

## Casco Bay Wind Symphony performing Gorham

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

Ring in the holiday season with friends and family at the Casco Bay Wind Symphony's annual "Sounds of the Season" concert. Popular with audiences of all ages, this concert includes traditional holiday favorites, movie soundtrack highlights, a carol sing-a-long, and

much more. The Grinch will join us on stage to perform "The Night Before Christmas" and "The Grinch Who Stole Christmas." Reserve your tickets now, and join us for this popular, family-friendly holiday tradition.

A Musical Holiday Celebration with Dr. William Kinne, Musical Director on Saturday, December 7, 2024 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at McCormack Per-

forming Arts Center, Gorham High School, 41 Morrill Ave., Gorham, Maine 04038

**Tickets:**  
Adults - \$13 in Advance, \$15 at the door  
Seniors (65+) - Pay what you can  
Students / Kids - Free  
Tickets can be purchased at the door, or on our website - [cascobaywindsymphony.org](http://cascobaywindsymphony.org)  
Spring Concert:

Sunday, May 4, 2025 at 2 PM at the McCormack Performing Arts Center at Gorham High School

Music in Our Schools Concert: Monday, March 17 at Sanford High School (Evening - Time TBD)

Patriotic Concert: Wednesday July 2, 2025 at 7 PM Sanford High School

Patriotic Concert: Friday, July 4, 2025 on the Eastern Promenade in Portland before Fireworks



Casco Bay Wind Symphony Presents  
**Sounds of the Season**  
A Musical Holiday Celebration

**Saturday, December 7, 2024**  
2:00 pm  
McCormack Performing Arts Center  
Gorham High School, Maine

Dr. William Kinne, Music Director

Featuring special guest Matt LaBerge narrating *The Night Before Christmas* and *The Grinch Redux*, a Christmas carol sing-along, and traditional favorites

## USM Gorham presents Puccini's Gianni Schicchi

**GORHAM, ME** -- The University of Southern Maine Department of Theatre, in collaboration with the Osher Opera Theatre and the Southern Maine Symphony Orchestra, present the first opera on the Russell Hall mainstage in over five years, Puccini's beloved Gianni Schicchi, November 21st-24th.

Gianni Schicchi tells the story of a beloved family mourning the loss of Buoso Donati. That is, until they learn the contents of his last will and testament. When it is revealed that Donati has left his fortune to the local monastery, the family employs Gianni Schicchi to help them update the document - post-mortem. Based on Dante's Divine Comedy, the opera boasts one of the most beloved arias of all time, O mio babbino caro. Sung in Italian, with English supertitles, the one-act opera is sure to delight.

Directed by Associate Professor and Artistic Director of the Osher Opera Theatre, Dr. Malinda Haslett, this production will mark the return of a fully-produced opera



Dr. Malinda Haslett with cast. Photos courtesy of Kat Moraros Photography

on the Russell Hall stage since before the pandemic. Dr. Robert Lehmann, Conductor and Artistic Coordinator of the Southern Maine Symphony Orchestra and Artist Faculty at the Osher School of Music, conducts.

For many of the student performers and musicians, this is the first time they've been a part of a mainstage opera production. Dr. Haslett says the students have met this challenge full-on with skill and determination, "Musically and professionally, they have learned a com-

plicated score that some doubted they could learn. They have learned to problem-solve in the moment, to sing better every day, and to demand more of themselves. They have learned Italian geography, history, and language. They have learned that opera is alive and well, if you make it relevant and fun and these students are doing just that!"

For both opera lovers and the uninitiated, this production promises a delightful night of entertainment. Dr. Haslett says Gianni Schicchi is



Cast: L-R, Back to Front: Jared Vigue (Rinuccio), Aberdeen Brickett (Zita), Karoline Brechter (Lauretta), Mary Fencer (Ciesca), Michael Mitchell (Gheradino)

both timely and timeless, "Puccini wrote the opera in 1919 at the end of WWI, when the world's spirit desperately needed a reason to laugh. He dared us to laugh in the face of death, all while creating one of the most beautiful melodies of all time, O mio babbino caro. Our production of Gianni Schicchi is eye and ear candy - great singing, easy-to-read super titles, opulent 1920s-style costumes, and the full sound of the Southern Maine Symphony Orchestra."

For info & tickets, visit USM Theatre online at <https://usm.maine.edu/departments-theatre/box-office-tickets/> or call the USM Theatre Box Office at (207) 780-5151. For more

information on USM's Department of Theatre events and programs, click here.

Gianni Schicchi  
In collaboration with the Osher School of Music By Giacomo Puccini Presented by the Osher Opera Theatre & the Southern Maine Symphony Orchestra

November 21-24, 2024

Russell Hall, USM Gorham Campus

Performances:  
Thursday, November 21 at 7pm (Pay-what-you-can)

Friday, November 22 at 7pm

Saturday, November 23 at 7pm

Sunday, November 24 at 2pm

Appropriate for ages

13 and up.

Content advisory: Brief depiction of a dead body at a funeral.

General Admission: \$24

Senior 65+: \$18

USM Faculty/Staff/Alumni: \$20

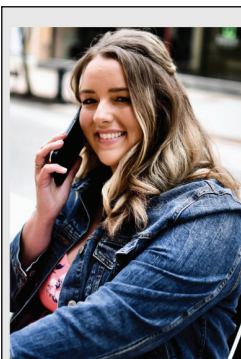
USM Students & Non-USM Students: \$10

Group rate: \$8/person - for schools and community groups

Pay-What-You-Can: Thursday, November 21st, 7pm

Those needing special accommodations to participate fully in this program, contact Janice Gardner at (207)780-5289 or [janice.gardner@maine.edu](mailto:janice.gardner@maine.edu). Hearing impaired: call USM's telex / TDD number (207)780-5646.

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



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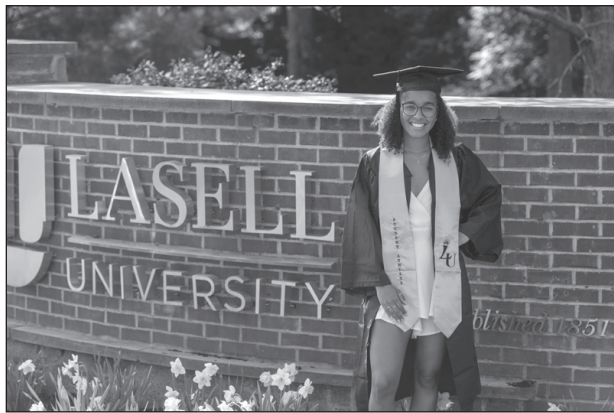
# Newsmakers, Names & Faces

## College, career prep workshops offered by Maine Seacoast Mission



**CHERRYFIELD, ME**—Maine Seacoast Mission is offering a series of workshops for high school and college students, as well as their parents, to help with transition to college or careers. The College and Career Preparation Workshop Series, held online or in-person at the Downeast Campus, cover a wide range of topics including life skills, wellness, and college and career exploration and preparation.

The Mission's Secondary and Post-Secondary EdGE staff created the workshops after working with current Mission Scholarship recipients, Davis Maine Scholars, and Journey students ap-



plying to college. Students shared what questions they have around both applying and attending college and beyond, and using their knowledge created this series of workshops. These workshops are designed to supplement what students receive from their high schools and colleges.

Secondary and Post-Secondary EdGE staff members lead the workshops, with current Scholars and Journey alumni (who are attending college) contributing and offering advice to younger peers as part of the presentations. Staff in the Mission's Secondary and Post-Secondary EdGE



program have a combined 35 years of experience in higher education as well as working with students



in kindergarten through twelfth grade.

Eight scheduled workshops will take place at the Mission's EdGE Center on its campus at 7 Weald Bethel Lane, Cherryfield except for two workshops that will occur on Zoom:

Thursday, November 21, 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. College Essays: Advice to help start and organize your college application essays

## Focusing on what matters most: How hospice can help

By Elizabeth Hart, MD, Hospice Medical Director/Director of Medical Services, Andwell Health Partners

The first thing that many of us think about when we hear the word "hospice" is a place where terminally ill people go to die. Many people also think hospice is only for people who are in the last days of their life. These are both misunderstandings as hospice is so much more. Hospice offers compassionate care to those with serious illnesses; most often this care is provided in the patient's home. Hospice focuses on quality of life as defined by the patient and family, so that the

patient may live as fully as possible for whatever time they have left, focusing on what is most meaningful to them.

What is the approach to care offered by hospice?

The hospice team provides pain and symptom management for the person living with a terminal illness and emotional and spiritual support for the patient and their loved ones/caregivers. The patient's care team creates an individualized plan of care to ensure comfort, prioritizing what matters most to the patient. Care focuses on supporting the family and caregivers as well as on the patient.

Where is hospice care



Formerly known as Androscoggin Home Healthcare + Hospice

provided?

Hospice comes to the patient. Hospice care may be provided in the patient's home, which might be a private residence, an assisted living facility or a nursing home. For patients whose symptoms cannot be effectively managed in one of these settings, hospice may also be provided in a hospital or an inpatient hospice facility. Inpatient hospice facilities are designed to be welcoming environments with room

for the patient's loved ones to stay with them to offer support and to enjoy time together, when it matters most.

Who are the members of the Hospice Team?

Hospice care is provided by a specialized team with expertise in supporting patients facing serious illness and their families. The Hospice Team includes nurses, home health aides, chaplains, social workers, and hospice volunteers.

Who qualifies for hospice?

Hospice is generally available to people living with advanced illness, whose medical providers think the patient has less than six months to live if the disease follows its usual course.

Who does hospice care serve?

While the patient is the primary focus, the care provided also supports the patient's loved ones and caregivers. The goals of

hospice care are to both make the patient comfortable and to make the end-of-life experience as comfortable and peaceful as possible for those around them.

Who pays for hospice care?

Hospice care is covered by Medicare, MaineCare, and most private insurances. Some hospice care providers, like Andwell Health Partners, provide services regardless of ability to pay.

If you are interested in learning more about hospice and hospice care options, or have any questions, please contact us.

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

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# Newsmakers, Names & Faces

## Kick off the holiday season at Brunswick's tree lighting

**BRUNSWICK, ME** – The Brunswick Downtown Association, (BDA) is pleased to present its Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on the Brunswick Town Mall on Saturday, November 30th.

BDA's Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony is a heart-warming way to kick-off the holiday season in downtown Brunswick. The event will feature performances by the Brunswick High School Chorus and the Una Voce Chamber Choir, free cookies and cocoa, horse-drawn wagon rides and a magical visit from Santa when he arrives on a Firetruck! At

5:30 Santa will flip the ceremonial switch and light up Brunswick's Christmas Tree.

Adults and children of all ages are invited to celebrate the season at this festive community event.

3 to 5:30 PM: Free hot cocoa and cookies and horse-drawn wagon rides!

3:15 PM: Santa will arrive on a Brunswick Fire Truck. Children are welcome to visit with Santa in the Gazebo until 5:45 p.m.

3:45 PM: Una Voce Chamber Choir performance

4:45 PM: Brunswick High School Chorus performance of carols and hol-



iday songs

5:30 PM: The countdown to the tree lighting begins - Santa will flip the ceremonial switch and light up the Tree!

Event Sponsors:  
Food Sponsor: Sunnbrook Retirement Com-

munity and Avita of Brunswick

November 30th is also Small Business Saturday – a day to celebrate and support small businesses and all they do for our community. Let's go #ShopSmall this November 30th



and all season long!

More than half of Americans either own or work for a small business, and small businesses create about two-thirds of new jobs in the U.S. each year. Visit Downtown Brunswick on the BIG day to Shop Small!

The BDA is a 501(c)3, non-profit organization. For more information about

the Brunswick Downtown Association, please visit [www.brunswickdowntown.org](http://www.brunswickdowntown.org) or call 729-4439.

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

## Bring FRIENDS to give lifesaving blood or platelets in Gorham

**PORTLAND, ME** — It's been 30 years since the iconic show FRIENDS first aired, and this November, the American Red Cross is asking donors to gather their friends and be there for patients by making a blood or platelet donation.

Festive activities and busy calendars this time of year can disrupt normal routines, leading to a drop in blood donation appointments. Eligible individuals are encouraged to make donating blood a priority, especially those with type O blood and those giving platelets.

To celebrate 30 years of FRIENDS, all who come to give Nov. 18-Dec. 8 will receive two pairs of custom FRIENDS + Red Cross socks, while supplies last, in partnership with Warner Bros. Discovery Global Consumer Products. Donors can keep a pair and gift a pair! For more details, visit [RedCrossBlood.org/Friends](http://RedCrossBlood.org/Friends).

In the spirit of FRIENDSgiving, donors can give with meaning. Those wishing to help patients make memories this holiday season can book a blood or platelet donation

appointment by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Those who come to donate through Nov. 17 will get a \$10 e-gift card to a merchant of choice, plus be automatically entered for a chance to win one of two \$7,000 gift cards. (Terms apply. See [RedCrossBlood.org/Thanks](http://RedCrossBlood.org/Thanks).)

Upcoming blood donation opportunities Nov. 21-30:

Cumberland Brunswick

11/27/2024: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Elks Lodge, 179 Park Row

11/29/2024: 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., American Legion Post 20, 1 Columbus Drive

Falmouth  
11/29/2024: 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., The Episcopal Church of St. Mary, 43 Foreside Rd

Freeport  
11/25/2024: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Hilton Garden Inn Freeport - Old Town Hall Building, 5 Park Street

Gorham  
11/21/2024: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m., Cressey Road Chris-

tian Church, 81 Cressey Road

Harrison  
11/30/2024: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., United Parish Congregational Church of Harrison and N. Bridgton, 77 Main Street

North Yarmouth  
11/22/2024: 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Wescustogo Hall and Community Center, 120 Memorial Hwy

Portland  
11/22/2024: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., Jewish Community Alliance of Southern Maine, 1342 Congress St

11/26/2024: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Maine Medical Dana

Center, 22 Bramhall Street Scarborough

11/26/2024: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Saint Maximilian Church, 150 Black Point Rd South Portland

11/26/2024: 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., South Portland Community Center, 21 Nelson Road

Westbrook  
11/22/2024: 12 p.m. - 4:30 p.m., Westbrook Community Center, 426 Bridge Street

Yarmouth  
11/29/2024: 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Saint Bartholomews Episcopal Church, 396 Gilman Road

## Free Christmas concert with the Westbrook City Band

**BUXTON, ME** -- Join Westbrook City band for a family friendly event featuring seasonal favor-

ites and a sing-along on Sunday, November 24, 2024 at 2:00 PM.

The concert will be

held at North Congregational Church, 22 Church Hill Rd. in Buxton, ME 04093. FMI: Patsy Leavitt

## Opening on Gorham's Baxter Memorial Library Board

**GORHAM, ME** -- The Town Council Appointments Committee is still seeking citizen volunteers for TWO seats on the Baxter Memorial Library - Board of Trustees.

If you are interested

in applying to serve on the Baxter Memorial Library Board of Trustees, or for more information, please visit the Town Clerk's office. To apply, complete and submit a Committee Volunteer Application

available online. You may also contact the Town Clerk at 222-1670 or email her at [Inordfors@gorham.me.us](mailto:Inordfors@gorham.me.us).

Applications will be accepted until November 25, 2024.

## Lakes Region Senior Center invites Gorham seniors to activities

**GORHAM, ME** -- If you are looking for a fun senior center with lots of activities daily, come join us at Little Falls Activity

Center, 40 Acorn Street, Gorham, Maine. We are open from 8:30 to 2 or 3 pm depending on the activity. Our calendar is online.

Call Gerry Day, President, at 839-3859 for more information

Membership fee is \$20 a year with many perks.

## 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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# AARP Maine's November News You Can Use

November remains one of the most beautiful months in Maine with vibrant leaves still clinging to the trees before they float down to the ground. Our thoughts turn to apple picking and sampling cider doughnuts at local orchards. The weather is still warm-ish and it is a perfect time to get outdoors to view the autumn splendor. Many communities have walk-

ing paths that make for an easy walk and nice views. Medical research as noted on AARP's web article, Eight Great Reasons to Walk More, shows that regular walking and exercise is good for our longevity, overall health, memory, and even helps with staying calm and getting a good night's sleep.

One of the most fun facts that my husband



and I learned as we turned 65 is that all Maine resi-

dents over 65 can visit a Maine State Park for free. And Maine has a lot of State Parks and historical sites! To easily find a State Park near you check out the Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands website at: <https://www.maine.gov/dacf/parks/index.shtml>. No reservation needed, just pack a picnic lunch, take a walk, and enjoy the natural beauty of the out-

doors.

AARP also offers monthly coffee and conversation events in several communities. These coffee groups usually have a local speaker and of course, coffee and conversation. The coffees are an opportunity to gather with community members, learn something and have a tasty little snack. Just scan the QR Code or the web address below to

find a coffee and conversation event close to you.

As an AARP volunteer, I am delighted to be able to write this monthly article to share information with you all. Until next time, I hope you enjoy the Autumn and early winter with your friends and family!

Joyce Bucciantini  
AARP Maine Community Outreach Volunteer

## Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest brimming with seasonal cheer

**WISCASSET, ME** – Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest heralds the gift-giving season with three days of local shopping and lots of activities for shoppers, families, locals, and visitors to enjoy! In 2024, visit Marketfest on Fri., Dec. 6, Sat., Dec. 7, and Sun., Dec. 8, in Wiscasset Village, from 10am to 5pm each day and festive family events on Friday and Saturday evenings.

Marketfest features a visit from Santa who arrives via a grand light parade. Kids get treats and cocoa, adults get Hot Toddies. Sheep for petting and marshmallows for roasting keep the brisk evening toasty. The weekend's free raffle for dining in every participating storefront entices shoppers



The beautiful harmonies of the Heart 'n Soul Quartet bring the songs of the season to Wiscasset Village during Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest on Dec. 6-8. (Lucia Drobny photo)



Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest's Christmas Cookie Challenge judges (l to r), Anthony Weismann, Brad McCary, and Daphne Cromwell, took their task of choosing the best holiday cookie very seriously in 2023. The cookie challenge returns in 2024 with a call to bakers to consider crumb, appearance, flavor, and presentation. Watch the judges; shoppers take home the cookies! (Bob Bond photo)

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to browse while the very popular Christmas Cookie Challenge is an irresistible call to local bakers. Hang around until after the judging for the chance to sample these tasty morsels. Find inspiration in the annual Wreaths Around the Holidays display and be part of the friendly competition for People's Choice.

The historic Nickels-Sortwell House will be decked with holiday greens and open for tours, while the old barn next door will be transformed into a shopping wonderland for unique, one-of-a-

kind, artisan-made gifts. A family-friendly Snow Ball is a dance party for all to enjoy!

Ornament workshops, a shopping event just for kids, songs of the season from a female barbershop quartet, wagon rides, and more bring the joy of the season to all who visit Wiscasset Village during Holiday Marketfest 2024!

For more details, see the Calendar at [www.WiscassetHolidayMarketfest.com](http://www.WiscassetHolidayMarketfest.com). Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest is a partnership between Wiscasset Cre-

ative Alliance and Wiscasset Area Chamber of Commerce.

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# Seniors Not Acting Their Age

## Outdoor Adventures in Carrabassett Valley



Hikers arrive at Jericho Steps on Reed Brook Stream



A mom and her son climb a hill on Stratton Brook Trail



Riders hurtle down Newton's Revenge

Each October, the Penobscot Paddle & Chowder Society schedules a weekend of outdoor activities in conjunction with our annual business meeting collectively called the Fall Supper. In recent years, the event was held on Mount Desert Island. However, this year we decided to change the venue to Carrabassett Valley. Like Mount Desert Island, the valley provides a multitude of outdoor options that include hiking, biking, and paddling. The Carrabassett Valley Library where we held the annual meeting was basecamp.

An enthusiastic band of Chowderheads met at the library parking lot on a sunny gusty Saturday morning where club trip coordinators announced a variety of exciting outdoor options. Brent Elwell organized members for an exploration of nearby mountain bike trails; others left with Gary Cole to climb Cranberry Peak on the western end of the Bigelow Mountain Range and my wife, Nancy, and I joined a group intent on following Suzanne Cole on two local hikes. The first was a trek on Reed Brook Trail to a waterfall, which would be new hike for us.

The trailhead for

Reed Brook Trail begins on Route 27 in Kingfield and follows along the tiny stream to a waterfall named Jericho Steps. Six of us entered a narrow path in a mixed hardwood and conifer forest and climbed gradually to the foot of a massive nearly vertical ledge that forms the waterfall. We found the impressive cataract spectacular with a low volume of water flowing over the cliff and could only imagine how stupendous it would be during periods of high water.

After returning to Route 27, we drove north to a parking area for Stratton Brook Trail that is located on the east side of the highway almost opposite the Sugarloaf Mountain entrance. The Stratton Brook Trail, which is part of the Maine Hut Trail system, connects with the Narrow Gauge Pathway in what becomes a confusing array of trail names. After about a mile, Stratton Brook Trail turns left onto a steeper section called Newton's Revenge while the Narrow Gauge continues south. Several single track mountain bike trails branch off the Narrow Gauge.

We enjoyed a brisk windy walk on the Narrow Gauge to a junction for Campbell Field Trail-

head. During our return, two members of the group decided to investigate Newton's Revenge while the remainder returned to the trailhead.

Motivated by numerous cyclists we met during our walk, I decided to bike the trails. I rode a mountain bike south on Stratton Brook Trail. After crossing a sturdy bridge over the Carrabassett River, I turned right on Grassy Loops. This is a very entertaining single track ride through an assortment of abrupt twists and turns before joining Narrow Gauge Pathway farther south. I then turned east onto the first of three side trails that ultimately lead to Campbell Field Trailhead.

From Campbell Field, I rode south on Narrow Gauge until encountering a barrier announcing the trail was closed. About a mile of the southern sector of the pathway is currently closed to repair damage caused by storms.

Cycling north, I connected with Newton's Revenge and rode east. This is essentially a rough double track that begins climbing gradually then more steadily towards Stratton Brook Hut and a network of additional trails in the surrounding

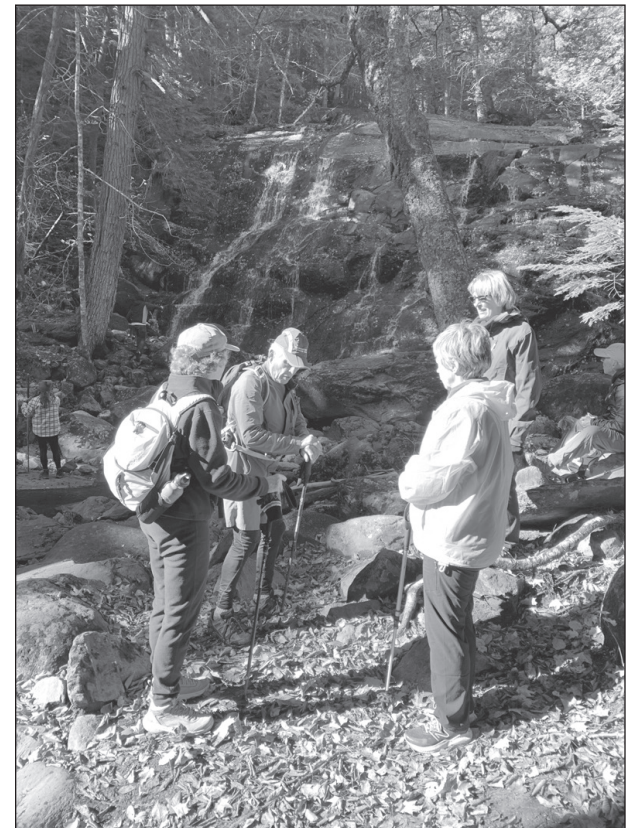
area. During my climb, I met several riders hurtling down the steep narrow path. Most of them youngsters half my age, I resolved to descend more conservatively. These old bones can't tolerate any more breaks and bruises.

Following a steep climb, I reached a major junction: a right turn leads to Poplar Hut on the Maine Huts Trail and a spur trail angles left to Stratton Brook Hut. I needed time to prepare for the evening business meeting so I decided to return.

I dropped my bike seat to lower my center of gravity for the steep downhill sector. My cautious descent was far less stimulating the ones I had witnessed, but I managed to complete the bumpy ride without any falls.

Club activities were over for the day when I returned, but more were scheduled for Sunday. I planned to coordinate a paddle trip on scenic Flagstaff Lake in the shadow of Bigelow Mountain. A considerable moderation in wind speeds was needed for a safe voyage.

My book, *Maine Al Fresco: The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine* narrates numerous hiking and biking exploits



Hikers assemble at the foot of Jericho Steps

around the state including challenging treks in the Bigelow Mountain Range.

Ron Chase resides in Topsham. His latest book, *"Maine Al Fresco: The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine"* is available at [www.northcountrypress.com/maine-al-fresco](http://www.northcountrypress.com/maine-al-fresco) or in bookstores and through online retailers. His previous books are *"The Great Mars Hill Bank Robbery"* and *"Mountains for Mortals -*

*New England."* Visit his website at [www.ronchase-outdoors.com](http://www.ronchase-outdoors.com) or he can be reached at [ronchase-outdoors@comcast.net](mailto:ronchase-outdoors@comcast.net)

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# Arts & Entertainment

## Don't miss Gorham Light Parade & Tree Lighting

**GORHAM, ME --** Join us on December 1st for our annual Light Parade & Tree Lighting!

Watch the parade along route Rt.25 & South St and/or enjoy our festivities at the Gazebo at the Municipal Center including reindeer games and holiday treats! Fun and games start at 2:30pm!

Line up for parade begins at Noonan's at 3:30pm

Parade Leaves at approximately 4:30 pm from Noonan's and arrives Robie Park at approximately 5:00pm

Light parade route: Main Street/Rt 25 to South St. to Morrill Ave. to Ball Park Road around Robie Park and High School.

Ball Park Road will be closed to traffic from 4:15 until 6:00pm. Please use Access Rd.

To Register for the Parade please send an



WWW.GORHAMREC.COM | 207-222-1630  
**Sunday, December 1st**  
**LIGHT PARADE & TREE LIGHTING**  
 2:30 - 5:00 P.M.  
**Municipal Center Lawn**  
 Visit Santa & enjoy our food trucks, games, music and holiday treats!  
 Free Horse Drawn Wagon Rides!  
**Light Parade**  
 Main St. to South St. at 4:30 P.M.  
 WATCH FOR UPDATES ON FACEBOOK OR OUR WEBSITE!

email to Zachary Lambert at [zlambert@gorham.me.us](mailto:zlambert@gorham.me.us) with you name, company name, and what vehicle type you will have in the parade

## Gorham BackPack Program taking donations



### NOVEMBER Food Drive Items of the Month

**CANNED TUNA**  
**CHEF BOYARDEE**  
**CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP**

Items can be shipped or dropped off at  
**Gorham Middle School**  
106 Weeks Road, Gorham, ME 04038  
c/o Heather Whitaker & The Backpack Program

#### MONETARY DONATIONS

DONATION CHECKS can be made out to:

**Gorham School Department**  
Add: "The Backpack Program of Gorham" to the MEMO line.

**\$10** provides 1 weekend bag

Please mail checks to:  
Hollis Cobb, Finance Officer  
Gorham School Department  
75 South Street  
Gorham, Maine 04038

**\$150** sponsors a student for the 2024-2025 school year

A receipt will be mailed for tax purposes.

99% of donations go towards food purchases; the 1% helps pay for operational cost.

[www.GrowGiveGorham.org](http://www.GrowGiveGorham.org)



## Christmas Craft Fair held in Gorham this weekend

**GORHAM, ME --** White Rock Grange has organized dozens of crafters for your Christmas shop-

ping pleasure. Jewelry, sewn & knitted items, soy candles, home decor and much more!

33 Wilson Rd, Gorham, ME 04038  
Nov. 23, 2024, 9am-2pm



**CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR**  
 SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2024  
 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM



**ONE WEEKEND ONLY!**  
**A Christmas Carol**  
 adapted by Christopher Schario  
 A story you know, told in a way you've never imagined.  
 Dec 13 @ 7pm  
 Dec 14 @ 2pm & 7pm  
 Dec 15 @ 2pm  
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## Bids & Brews auction fundraiser to benefit HART this December

A silent & live auction fundraiser for HART of Maine

# BIDS & BREWS

Thursday Dec 5, 2024 @5:30p  
Maine Beer Company

FMI: [hartofme.org](http://hartofme.org)



**CUMBERLAND, ME** - The Homeless Animal Rescue Team (HART) of Maine, an adoption center and shelter for cats in Cumberland, is pleased to announce their second annual silent and live auction fundraising event, Bids & Brews, December 5, 2024, at Maine Beer Company in Freeport, Maine. Admission is free.

Like last year's hugely successful inaugural event at Maine Beer Company, it will feature a silent

and live auction, free pizza, and all the excitement of outbidding others for a good time and a great cause. The event will run from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Admission is free (but HART will gladly accept donations at the door).

Silent auction selections will include an eclectic and curated mix of gift cards, jewelry, professional services, gift baskets, artwork, and more, all generously donated by individuals and local estab-

lishments. The live auction will feature signature trips and VIP experiences.

All proceeds from this event will help alleviate some of the increased financial burden HART has taken on this year due to the rising price of veterinary care, food, and medical supplies. This fundraiser will help HART continue the excellent work of helping abandoned cats survive, thrive, and be ready for adoption into their next forever home.

## Turf Mutt: Drive winter blues away by spending time outside

**ALEXANDRIA, VA** — Winter blues got you down? Spending time outside can help boost your mood and both your physical and mental health.

"Getting outside in the wintertime can really help your state of mind," says Kris Kiser, President of the TurfMutt Foundation, an organization that has spent the last 15 years advocating for outdoor living and the care and stewardship of our yards, parks, and other green spaces, for the benefit of all.

He adds, "Just twenty minutes outside can make a big difference for your mood and mental health. It might take a little more preparation and planning but it's doable with the right outdoor wear."

The TurfMutt Foundation offers a few reasons why getting outside in the wintertime is good for you:

Outdoor time elevates mood. Exposure to natural light — even in the shorter days of winter — raises levels of serotonin, the body's "happy chemical." Sunlight is also a good way to get a natural dose of vitamin D, which is good for bones and the immune system.

A little goes a long way. Recent research suggests that spending just a few minutes walking outside may enhance mood, memory, and the ability to absorb new information. Just five minutes can im-



prove your mood, according to research.

More calories are burned when it's cold. Being outside in colder temperatures requires your body to work harder to keep you warm. Consequently, more calories are burned. Engage in a friendly snowball fight with the kids or take a walk with Fido to rev up metabolism and have a little fun.

Activity boosts immunity. According to MedlinePlus, exercise helps decrease risk for heart disease, maintains bone health and can help flush bacteria out of the lungs and airways.

Nature's benefits can relieve stress — fast. A study from the University of Michigan concluded that spending just 20 minutes in a natural setting reduces the level of cortisol, the stress hormone.

Memory improves. Researchers at the Univer-

sity of Michigan conducted a study that revealed walking in a natural setting versus an urban one improved recall ability by nearly 20 percent.

You don't have to go far. Yard work is a good way to log time outside, maintain your property, and prepare your yard for spring. Just remember if you're using a snow thrower, chainsaw or other outdoor power equipment, read the owner's manual first and follow all manufacturer's instructions, and never disable safety features.

There's less daylight in winter, so it's important to pay attention to your surroundings. You may want to wear a head lamp, reflective clothing, or bring along a flashlight, so you can see and be seen. Never exercise outside when the temperature or windchill is below -10 degrees Fahrenheit due to the risk of frostbite.

## Funding to support heating assistance in Maine

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** — U.S. Senator Susan Collins, Vice Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, announced that the State of Maine has been awarded \$37,567,435 through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). Maine tribes have been awarded \$1,434,237 as

well. LIHEAP is a crucial lifeline that helps low-income households and older Mainers on fixed incomes afford their energy bills, including those who use natural gas, propane, electricity, and home heating oil.

"With home energy costs remaining high, this federal funding will help to ensure that Mainers have access to affordable

heating as we approach the cold winter months," said Senator Collins. "LIHEAP funding provides critical relief to low-income families and older Mainers, helping them stay warm without the constant worry of choosing between heating their homes and covering other basic necessities."

Earlier this month, Senator Collins, along

with Senators Jack Reed (D-RI) and Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), led a bipartisan call for HHS to release LIHEAP funds as swiftly and at the highest level possible. Senators Collins, Reed, and Murkowski helped provide a total of \$4.1 billion for LIHEAP in Fiscal Year 2024, with \$4 billion through appropriations and \$100 million in Bipartisan Infrastructure

Law funds.

LIHEAP is administered by states and accessed through local Community Action Agencies. Eligibility for LIHEAP is based on income, family size, and the availability of resources. Senior citizens and those receiving Social Security Disability or SSI benefits are encouraged to apply as early as possible, but applications will be

open to everyone through spring of 2025 — or until the funding is exhausted.

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

## The Influence of the Optical looks at nature and art

**NEW GLOUCESTER, ME** -- Unity Environmental University is hosting Maine-based artists looking at the intersection of nature and art. Join Hilary Irons for her presentation, The Influence of the Optical on December 12th, 5:00 PM at Freeport Hall on Pineland Campus, 70 Farm View Dr, New Gloucester, ME 04260

A Maine-based painter and curator, Irons has held residency at the Albers Foundation, Skowhegan, MacDowell, the American



Academy in Rome, the Pace House, Hewnoaks, Canterbury Shaker Village, and the Surf Point Foundation. Her work revolves around opticality, the landscape, and material cul-

ture, exploring the ways in which our reading of space and objects are impacted by color, mark, and light. She is the gallery and exhibitions director at the University of New England.

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# Gorham High School Artist Spotlight: Laura Burt

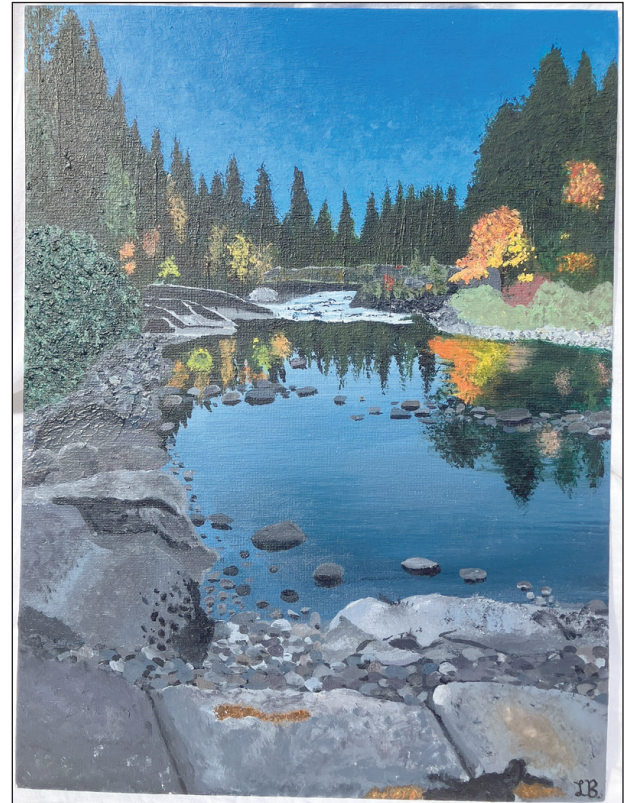
My name is Laura Burt, I am a senior at Gorham high school, a multimedia artist and I have been taking art classes all four years. Art has always been a passion of mine.

My interests are varied and so is my art artwork. I use many media forms; acrylic paint, graphite, clay, wool (needle felting), paper, thread, or other sculpture techniques. I tend to gravitate towards realism no matter the medium. If it's not realism I am trying to make an impact on the viewer. My techniques vary wildly with the medium. I often combine mediums as well. With acrylic paint I work in layers building up from the background to the foreground. I use the properties of the paint to my advantage. It is very opaque straight out of the tube but add some water to it and it becomes translucent. I love doing embroidery which is totally different. You are constrained to the colors of thread you have there is no mixing colors. For me embroidery is freeing because it allows me to worry less on being exact and more on nailing the tone of the piece. Graphite pencils are similar to paint I build with layers. But it comes with the addition of being able

to blend without worrying about the pencil drying. Needle felting is a unique medium. Taking pieces of fluffy wool and stabbing them repeatedly with a barbed needle allows me to compact the fiber. (like a sweater would shrink in the wash) However, I am in control of exactly where the fibers get compacted.

Every piece of artwork I create reflects a piece of me. I create art as an escape from reality but my art often ends up reflecting a part of my reality. When creating a piece I often don't know what I'm expressing until the piece is complete. I try to express a feeling to the viewer with every piece. Though art is different to everyone who looks at it. That's part of what I love about it. My art has grown a lot over the past years not only in my ability but in what is expressed. I can't wait to see what I create next.

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



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# Merry & Bright Light Parade welcomes Santa to Marketfest

**WISCASSET, ME** – Families are invited to celebrate the holiday season with Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest’s Merry & Bright Light Parade, which brings Santa to his workshop on Friday, December 6, starting at 5pm.

Enjoy the parade of vehicles covered with lights and other festive decorations. According to Lucy Oyster, parade organizer, this year’s parade will have at least twice as many vehicles taking part as last year’s first Merry & Bright Parade, including cars, trucks, town vehicles, and even a dump truck. Oyster said the parade gathers on Churchill St. between 4-5pm and starts promptly at 5pm. The parade of lit vehicles will follow the same route as Wiscasset’s 4th of July parade. From Churchill St., the parade travels down Hooper St., right onto Federal St., and then left onto Route 1. As the parade concludes, a specially designated ho-ho-ho mobile will take Santa to his workshop at 7 Lincoln St. just outside of Wiscasset Village. (When not conscripted for Santa’s Workshop, this is the newly refurbished Scout Hall.)

Once at his workshop by 5:30, Santa will greet



**A Merry & Bright Light Parade, winding through Wiscasset Village, escorts Santa to his Workshop on Friday, Dec. 6, starting at 5pm, as part of Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest. (Bob Bond photo)**

the waiting children and listen to their holiday wishes. Everyone is invited to warm up with hot cocoa and seasonal treats, and children are encouraged to make holiday decorations, like garlands for the tree, to take home.

Outside, Santa’s woolly sheep will be waiting for lots of gentle pets and back rubs right next to a festive backdrop, great for taking family photos. A fire pit is nearby for making gooey s’mores, and, if that’s not nourishment enough, food truck, Reggae Eats, is available for purchasing dinner. Adults will enjoy Maine Tasting Center’s outdoor Biergarten.

Festivities end at 7pm with wishes of good cheer and lots of sugar plum

dreams to all!

The evening’s Light Parade and Santa’s Workshop are sponsored by Dave’s Disposal and presented by the Wiscasset Community Center and Wiscasset Area Chamber of Commerce. Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest Major Sponsors are Carriage House Gardens, First Federal Savings, First National Bank, J. Edward Knight & Co., Red’s Eats, Rock Paper Scissors, Sherri Dunbar/Tim Dunham Realty, and Water St. Kitchen & Bar with additional support from Red Bull Antiques, Sprague’s Lobster, and Water Lily Flowers & Gifts.

For more Marketfest details, [www.WiscassetHolidayMarketfest.com](http://www.WiscassetHolidayMarketfest.com).



**Families are invited to visit the Santa’s Workshop on Friday, Dec. 6, starting around 5:30pm, at 7 Lincoln St., Wiscasset Village. Outside, a block party with woolly sheep, s’mores, food truck, and biergarten await! All part of Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest weekend, starting Friday morning, Dec. 6 through Sunday, Dec. 8. (Bob Bond photo)**

## \$2.2M in energy grants for local small businesses

**BANGOR, ME** – U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Maine State Director Rhiannon Hampson announced that the agency is partnering with small business owners to expand access to clean energy, create jobs, and help lower their energy bills through the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP). The funding announced includes thirteen grants totaling \$2.2M. The

awards will help small businesses in six counties across Maine implement cost-saving, clean, efficient energy systems on their properties.

“Today we are awarding grants to a variety of small businesses that provide valuable products and services to their communities,” said Director Hampson. “Once they complete these projects to add small-scale solar arrays on their rooftops and backyards,

the businesses also will be helping to ensure that Maine’s power grid can supply the energy we all need. Powering people with modern, renewable energy infrastructure creates good-paying jobs and supports opportunities for people to drive economic prosperity and security. REAP is a win for businesses, jobs, ratepayers, and the environment.”

REAP enables agri-  
*See Grants, page 16*



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**ARTISTIC DIRECTOR**  
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**Sunday, December 15 at 2:00pm**

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# Maine Justice Foundation welcomes Bar Fellows Class of '24

**MAINE** -- The Maine Justice Foundation is pleased to announce the induction of the 2024 class of Bar Fellows, Honorary Life Fellows, and Patron Fellows. The Bar Fellows is an honorary organization of attorneys, judges, law faculty, and legal scholars who have been elected by their peers to become members of the Bar Fellows. This distinguished group of legal professionals is being recognized for their exceptional achievements, leadership, and dedication to the highest principles of the legal profession.

"We are pleased to welcome this accomplished

group of legal professionals who are pinnacles of leadership and excellence within their professional communities as new Bar Fellows, Honorary Life Fellows, and Patron Fellows. These individuals represent a high bar of excellence, integrity, and service for which we all aspire," states Michelle Draeger, Executive Director of the Maine Justice Foundation.

Each Fellow brings unique talents and experiences to this esteemed group, contributing to a collective legacy of service that advances justice and positive change across our communities. Through their



work, they inspire others in the legal field to strive for excellence and integrity, setting a standard for service that strengthens our communities and the rule of law.

2024 New Bar Fellows  
Barbara E. Gauditz, Esq.

Chad W. Higgins, Esq.  
Neil J. Kiely, Esq.  
Taylor S. Kilgore, Esq.  
Representative Amy D. Kuhn  
Hon. Stacey D. Neumann  
Laura M. O'Hanlon, Esq.  
Andrew R. Sarapas,

Esq. Jacqueline A. Sartoris,  
Esq. William R. Savage,  
Esq. Rebekah Smith, Esq.  
Esq. Frayla A. Tarpinian,  
Esq. Peter L. Thompson,  
Esq. Michael D. Traister,  
Esq. Eric J. Uhl, Esq.  
2024 Honorary Life Fellows  
John R. Bass II, Esq.  
Hon. Daniel I. Billings  
Hon. Barbara A. Cardone  
Peter J. Guffin, Esq.  
Hon. Karen Frink

Wolf  
2024 Patron Fellows  
Hon. Beth Dobson  
Mr. William S. Harwood  
Colleen A. Khoury, Esq.  
Hon. Jon D. Levy  
Hon. Kermit V. Lipez  
Ms. Paula D. Silsby  
Judith A. Fletcher  
Woodbury, Esq.  
The Maine Justice Foundation, founded in 1983 as the Maine Bar Foundation, is the state's leading funder of civil legal aid and is committed to ensuring access to justice for all Maine people. Find us online at [www.justice-maine.org](http://www.justice-maine.org).

## Funding to provide clean water to Maine schools, homes

**BOSTON, MA** – The Biden-Harris Administration issued a final rule requiring drinking water systems across the country to identify and replace lead pipes within 10 years. The Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI) also require more rigorous testing of drinking water and a lower threshold for communities to take action on lead in drinking water to protect people from lead exposure. In addition, the final rule improves communication within communities so that families are better informed about the risk of lead in drinking water, the location of lead pipes, and plans for replacing them. This final rule is part of the President's commitment to replace every lead pipe in the country within a decade, making sure that all communities can turn on the tap and drink clean water.

Alongside the Lead and Copper Rule Improvements, EPA is announcing \$24,898,000 in newly available drinking water infrastructure funding for Maine through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. This funding will flow through the drinking wa-

ter state revolving funds (DWSRFs) and is available to support lead pipe replacement and inventory projects. Additionally, 49% of the funding must be provided to disadvantaged communities as grant funding or principal forgiveness that does not have to be repaid. EPA is also announcing the availability of \$35 million in competitive grant funding for reducing lead in drinking water. Communities are invited to apply directly for grant funding through this program [insert link to grants.gov]. Additional federal funding is available to support lead pipe replacement projects and EPA has developed a website identifying available funding sources.

EPA estimates that up to 9 million homes are served through legacy lead pipes across the country, many of which are located in lower-income communities and communities of color, creating disproportionate lead exposure burden for these families. Eliminating lead exposure from the air people breathe, the water people drink, and the homes people live in is a crucial com-

ponent of the Biden-Harris Administration's historic commitment to advancing environmental justice.

The Lead and Copper Rule Improvements establish achievable, common-sense practices which have been implemented by several states and cities. The public health and economic benefits of the final rule are estimated to be up to 13 times greater than the costs, and together with new funding announced today under Biden-Harris Administration's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, water systems will be able to accelerate removal of lead pipes and create good-paying local jobs in the process.

"We've known for decades that lead exposure has serious long-term impacts for children's health. And yet, millions of lead service lines are still delivering drinking water to homes," said EPA Administrator Michael S. Regan. "President Biden is putting an end to this generational public health problem. With the Lead and Copper Rule Improvements and historic investments in lead pipe replacement, the Biden-Harris Admin-

istration is fulfilling its commitment that no community, regardless of race, geography, or wealth, should have to worry about lead-contaminated water in their homes."

"Everyone deserves safe, clean water in their homes, no matter where they live or how much they earn. Today, we're announcing improvements to the Lead and Copper Rule that require better testing and quicker action, while also providing critical funding to Maine," said EPA Regional Administrator David W. Cash. "These important changes, alongside funding from the Biden-Harris Administration, are helping to ensure that families and communities across New England are getting the support they need to create a safer, lead-free future for our children."

The science is clear: Lead is a potent neurotoxin and there is no safe level of lead exposure, particularly for children. In children, lead can severely harm mental and physical development, slow down learning, and irreversibly damage the brain. In adults, lead can cause in-

creased blood pressure, heart disease, decreased kidney function, and cancer. If someone is impacted by lead exposure, there is no known antidote, according to the Centers for Disease Control. The Lead and Copper Rule Improvements strengthen nationwide requirements to protect children and adults from these significant and irreversible health effects from lead in drinking water.

Communities across the country have already begun to tackle lead pipes.

Milwaukee Water Works is on track to replace all remaining lead pipes within the EPA's ten-year timeframe. In 2024 alone, Milwaukee received approximately \$30 million in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding to replace 3,400 lead service lines.

The Detroit Water and Sewerage Department has received \$90 million from the Administration and will replace more than 8,000 lead service lines this year, putting the city on track to replace all lead pipes in 10 years.

The Erie, Pennsylvania Water Works has received \$49 million from

EPA to enable the city to replace all lead pipes within 5 years instead of 25 years.

Denver Water has accelerated its efforts through \$76 million from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, allowing the city to be on track to replace all lead pipes within a decade.

The Lead and Copper Rule Improvements will help protect millions of Americans from exposure to lead in drinking water. EPA estimates that on average, every year after the LCRI is issued it will:

- protect up to 900,000 infants from having low birthweight;
- prevent Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) in up to 2,600 children;
- reduce up to 1,500 cases of premature death from heart disease;
- and prevent up to 200,000 IQ points lost in children.

Investments in identifying lead pipes, planning for their removal, and replacing them will create jobs in local communities while strengthening the foundation of safe drinking water that supports economic opportunity.

## Collins Delivers keynote at Maine State Police Graduation Ceremony

**VASSALBORO, ME** – U.S. Senator Susan Collins delivered the keynote address at the Maine State Police 83rd Recruit Training Troop graduation ceremony in Vassalboro. Senator Collins congratulated the academy gradu-

ates and thanked them for their commitment to protect and serve the people of Maine. More than 300 people, including dozens of active cadets, were in attendance for the celebration.

"The men and women of the Maine State Po-

lice dedicate their careers to keeping our state safe, and I thank each one of the graduates here today for answering the call to public service," said Senator Collins. "You have chosen a challenging career in today's polarized environment, but please remember that the vast majority is grateful to you for doing so. Whether we Mainers live in urban areas or in rural communities, we recognize that you willingly put your lives on the line every day to improve the safety and quality of our lives."

Senator Collins, Vice Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, has secured nearly \$37 million

in Congressionally Directed Spending for projects at police and public safety departments throughout the State of Maine. This includes funding for communication equipment, protective gear, emergency response vessels, and facility renovations and expansions to help ensure the safety of communities from Aroostook to York County.



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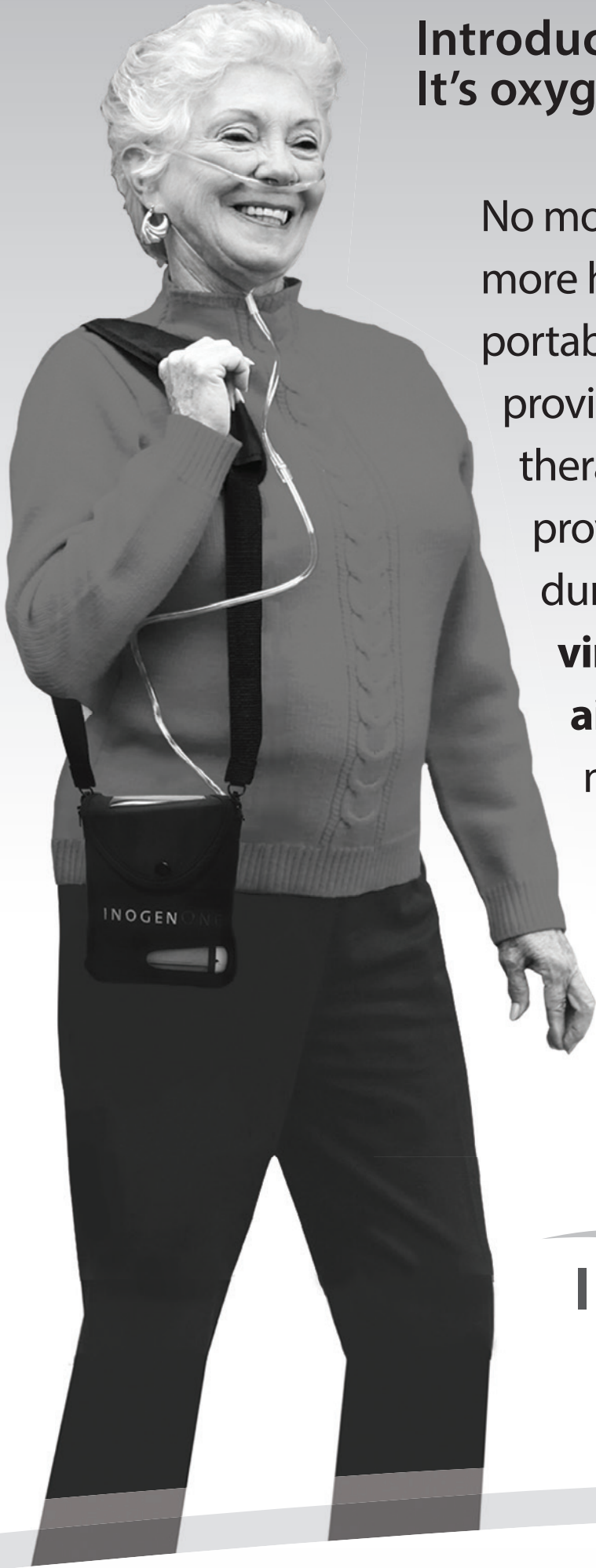
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# Clearing, grading and tree cutting on Sears Island

MAINE -- If you've been out to Sears Island recently, you saw that MDOT and their contractors have been busy.

MDOT's consultants Moffatt and Nichol, with subcontractors Comprehensive Land Technologies and Seaboard Drilling began conducting "geotechnical work" on the Sears Island transportation parcel as part of investigations to develop the island for an offshore wind port (OSW). We first learned about these efforts from Sears Island visitors walking on the island that observed equipment being brought in on the access road and saw trees being cut. MDOT never provided notification to the public, or stakeholder groups, including any of members of the Alliance for Sears Island or the organizations within this coalition prior to commencing this work.

Because MDOT failed to provide any information about what was happening on the island, we went out there to see for ourselves the extent of the work last week. These geotechnical investigations appeared to be fairly extensive, with significant clearing, grading and tree cutting done in order to reach the drilling sites. The drilling sites themselves were cleared with a 25' diameter circle area. We located seven boring locations, and documented the construction of the



paths and tree clearings. We are currently trying to determine whether or not there have been impacts to wetlands.

Since being out on the island, MDOT provided us with additional information, as well as the permit application submitted to the Army Corp of Engineers in July 2024 for "preliminary land-based and marine-based geotechnical exploration program at Sears Island, Searsport, Maine." The work area is depicted on the Site Plan below, which was provided in the permit application.

Despite knowing that the OSW port proposal has been a contentious issue and that the public have repeatedly asked for greater transparency from MDOT regarding this project, MDOT failed once again to keep the public and interested stakeholders informed.

These geotechnical investigations come after two recent setbacks to MDOT and their OSW port proposal for Sears Island, including a BOEM Gulf of Maine offshore wind lease auction that attracted "scant interest",

and denial of the State's \$456 million federal grant request.

Though it pales in comparison to the destruction that would result from construction of the port, this exploratory geotechnical work made a major impact on the island. We refuse to accept that in order to address the climate crisis and move away from fossil fuels we must sacrifice sacred natural spaces for renewable energy development. This is not the path forward, and we will continue to advocate for this island, demand that renewable energy projects be sited on land that can be redeveloped, and keep watch of our state agencies.

Since being out on the island, MDOT provided us with additional information, as well as the permit application submitted to the Army Corp of Engineers in July 2024 for "preliminary land-based and marine-based geotechnical exploration program at Sears Island, Searsport, Maine." The work area is depicted on the Site Plan below, which was provided in the permit application.



Tree clearing and access path construction. Photo credit: Jill Howell, Upstream Watch



Crossing constructed to access drilling location. Photo credit: Jill Howell, Upstream Watch



(Left) Drilling equipment at a boring location and (right) equipment staging area. Photo credit: Jill Howell, Upstream Watch

THE L-A VETERANS COUNCIL WANTS YOU TO KNOW THAT IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO HAVE YOUR LOVED ONES NAME ON THE NEXT STONE IN THE VETERANS PARK. NOVEMBER 2024  
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Send all items for What's Going On to the Editor. Deadline is Friday by five.

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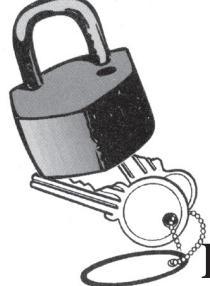
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**Thursdays**

**LEWISTON** -- Baby Sensory Playtime in the Lewiston Public Library's Children's Department every Thursday morning from 10am to 12pm.

Drop-in and join us for Baby Sensory Playtime! Babies and their caregivers will have the opportunity to interact with a variety of sensory toys and socialize with other families with young children. Playtime with sensory toys contributes to a baby's cognitive development, fine motor skills, social and emotional development, creativity, and language development.

Recommended for babies ages birth-18 months and their caregivers. Siblings are always welcome. This program is free, open to the public and no registration is required.

**Through Dec 15**

**LEWISTON** -- Opening November 15th and closing December 15th is an exciting exhibition of painter Robert Shetterly's Americans Who Tell the Truth portraits at the Bates Mill Atrium on 35 Canal Street in Lewiston, Maine.

**Nov 21**

**NEW GLOUCESTER** - Join us for our upcoming artist event series hosted by Unity Environmental University on Pineland Campus. These events are free and open to the public. We would love to list our events on your calendar.

Artists we'll be host-

ing: Simon van der Ven, Hilary Irons, Ebenezer Akapo, Elaine Ng, Andy Rosen, and Ben Potter.

Our first event, Watching the Periphery with Simon van der Ven will be held on November 21st at 5:00pm in Freeport Hall, 70 Farm View Dr Suite 200, New Gloucester, ME 04260.

**Nov 23**

**GORHAM** -- Christmas Craft Fair, 33 Wilson Rd, Gorham, ME 04038 on Nov. 23, 2024, 9am-2pm

White Rock Grange has organized dozens of crafters for your Christmas shopping pleasure. Jewelry, sewn & knitted items, soy candles, home decor and much more!

<https://www.facebook.com/events/8520417114746380>

**Nov 23**

**AUBURN** -- Christmas by the Lake Fair at St. Philip Church. It's the 50th Anniversary of the fair, known for its amazing Christmas handmade wreaths, and numerous booths to find wonderful gifts for your family at Christmas. We will have several amazing raffles, with the biggest being a 65" LG TV valued at \$750! This year we will be accepting credit & debit cards.

# Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

**Nov 23**

**BRUNSWICK** -- The 2024-25 UUCB Concerts for a Cause Series season will include folk, jazz, blues, celtic, and choral singing for justice. This season's charities receiving 100% of the profits from the concert are Brunswick Area Teen Center and Maine Family Planning. For further details about the concerts, go to <https://www.uubrunswick.org/events/>.

**Novel Jazz Septet** - Sat, Nov 23, 2024 at 7:30 pm. Doors open 7:00 pm.

**Novel Jazz Septet**, one of Maine's premiere jazz groups, is now in their 20th year of keeping the musical legacy of Duke Ellington and Billy Strayhorn alive and swinging. The band embarked on a project to go through the massive archives at the Smithsonian Museum of American History as well as the Strayhorn Collection at the Library of Congress, finding compositions by Ellington and Strayhorn, transcribing some lesser-known gems for the band and reinterpreting them with a 21st century sound.

Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door, and \$10 for students/children and will be available at the church office, Gulf of Maine Books, or online at [ticket-stripe.com/noveljazz7](https://www.ticket-stripe.com/noveljazz7).

**Nov 23**

**LEWISTON** -- Visit with Daniel Tiger at the Lewiston Public Library on Saturday, November 23rd at 11am in Callahan Hall! This event is in partnership with Maine Public Radio and PBS Kids.

Daniel is so excited to visit the Lewiston Public Library for an hour of creativity, book giveaways and literacy. Join us for storytime fun with children's author Chris Van Dusen and playtime making masks. Daniel is certain he is going to have a Grrific time and can't wait to meet and take a photo with you! Don't forget your FREE ticket to the event at the link below.

This event is free and open to the public. Registration required on Eventbrite: <https://tinyurl.com/2w47jfpw>

**Nov 24**

**AUBURN** -- Gingerbread Sunday Fair, 9am-3pm. Gift baskets, baked goods, crafts, silent auction. Luncheon with Phil House on piano from 11am-12:30pm. First Universalist Church of Auburn, 169 Pleasant St. (enter on Spring St. across from Dairy Joy). Parking; accessible. FMI 783-0461.

**Nov 24**

**BUXTON** -- Free Christmas Concert with the Westbrook City Band. Family friendly event featuring seasonal favorites and a sing-along. Sunday,

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November 24, 2024, 2:00 PM at North Congregational Church, 22 Church Hill Rd., Buxton, ME 04093

**Nov 30**

**BUXTON** -- Are you tired of turkey? Try our delicious Haddock Supper Buffet - Saturday, November 30, 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.

**Dec 1**

**GORHAM** -- 40th Annual White Rock Tree Lighting at White Rock Community Clubhouse, 34 Wilson Road at 4:30pm

The White Rock Friendship Club is hosting the 40th Annual Tree Lighting at the White Rock

Community Clubhouse on Sunday, Dec 1 at 4:30pm. Listen to the reading of the Christmas story. Sing Christmas carols while sipping hot cocoa around the Christmas tree. Santa will arrive on a White Rock Fire Station fire truck!

**Dec 6**

**BAR MILLS** -- We at Bar Mills Community Church located at 13 Hermit Thrush Drive, Buxton will be having our Christmas Marketplace, Friday, December 6 2:00-6:00. There will be a great selection of fresh greens to decorate your home, a wide variety of baked goods-cookies, breads, pies and candy to satisfy your taste buds. There will also be plenty of hand-crafted gift ideas for your family, friends and even your pets. There is something for everyone on your list. We look forward to seeing you, your family and friends. We accept cash and checks only. FMI contact: Judy 929-5555.

# GORHAM LITTLE LEAGUE

## Field Funding Campaign

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

- Develop 2 fields at White Rock
- Purchase seasonal fence for Shaw Park
- Repair dugouts and fencing, build storage centers
- Add infield mix and relevel current fields
- Acquire tarps and field maintenance equipment
- Add scoreboards

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## SENIOR TRIPS

If interested in any of the following 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.

**MAY 29 - JUNE 4, 2025 - WASHINGTON, D.C.**

**- NATION'S CAPITAL** – Trip includes 7 days and 6 nights lodging, 6 breakfasts and 4 dinners. A guided tour of Washington, D.C. which includes the US Capitol, the White House, the National Archives, Embassy Row and Georgetown. We will also visit the Washington Monument, Lincoln Memorial, the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial. We will also have a

guided evening tour of all the Memorials. We will have a Guided Tram Tour of inspirational sights such as Arlington National Cemetery, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Kennedy Graves and the Iwo Jima Memorial.

We will visit the Smithsonian Museum and the Museum of the Bible which contains some of the oldest and most important biblical artifacts in human history. On our way home we will stop and enjoy the National Harbor which is a unique waterfront wonderland of shopping, dining and more. **A \$75.00 deposit is due when signing up for this trip. The price is \$985.00 per person double occupancy. Add \$305.00 for single occupancy. Final payment is due 3/22/25.**

**SEPTEMBER 11-19, 2025 – BLUEGRASS COUNTRY & THE SMOKY MOUNTAINS**

- Price includes round trip air from Logan International Airport, hotel transfers, and all transportation while on tour, 9 days, and 13 meals. Highlights of this tour are Louisville and Lexington, Kentucky – Churchill Downs, Kentucky Derby Museum, Louisville

Slugger Museum, Buffalo Trace Bourbon Distillery, Lexington Horse Farm.

Gatlinburg, Tennessee – Dolly Parton's Smoky Mountain Theme Park, Guided tour of the Great Smokey Mountain National Park (UNESCO), Cherokee, Old Smoky Moonshine Distillery. Asheville, North Carolina – Blue Ridge Mountains, tour of the Biltmore Estates Mansion and manicured grounds.

**Deposit for this trip is \$698.00 per person and due by March 11, 2025. Early bookings save \$100.00 per person. For more information on pricing call Claire.**

**OCTOBER 6 – 10, 2025**

**– ATLANTIC CITY, CAPE MAY, & PHILADELPHIA** - Trip includes 5 days and 4 nights lodging, 4 breakfasts and 4 dinners and a free casino bonus for those who want to gamble.

Guided tour of Philadelphia including Liberty Bell, Independence Hall, Betsy Ross House, the Federal Reserve and Mint. Then off to Cape May with a Trolley Tour of the Victorian Mansions of Cape May and a walking tour of a historic Victorian Home. We travel to Cape May Point and the

famous Cape May Lighthouse. Our next day is a free day in Atlantic City to do as you please. Take in a show, do some gaming or just stroll down Atlantic City's Famous Boardwalk. **A \$75.00 deposit per person is due upon signing up. The price for this trip is \$849.00 per person double occupancy. Add \$210.00 for single occupancy. Final Payment is due 7/30/25.**

**NOVEMBER 16-26, 2025**

**– CLASSICAL GREECE**

- Price includes round trip air from Logan International Airport, hotel transfers and all transportation while on tour. Trip also includes 16 meals (9 breakfasts, 1 luncheon, and 6 dinners). Highlights of this tour are Athens, the Acropolis and Parthenon, Delphi, Olympia and Ancient Mycenae. You will visit a Greek Farm, have a Cooking Class, Greek Dance Class, and visit two remote monasteries. We will also have a tasting of local wines, olive oil and sweets.

**If you are interested in any of these trips or for more information, please contact Claire at 784-0302 or Cindy at 345-9569.**

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# USDA Awards Mid Coast Hunger Prevention Program

**BRUNSWICK, ME** --- Mid Coast Hunger Prevention Program (MCHPP), a Brunswick-based food security organization, announced today that it was the recipient of a 4-year nearly \$350,000 Community Food Project grant from the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA).

The grant's funds will support MCHPP's Community Kitchen, bolstering efforts to reduce food insecurity by increasing access to locally grown foods while supporting local farms and small businesses. MCHPP will use the funding in three primary ways, to increase its organizational food-processing capacity and offer more Maine produce in its programs, to support budding food businesses with the resources they need to grow, and to expand farm partnerships through

co-packing opportunities to help farmers create value-added retail products.

"This is the largest grant in MCHPP's 40 year history, and it ensures that the Community Kitchen will be sustainable for the next four years, a massive feat for a community based non-profit organization like ours", explained Hannah Chatalbash, the agency's Executive Director.

The grant is a result of years of collaboration between MCHPP, the Merrymeeting Food Council, the Merrymeeting Gleaners, and various other community partners from farmers to volunteers to entrepreneurs and many more. "With food insecurity on the rise, both here in Maine and across the country, grants like these are critically important", shared Congresswoman Chellie Pingree.

Internally, MCHPP



MCHPP and Merrymeeting Food Council staff completing a blueberry syrup co-packing project for Crystal Spring Farm

will aim to increase its processing capacity to offer more value-added products like pre-chopped vegetables, pre-made frozen meals, and meal kits through its grocery programs. "Our guests regularly ask for prepared meals and pre-chopped items, whether it is to decrease the time it takes for cooking or because they may be physically unable, it is

exciting to have a kitchen with dedicated time for preparing those items for our guests" said Devyn Santora, MCHPP's Food Pantry Manager.

Externally, MCHPP will aim to expand its farm partnerships, adding co-packing opportunities as a means of support beyond existing purchasing and gleaning collaborations. The organization's Commu-



Local produce, processed in MCHPP's Community Kitchen, being distributed through the Food Pantry

nity Kitchen Coordinator, Randy Forrester, explained that "through co-packing efforts farms will be able to create value-added products from excess or blemished produce and develop new revenue sources."

Additionally, this funding will support MCHPP and the Merrymeeting Food Council's ongoing efforts to make the space available for startup food businesses to incubate and grow. "As a former restaurant owner," Forrester shared, "I understand the difficulties and expenses of

getting your business off the ground. MCHPP's Community Kitchen offers affordable space, equipment, and advice for startups and growing businesses."

"Here at MCHPP, we recognize that in order for all of our community to have access to healthy, nutritious food, the food system must work for all who participate in it", shared Chatalbash. "We are thrilled to have this opportunity to continue working towards a more equitable, just, and sustainable food system in our local community".

## Grants

*Continued from page 9*

cultural producers and rural small business owners to expand their use of wind, solar, geothermal and small hydropower energy and make energy efficiency improvements. These

innovations help them increase their income, grow their businesses and address climate change while lowering energy costs for American families.

Each farm and business that participates in REAP must cover at least

half of the total cost for its project. The grants announced in Maine today will help fund projects in Cumberland, Hancock, Knox, Oxford, Waldo, and York counties. (For the full list of Maine awardees, use this link: <https://tinyurl.com/2sn9k4u5>.)

In addition to the Maine awards, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced that USDA is funding new projects through REAP in nearly every state. The program has seen record demand in

response to historic funding provided by President Biden's Inflation Reduction Act.

Visit the program website for additional information and see the "To Apply" tab for the application documents. The next

deadlines to apply are Dec. 31, 2024, and March 31, 2025. Please send specific questions to Katrina Shaw, State Energy Coordinator, USDA Rural Development (call 207-990-9129 or email [Katrina.Shaw@usda.gov](mailto:Katrina.Shaw@usda.gov))



# Holiday Spirits

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