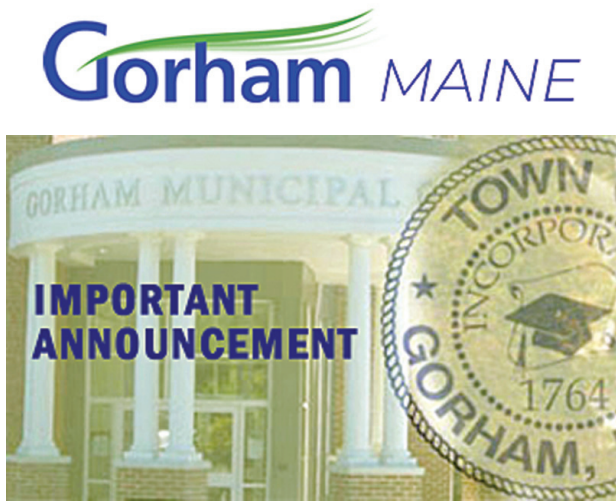


Town of Gorham announces door-to-door solicitation approval

GORHAM, ME -- Please be advised that a Door-to-Door solicitation group "Fox Pest Control" has registered with the Gorham Town Clerk's Office to obtain the required license permit to engage in door-to-door commercial solicitation for up to 30 days from the date of issuance in the Town of Gorham between the hours of 8am and 9pm.

Every person engaged in door-to-door commercial solicitation shall have a valid proof of registration, as required by the Town's Ordinance in their possession at all times while so engaged in the Town and shall present the proof of registration for inspection upon request of any person. The Gor-



ham Police Department is aware of this approved arrangement and its legitimacy.

Who to Call
For assistance with any questions regarding door-to-door solicitation in the Town and/or the ap-

plicable ordinance, please contact the Gorham Town Clerk's Office at 207-222-1670.

For non-emergencies related to public safety, please contact 839-5581 (Dispatch), and 9-1-1 as always for emergencies.

Learn on the Lawn at Gorham's Baxter Memorial Library

GORHAM, ME – Join Gorham's Baxter Memorial Library for fun opportunities with Learn on the Lawn on Thursdays 10:00am-11:00am:

Thursday, July 25th—Join us on the library lawn and learn all about worm composting! We will be raffling off a worm bin at the end of this event.

This program is

geared for children 5-12, younger children will need an adults help.

Registration is required for this event and sign up starts on Monday June 17th. We have 14 spots available and we will have a waitlist. Please call or visit Youth Services for more information or to sign up.

Thursday, August 8th—Sea Turtle Tracks

Presented by: Marine Mammals of Maine

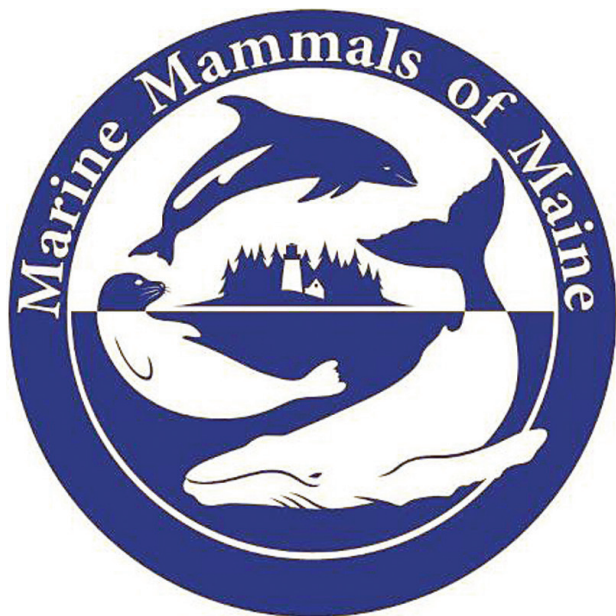
Join us in the Youth Services department to learn about Maine's sea turtles. Learn about the basic biology, ecology, conservation, and the threats that sea turtles face in Maine and globally.

This program is for all ages! Children under 8 years old need adult supervision.

Marine Mammals of Maine comes to Gorham for A Seal's Journey

GORHAM, ME -- Join Marine Mammals of Maine (MMoME) as they take you through a seal's journey from stranding to release, and all of the obstacles in between. Starting with seal basics such as: whether it's normal for them to be out of the water and why you might see a baby on its own, and then dive into when and why seals need our help. You will learn what MMoME is, what they do, the animals they care for, and how you can help.

Baxter Memorial Library, Tuesday, July 23rd 6pm



Send all items for Names and Faces to the Editor. Deadline is Friday by five.

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- 7/9/24 (Patio) **Toddler Group 18 months-2.5 years**
- 7/16/24 (Patio) **Little's Group 2.5-4 years old**
- 7/23/24 (Lawn) **Preschool Group 4-5 years old**
- 7/30/24 (Patio) **Homeschool Group all ages**

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Sen King: National Defense Bill protects jobs, people across Maine

By Senator King, a senior member of the Senate Armed Services Committee

For more than sixty years, Congress has passed the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) — an annual bill that prioritizes America’s national security interests at home — with strong bipartisan support. It’s one of the most meaningful pieces of legislation I work on in the Senate Armed Services Committee, but this bill is also very important for us here at home in Maine. Especially for what we are facing now ... let me explain.

Last fall, the entire Maine community was shocked when a gunman took the lives of 18 innocent people at a bowling alley and local restaurant in Lewiston. It was absolute-

ly devastating then, and today, we are still working to pick up the pieces and process the pain. However, as we continue to grieve, we must do everything in our power to prevent a tragedy like this from happening again. One approach was to closer study and track the neurology of our men and women who enter the Armed Forces; the man who took these innocent lives had struggled with brain trauma from repeated exposure to blasts and explosions. That’s why I worked with my committee colleagues to include the bipartisan Blast Overpressure Safety Act that I co-sponsored with the other members of the Maine Delegation. This legislation aims to better protect servicemembers from blast exposure and address traumatic brain

injuries (TBIs), which are considered the “signature wound” of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The bill also includes funding for the Special Operations Brain Health and Trauma Program, which provides veterans and servicemembers who served in special operations roles the brain health care and support they need. Through these inclusions, we can not only help our military personnel and veterans as they recover from service, but we can also protect our communities from horrible tragedies like the one in Lewiston.

In addition to keeping our servicemembers healthy, this legislation also includes a 4.5% pay increase for military servicemembers and a 2% pay increase for civilian personnel. Investing in our people is not just good

for national security, but also for our neighbors and friends in the military and supporting roles who will be more comfortable living, working, and spending in Maine. It’s a win-win: a patriotic investment in our military and a sparkplug for our local economy.

Speaking of investing in our people and our local economy, this bill also aids University of Maine-driven research and development in soil stabilization and infrastructure resiliency, textile developments, and digital manufacturing. The bill authorizes funding for Pratt and Whitney built engines and provides important oversight of the Defense Department of jet engine programs. The bill supports small and large businesses across the state from hypersonics to composites and metal alloys

like tungsten, and it further stresses the importance of Defense Industrial Alliances such as the Maine Defense Industrial Alliance that was launched last year.

Maine’s veterans are also assisted through this legislation. I have frequently heard from veterans how difficult the transition can be from active duty to veteran status, so we made sure the Welcome Home Veterans Act was included to ensure servicemembers are better connected to their state veterans agencies as they begin to transition out of active duty. Additionally, the Armed Services Committee remained focused on improving the Transition Assistance Program and additional measures to improve veteran participation and training.

Lastly, I would be remiss to not mention our incredible shipbuilders at Bath Iron Works (BIW) who will greatly benefit from this year’s defense bill. At my urging, we secured \$1.43 billion for BIW to build a third Naval destroyer. It also fully supports improvements at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. This will help ensure job continuity and stability for all those in Maine who rely on the continued success of our remarkable shipyards.

Bottom line: not only is the National Defense Authorization Act a patriotic bill to strengthen America at home and abroad, but it is also a source of state pride for Maine. I hope my colleagues in the Senate and House move swiftly to send the bill to the President’s desk.

Rising singer-songwriter Eli Lev to perform in Fryeburg

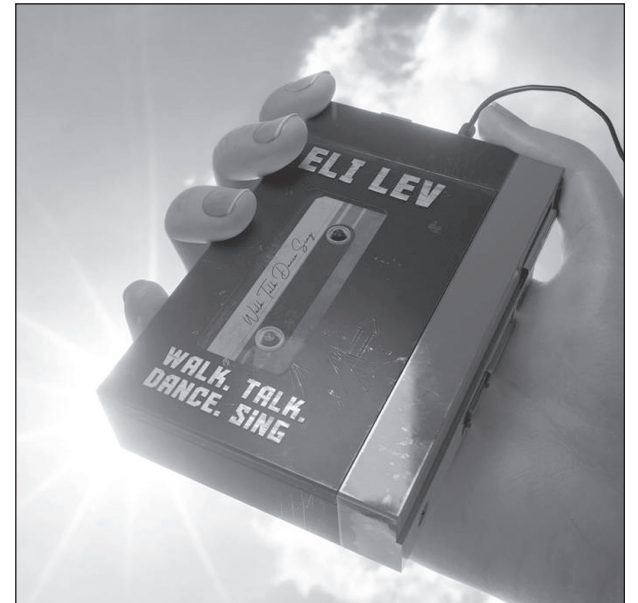
FRYEBURG, ME -- Rising singer-songwriter Eli Lev is making the world a smaller place, one song at a time. Eli pens lyrics and melodies for everyday enlightenment—songs that resonate because they’re heartfelt, earthy, and offer the wisdom he’s gained through lifelong travel and self-discovery. His latest project, an EP called ‘Present Journey,’ is inspired by his current life stage as a middle-aged, full time independent musician who is a mobile lifestyle pioneer and international touring artist.

Eli is from Silver Spring, Maryland and will be coming to Fryeburg, Maine on September 27th, 2024, performing at Saco

River Brewing starting at 7:00 PM.

His previous release, The Four Directions Project, imaginatively and intrepidly connects spheres and generations within a body of work that is irresistibly uplifting, emotionally resonant, and down-to-earth. A cross between The Avett Brothers and The Lumineers, Lev has opened for both Shooter Jennings and Lee DeWyze, performed at The Kennedy Center and 9:30 Club in Washington, DC, and toured extensively within the USA as well as abroad.

Eli Lev has performed in Andorra, Arkansas, Arizona, Australia, California, Colorado, Connecticut, District of



Columbia, Florida, France, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Israel, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, New Jersey, New Mexico, New Zealand, New York, Nevada, North Carolina,

Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Spain, Tennessee, Texas, United Kingdom, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

“Eli’s original, spirit-filled lyrics become familiar and make you want

to join in singing, clapping, and dancing as soon as he starts singing. Sweet voice. Kind soul.” - Rhonda Brown

“We’ve chosen Eli Lev as our 2nd GPW for the 35th SAW Mid-Atlantic Songwriting Competition because of its in-

fectious positivity, lyrical ease, and pop sensibility...” - Jay Keating (SAW President)

“Eli Lev is the consummate professional and has been one of my top performing artists over the years as venues continue to ask for him back year after year” - Amber Foster (Last Call Entertainment)

“We love working with Eli because he works hard to promote his shows, has an incredibly professional attitude, and is timely in his email replies and sending us the information we need” - The Brindley Brothers (Jammin Java, Union Stage, DC Pie Shop)

For more information and to hear his music, see his website at eli-lev.com

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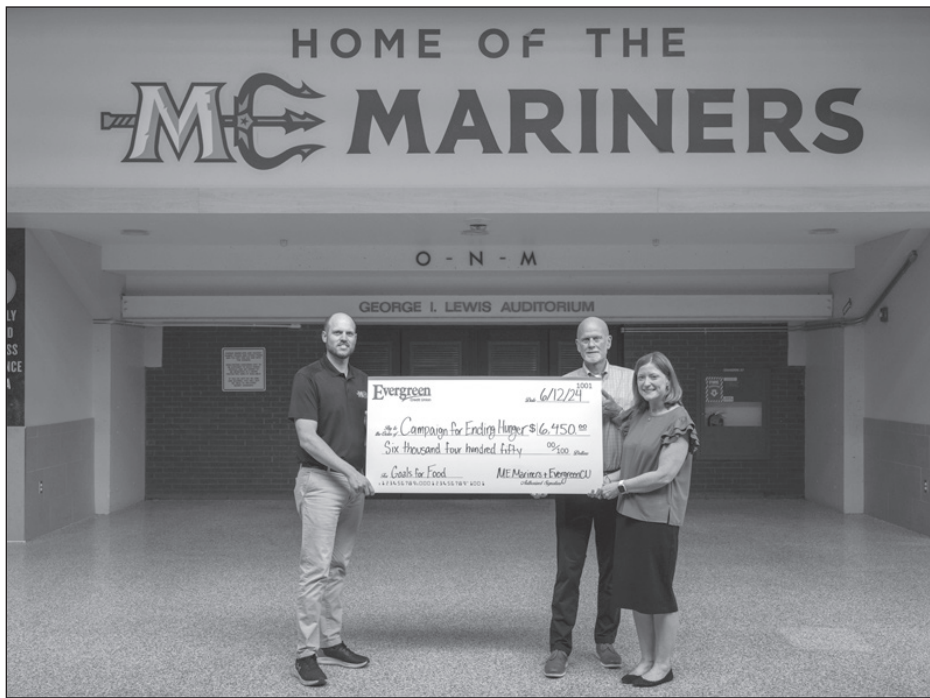
Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Evergreen CU & Maine Mariners fight hunger with Goals for Good

PORTLAND, ME – Evergreen Credit Union and the Maine Mariners will help provide over 12,000 meals to Mainers in need via their Goals for Good initiative. The hockey team and its Official Credit Union raised \$6,450 in their combined efforts.

During the Maine Mariners' 2023-2024 season, Evergreen Credit Union teamed up with the Mariners to donate a total of \$50 for every goal scored on home ice. All money raised benefits the Maine Credit Unions' Campaign for Ending Hunger in Maine, which supports organizations that fight food insecurity in Maine.

Together, the organizations exceeded their fundraising goals of \$5,000, and they're excited to up their game next season. "We couldn't do this without the support of the Mariners," said Jason



Evergreen Credit Union presents check to Maine Credit Unions for \$6,450.00. (From left to right: Jordan Place, Director of Global Partnerships; Jason Lindstrom, President/CEO of Evergreen Credit Union; Jen Burke, AVP, Communications and Outreach at Maine Credit Union League)

Lindstrom, Evergreen's President/CEO. "Their players are amazing, and their team has been sup-

portive and collaborative throughout the entire process. We're all excited to expand this program and

increase our donation total for the 2024-2025 season."

The program is a win-win for the Mariners.

"Anytime we can collaborate with a valued partner to give back to the community is a win in our book," said Jordan Place, Director of Global Partnership at the Maine Mariners. "Using our product in a fun and engaging way alongside Evergreen Credit Union in order to give back is very important to our team."

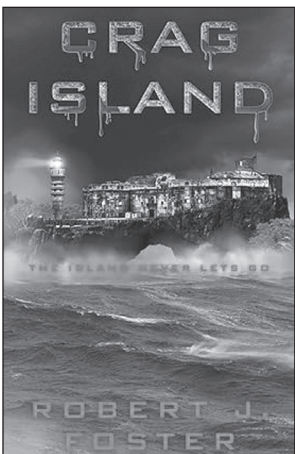
"The Campaign for Ending Hunger would like to thank Evergreen Credit Union and the Maine Mariners for their generous support," shared Jen Burke, Assistant Vice President of Communications & Outreach at the Maine Credit Union League. "Too many hardworking families across our state are struggling with food insecurity. Donations like these help our Campaign feed our neighbors in need."

Since 1990, Maine Credit Unions' Campaign for Ending Hunger has contributed over \$13.5

million to ending hunger. Evergreen Credit Union is Maine's 5th largest credit union with over \$550 million in assets and serving over 30,000 members in southern Maine. To learn more about Evergreen Credit Union's community efforts, visit egcu.org/community.

Best Source for Arts, Music and Theater! Your Hometown Paper.

Book Launch: Robert J. Foster at Gorham's BML



GORHAM, ME -- Join us at Gorham's Baxter Memorial Library on Thursday, July 18th at 6pm for the release of Robert J. Foster's latest book, Crag Island. This is no ordinary prison. Katarina must round up the escaped inmates before it's too late. She faces everything from friendly fairytale creatures to the beasts of nightmares. Phillip knows who caused the jailbreak and will do whatever it takes to quell the inmates' rebellion. But his opponent is clever, and more devious than Phillip knows. Katarina and Phillip will learn the lesson the inmates of Crag Island



Penitentiary have always known: The island never lets you go.

Robert J. Foster left his home state of New Hampshire because Maine had more coast. He can usually be found wandering in the woods. Robert was a teacher for twelve years and taught English in South Ko-

rea, Poland, China, and Taiwan. After a twelve year teaching career, he decided to use his current work/life balance to pursue his creative goal of writing stories. He writes horror, crime fiction, and

fantasy, and also enjoys drawing.



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Seniors Not Acting Their Age

Final Days on the Cascapedia River



Breathtaking views of the Chic Choc Mountains are almost constant on the Cascapedia River



A campsite protected from the winds was found on a gravel beach



Canoeists avoid large waves on one of the many Cascapedia Rapids

Powerful northwest winds had been blowing us downriver since we began the trip. Five of us were on the second day of a Grand Cascapedia River expedition. Located on the Gaspé Peninsula in eastern Quebec, the mountain river flows east through the spectacular Chic Choc Mountains to Chaleur Bay in New Richmond.

Some of us were veterans of paddling trips through the Grand Canyon. While the terrain is markedly different, the majestic Grand Cascapedia has remarkable similarities. Every bend in the river introduces a new breathtaking view. And, we were experiencing one

exciting whitewater rapid after another.

An additional exceptional aspect of our trip was the speed that we were traveling downriver. Although unsure of our location, we were clearly ahead of our anticipated schedule. We planned to be on the river for at least four days and the shuttle driver had suggested we should expect five. Based on our best estimate, we were more than halfway through the trip in the middle of our second day. High water and the relentless tailwind were the primary reasons.

Another factor in our unexpected progress was the prevalence of

countless long exciting whitewater rapids. We had completed what was reputed to be the most difficult rapid, Porcupine Falls, earlier in the day. However, we continued to experience rapids that were only slightly less demanding.

Superlatives seem to define the Grand Cascapedia. Outstanding paddling and spectacular beauty are not its primary claim to fame. Fishing aficionados consider it to be one of the ten best salmon fly fishing rivers in the world. The salmon fishing season was scheduled to open in two days on June 1.

Fishing enthusiasts travel long distances to

experience the Cascapedia. The watershed has a complex system for granting salmon fishing access that includes required guides and designated fishing holes. During our trip, we observed canoes strategically positioned at numerous locations along the river claiming a fishing spot for the upcoming season. The uniquely designed fishing canoes were more numerous as we progressed closer to Chaleur Bay.

Traveling downriver, a multitude of streams and small tributaries added to the volume. Similar to the Colorado River on the Grand Canyon, the high water created tricky whirlpools and powerful eddy lines at the end of many rapids. Remaining upright in the erratic unpredictable currents was often difficult. Navigating the runout was sometimes more challenging than the rapids.

Late in the afternoon, we began looking for a place to camp. Designated campsites are nonexistent on the Cascapedia. Paddlers usually camp on the numerous gravel beaches that line the river. However, high water covered many beaches normally available later in the season, and the strong winds

limited the number of acceptable locations.

We found a site on the inside of a left bend protected from the wind. A member of the group obtained a GPS reading that indicated we were about 15 miles from New Richmond. If correct, we had covered about 40 miles in a day and a half.

We arose the following morning to sunny skies for the third consecutive day. However, the gusty northwest wind remained.

Nearing our destination, the rapids diminished in length and frequency. The gradient declined and the river widened. Extensive serpentine islands are common on the lower Cascapedia. Rapids frequently mark the start of the islands and we found ourselves gambling on the best routes. A sandy beach on one island provided the ideal place to stop for lunch.

Shortly after, we passed under the first bridge on the trip in the village of Grand Cascapedia. The takeout at the campground in New Richmond is three miles beyond. Typical of the entire voyage, the northwest wind was gusting when we disembarked. The campground own-

er and shuttle driver was surprised to see us. He had left us at Lac Huard midday two days before and didn't expect us for two more days. We had paddled the entire river, an estimated 55 miles, in that short timeframe.

Everyone agreed that the Cascapedia is one of the most scenic exciting rivers we've paddled. There was a downside for me; I had felt mildly ill during the trip. When I arrived home, I tested positive for Covid. Unfortunately, I transmitted it to one traveling companion.

My book, *Maine Al Fresco: The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine* narrates exploits on the six best Maine river expeditions.

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 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 or he can be reached at ronchase-outdoors@comcast.net

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Hurdy-gurdy musician entertains WAW visitors

WISCASSET, ME – The hurdy-hurdy is a very complex instrument. According to Wiscasset’s Laurie Rousseau, a hurdy-gurdy performer, it has components of the violin, guitar, piano, and bagpipe.

Rousseau had been playing early music for almost two decades when she first heard the hurdy-gurdy while listening to some recorded early music. Through a process of elimination, she determined that the unfamiliar sound was a hurdy-gurdy. Fascinated by its history dating back to the 14th century, and popular in the 18th century court of Louis XV, she ordered an Elizabethan model for herself.

All hurdy-gurdys are custom made, as was Rousseau’s concert model. “It came with no instructions,” she said. Nor are there hurdy-gurdy repair services. So, Rousseau taught herself to play, to tune, and to repair.

The hurdy-gurdy, meant to be a melody instrument, has four drone strings, said Rousseau, which play a single note similarly to a bagpipe. There are two melody strings, and the musician

can play chords, sharps, and flats. The instrument has a neck and pegs like a guitar, and a keyboard like a piano. There’s also something rubbing the strings, like a violin, but in the case of a hurdy-gurdy, it’s a hand-cranked wheel instead of a bow.

In addition to putting all these components together to create music, another challenge for the hurdy-gurdy musician is tuning. According to Rousseau, it can take up to one and a half hours to tune before a performance and must be tuned during performance as well. The instrument is also sensitive to changes in weather.

From about 1992 to 2012, Rousseau played hurdy-gurdy at Renaissance Fairs and at Celtic music events with The Roses, an early and traditional music band specializing in instrumental music of the 16th century. “The hurdy-gurdy added a new dimension,” she said. She’s also played with a Baroque quartet in Nova Scotia and had a regular gig at a house museum there. The hurdy-gurdy “is very suited to Breton music,” she said.

And now, in her new



Musician Laurie Rousseau, in costume, plays hurdy-gurdy during the June Wiscasset Art Walk. She returns to Village sidewalks during WAW on July 25, 4-7pm. (Bob Bond photo)

community of Wiscasset, which has welcomed Rousseau with its neighborliness, she is performing during each of the four Wiscasset Art Walks of the 2024 season. “I’m so happy to be a hurdy-gurdy player,” said Rousseau; “it’s very enjoyable to share the experience of discovery when people hear it



As demonstrated by hurdy-gurdy musician, Laurie Rousseau, the instrument has a keyboard, melody and drone strings, and a hand-cranked wheel to make the music. Rousseau will be performing during the Wiscasset Art Walk on July 25, 4-7pm. (Bob Bond photo)

for the first time.”

Find Rousseau, in costume, on these last Thursdays of the summer months: July 25, August 29, and September 26, 4-7pm. Additional upcoming WAW features include LamboLaw jazz duo, the Long Branch Boys, the fine art of dueling, and Woodfield Farm horse and wagon rides around the Village.

In 2024, the businesses that support the many WAW performers and free activities are Lead Sponsor, Islebrook Village at Wiscasset; and Major Sponsors, Ames True Value,

Big Barn Coffee, BIRCH Home Furnishings & Gifts, Bradbury Art & Antiques, Carriage House Gardens, First National Bank, IndustrialME, J. Edward Knight Insurance, Jodie’s Café and Bakery, Peter Eaton Antiques, Red’s Eats, Rock Paper Scissors, Sherri Dunbar/Tim Dunham Realty, and Water St. Kitchen and Bar.

For more information about Wiscasset Art Walk, visit www.wiscassetartwalk.org or email to wiscassetartwalk@gmail.com. Wiscasset Art Walk is a program of Wiscasset Creative Alliance.

100 Women Who Care celebrates 10 years of community giving

MAINE -- 100 Women Who Care Maine was founded in November of 2014 with 80 women in attendance. Within just ten years, the Maine chapter has grown to 428 members. The group has raised over \$600,000 for over 40 various Maine non-profits since inception.

The group is made up of women wanting to make a difference by supporting local non-profits. Women are welcome to attend the free meetings to see if it is a good fit for them. Each member commits to donating \$50 each quarter to the

non-profit that is selected at each meeting, although attendance is not required. Three non-profits, randomly selected from member nominations, present at each meeting, giving 5-minute presentations, followed by 5-minute Q & A’s. The group votes to select the non-profit that will receive the donations. The two runner-up presenters benefit from auction fundraisers. Credit card and check donations are made directly to the non-profit.

Deb Bergeron, founder of 100+ Women Who Care Maine, is also the founder and owner of



Deb Bergeron, founder of 100+ Women Who Care Southern Maine.

Ocean of Possibilities, offering life coaching, with a background in team building, leadership, sales and sales management. She states, “Collectively, the group chooses a single non-profit quarterly to receive a lump sum made up of equal contri-

butions by all. It can be hard for an individual to feel that they are making an impact, but as a group, we can contribute to the growth of our communities in ways that we never before thought possible.”

The charity selected does a follow-up presen-

tation at the next quarterly meeting. They review how the donations were used, allowing 100 Women members to see the direct impact that their donation had on both the non-profit and the community. The Maine non-profits that have benefited run the full spectrum of organizations, including veterans, children with disabilities, pregnant women, fishermen, terminally ill young adults, victims of domestic abuse, animal welfare, incarcerated youth, and more.

Bergeron said, “This is a great group if your

time is limited, you want 100% of your donation to remain local, you want to learn about amazing non-profits, and you want to become part of a powerful group of women of all ages and backgrounds to make an immediate direct and positive impact in your community.”

The next meeting is Monday, August 5th at The Elks Lodge on Congress Street in Portland beginning at 6:30 pm, with networking starting at 5:45. For more information on 100+ Women Who Care Southern Maine, visit: www.100womenwhocaresouthernmaine.com

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Arts & Entertainment

Arts Jubilee presents the Classic Rock Orchestra tonight!

NORTH CONWAY, NH – The 41st Arts Jubilee Summer Concert Series continues at Cranmore Mountain Resort this Thursday, July 18th, featuring the Classic Rock Orchestra. Local band Rek’lis will open the show at 6 pm, followed by ‘Classic Rock’ at 7 pm.

Classic Rock Orchestra performs the greatest Rock Anthems of the 70s and 80s live in concert with a rock band and a chamber group, featuring songs

by Journey, Heart, Kansas, Pat Benatar, Boston, E.L.O, Stevie Nicks, Toto, and many more. “Classic Rock is, quite simply, one of the finest pops offerings available today. The music of epic bands like Kansas, Journey, and Boston is now coming into its own, as a hallmark of nostalgia for multiple generations of pops goers. This concert experience celebrates that nostalgia perfectly. The band is phenomenal, the singers are extraordinary,



and the orchestrations are about the finest I have ever seen.” Admission is \$18 for

adults, \$12 for seniors, \$5 for students, and free for kids 12 and under. You can pre-order tickets online at www.artsjubilee.org or pay at the gate on the night of the show starting at 5:30 pm. The concerts are ‘rain or shine’ with the exception of rare circumstances, so concertgoers are advised to come prepared as they would to any outdoor event. Parking is free, food and beverages are available for purchase on site, and there will be a raffle

for a variety of prizes at every concert. Seating is not provided at the venue, so concertgoers are encouraged to bring a lawn chair or blanket. Animals are not allowed on the property except for leashed service dogs. There is an elevator located next to the front gate for handicap accessibility. For more information please visit www.artsjubilee.org. Special thanks to our July 18th Lodging Sponsor: The North Conway Comfort Inn & Suites

Vivid Motion Dance weaves stories in captivating show

PORTLAND, ME – Celebrating their 21st season, long-time Portland staple Vivid Motion Dance brings dancers and cho-

reographers together for their summer show, bringing fresh modern spins to Greek heroes and Alice in Wonderland.

Emerging director Arrin Rhinehardt brings the story of Helen of Troy to the stage with original dance pieces in this one act

show. Telling traditional stories from the perspective of those most harmed, the rage of the victims and the gods’ pettiness inspires Helen to recruit rebels to fight against the patriarchal God hierarchy. Featuring songs from Ruelle, Shania Twain, Vitamin String Quartet, Metric, Saint Mesa, and M.I.A.

In the VivMo fan favorite Eclipse, founding member and past Artistic Director MJ Emerson intertwines dance stories of a War Veteran coming home, Alice in Wonderland, and the Prodigal son to selections from Pink Floyd’s in-

credible Dark Side Of The Moon.

This all ages show opens at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, August 2 at The Hill Arts on Munjoy Hill in Portland ME. Performances will run through Sunday, August 4. Tickets are on sale now at vividmotiondance.org.

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

WHAT: Eclipse + Helen of Troy

WHEN: Friday August 2, 2024 at 7:30pm

Saturday August 3, 2024 at 2:30pm

Saturday August 3, 2024 at 7:30pm

Sunday August 4, 2024 at 2:30pm

WHERE: The Hill Arts, 76 Congress Street, Portland

All tickets are available at vividmotiondance.org. Lobby doors open one hour to show time.

Adults: \$25 advance / \$30 at the door | Child: \$10 advance / \$15 at the door

There is also a pay-what-you-can dress rehearsal on Thursday, August 1 at 7:30pm. For dress rehearsal reservations, please email tickets@vividmotion.org.

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presents



Words and Music by
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Book by
Timothy Allen McDonald

Based on the book
James and the Giant Peach by Roald Dahl

Co-Directors – Madeleine DuBois and Maria Groover
Music Director – Moll Brown
Choreographer – Madeleine Vaillancourt
Producer – Jackie McDonald

Friday, July 19, 2024 at 7:00 pm
Saturday, July 20, 2024 at 2:00 pm

Saturday July 20, 2024 - 7:00 p.m.
Sunday July 21, 2024 - 2:00 p.m.



Music by Alan Menken
Lyrics by Howard Ashman and Tim Rice
Book by Linda Woolverton

Director – Linda Vaillancourt
Music Director – Erin-Margaret Libby
Choreographer – Maddy Vaillancourt
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Sunflower Festival celebrates 10th anniversary, invites guests

LEE, NH -- Come walk through 5 acres of live blooming golden sunflowers during the 10th annual Sunflower Festival, daily July 27th through August 4th. While visiting stroll through specialty gardens that feature sunflowers of all shapes, sizes, colors, and textures.

Coppal House Farm's Sunflower Festival is a live bloom that takes place over 9 days! This year will feature new events such as Yoga in the Sunflower and Evening Horse-Drawn Rides through the sunflowers and some enhancements to others (breakfast & coffee available at Sunrise in the Sunflowers)!

The Sunflower Festival begins on Saturday, July 27th and runs through Sunday, August 4th from 10:00am - 6:00pm. This is a great outdoor family friendly event that is enjoyed by photographers, sunflower lovers, and outdoor enthusiasts every year!

While you are there you can visit with their draft horses, chickens, and sheep, take pictures of the sunflowers, and shop for their meats, eggs, sunflower oil, and local merchandise in the farm store. On the weekends, you can listen to local musicians, shop for creative handmade goods at the 40-vendor craft fair and relax in the wine garden featuring Flag Hill Distillery & Winery.

Guests are welcome to bring in their own food and have a picnic or they can grab lunch from one of the local food, drink, and ice cream vendors!

Weekend Activities Include: Live Music; Craft Fair with 40 local crafters; Local Food Vendors; Wine Garden with Flag Hill Distillery & Winery; Animal Viewing; Children's Activities with Community



Roots NH

Special Activities Include:

Friday, July 26th | Booze & Blooms (pre-ticketed 21+ event)

Sunday, July 28th | Sunrise in the Sunflowers (pre-ticketed event)

Monday, July 29th | Yoga in the Sunflowers *new* (pre-ticketed event)

Tuesday, July 30th | Yoga in the Sunflowers *new* (pre-ticketed event)

Wednesday, July 31st | Draft Horse Photo Day (10am - 12pm) Touch-A-Tractor Day (10am-2pm)

Thursday, August 1st | Evening Horse-Drawn Rides *new* (pre-ticketed event)

Friday, August 2nd | Evening Horse-Drawn Rides *new* (pre-ticketed event)

For the second year in a row the festival will be kicked off with a special evening event, Booze

& Blooms! Here you will be the first to enjoy the vast fields of sunflowers in the glowing evening light while enjoying local libations and nourishment from local food trucks. This is a 21+ pre-ticketed event with a limited number of tickets available. Make sure to visit their website www.nhsunflower.com for more detailed information on vendors, special activities, and how to plan for your visit! Tickets are available now online for a discounted rate. Coppal House Farm is a pet free farm so make sure to plan for your fur babies to stay home.

Get your tickets online now, grab your water bottle, put on your sunscreen, and hat, and prepare for an awesome day viewing beautiful sunflowers, listening to music, and shopping amazing local crafters!

Edward Little Class of 1959 is holding 65th reunion

AUBURN, ME -- Auburn's Edward Little High School will be holding its 65th class reunion on Wednesday, July 24, 2024 at Gipper's Sports Grill, 120 Center Street, Auburn, at 12:00 pm.

Local Catholic Charities Maine volunteers recognized

PORTLAND, MAINE - Ten volunteers who work with Catholic Charities Maine (CCM) have been recognized with Maine Roll of Honor awards sponsored by Volunteer Maine and Governor Janet Mill's office.

Since 1987, the Governor's Awards for Service and Volunteerism have celebrated the role of citizen volunteers in the success and vitality of Maine communities. The program is managed on behalf of the Office of the Governor by Volunteer Maine, the Maine Commission for Community Service.

All CCM honorees listed below completed more than 500 hours of volunteer service last year.

Anne Skelton of Auburn, Maine devoted 1,072 hours to CCM's Seek Elderly Alone Renew Courage & Hope (SEARCH) program, which matches seniors with volunteers who can provide rides, visits, companionship, and community support.

Lorraine Barre of Rumford and Barbara Hughes of Lewiston

both contributed 1,440 to knitting items for our SEARCH program.

Brent and Susan Tappley of Monticello both dedicated time to Catholic Charities Maine's Threads of Hope thrift shop in Monticello and at our Found Bank Warehouse. Brent logged 1,440 hours and Susan, 1,520 hours.

Freda Watkins of Caribou contributed 1,050 hours to Catholic Charities Maine's Threads of Hope thrift shop in Caribou.

Susan English of Wales dedicated 518 hours to knitting for seniors served by Catholic Charities Maine's SEARCH program.

Julie Abbott of Gorham spent 531 hours answering calls for Catholic Charities Maine's Parish Social Ministry's Relief & Hope help line.

Conrid (Bud) Houghton, Jr. of Carthage contributed 509 hours helping seniors with the SEARCH program.

Mikayla Tarr of Gray contributed 577.25 hours knitting and crocheting items for Catholic

Charities Maine's Wall of Warmth event, which provide free winter items to Portland area people, free of charge.

"We are incredibly blessed to have these volunteers contributing to our mission to provide help and create hope for Maine people in need. These gen-

See Charities, page 12

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Maine State Ballet presents “A Midsummer Night’s Dream”

FALMOUTH, ME – Embark on an enchanting journey through Shakespeare’s timeless romantic comedy, “A Midsummer Night’s Dream.” Follow the intertwining paths of two young couples and a troupe of bumbling actors as they wander into a mystical forest on a midsummer’s eve, only to find themselves ensnared in the mischievous schemes of the fairy realm. Prepare to be swept away by laughter and chaos as mistaken identities and comedic escapades unfold amidst the enchanted foliage. Audiences of all

ages will find themselves spellbound by the mesmerizing Mendelssohn score, and the dazzling array of costumes and scenery that transport them into Shakespeare’s whimsical world.

The mortal lovers Hermia and Lysander are danced by Rachel Paradis and Trevor Seymour, with Hermia and Demetrius danced by Emma Davis and Arie Eiten. Aidan Volk plays the role of Oberon, King of the Fairies with sidekick Puck danced by Caelan Martin. The beautiful Titania, Oberon’s Queen, is danced by Anna Cook



and Emma Samuelson. Broadway veteran and longtime dancer Jonathan Miele plays the role of Theseus, Duke of Athens. His bride Hippolyta is played by Maine State Ballet Company veteran Juliette Lauzier-Bridges. Glenn Davis rounds out the cast leading his band of actors as Nick Bottom.

Choreography is by Artistic Director and former New York City Ballet dancer Linda MacArthur

Miele, with costumes and scenery by Associate Director Gail Csoboth, and light design by Frederick Bernier.

Performance Schedule

Dates: August 1st – 10th (2 weekends)

Venue: Maine State Ballet’s Lopez Theater

Tickets: \$21 - \$29 with discounts for seniors & children at mainstateballet.org or 207-781-3587.



Bestselling area author returns for Rotary presentation, signing

KENNEBUNK, ME — Noah St. John, a Kennebunk High School graduate and prolific author, returns to his hometown to share his journey of success and innovation in a special Rotary presentation on Thursday, August 1st, followed by book signings at the South Portland Books-A-Million on Friday, August 2nd at 5 pm, and the new South Portland Barnes and Noble on Saturday, August 3rd at noon.

St. John, a Rotary Scholar, National Merit Scholar, and acclaimed author of 25 books, including

the Amazon #1 bestsellers The Book of AFFORMATIONS® and Millionaire AFFORMATIONS®, is excited to connect with locals and fans to discuss the power of innovation and transformative thinking.

On Thursday, August 1st from 12:00 to 1:30 pm, St. John will present at the Kennebunk Rotary Club, where he will host a special Q&A into his personal journey from a Kennebunk student to a renowned author and speaker. His presentation, titled “Reflections of a Rotary Scholar,” aims to inspire and empow-



Noah St. John with some of his 25 books, published in 18 languages.

South Portland from 5:00 to 6:30 pm.

Then on Saturday, August 3rd, St. John will sign copies of “The 7-Figure Machine” at the new Barnes and Noble at Maine Crossing, 200 Running Hill Road from noon to 2 pm.

These special events are unique opportunities for readers and fans alike to meet St. John and get their copies of his books signed. Attendees can expect engaging discussions about his writing process and the philosophies that have shaped his successful career.

“Returning to Kennebunk always feels like coming home,” says St. John, who lives in Northeast Ohio with his wife, Babette. “I’m thrilled to share the strategies that helped me achieve success and to inspire others to dream big

and ask better questions of themselves.”

These events are open to the public, and all are welcome to experience the motivational insights St. John has to offer. Don’t miss the chance to meet one of Kennebunk’s most successful literary figures.

About Noah St. John

Noah St. John, PhD is a #1 bestselling author, keynote speaker, and innovator of AFFORMATIONS®, a revolutionary technique that has helped countless people achieve personal and financial success. He’s also a global thought leader and executive coach to CEOs, professional athletes and corporate executives. The Kennebunk High School Salutatorian of 1984, his books and teachings continue to influence and inspire a global audience.

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² Earn \$30 bonus for each \$1,000 transferred to a new or existing ECU Sun Select Credit Card during the promotion period, not to exceed \$450. Balance transfers must occur during the promotional period ending 12/31/2024, in order to be eligible. The bonus is payable 60 days after the month-end in which the balance transfer took place and the credit card must remain open at time of deposit. Some restrictions apply. For more information, including bonus eligibility, visit egcu.org/credit.

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MSMT to present White Christmas.....in July!

BRUNSWICK, ME
 -- MSMT is delighted to announce its enchanting summer production of the timeless classic Irving Berlin's White Christmas. Running from July 17 to August 3, this heartwarming musical promises to bring festive cheer to the Pickard Theatre with its captivating performances, dazzling choreography, and unforgettable melodies. Based on the beloved film, this musical adaptation features a book by David Ives and Paul Blake and seventeen Irving Berlin songs, including Happy Holiday, Sisters, Blue Skies, How Deep is the Ocean, I've Got My Love to Keep Me Warm, I Love a Piano, White Christmas and more!



creative team also includes Jeff Hendry (Costume Design), Paul Black (Lighting Design), Robert Kovach (Scenic Design), Shannon Slaton (Sound Design), Colin Reibel (Projections), Kevin S. Foster II (Wig Design), and Iván Dario Cano (Production Stage Manager).

Join Us for a Festive Celebration

Don't miss this opportunity to celebrate Christmas in July with the Maine State Music Theatre's spectacular production of Irving Berlin's White Christmas. Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased at the MSMT Box Office or online at www.msmt.org.

Experience the Magic of the Holidays

Step into a winter wonderland as the entire Pickard Theatre transforms into a festive holiday haven. Audiences will be greeted by a multitude of Christmas trees and stunning holiday decor, creating an immersive experience that captures the spirit of Christmas in the heart of summer.

Holiday Craft Market

Adding to the festive atmosphere, MSMT will

host a Holiday Craft Market in the lobby, offering patrons the perfect opportunity to shop for unique handmade gifts and holiday decorations before the show and during intermission. It's a delightful way to extend the joy of the season and support local artisans.

Meet the Cast

The principal cast of White Christmas features Will Ray (Bob Wallace), Daniel Plimpton (Phil Da-

vis), Kerry Conte (Betty Haynes), and Darien Crago (Judy Haynes). MSMT fan favorites Charis Leos and David Girolmo grace the stage as Martha Watson and General Henry Waverly, respectively. Laura Guzmán, Scout Martin, and Charlotte Van Ledtje will alternate the role of Susan.

The ensemble includes Karoline Brechter, Mark Aldrich, Joe Capstick, Thomas Dalceredo,

Mary Beth Donahoe, Jasmine Gillenwaters, Tauren Hagans, Jessica Hoadley, Calista Jones, Tyler Johnson-Campion, Emily Kelly, Nate Krohmer, Christian Miller, Lav Raman, Mandie Rapoza, Eric Rivas, Jeff Sullivan, and Mark Tran Russ.

Creative Team

The acclaimed Marc Robin directs and choreographs the production, with musical direction by Brian Cimmet. The

Gorham senior property tax assistance applications available

GORHAM, ME
 -- Applications are now available for the Town of Gorham Senior Property Tax Assistance Program. This program was estab-

lished to provide property tax assistance to persons 65 years of age and over who reside in the Town of Gorham. Under this program, the Town of

Gorham will provide refund payments to those individuals who maintain a homestead in the Town of Gorham and meet the criteria established by this

article.

To obtain an application, please visit the Town Clerk's Office at the Gorham Municipal Center (75 South Street) or go to the

Town's website.

Completed applications can be submitted to the Town Clerk's Office now through the deadline of August 1, 2024. If

you have questions and/or need assistance completing your application, email seniorrebate@gorham.me.us, or call 222-1671.

Community garden at Cressey Road Christian Church, Gorham

GORHAM, ME
 -- If picking your own grown juicy tomato and crispy greens is on your bucket list, try gardening at Cressey Road Christian Church Community Garden in Bucket Step planters, ready for planting, no

fees, and PFAS free.

Bucket Steps were built by Eagle Scout candidate Christopher Bolton with help from his troop, scout leader Kelly Deprez, and Rick Smart. Bucket Steps have 3 rows, with 4 buckets each. You

may share a bucket step unit with someone. Bucket Steps are user friendly planters with minimal bending required. This is just a beginning as we continue building raised garden units offering planting boxes and vegtrugs. Buck-

et Steps are available now on a first come, first served basis. To use one of these planters, please contact Lorraine.lindcabin@gmail.com for guidelines and an application.



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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!





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Maine Army National Guard honors members & their fathers

AUGUSTA, ME -- Last weekend, a group of veterans embarked on a memorable journey from Portland, Maine to Washington, D.C. as part of an Honor Flight, an event dedicated to honoring America's heroes. Among the participants were two members of the Maine Army National Guard, Col. Jim Young and Chief Warrant Officer Four TJ Libby, who accompanied their fathers on the trip.

The Honor Flight, organized by Honor Flight Maine, transported veterans to Washington, D.C., to visit and reflect at their respective war memorials. The program focused on senior veterans, particularly those who served in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam. This weekend's flight was a poignant re-

minder of the sacrifices made by these veterans and their families.

Libby's father, Joseph Libby, was a Corporal in the United States Marine Corps who served in Vietnam from 1966 to 1967. Young's father, James Young, was a Lance Cpl. – also in the Marine Corps – who deployed to Vietnam from 1964 to 1965, primarily near Da Nang. Coincidentally, both Cpl. Libby and Lance Cpl. Young both sailed from the United States to Vietnam on the USNS General Hugh J. Gaffey – a shared experience that was the source of several colorful stories.

Libby, a seasoned Army National Guard member currently serving as the Executive Officer to The Adjutant General, expressed his anticipation for



Maine Marine Veterans pose in front of the US Marine Corps War Memorial

the trip prior to departure. "It's an incredible honor to share this experience with my father," he said. "We have always looked up to those who served before us, and this trip is a tribute to their sacrifices."

Young, who currently serves as the Maine Army National Guard's Chief of



Brig. Gen. Diane Dunne spoke with the group of veterans prior to their Honor Flight

Staff, echoed similar sentiments. "Having the opportunity to visit the nation's capital with my father, who has been my role model, is truly special," Young remarked. "This flight is more than just a trip; it's a way to pay our respects to those who paved the way for us."

Brig. Gen. Diane Dunn, The Adjutant General of the Maine National

Guard and Commissioner of the Department of Defense, Veterans, and Emergency Management, spoke to the group of veterans at Portland International Jetport prior to their departure.

"We really just want to take a moment to say thank you for the profound impact you've had on our nation," said Dunn. "I also can't thank Honor Flight

Maine enough for organizing this. It's so important to acknowledge all the efforts and sacrifices our veterans have made over the years, and to try and live up to the legacy that you have set for future generations of service members."

For the Libby and the Young families, the Honor Flight represented a unique opportunity to connect with their fathers and fellow veterans. "Sharing this experience with my father is something I'll cherish forever," Young added. "It's a moment of pride and reflection for both of us."

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

Camden National Bank now accepting award nominations

CAMDEN, ME – Camden National Bank announced today that nominations are now open for the 2024 Leaders & Luminaries Awards. The annual awards honor four outstanding nonprofit board members who go above and beyond to dedicate themselves to strategic leadership and advancing their organizations, with a total of \$20,000 in grants available.

"As a community bank, supporting local nonprofits and their leaders is central to our core values,"

said Renée Smyth, Executive Vice President and Chief Experience & Marketing Officer at Camden National Bank. "It is important for us to acknowledge, honor, and reward the outstanding efforts of our board members, whose work contributes to the growth and improvement of communities."

Nominees can submit their online application at CamdenNational.bank/leadersandluminaries, which also includes eligibility requirements and additional



details. The nomination process will remain open until September 13, 2024.

"It is a privilege to witness such innovative thinking and outstanding

leadership; we are grateful to the board members who work hard every day to uphold this degree of excellence," Smyth said. "We look forward to rewarding

four incredible board members for their extraordinary community contributions and commitment to long-term growth."

Since 2011, Camden National Bank has proudly donated \$242,000 to support 63 Maine nonprofits through the Leaders & Luminaries Awards. These awards recognize board members who demonstrate exceptional leadership, implement robust strategic and financial plans, and wholeheartedly champion their organization's missions.

The winners in 2023 included: Heather Abello of Hearty Roots, Dottie Chalmers Cutter of the Institute for Family-Owned Business, Kathie Marquis-Girard of the Percival P. Baxter Foundation for Maine's Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children, and Jamie Plourde of the Children's Discovery Museum of Central Maine. In addition to these \$5,000 grants, a \$2,000 Spotlight Award was presented to Vera Rand Roberts of New Hope Mid-coast.

UMA Aviation Maintenance Tech program takes off

AUGUSTA, ME— In response to demand from employers in Maine's growing aviation and aerospace sectors, the University of Maine at Augusta (UMA) is opening the state's first aviation maintenance technician (AMT) school.

UMA secured final approval in early July from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and students will start courses online and hands-on training at the statewide university's Brunswick Landing aviation campus in late August.

Through the program, future AMTs can earn an industry recognized professional certificate or pursue a pathway that enables them to earn both

the certification and either an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree or a Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) degree. UMA will utilize state-of-the-art technology, such as welding and aircraft painting via virtual reality, to ensure students receive the most up-to-date learning experience and are positioned to excel as aviation maintenance professionals.

Those who complete the five semester certificate program can immediately sit for exams required to become an FAA-certified Airframe & Powerplant technician/mechanic, allowing them to work on a wide range of aircraft, including general aviation planes, airliners and helicopters.

Until now, Maine has been one of only three states without an AMT school, despite job growth expected in the sector in Maine and nationally. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the average annual salary for aircraft mechanics and service technicians is \$76,260, and can exceed \$100,000.

U.S. Sens. Susan Collins, vice chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, and Angus King secured \$400,000 in one-time Congressionally Directed Spending at the request of the University of Maine System for UMA to start the school. That federal funding was supported by organizations who rely on aviation maintenance technicians, including LifeFlight of Maine, as well as the Mid-coast Regional Redevelopment Authority, which is redeveloping the former military base in Brunswick where the AMT school will be collocated along with a number of aviation and aerospace companies. Through the Maine Technology Institute, the Maine Department of Econom-

ic and Community Development also provided \$200,000 in start-up costs to provide a workforce pipeline to aviation employers in the state.

"Qualified aircraft mechanics are in extremely high demand and short supply," said Jesse Laughlin, general manager of the Portland-based Northeast Air. "UMA's production of skilled technicians will be invaluable to the aviation community and small businesses in Maine."

Added Chris Kilgour, CEO of the Bangor-based company, "C&L Aviation Services is an established aviation maintenance organization which struggles to find enough technicians to meet our needs. We currently recruit from out of state and it will be advantageous to be able to do so closer to home."

UMA President Jenifer Cushman says UMA's new AMT school builds on the success and growth of the university's existing aviation programs, which includes degree and certificate programs in both crewed and uncrewed aircraft training. The crewed training programs are of-



fered in Augusta and Bangor through a partnership with Maine Instrument Flight, and the uncrewed (drone) piloting program is delivered in Brunswick.

"This new Aviation Maintenance Technician School is the latest example of UMA's responsiveness in meeting the workforce needs of Maine's employers," said President Cushman. "Through this program, Mainers will be well prepared for good-paying careers in an exciting industry, and Maine aviation businesses and essential service providers like LifeFlight will have the skilled workforce they need to strengthen our economy and communities."

Applications are still being accepted now for fall and spring enrollment in the new AMT program.

To learn more about becoming a skilled professional in the aviation

industry, visit uma.edu/aviation. For general information or to schedule a visit to the UMA Aviation Center in Brunswick, contact Daniel Leclair at (207) 621-7481 or daniel.m.leclair@maine.edu.

About the University of Maine at Augusta (UMA): UMA transforms the lives of students of every age and background across the State of Maine and beyond through access to high-quality distance and on-site education, excellence in student support, civic engagement, and professional and liberal arts programs. UMA is committed to affordability and eligible students who qualify for federal need-based Pell grants can attend without paying out-of-pocket for tuition and fees thanks to the university's Pine Tree Pledge. For more information, please visit <https://www.uma.edu/>.

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MDOL to expand employment opportunities

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

AUGUSTA, ME – The Maine Department of Labor has awarded Eastern Maine Development Corporation (EMDC) a \$485,521 contract to expand employment opportunities in Central and Northeastern Maine for justice-involved individuals and those in recovery.

This will be done through the “Progressive Employment” model, which offers a flexible and gradual approach to work, and supports both the job-seeker and employer in creating a supported employment experience. The proven model is rooted in the belief that “everyone is ready for something” on the pathway to employment, with opportunities “progressing” from a tour or job shadow, work experience, on-the-job training

support, and ultimately sustainable employment.

“We have seen tremendous success utilizing this model of Progressive Employment when working with Mainers with disabilities. It is an accessible, adaptive, and durable workforce development model that creates opportunities for all people to develop their skills, and for employers to meet their current and future workforce needs,” said Labor Commissioner Laura Fortman. “Workers are more likely to stay in Maine and contribute to their communities when they have fulfilling jobs and access to quality career pathways.”

EMDC will support individuals in recovery and re-entry connect to employment opportunities through a Progressive Employment approach, building on the model launched in Machias and Bangor areas in partnership with 58 community partners over the last year, including the Northeastern Work-

force Development Board, Community Caring Collaborative, Fedcap, DHHS, Community Health and Counseling Services, Living Innovations, Sunrise County Economic Counsel, and others.

“Maine needs to expand its workforce to meet robust economic growth. This Progressive Employment model focuses on helping justice-involved individuals and those in recovery by creating a wider pipeline of valuable workers ready for the workplace. EMDC has participated in several Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan initiatives to create opportunities for all,” said Lee Umphrey, President and CEO of EMDC.

This model is an extension of EMDC’s ongoing partnership with MDOL as WIOA Service provider for nine counties, offering programs including the Maine’s Connecting with Opportunities Initiative that focused on displaced workers impact-

ed by the opioid crisis, and the QUEST program (Quality Jobs, Equity, Strategy and Training Disaster Recovery) grant that focused on connecting historically marginalized and underserved individuals to good jobs, especially those in the care economy, infrastructure, and clean energy. These programs strengthen efforts to serve Maine workers and employers in a coordinated way.

Through Progressive Employment, EMDC plans to support at least 100 jobseekers with employment resources over the next two years - including but not limited to experiential learning opportunities, work experiences, job shadowing, on the job training, mock interviews, company tours, and supports to enhance the likelihood of job success for participants in recovery and justice involved individuals.

EMDC will also work to connect more than 25

businesses with unique opportunities to engage with this untapped labor market. A 2022 survey found that 100% of businesses surveyed who engaged in Vermont’s Progressive Employment program said they will likely do so again in the future, and 93% of employers surveyed were interested in offering more Progressive Employment opportunities.

MDOL’s Division of Vocational Rehabilitation has nine years of experience using Progressive Employment with youth and young adults with disabilities, and currently offers the model statewide to Vocational Rehabilitation customers of all ages.

Estimates from an AIR evaluation of the progressive employment model in Maine among youth with disabilities suggest that youth with disabilities “enrolled in the Progressive Employment program were 10.5 percentage points more likely to be employed in the

first year after developing an individualized plan for employment than non-Progressive Employment clients.”

Funded through the Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan, EMDC’s grant will continue until the fall of 2026.

Interested businesses, jobseekers, and non-profits can get connected by emailing Progressive-Employment.MDOL@maine.gov

Other partners in this initiative include the Bureau of Employment Services, the Division For The Blind and Visually Impaired, the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Office of Family Independence (DHHS), Office of Aging and Disability Services (DHHS), Goodwill Northern New England, Bangor Area Recovery Network, Institute for Community Inclusion, Aroostook Mental Health Services, Washington County Community College, and others.

Gardiner, Fryeburg, Patten rank best in Maine for biking

PORTLAND, ME - Gardiner, Fryeburg, Patten, Farmington, and Buckfield ranked in the top 5 in the PeopleForBikes comprehensive assessment based on the quality of their bike networks.

“We know Maine is an incredible place to enjoy by bike, whether that’s for recreation or transportation,” said Jean Sideris, the Bicycle Coalition of Maine (BCM) executive director. “But, we also know there is a lot of work to do to improve bicycle infrastructure and improve safety for people biking in Maine.”

“The BCM is glad to see PeopleForBikes include small cities (<50,000 population) in their rankings for Maine. Several rural cities made the top of the list, including cities

in the Northern and Western parts of the state. This demonstrates that good bicycle infrastructure can be done in communities of any size anywhere in Maine.”

PeopleForBikes’ City Ratings is an annual, data-driven program to identify, evaluate, and compare the best cities and towns for bicycling. Each city receives a City Ratings score on a scale of 0 to 100. Based on data from PeopleForBikes’ Bicycle Network Analysis, high-scoring cities often perform well across six factors captured in the acronym SPRINT: safe speeds, protected bike lanes, reallocated space for biking and walking, intersection treatments, network connections, and trusted data.

Among the Maine top

10, some commonalities in their scoring emerged. Nearly all scored well in both *Access to parts of the city where residents live* and *Access to jobs and schools*. Gardiner, Fryeburg, and Patten all scored highest in *Access to places that serve basic needs like hospitals and grocery stores*. Portland, Bangor, Lewiston, and York Harbor scored highest in *Access to recreational amenities like parks and trails*. Except for Portland, Lewiston, and Bangor, all of the top ten scored 0 for *Access to major transit hubs*.

PeopleForBikes sees a score of 50 as a significant threshold to becoming a great place to bike, with investments in bike infrastructure creating more opportunities for

people to ride and fostering a groundswell of local support for better biking. Unfortunately, no cities in Maine met that threshold, but the top five were within nine points. Of the cities that were included in the 2023 rankings, 10 received higher scores this year and 3 received lower scores. See below for the full list.

The BCM has worked with communities all across the state to support improved bicycle infrastructure, including advocating for bike lanes, multi-use paths and trails, and bicycle safety education projects. We helped install traffic calming projects in Bangor, Portland, and Lewiston. Our Community Spokes network of local advocates are active in nearly every town on

this list, and it is the collective of local advocates and BCM’s statewide efforts that will help bring about changes in bike/pedestrian infrastructure to help improve these scores in future PeopleForBikes analyses.

2024 Maine City Rankings, 0-100

Rank	City	Score (2023 score)
1	Gardiner	44 (n/a)
2	Fryeburg	44 (42)
3	Patten	44 (n/a)
4	Farmington	41 (n/a)
5	Buckfield	39 (43)
6	Portland	39 (29)
7	Lewiston	38 (37)
8	Bangor	33 (32)
9	York Harbor	32 (n/a)
10	Cornish	30 (29)
11	Camden	29 (n/a)

12	Presque Isle	29 (25)
13	Gorham	27 (n/a)
14	Orono	27 (30)
15	Biddeford	27 (25)
16	Old Orchard Beach	27 (n/a)
17	Scarborough	27 (24)
18	Augusta	23 (25)
19	Kittery	23 (22)
20	Saco	19 (n/a)
21	Kennebunk	18 (n/a)
22	Auburn	12 (11)

Read the full report here <https://cityratings.peopleforbikes.org/>

Charities

Continued from page 7

erous people are ten of the 564 volunteers who dedicated 32,821 hours of sup-

port to our more than 20 programs statewide. Their work represents nearly \$1M value in time donat-

ed, but their contributions are truly priceless,” Kelly Day, director of Volunteer Services, said.



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Mondays through Aug 12

LEWISTON -- ART-VAN IN KENNEDY PARK, Mondays, June 24, July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 and August 5, 12 at 3:30PM

ArtVan will be providing hands-on creative art programs this summer in Kennedy Park for children ages 5-14 (ages 5-8 must be accompanied by an adult) for self-expression, personal growth, and fun.

Free. All art supplies will be provided.

July 19-21, 25-28

BAR MILLS -- The Original's present Private Lives, a play by Noel Coward at Saco River Theatre, 29 Salmon Falls Road, Bar Mills, ME, July 19, 20, 25, 26, 27 @ 7:30 PM and July 21 & 28 at 2:30pm. Tickets: \$15 General Admission at www.sacorivertheatre.org.

July 21

AUBURN -- "Treks and Sojourns: Refusing Disappointment" with Luke Lunt. 12 noon; free. First Universalist Church of Auburn, 169 Pleasant St. (enter on Spring, St., across from Dairy Joy). Parking; accessible. FMI 783-0461 or www.auburnuu.org.

July 23; Aug 6, 13, 20

MAINE -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension welcomes local farmers, service providers, and Ag stakeholders

Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

to participate in the 2024 Maine Pasture Walk Series. Five events, all of which will start at 11 a.m., will be held on the following days and farms:

Springside Farm, 577 Anson Valley Road in New Vineyard, on Jul 23.

Faithful Venture Farm, 17 Borough Road in Searsmont, on Aug 06.

The Wolfe's Neck Center, 184 Burnett Road in Freeport, on Aug 13.

Grace Pond Farm, 530 Main Street in Thomaston, on Aug 20.

Attendees will learn about dairy production systems, pasture management, forage species identification, climate-smart practices, regenerative grazing, and more from forage producers and Assistant Extension Professor Jaime Garzon.

The 2024 Maine Pasture Walk Series is open and free for all participants. Visit the event webpage for more information and registration.

July 24

AUBURN -- Edward Little Class of 1959 is holding its 65th reunion July 24, 2024 at Gipper's Sport Grill, Auburn at 12:00 pm.

July 24

LEWISTON -- Com-

munity puzzle swap is happening at Lewiston Public Library on Wednesday, July 24th, between 10:30 am and 2 pm in the Jeanne Couture Room on the first floor. The event listing can also be found on our website at <https://lplonline.org/events/summer-2024-puzzle-swap/>

July 26

LEWISTON -- Friday, July 26th from 10:00am - 11:30am, the Lewiston Public Library Children's Department will be offering the program Baby Bib Keepsakes. During this program caregivers will be able to decorate a personalized bib for their babies.

The activity is designed for caregivers with babies between the ages of birth-18 months. Siblings are also welcome to attend. This program will take place in the back of the Children's Department on the third floor of the library. This activity is free, all materials will be provided, and there is no registration required. Attendance at this program counts towards Summer Reading participation.

The Lewiston Public Library is located downtown at 200 Lisbon Street at the corner of Pine

Street. More information is available by contacting the Lewiston Public Library at 513-3133 or LPLKids@lewistonmaine.gov. <https://lplonline.org/events/baby-bib-keepsakes/>

July 27

GRAY -- First Congregational Church of Gray Saturday Night Church Supper on Saturday, July 27, 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

July 27

LEWISTON -- The Lewiston Public Library will be hosting Taiko Maine Dojo in Callahan Hall on Saturday, July 27th at 11AM for all ages. Join us for this incredible performance of Japanese drumming, dancing and music. Participation in this event counts towards the library Summer Reading program so don't forget to log it on your bookmark. Free. In person. No registration is required. For more information contact the Children's Department at 513-3133 or LPLKids@LewistonMaine.gov

July 27

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delicious Haddock Supper

Buffet - Saturday, July 27, 2024 - 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.

July 27

AUBURN -- There will be a baked bean supper at Sixth St. Congregational Church at 109 Sixth St. in Auburn on Saturday, July 27th 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.

July 30

LEWISTON -- The Lewiston Public Library will be hosting Northern Stars Planetarium in Callahan Hall on Tuesday, July 30th at 5:30PM for all ages.

Legends of the sky from around the world are told live under the stars inside the planetarium. Hear stories from Australian Aborigines, Inuit, African Tribes, Japan, India and the rainforests of South America. This program is free and open to the public. Registration is required as there are only 45 available spots. To register please contact the Children's Department at 513-3133 or LPLKids@lewistonmaine.gov. If all of the spots are filled, you may request to be put on the waiting list. Participation in this event counts towards the library Summer Reading program so don't forget to log it on your bookmark.

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
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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.

NOVEMBER 18-20, 2024 - CHRISTMAS IN NEW YORK CITY

- Trip includes 2 nights lodging with 3 days in New York City. Breakfasts each morning and 1 dinner in a Manhattan Restaurant is included. We will have a backstage tour of Radio City Music Hall and a guided tour of Lower Manhattan, Times Square, Greenwich Village, Little Italy, Ground Zero and the Financial District. You will also visit the 9/11 Memorial Museum and Rockefeller Center. On Wednesday afternoon it's off to Radio City Music Hall to see the Christmas Spectacular featuring the World-Famous Rockettes. A \$200 deposit per person is due upon registration. Trip price is \$749.00 per person double occupancy which includes guided tours, Radio City Spec-

tacular, included meals and bus driver tip. Make checks payable to White Star Tours.

DECEMBER 13-15, 2024 - WHITE MOUNTAIN HOTEL & RESORT

- Trip includes 2 nights lodging with 5 meals. We will visit the Rocks Estate in Bethlehem, NH with a Moose and Bear educational program. We will stop at the Bethlehem post office where you will be able to stamp your Christmas cards with the Star of Bethlehem seal and have them mailed from Bethlehem. Trip also includes 1 afternoon comedy show and 2 evening shows. All room and meal taxes and gratuities are included.

Price for a double is \$629.00 per person. Deposit is \$100.00 per person at time of registration. Make checks payable to White Mountain Hotel and Resort.

APRIL 12-20, 2025 - A WEEK IN SPAIN: BARCELONA, MADRID & SEVILLE

- Trip includes 7 nights lodging, 7 breakfasts and 3 dinners, 5 sightseeing tours and two train rides. Highlights are Sagrada Familia, Royal Palace, Prado Museum, Cordoba, Olive Oil Tasting, Food Tasting and

Royal Alcazar. Deposit to reserve your spot is \$300.00 with trip protection available for \$449.00.

If interested in any of these trips or upcoming trips, please contact Claire Bilodeau at 784-0302 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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