The waves were unusually large but route finding around several menacing holes was manageable. We all caught an eddy on the left at the bottom. The Game Warden, who was observing from the bridge above, pointed out a pinned boat just below. That was the first of many.

From there, rapids are continuous for about a mile. We rode a succession of feisty waves around an S-Turn bend while carefully avoiding gnarly eddy lines and watching for boats broached in unexpected places. After the turn, the river is fairly straightforward for an extended period. Fortunately, no boats blocked the main channels. However, we did see several wrapped in debris or rocks along the shore.

Near the end of the sustained whitewater, a green Old Town Canoe was lodged upside down



A canoe is wrapped around a tree after the St. George River Race



A canoe is lodged against the shore on the St. George River

against the left bank. Closer inspection indicated it was caught on something underwater and couldn't be safely extricated. The raft team collected paddles and several articles of equipment as we progressed.

Downriver, we encountered several battered abandoned boats. One red canoe was broken in half and twisted around a tree in the middle of the swollen river.

Following a serpentine stretch of flatwater, we approached the steepest falls of the day, Magog Chute. The high water flushed out much of the descent and left standing waves that were cautiously negotiated.

Below, a white hull was spotted upside down

on the right shore, the remains of a racing kayak. We were able to hoist it onto the raft and Shweta and Ryan transported it out. More badly damaged boats were passed during our remaining paddle to the takeout.

The Game Warden was waiting to gather what we salvaged and he thoughtfully helped us carry boats up the steep embankment. Our chaotic escapade was one of the most remarkable paddling endeavors in recent memory.

My book, *Maine Al Fresco: The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine* narrates nine more exciting whitewater exploits around the state.

*Ron Chase resides See Seniors, next page*

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**Seniors**

Continued from previous page 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.ronchase-outdoors.com](http://www.ronchase-outdoors.com) or he can be reached at [ronchaseoutdoors@comcast.net](mailto:ronchaseoutdoors@comcast.net)



The St. George River begins with flatwater



A canoeist navigates a long stretch of whitewater on the St. George

## Red Maple Roots Day of Giving to provide hearing aides

**TURNER, ME --** Dr. Ashlee Vandiver of Red Maple Audiology is partnering with Disability Rights Maine to provide life-changing hearing health care and low-cost hearing aids to income-eligible adults under their non-profit Red Maple Roots Day of Giving later this month. All proceeds will go to Hearing The Call, an organization dedicated to providing global hearing health care to countries with limited access to hearing health care resources.

This Red Maple Roots Day of Giving will be hosted Friday, May 17th from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. During this time, the private practice will screen, test, and fit qualifying patients with advanced hearing aids that will help



improve nearly every facet of their daily lives. Red Maple Roots Day of Giving is asking qualified participants to show proof of financial need, pay a small fee for their hearing devices, and give back volunteer hours in their community as a way to say, "Thank you," to the local companies, families, and friends

that are donating for their care.

Dr. Hilary participated in a Hearing The Call trip to Peten, Guatemala in September 2022, where they worked with a team of audiologists and volunteers for four days, seeing over 200 patients! Dr. Vandiver attended a separate Hearing The Call humanitarian



trip to Coatzacoalcos, Mexico where they served part of the 1,000 patients Mr. Beast helped in March of 2023.

Receiving the gift of hearing for those who have suffered from untreated hearing loss for many years can often be emotional and

heartwarming. Members of the local media are in-

vited to visit our clinic, speak with patients and our staff members, and see the dramatic impact providing people with "a hand up for hearing care" can have. This event will be taking place at 7 Cobblestone Dr. St. 2, Turner, ME 04282.

Red Maple Audiology is a member of Entheos Audiology Cooperative, a group of over 85 private practices that support Hearing the Call's mission to make hearing services accessible to those who need it the most in the United States and across the world.

Send all items for  
Names & Faces to the editor.  
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Friday by five pm.

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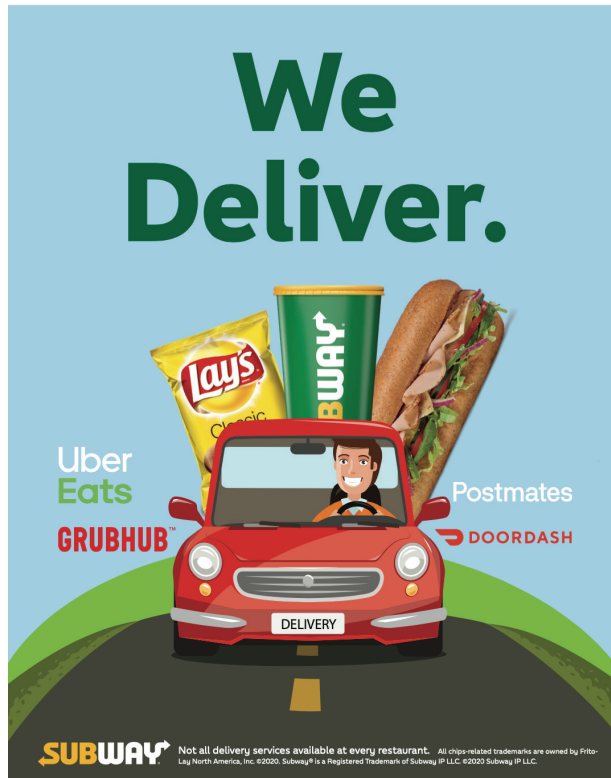
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# Arts & Entertainment

## Spring plant sale: Buy plants, help pets



**WESTBROOK, ME**  
-- Calling all gardeners and house plant enthusiasts! Join us Saturday, May 18th, from 9-11am for our annual Spring Plant Sale. Shop perennials, house

plants, and more to help pets in need. Plants that don't have specific pricing are "name your own fee" and all funds go directly to our pets.

New Location

Our Spring Plant Sale will be held outside our newly renovated Baxter shelter at 217 Landing Road, Westbrook.

**DIG, DIVIDE, DONATE!**

Interested in donating plants or pots to our plant sale to help us raise additional funds? Send us a message at [development@arlgp.org](mailto:development@arlgp.org).

We are accepting plant donations NOW!! Coordinate your drop off by emailing [development@arlgp.org](mailto:development@arlgp.org), or stop by during our normal business hours.

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

## Windham celebrates with Spring Festival this weekend

**WINDHAM, ME**  
-- Join us in celebrating Spring at our annual Spring Festival! \$5 ADMISSION includes: Unlimited exploration of our outdoor classrooms, open ended nature activities

and whimsical crafts, face painting, and farm animal interaction and education with Novembers Harvest Farm- all while enjoying live music!

We welcome back PB&ME for our food truck

highlight! Feel free to pack a picnic blanket to enjoy your lunch on our front lawn or by our gardens.

Concessions also include cotton candy, popcorn, and fresh squeezed lemonade!



**ANN-MARIE KEENE \* CORY NICHOLSON \* MARK TURCOTTE \* NIC DUFAULT**

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**ART**

**NIGHT FOR ADULTS**

Join us for our last Art Night for Adults.  
When: Tuesday May 28th from 5:30pm-6:30pm

We will learn how to make pendants from scrabble tiles using collage and diamond magic!

No art experience is needed! Everyone 18+ is welcome!

# Children's Memorial Garden unveiled in Brunswick

**BRUNSWICK, ME** - On Sunday, May 5th at 11AM, Midcoast based nonprofit Madeline's Mission unveiled a children's memorial garden with a small ceremony to a crowd of approximately 150 people. May 5th is recognized as Bereaved Mother's Day, a day intended to honor mothers of children who "hold their children in their hearts, instead of their hands".

"It was an incredible day as we cut the ribbon and begin this new chapter with our memorial garden," says Amie Marzen, Madeline's mom and the organization's president. "My favorite part of the day was when the bereaved siblings were able to cut the streamer and open the garden themselves for their brother or sister. It was such an amazing moment. Seeing the families see their child's butterfly also was a moment that will be imprinted on my heart."

The heartstring and central feature of this garden is a butterfly garden. Fixed into a granite base, bronze butterflies will sit atop stainless-steel rods. Families will be able to personalize a butterfly in memory of their beloved child. Artwork and flower-shaped marimbas will also make the space whimsical and welcoming. Last fall,



more than 1,100 donated bulbs were planted along with other plants purchased by Madeline's Mission, guided by the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens.

The generous gift of space from Mid Coast Parkview Health made the garden possible. Located by a beautiful little pond on the Parkview Campus of Mid Coast Hospital in Brunswick, Maine, the Madeline's Mission Memorial Garden will be a place of healing for grieving families. The ceremony to unveil the new monument included reflective readings/ poems written by bereaved parents, remarks from the hospital and artists, and the acknowledgement of the children memorialized with a butterfly by reading their names and blowing bubbles. There are meditative petal flower marimbas to play and enjoy.

"Saying their names is so important to be-

reaved families, they never want to feel as though their child has been forgotten," says Marzen. "Our families are very excited to make this space a reality, and to have a place to come to not only honor their child, but to see they're not alone in their loss."

The project was made possible with the support of the community, including: Mid Coast Hospital, Fieldstone Artistry, Maine Dry Stone, Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens, Lorelei Vella Designs, the Moving Company Dance Studio, Crystal Vision Tribute Band, Hanover Insurance volunteers, Bath at Play, and 100 Plus Women Who Care in Southern Maine. Through this generous support, scholarships are available for families that would like a butterfly but find it is cost-prohibitive.

"This is an ongoing project, we're not done," adds Marzen, noting that



additional butterflies will be added to the monument twice a year. "We hope to keep adding flowers to this space and nurture its growth. It's been very healing for our families to come and help add to the beauty of the location while reflecting and connecting with others. It truly is a green-thumbed labor of love."

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# Maine game wardens recognized at awards banquet

**AUGUSTA, ME** – Game Warden Josh Smith of Division A in Gray, a game warden of nearly 20 years, was honored Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, by his peers when he was selected as the Maine Game Warden of the Year. Game Warden Sergeant Josh Beal of the Downeast region of the state was honored as supervisor of the year, and longtime retired chief pilot Roger Wolverton was honored as Legendary Game Warden of the Year.

Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Commissioner Judy Camuso was the featured speaker for the annual awards ceremony, and she discussed the notable accomplishments of the Warden Service and the Department from the past year, as well as the Warden service response and actions during the Lewiston shooting.

“In the Conservation world, we often talk about Conservation heroes. People who inspire others, who push the boundaries, take risks, and move the field in a positive direction. You are those heroes,” stated the commissioner in her opening remarks.

The awards ceremony gives special recognition to game wardens for exceptional performance during 2023. Awards are given for the Maine Game Warden of the Year, Game Warden Supervisor of the Year, the Legendary



Josh Beal

Game Warden of the Year, as well as awards for conduct above the normal line of duty, outstanding work that merits special attention, and recognizes individuals and groups who assisted the Maine Warden Service.

Achievements that were recognized included incidents where lives were saved, and other awards highlighted the conservation of Maine’s fish and wildlife resources in ways deserving of special recognition. The following were recipients of this year’s annual awards.

2023 Maine Game Warden of the Year  
Game Warden In-

vestigator Josh Smith of Division A in Gray, a game warden for nearly 20 years, was honored as the Maine Game Warden of the year.

Among the many accomplishments that were noted, Josh was recognized for his work on challenging cases that included missing persons, prohibited persons possessing firearms, illegal fish stocking, illegal possession of exotic species, commercial bait dealers, and fatal crashes.

Of note was one investigation where 15 deer were killed illegally, and his work to bring closure to a family of some-



Josh Smith

one missing for over ten months.

Along with his accomplishments as a law enforcement officer, Smith was lauded for his work and place in the community, where he has worked hard to develop a rapport with landowners, outdoorsmen, and other agencies.

He also was praised for the ways he has found to give back to the community, including donating flies that he meticulously tied for raffles and benefits, helping with veterans’ hunts, or bringing neighbors kids out on turkey hunts.

In addition to Josh’s own investigations, it was noted he makes himself available to help area wardens working illegal activity, investigating incidents, reviewing search warrants, or covering calls to allow other wardens to continue their work.

Smith was also praised for his work on the night of October 25<sup>th</sup>, the Lewiston shooting. While not actively on call, Smith was one of the first officers to arrive at the second shooting scene. Josh went into the scene, and started helping any way he could, including transporting a critically injured person to the hospital in his truck after he learned there were no more ambulances available.

2023 Maine Game Warden Supervisor of the Year:

Sergeant Josh Beal, of Division C in Bangor, was awarded the Supervisor of the Year Award. Josh has been a sergeant in the Downeast region of Maine since 2021, where he has quickly earned the respect of his peers, his staff, and the community.

Josh was recognized for his ability to make sure his staff gets

the support, guidance, and tools they need to be successful. He works with his staff in a variety of roles, joining them in the field and assisting with investigations. He often changes his days off to make sure he is available with investigations, trainings, PR events, or to help others during a difficult time.

It was noted that his work ethic and tenacity are contagious, and his calm demeanor, and strong communication skills allow him to be an extremely valuable member of his section, division, and to the MWS supervisory staff. He was also praised for his work with his section during the past fall where there were several vacancies in his section, yet his group still maintained an excellent attitude while processing multiple cases simultaneously.

Beal was also praised for thinking outside the box, and bringing new techniques and skills to existing issues and cases. He also is extremely active in teaching skills to others, as he is a supervisor for the WTO program, is part of the Warden Service training committee, and is an OUI/SFST instructor.

2023 Legendary Game Warden Award:

Retired Game Warden Pilot Roger Wolverton began his career in 1974 in the St. Aurelie district on Maine’s northern border with Quebec. From there he went to Millinocket, and then to Jefferson and the central Maine area where he later became a Game Warden Sergeant then Chief Pilot for the Maine Warden Service.

Wolverton was praised for his work with other wardens, his tireless work ethic, and his innovation. Several of his high profile rescues and cases were highlighted at the banquet, including the rescue of two missing ice fishermen in Millinocket on a blizzard night with temperatures at 20 below zero. Wolverton’s perseverance and instincts enabled him to rescue the frozen pair that were near death. The two spent ten days in the hospital recovering from their experience.

Wolverton was also lauded for his work as a pilot, including a night when he located a lost individual in the dark of the night flying his plane in winds that gusted over 50 miles an hour while wearing night vision goggles. He was able to circle the

See **Wardens**, next page

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**Wardens**

*Continued from previous page*

area, and located a small fire the individual had started, and then was able to direct wardens to the area.

It was also noted that Wolverton was involved in the training and hiring of Game Warden candidates, worked in the acquisition of the new green uniforms for Wardens, helped establish the Warden Investigators positions, worked with Marine Patrol on the use of sonar in locating drowning victims, and worked in a covert capacity in the fall when needed.

*In addition to the above awards, the following were presented awards for their work this past year:*

2023 K9 Search and Rescue of the Year Award:

Preston Pomerleau and K9 Gordon for their work in finding a missing teenage hiker in Grafton Notch who had gotten lost in the middle of the night using the bathroom, and wandered aimlessly for hours, panicked and hypothermic, trying to find his way back.

2023 K9 Conservation Case of the Year Award:

Game Warden Chad Robertson and K9 Storm for their work in a criminal trespass complaint where Storm tracked the hunter past multiple “no trespassing” signs and a game camera.

2023 Meritorious Service Award

Game Warden Ten-

nie Coleman for rescuing a snowmobiler who had gone through the ice, got out, but was nearly frozen and could not move when he got to him.

Game Warden Investigator Josh Smith, Harry Wiegman and Cody York for their immediate response to the Lewiston shooting, entering the scene where the shootings occurred, and rescuing and transporting injured victims.

2023 Exemplary Service Awards:

Game Warden Pilot Nick Mangino, for his support for game wardens from the air, and then when not flying, assisting game wardens in conservation law duties on the ground.

Game Warden Corporal Andrew Smart, acting on an Operation Game Thief tip with sparse information, was able to put together a case and a confession on a hunter killing a deer without hunter orange prior to legal shooting hours.

Game Warden Avery Boucher for his work rescuing an injured hiker on Tumbledown Mountain who was rock climbing and fell off the side of a cliff, and suffered a compound fracture to his leg.

Game Wardens Chris Carney and Steve Milton for their work this fall which resulted in the seizure of 16 illegally killed deer, 111 summonses, and issued 30 OUIs.

Game Warden Charles Brown for his work in finding the body

of a person who had been reported missing 9 days prior. Brown’s investigative work reduced the search area, and he ultimately found the victim deep in the woods, allowing state police to bring the killer to justice.

Game Warden Dan Christianson for his work during bear season, where he had located multiple illegal sites set by four separate individuals that resulted in seven different summonses.

Game Wardens Matt Tenan, Brad Richard, Alan Curtis, Scott Osgood, Eric Rudolph, Joshua Lugdon for their work in find a missing elderly man in a sleet storm after the man had fallen through the ice and couldn’t get out of the woods after he was looking for moose antler sheds.

Game Warden Marc D’Elia for his work and determination in solving an illegal deer snare case that resulted in two people being issued numerous violations including using snares to hunt deer, hunting on Sunday, hunting deer over bait and placing bait to entice deer.

Game Warden James Gushee and Nick Raymond for their work in finding two illegal deer snare sites and issuing multiple summonses to an individual with a history of setting illegal snares.

Wardens Garrett Moody and Josh Theriault for their work this past fall in finding a lost 80-year-old hunter, and two young males who

were stranded at night on Bigelow Mountain.

Game Warden Nicholas Raymond for his diligent work during the open water fishing season for multiple cases, including 11 over the limit and gear restrictions cases, as well as one fishing after revocation.

Game Warden Matthew Norcia for his outstanding work over the past year, including issuing 63 summonses and 80 warnings, while also filling in for the warden service aviation division when needed.

Game Wardens Joe McBrine, Brad Richard, Jake Scott and Matthew Tenan. For their outstanding teamwork and performance during the fall season, including catching a dirt bike rider that nearly ran over two women, and cases involving an illegal moose kill, an illegally killed doe and illegally killed bear. The four issued 106 summonses in October and November.

Sergeant Andy Glidden, Sergeant Josh Buber, Pilot Nick Mangino, Pilot Jeffrey Spencer (ret), Pilot Chris Hilton, Investigator Seth Powers, Warden Josh Lugdon, Warden Brandon Sperrey, Warden Paul Mason, Warden Brad Richard, Warden Scott Osgood (ret), Warden Aron Rideout, and Warden

Jonathan Parker for their work in finding two missing Topsham woman who many had presumed dead, but their teamwork, dedication and skills led them to the women who were stuck in the snow on an old logging road.

Game Warden Kale O’Leary for his work over the span of two seasons in solving the case of two dead moose, utilizing DNA samples from the teeth. O’Leary was also praised for his work on an illegal guiding case this past fall that resulted in multiple summonses.

In addition to the above awards, Al Cowperthwaite, former executive director of the North Maine Woods was recognized with the Colonel’s Award for his work with landowners and recreational users in ensuring Maine’s longstanding tradition of public access to private land continues; and the Maine Warden Service Association presented awards to Bobbi-Jo Wallace for her work as a wildlife conflict agent and supervising the department’s WCAs; Lincoln Police Officer Ashley Winslow for her help in finding two lost Topsham women this past winter; Alex Michaud and Amos Abbott of the Maine Marine Patrol for their work in assisting the

Maine Warden Service with night hunters; Paris Police Officer Brea Pyburn, Oxford County Sheriff Dennis Lowe and Trooper Nick Watson for their work in the apprehension of a convicted felon with an outstanding warrant who killed a moose illegally; to UMaine Machias professor Gerard Zegers for his work in establishing and utilizing a wildlife DNA identification program; and to citizen Lillian Amborn for getting photos, a license plate, and reporting a man shooting ducks at night within 100 yards of a restaurant.

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# Maine Council on Aging awards local grants

**BRUNSWICK, ME** – In the first of two micro-grant cycles, the Maine Council on Aging (MCOA) has awarded nearly \$376,000 through Hannaford Supermarkets' Connection, Health and Equity Through Food (CHEF) program across five states. Thirty-two organizations in Maine, from Berwick to Eagle Lake and Porter to Stonington, received grants in this cycle to improve the health and well-being of older adults statewide. The final micro-grant cycle is now open, and applications are being accepted online until June 30 at [www.agefriendlycommunity.com](http://www.agefriendlycommunity.com).

"The response to the first CHEF grant cycle was impressive and demonstrates the significant challenges older people are facing accessing food and staying connected, particularly older people who have experienced economic disparities," said MCOA Executive Director Jess Maurer. "We wish we could have funded every application we received, but stayed focused on funding programs and activities that will have a lasting impact on people and communities. We estimate nearly 236,000 people will benefit from the grants awarded in this cycle and encourage organizations to apply in this next cycle so we can expand that reach," added Maurer.

"At Hannaford, we're focused on making thoughtful investments that ensure all members of our communities, including older adults, are healthy and thriving," said Sherri Stevens, community relations manager for Hannaford Supermarkets. "Community connec-

tion is imperative for our health and well-being as we grow older and face the challenges that come with aging. The organizations receiving funding through this first round of grants play a major role in connecting older adults with fresh, nutritious food and socialization opportunities that support mental health. We encourage other organizations to take advantage of this opportunity to support programs that put older adults at their center."

Grant recipients are supporting the nutritional and social needs of older adults in a myriad of ways, including these awardees:

Alan Day Community Garden (ADCG) in Norway works in partnership with the MaineHealth Food Pantry, Oxford County Wellness Collaborative, The Progress Center, Senior Farmshare Program, and Somali Bantu Community Association to provide opportunities for community members to build relationships, learn, and grow food together. ADCG is using the grant funds to implement a Community Meals pilot program, specifically designed to create a social network for older adults living in rural communities around food, cooking, learning, and sharing meals together.

"We are so pleased to hear that our application has been accepted in our efforts to support and work with the aging people in our community," said Alan Day Community Garden Executive Director Ricky Crocket. "On behalf of our organization and our community, thank you!"

Somali Bantu Community Association (SBCA) in Lewiston provides vital transitional

services, advocacy, and resources for food production that empower members of the refugee community to uphold cultural identity and economic well-being to thrive in their new life here in Maine. Funds from CHEF will support the purchase of essential infrastructure and growing supplies at SBCA's Liberation Farms for the Elder Farm Share program. Somali Bantu farmers participating in the program provide culturally relevant produce to Somali Bantu Elders, many of whom are homebound, helping to increase their access to traditional staple crops, connecting them to their greater community, and elevating their overall health.

Laura Neale, operations manager at Liberation Farms, expressed her deep appreciation for the CHEF grant. "Thank you so much! We are so excited for this opportunity."

Niweskok (formerly known as Eastern Woodlands Rematriation) in Northport initiates and helps sustain existing community-led food and medicine projects across tribal communities in the Northeast. Niweskok restores polycultural food systems and local fisheries, assuring transmission of traditional medicine and foodways while re-engaging spiritual foundations of Wabanaki livelihoods. Their grant is helping Niweskok to expand two programs: the Wabanaki Foodways Workshops, where elders share their knowledge of traditional food practices, and the Elder Storytelling Project, which distributes traditional food grown and gathered by Wabanaki. During these visits, elders are videotaped sharing sto-



**Farmer Habiba Salat packing produce grown at Liberation Farms in Wales for recipients of the Somali Bantu Elder Share Program. (Photo courtesy of Somali Bantu Community Association.)**

ries about traditional foodways.

"Woliwoni (thank you) for creating space to further uplift our work," said Co-Director Alivia Moore. "Language loss has been deep in our community; we are working to do our part to reclaim our language. Our elders are the ones that hold us together, rooting us in our traditions and providing the springboard into the future. We are putting our elders back in the center of Wabanaki life through our work to rematriate food and medicine ways at Niweskok: From the Stars to Seeds."

EqualityMaine (EQME) in Portland is the oldest statewide organization dedicated to creating a fair and just society for LGBTQ+ Mainers. They offer programs, events, and activities through the Network for Older Adults (NOA) to promote social interaction, self-empowerment, opportunities for advocacy, and community participation. NOA events are held in lo-

cations across the state and the CHEF grant is helping EQME expand NOA offerings and resources to older LGBTQ+ adults who may face social isolation, and empower them to make informed decisions about how they want to age.

"EqualityMaine's Network for Older Adults programs, events, and activities promote social interaction, self-empowerment, and opportunities for community participation. We are very grateful for Maine Council on Aging's generosity," said Development Director Heide Lester. "With this wonderful support, we've already launched an additional monthly gathering in Ellsworth."

CHEF was launched with a \$1.3 million donation to MCOA from Hannaford on December 12, 2023, under the banner of Hannaford's "Eat Well, Be Well – A Path to Better Health" initiative. The CHEF program funds organizations and projects through micro-grants in

Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, and New York, that are supporting the needs of diverse older adults – including improving access to food and increasing opportunities for socialization.

In addition to the grants, CHEF publishes a monthly newsletter and offers a series of free webinars through MCOA's Tri-State Learning Collaborative on Aging. For more information about CHEF programming or to sign up for the newsletter visit [www.agefriendlycommunity.com/chef/](http://www.agefriendlycommunity.com/chef/).

Hannaford introduced Eat Well, Be Well in September 2022 to help break down the barriers that challenge access to healthy, nutritious food and wellness resources. Hannaford has donated nearly \$3 million to organizations under the Eat Well, Be Well banner.

For more information about Hannaford's community efforts and charitable giving initiatives, visit [Hannaford.com/HannafordHelps](http://Hannaford.com/HannafordHelps).

## Maine CDC marks Lyme Disease Awareness Month

**AUGUSTA, ME**—The Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Maine CDC) urges Maine residents and visitors to take precautions to make tick prevention a "big deal" this month. Governor Janet Mills has again proclaimed May Lyme Disease Awareness Month and this year's theme is "Little tick, Big Deal."

Preventing tick bites

is the best way to keep from getting a tickborne disease. Deer ticks in Maine can carry the germs that cause diseases in people and animals. The most common tickborne diseases in Maine include Lyme disease, anaplasmosis, and babesiosis. Other tickborne diseases found in Maine are Hard Tick Relapsing Fever and Powassan virus disease.

Ticks live in wood-

ed, leafy, and shrubby areas and deer ticks have been found in all 16 counties of Maine. They are currently active, so anyone spending time outdoors should take steps to limit their exposure to ticks. Health care providers reported a record 2,943 cases of Lyme disease and seven cases of Powassan to the Maine CDC in 2023.

While enjoying the

outdoors, the Maine CDC recommends following these tips to make tick prevention a big deal:

Know tick habitat and use caution in areas where ticks may live.

Wear light-colored clothing that covers the arms and legs and tuck pants into socks.

Use an EPA-approved repellent like DEET, picaridin, IR3535, or oil of lemon eucalyptus

on skin and permethrin on clothing.

Check for ticks daily and after any outdoor activity. Check family members and pets too.

Remove your clothing when you get home and put it in the dryer before washing. Use high heat for 10-15 minutes to kill any crawling ticks.

The most common symptom of Lyme disease is a "bull's-eye" rash anywhere on the body. Other symptoms of tickborne disease include flu-like symptoms, including joint and muscle pain, fatigue, chills, fever, headache, and swollen lymph nodes. Some of these symptoms can look like COVID-19 or the flu. If you experience any of these symptoms, talk to a health care provider and be sure to

mention a recent tick bite or time spent in tick habitat.

The University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Lab offers tick identification at no charge to Maine residents. The Tick Lab also offers testing of ticks for infection to Maine residents for a fee of \$20. Testing can take up to three days and should be used for surveillance purposes only and not for diagnosis, as finding a tick on you, even if it was attached, does not necessarily mean that any germs have been transmitted. Contact a health care provider for concerns about tickborne illnesses. Find more information at [ticks.umaine.edu](http://ticks.umaine.edu). To learn more about how to be tick free, visit [www.maine.gov/lyme](http://www.maine.gov/lyme).

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# CRCofWM celebrates National Cancer Survivors Day

**SOUTH PARIS, ME** -- Sunday, June 2, 2024, marks the 37th Annual National Cancer Survivors Day®(NCSD) - a day when thousands of people in hundreds of communities across the globe hold celebrations to honor cancer survivors and to raise awareness of the challenges of cancer survivorship. It is an opportunity for all people living with a history of

cancer – including America’s more than 16.9 million cancer survivors – to connect with each other, celebrate milestones, and recognize those who have supported them along the way. It is also a day to remember those who we have lost to cancer.

According to the National Cancer Survivors Day Foundation, anyone living with a history of

cancer, from the moment of diagnosis through the remainder of life, is a cancer survivor. Major advances in cancer prevention, early detection, and medical treatment have resulted in longer survival rates. However, many of us know that a cancer diagnosis can leave a host of problems in its wake. Physical, financial, and emotional hardships often persist for

years after diagnosis and treatment. Survivors must contend with rapidly rising drug costs, inadequate insurance coverage, difficulty finding or keeping employment, and a lack of understanding from family and friends.

The Cancer Resource Center of Western Maine will host a FREE event in recognition of National Cancer Survivors Day on

Sunday, June 2nd, 2:00-4:00 pm at King’s Hill Inn & Barn, 56 King’s Hill Road, South Paris, Maine. There will be food catered by Blue Elephant Caterers; non-alcoholic beverages courtesy of Sips & Saddles and Stephens Memorial Hospital; and live music from the Maine musical group: Just-Because.

“Life after cancer is

more than just surviving,” said Diane Madden, Executive Director of the Cancer Resource Center of Western Maine, located in Norway. “It’s about thriving and living well. And that’s something to celebrate!” Please call the Cancer Resource Center of Western Maine at 207-890-0329 to reserve your spot before May 30th. You can also email them at info@crcfwm.org.

# Businesses, fitness enthusiasts rally to support WinterKids

**GREENWOOD, ME** -- WinterKids is thrilled to announce the return of the 2nd Annual Mountain Mayhem, a 12-hour mountain bike and trail running challenge set to take place on June 22, 2024, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Mt. Abram Bike Park in Greenwood, Maine. This unique event serves as both a physical challenge and a meaningful fundraiser, supporting WinterKids’ mission of promoting outdoor activity among children across Maine during the winter season.

The event has garnered significant support from local businesses and sponsors, demonstrating the community’s commitment to promoting outdoor recreation and supporting youth health initiatives. Among the key sponsors are Sidecountry Sports, Cape Integrative Health, Orono Brewing Company, Fleet Feet Maine Running, Delta Dental, as well as Acadia Insurance and L.L. Bean, which have signed on as Corporate Teams.

Andrew Dailey, own-



er of Sidecountry Sports in Rockland, Maine, expressed his enthusiasm for supporting the event as the Presenting Sponsor: “As outdoor enthusiasts ourselves, we’re proud to support Winter-

Kids and their efforts to get children outside and active. The Mountain Mayhem event aligns perfectly with our values, and we’re excited to be a part of it.”

“As both a healthcare

professional and a passionate advocate for outdoor recreation, I’m thrilled to see the community come together to support such a worthy cause,” said Jen Flynn, Pediatric Nurse Practitioner at Cape Integrative Health in Scarborough (Exclusive Medical Sponsor) and WinterKids Board Member, “WinterKids’ initiatives play a crucial role in promoting physical and mental well-being among children, and events like Mountain Mayhem are instrumental in advancing

that mission.” In addition to the physical challenge, participants and spectators alike can enjoy refreshments provided by the event’s Exclusive Beverage Partner, Orono Brewing Company. Registration is now open, and WinterKids invites all Mountain Bike and Trail Running enthusiasts to join them for a fun day on the trails to support a great cause! This event is designed to be fun for all ability levels. To learn more and register, visit WK-MM.org.

# Norway Savings Bank supports Bridgton’s 4 on the Fourth

**BRIDGTON, ME** -- It’s an Independence Day tradition that has grown from 28 runners jogging to a farmhouse on Chad-

bourne Road in 1977, to an event that draws over 2,000 participants to Bridgton each July 4. A road race in the heart of Maine’s Lakes

region that features a mix of flat terrain, hills, and beautiful views, but also camaraderie and a palpable sense of community pride.

The 4 on the Fourth returns this July, the 48th iteration of the four-mile race that has become a part of the Bridgton fabric and a celebration of the lakeside fun that defines the town each summer. Norway Savings is a longtime supporter of the race, including a \$1,000 donation this month.

Proceeds from the event benefit the Bridgton Public Library and other local nonprofits.

“We’re so grateful for the support of Norway Savings Bank. It makes it possible for the race to occur and for its proceeds to ensure our library is a great facility with dynamic programming,” said Alice Gold, sponsorship chair for the race. “We can also provide free computer use, internet access, upgraded collections, and special performers. To be able to support the library with an event like this is amazing. From the kids’ fun run to the race to the environment, it is always such a

great success thanks to the generosity of many.”

“At NSB, we’re always thrilled to be able to help beloved events in the communities we serve,” said Dan Walsh, President and CEO of Norway Savings Bank. “To see the many ways in which the 4 on the Fourth has grown and become such an integral part of the Independence Day celebration in the area is remarkable. We’re happy to play a small role in continuing this tradition.”

“4 on the Fourth is such a special piece of the early summer in the Bridgton area. People look forward to participating, volunteering, and cheering on the runners as they come by. Many people have their own special place they watch from each year,” said Erin Nelson, AVP and NSB Branch Manager in Bridgton. “We love being a part of this community and seeing the Norway Savings logo on the list of contributing sponsors each year is

a real point of pride for all of us.”

The race attracts a faithful group of runners but also participants from more than 35 states and many international competitors.

“More importantly, it provides a venue for friends and families to enjoy each other while cheering on the runners. It’s real community. The whole scene elevates the spirit of our town and its residents on our nation’s birthday,” said Race Director Bill Graham. “What could be better than that?”

To learn more about the race, its history, or to register for the kids’ fun run/walk on July 3 and the big race on July 4, visit [www.fouronthefourth.com](http://www.fouronthefourth.com).

**ON THE 4th ROAD RACE**

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

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# Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

**May 18**

AUBURN -- West Auburn Congregational Church – Harvest Supper, May 18, 2024, at 4:30 to 6:00

Menu: Turkey, Ham, Potato, Sweet Potato, Squash, Carrots, Corn, Peas, Rolls, Beverage & Dessert. Price: Free for under 3, \$5.00 for 12 and under, \$10.00 for all other Adults

**May 18, 19**

LEWISTON, TOPSHAM -- “Cityscape, Seascape, Soundscape” Saturday, May 18, 2024, 7:00 p.m. - Franco Center, Lewiston ; Sunday, May 19, 2024, 2:30 p.m. - Orion Performing Arts Center, Topsham

**May 22**

LEWISTON -- Elser Concerto Competition Finalists Performance Wednesday, May 22, 2024, 7:00 p.m. - Franco Center, Lewiston. All tickets are free. For more information visit [MidcoastSymphony.org](http://MidcoastSymphony.org), call 207-315-1712, or e-mail [info@midcoastsymphony.org](mailto:info@midcoastsymphony.org)

**May 22**

LEWISTON -- Hiring Event on Wednesday, May 22nd from 12:00-3:00pm at Kennedy Park, 120 Park Street, Lewiston. Co-sponsored by the Wellness Mobile, Recovery Connections of Maine and the Lewiston Career Center. The event is open to ALL job seekers and will be held rain or shine.

For a list of partic-

ipating employers, visit: <https://www.mainecareercenter.com/locations/jobfair.shtml?id=12599376>

**May 23**

AUBURN -- Free public lecture titled, Be Set Free at 7:00pm at the Hilton Garden Inn Riverwatch sponsored by First Church of Christ, Scientist, Lewiston-Auburn. This talk is part of the church’s efforts to embrace the community with healing love and prayer in the wake of last fall’s shooting. Speaker, Nicole Virgil, CS will examine liberty from a Biblical perspective and show how people can find freedom from all kinds of restrictions--physical, emotional, and circumstantial--that seem beyond their control.

For questions, call 207-782-0012, [cschurchauburn@gmail.com](mailto:cschurchauburn@gmail.com)

**May 25**

GRAY -- The First Congregational Church of Gray Saturday Night Church Supper, Saturday, May 25, 2024 @ 5:00 at the Parish House, 5 Brown Street, Gray. Handicapped Accessible. Meals are Single-sized and are \$10.00 each. Please pay at the door.

The Menu includes: Variety of Casseroles & Salads, Baked Pea Beans & Red Kidney, Red Hot

Dogs, Breads, Assortment of Desserts & Beverages.

**May 25**

AUBURN -- There will be a baked bean supper at Sixth St. Congregational Church at 109 Sixth St. in Auburn on Saturday, May 25th from 4:30 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. The menu consists of two kinds of beans, brown bread, cole slaw, red and brown hot dogs, assorted casseroles, assorted desserts and beverage. The cost of the meal is \$9 for adults, \$5 for children 5 to 12, under age 5 is free. All are welcome. Take-out is available.

**May 27**

NEW GLOUCESTER -- Memorial Parade & Memorial Service on Monday May 27, 2024 in New Gloucester. We invite you to join us Veterans, Church Groups, Cheerleaders & Dances Groups, Walkers/ Marchers, Floats, Classic Vehicles. We start line-up at 8:00 A.M. at Memorial Elementary School on Intervale Rd, New Gloucester, Me. Parade steps off at 9:00 A.M. Sharp! Parade will march to Veterans Memorial Park. The Memorial Service at the Veterans Park. A time to “Honor Our Veterans “ and Reminder Loved Ones that pass from our ranks.

**Fridays June 14 – July 19**

LEWISTON -- Opening Minds through Art, Fridays June 14 – July 19, 2 pm – 3 pm, Education Center of SeniorsPlus at 8 Falcon Road in Lewiston

Through a series of classes, OMA engages adults with dementia in creating free-wheeling art. Contact SeniorsPlus, at 207-795-4010, [edcenter@seniorsplus.org](mailto:edcenter@seniorsplus.org).

**June 15**

GORHAM -- Gorham Garden Club Plant sale, June 15th 9AM -12 PM. Location: Baxter Library next to the Gazebo, 71 South St., Gorham, Maine

**June 15**

AUBURN -- On Saturday, June 15th, the Maine Iris Society will hold its 59th Annual Flower Show from 1:30 - 4:00 pm at the Auburn Middle School, 38 Falcon Drive in Auburn. Admission is free. There will be a plant sale of potted perennials. Bare-root iris rhizomes will also be available this year for \$1.00 each. Come and vote for your favorite Iris Bloom, Iris Stalk, Peony and Hosta Leaf.

**July 6**

GORHAM -- Hosta auctions are coming July 6th when the Maine Hosta Society will offer many exciting hosta varieties at the Treworgy Homestead and Garden at 120 Flagg Meadow Road in Gorham, Maine. The silent auction will begin at 10:00 a.m. and the live auction at 1:00 p.m. SAVE THE DATE for

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this event that is free and open to the public.

**July 13**

GORHAM -- The Maine Iris Society will hold its annual auction of bearded iris rhizomes on Saturday, July 13th, starting at 1:00 pm at the Treworgy Homestead and Garden located at 120 Flagg Meadow Road in Gorham, Maine. A complimentary self-guided tour of the Treworgy Garden is included. This event is free and open to the public.

**Thursdays Aug 1 – Sept 5**

WILTON -- Opening Minds through Art, Thursdays August 1 – September 5, 1 pm – 2 pm at Education Center of SeniorsPlus at 284 Main St., Suite 100, Wilton

Through a series of classes, OMA engages adults with dementia in creating free-wheeling art. Contact SeniorsPlus, at 207-795-4010, [edcenter@seniorsplus.org](mailto:edcenter@seniorsplus.org).

**Every 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Monday**

LEWISTON -- PROGRAMS FOR HOMESCHOOL FAMILIES, held the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Monday 11:15am-12:30pm at the Lewiston Public Library Children’s Department

Homeschool families, are you looking for opportunities to have fun and socialize with other homeschool families? LPL will be offering activities for homeschool families in the Children’s Department the first three Mondays of each month from 11:15am-12:30pm. The activities will be a Homeschool Video Game Social on March 6th, a Homeschool Lego Club and Curriculum Swap on March 13th, and a Homeschool Storytime and Craft on March 20th.

This program is free and recommended for homeschool families with children of all ages. No registration is required. Contact info. 513-3133, [LPLKids@lewistonmaine.gov](mailto:LPLKids@lewistonmaine.gov)

## 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
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# \$2.5M strengthens energy resiliency for Maine communities

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Senator Angus King, a member of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, announced the Maine Governor’s Office of Policy Innovation and the Future (GOPIF) has been awarded \$2,500,000 through the bipartisan Fiscal Year 2024 Congressionally-Directed Spending (CDS) appropriations package to support an energy resiliency pilot program. As Maine faces increasingly extreme weather and storms, modernizing energy infrastructure through clean solar energy and new storage technologies can help ensure public buildings are able to maintain access to energy during destructive weather events. Proactive investments in renewable and sustainable energy are critical to ensuring communities across Maine are well prepared for future emergency events.

The pilot program will take place in Caribou, Carthage, Dover, Foxcroft, Fairfield, Jonesport, Limestone, Lubec, Machias, Millinocket and Rockland.

The funding is part of the \$454 million — for 185 projects — that the entire Maine delegation secured for state projects in the Fiscal Year 2024 Appropriations Package.

“As we saw in the December and January storm events, Maine’s developing communities are especially vulnerable to power outages,” said Senator King. “The good news is that we can improve our energy resiliency by getting ahead of storms with investments in renewable energy and storage infrastructure as we work toward a more resilient and sustainable future. This funding will also help to drive down energy costs and drive long-term stability for local economies. It’s truly a win-win for Maine

communities across the state.”

“The intense storms in December and January have been a wake-up call about how vulnerable Maine communities are to effects of climate change, such as flooding and rising sea levels, and how critical investments in resiliency are needed to support public safety,” said Hannah Pingree, Director of the Governor’s Office of Policy Innovation and the Future and co-chair of the Maine Climate Council. “Using these funds secured by Sen. King, the Rural Energy Resilience Pilot program will help 10 Maine communities make public buildings more resilient through investments in clean energy and battery storage, to ensure facilities stay online during emergencies, while helping stabilize energy costs and reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the process.

We deeply appreciate the efforts of Sen. King to support this pilot program to help rural Maine communities become more resilient to climate impacts and save local taxpayers money in the process.”

“This project would be extremely beneficial for the town. The Dover-Foxcroft Municipal Building is more than a municipal office,” said Jack Clukey, Town Manager, Town of Dover-Foxcroft. “The building serves multiple tenants including two day-cares and social services deliveries by Penquis, our local CAP agency. The building ... can serve as an emergency warming/cooling center during extreme weather events.”

“Given the fact that the Machias Fire Department and Machias Ambulance are the first calls for numerous municipalities ... this is a critical base of operations,” said Bill

Kitchen, Town Manager, Machias. “Energy reliability is of course equally critical. Given the soaring expenses of both fire and ambulance services ... any savings is significant and will ultimately reduce the burden on this region’s residents.”

“Investments in energy resilience have so many benefits — including greater energy security and cost savings,” said Julie Hashem, Community Development Director, Rockland. “This grant will fund improvements that will benefit the community for many years to come, and we couldn’t be more grateful.”

“The town is very adamant about moving towards clean energy,” said Jan Hutchinson, Selectboard Chair, Town of Carthage. “Adding a solar array and battery storage ... will help our low-income town reduce costs for residents and move toward a

cleaner future. With a minimal municipal budget, the town appreciates this opportunity.”

As a member of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, Senator King has advocated for climate solutions that support Maine communities and has been one of the Senate’s most vocal advocates for improving energy technologies and development as a way to unlock America’s clean energy future.

CDS funding is included in annual federal appropriations bipartisan legislation and provides a specific amount of discretionary funding to a state, locality, or nonprofit organization for projects with demonstrated civic and community value. Last year, Senator King secured over \$250 million in Congressionally-Directed Spending for 140 Maine projects.

# \$2.5M to goes to support marine science education at UMaine

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senators Susan Collins and Angus King announced that the University of Maine (UMaine) has been awarded \$2,496,113 in funding from the National Science Foundation (NSF). This grant will create pathways for recruiting rural students and support the re-

tention and graduation of high-achieving, low-income marine science students with demonstrated financial need at the University.

“The University of Maine helps to inspire and prepare students to become the next generation of leaders in a variety of STEM fields and contribute to Maine’s

Blue Economy,” Senators Collins and King said in joint statement. “By supporting scholarships for students who are pursuing bachelor’s degrees in marine science, this federal funding will contribute to our state’s need for well-trained scientists, engineers, and technicians now and in the future.”

Specifically, this project will fund scholarships to 25 full-time students pursuing a bachelor’s degree in marine science. This program will also support the advancement of scholars through the establishment of a Scholar Success Mentoring Network, along with optional participation

in undergraduate research experiences, professional development workshops, networking opportunities, summer internships, and a variety of cohort-building activities.

The NSF supports research, innovation, and discovery in order to provide a foundation for eco-

nomie growth in America. Founded in 1950 by an act of Congress, the NSF is an independent federal agency that works to advance the frontiers of science and engineering so that our nation can develop the knowledge and cutting-edge technologies needed to address current and future challenges.

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