

Get outside this winter with PRLT's Gorham-area hikes



MAINE -- Embrace the beauty of winter with Presumpscot Regional Land Trust! We're thrilled to share our upcoming events designed to connect you with the natural wonders of our region during the winter. Mark your calendars and join us for these exciting adventures, some highlights of our winter programming include:

Nature Story Time

with Walker Memorial Library, February 12th

Bring the whole family for an engaging story time that blends tales of nature with hands-on activities.

Winter Wildlife Walk with Maine Naturalist Joan Lundin, March 1st

Discover the stories wildlife leaves behind in winter with Maine Naturalist Joan Lundin, and

learn how to spot and interpret animal signs.

More Events to Come! Stay tuned as we add even more opportunities to connect with the land and community this winter. Registration: Visit our website to register for events and learn more. Questions? Contact Brenna Crothers, Outreach Manager, at brenna@prlt.org.

Maine State Ballet presents "Tap Tap Jazz"



FALMOUTH, ME – Join Maine State Ballet in an evening of Broadway-style song and dance for the whole family. This annual show is a real crowd-pleaser, guaranteed to shake off the winter blues.

Maine State Ballet has a long history of sending dancers to major ballet companies, Broadway, and the Rockettes. Choreographer Jonathan Miele had a successful career on Broadway dancing with such notable stars as Carol Channing, Jane Powell, Bernadette Peters, and Robert Preston. Artistic Director Linda MacArthur Miele, in addition to dancing for the New York City Ballet, performed in several Broadway shows herself. Several Maine State Ballet alumni are currently working in film and on Broadway. Sara

Esty recently performed as Meg in "Phantom of the Opera," Tony Award nominee Robyn Hurder has just been cast in "Smash."

Choreography is by Barry Brinker, Emma Davis, Glenn Davis, Janet Davis, Jonathan Miele, Linda Miele, and Ali Spurgin. Performers include MSB's dance company members and up-and-coming tap and jazz dancers from the MSB School.

Performance Schedule

Dates: February 1st – 8th (2 weekends)

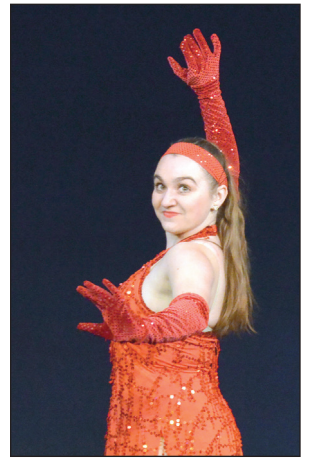
Venue: Lopez Theater

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

Connect with us:

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YouTube: [youtube.com/mainestateballet](https://www.youtube.com/mainestateballet)

Maine State Ballet, a non-profit based in Falmouth, Maine, is one of the state's leading arts organizations whose mission is to uplift the Maine community through inspiring dance education and performance. Maine State Ballet houses the Maine State Ballet Company, the 140-seat Lopez Theater, and its School for the Performing Arts, with over 100 years of dance instruction in ballet, tap, and jazz.

Gorham's Caden Smith adds last three-pointer for Wheaton

NORTON, MA – The No. 19 Worcester Polytechnic Institute men's basketball team's defense held host Wheaton College (Mass.) to just 32.8% (21-64) shooting, while earning a 68-55 victory this evening in New England Women's & Men's Athletic Conference play at Emerson Gymnasium on the Wheaton campus in Norton, Mass.

The Engineers, who are ranked in the most recent D3basketball.com national poll, win their seventh straight game and improve to 15-2 overall and 7-1 in league play, while the Lyons dip to 9-8 and 4-4.

WPI denied Wheaton from beyond the three-point arc on its first 16 attempts and finished the contest holding the Lyons to just 17.6% (6-34) from long range. The Engineers shot 41.1% (23-56) from the floor and owned a 44-34 rebounding advantage.

WPI boasted five players with double-digit scoring efforts, including senior guard Tim Reidy (Needham, Mass.), who netted 13 points and was 3-5 from three-point territory to go with three assists, a steal and a rebound. Sophomore guard Justin Molen (Newark, Del.) was a perfect 4-4 from the

floor, hitting all three tries from long range as part of a 12-point night, and added five boards, two assists and a pair of steals in 21 minutes of play. Senior forward Brett Marelli (Hampton, N.H.) netted 11 points, grabbed seven rebounds and handed out three assists, while senior guard Aidan Callahan (Rowley, Mass.) chipped in with 11 points, seven rebounds, six assists and two steals.

Junior forward Eoin Morrissey (Watertown, Mass.) led Wheaton with a game-high 12 points on 6-12 from the field to go with 10 rebounds for his second double-dou-

ble of the year in addition to two assists. Junior guard Tristan Herry (East Taunton, Mass.) dropped in nine points, pulled down a rebound and dished for an assist.

Sophomore guard Dimetri Iafrate (Johnston, R.I.) gave the Lyons their only lead of the game with a layup to open the first half and give the home team a 2-0 lead at the 18:14 mark. The Engineers scored 11 of the next 12 points, including five from Callahan, to take an 11-3 advantage with 12:04 to play in the opening stanza.

Morrissey hit a jumper in the paint to keep

Wheaton within 18-11 with 6:20 showing on the first half clock, before WPI put together a 19-8 stretch, fueled by a trio of triples from Reidy, to take a 37-19 cushion with 33 ticks remaining in the first half. Herry scored on a layup for the final points of the period to set the count at 37-21 at the intermission.

Junior guard Sal Pedevillano (Parsippany, N.J.) knocked down the Lyons' first three-ball of the night, after the hosts went the first half without a long-distance make, to cut the deficit to 40-24 with 17:25 left in the game. The Engineers went on an 11-3

run, paced by six points from Molen, to expand its advantage to 51-27 at 14:38 for their largest lead of the evening.

Wheaton closed to within 57-41 with 10:50 to go, after a 14-6 string that saw first year guard Sean Perri (West Roxbury, Mass.) net five points. Junior guard J.R. Newman (Havertown, Pa.) drilled a trifecta with 2:58 remaining in the contest to bump the WPI lead back to 20 at 66-46, but the Lyons closed out the game with a 9-2 burst, capped by a three-pointer from first year guard Caden Smith (Gorham, Maine), to make it a 68-55 final.

Cressey Road Christian Church in Gorham hosts Super Bowl Party

GORHAM, ME – Join Cressey Road Christian Church for a free Super Bowl party on Sun-

day, February 9 at 6 pm. The Church is located at Route #25 and Cressey Road. Bring a snack to

share and we'll have a microwave available to warm food. Hope to see you there!

Clothes galore at Gorham's Mission of Hope Clothes Closet

GORHAM, ME -- The FREE Clothes Closet at Cressey Road Church (Mis-

sion 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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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Weather impact: Give Red Cross blood or platelets now

PORTLAND, ME — The American Red Cross encourages donors to give blood or platelets now to help protect the blood supply from the ongoing impact of severe winter weather and wildfires. Donors of all blood types — particularly type O negative blood donors and those giving platelets — are needed to help save lives this month.

As dangerous snow and ice continue to sweep across the country, and wildfires in Southern California continue to burn and impact air quality, Red Cross blood drive cancellations have grown into the hundreds. Collectively, this has resulted in more than 10,000 uncollected blood and platelet donations in January — more than 1,000

of those were scheduled as platelet donations.

More winter storms were forecast for last week — including in areas of the U.S. that do not typically experience significant snowfall — which could further strain the blood supply. Additionally, hazardous weather conditions have the potential to make it tougher to move vital blood products across the Red Cross network, possibly affecting deliveries to hospitals in some locations. As National Blood Donor Month continues, the time to give is now.

Where it is safe to do so, donors are asked to book a time to give blood or platelets by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or calling 1-800-



RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

All who come to give Jan. 27-Feb. 28, 2025, will get a \$15 e-gift card to a merchant of choice. See RedCrossBlood.org/Flurry for details.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities Jan. 30-Feb. 15:

Androscoggin
Lewiston
2/11/2025: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Benjamin Mays Center, 95 Russell Street

Cumberland
Bridgton
2/4/2025: 11 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Masonic Hall, 166 Harrison Road, Route

117
Brunswick
2/12/2025: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Elks Lodge, 179 Park Row

Cape Elizabeth
2/13/2025: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Saint Bartholomew Church, 8 Two Lights Rd Falmouth

1/31/2025: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Holy Martyrs Church, 266 foreside road
2/12/2025: 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., The Episcopal Church of St. Mary, 43 Foreside Rd

Gorham
1/31/2025: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., St. Annes Church, 299 Main Street

2/6/2025: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m., Cressey Road Christian Church, 81 Cressey Road

New Gloucester
2/12/2025: 9 a.m. - 3

p.m., The Commons, 59 Pineland Drive
Portland

1/30/2025: 1 p.m. - 7 p.m., Lyman Moore Middle School, 171 Auburn Street

2/3/2025: 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Maine Medical Dana Center, 22 Bramhall Street

2/5/2025: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., University of New England, 716 Stevens Ave

2/14/2025: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Clarion Hotel, 1230 Congress Street
Scarborough

2/4/2025: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Maine Health Institute for Research, 81 Research Dr

2/4/2025: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Saint Maximilian Church, 150 Black Point Rd

South Portland

2/10/2025: 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Portland Sheraton at Sable Oaks, 200 Sable Oaks Drive

Standish
2/3/2025: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Gardenside Condo Association, 12 Gardenside Drive

Westbrook
2/14/2025: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Westbrook Community Center, 426 Bridge Street

Windham
1/31/2025: 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., North Windham Union Church, 723 Roosevelt Trail, Route 302

Yarmouth
2/7/2025: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., American Legion Post 91, 196 Main St

2/13/2025: 12 p.m. - 4:30 p.m., First Parish Congregational Church, 116 Main Street

Maine Cabin Masters renovates Pine Tree Camp

ROME, ME - Pine Tree Camp kicks off its 80th anniversary year by revealing a secret. This summer, the Maine Cabin Masters renovated camp's recreation hall and theatre space. This 2,343 square foot building dates back to the 1960s, is home to camp's drama and music program, and features memorabilia from as far back as the 1940s. The building was totally reimagined and revamped in the heart of Pine Tree Camp's fully-accessible campus on North Pond.

The completed project, largely funded by a grant from the Prescott Family, and built by the

cast and crew of the Magnolia Network's reality television series, Maine Cabin Masters, will be unveiled on the Monday, February 3 episode titled "Curtains Up! Theatre for Extraordinary Campers" airing at 9:00pm on the Magnolia Network.

"The new space is truly incredible," said Pine Tree Camp Director, Dawn-Willard Robinson. "They created a space where our campers can let their talents shine. They took our goals for theatre, music and arts programming and brought it to life in ways we could have never imagined."

The Maine Cabin



Masters are legendary for renovating old lakeside, family camps and cabins. The recreation hall project was a perfect fit because it is in the center of an 80 year old summer camp, surrounded by cabins, woods and water. Pine Tree Camp's mission to serve Maine kids and

adults with disabilities made the project particularly special.

"Pine Tree Camp is a place where kids and adults with disabilities can get outside and experience anything they want to try," continued Willard-Robinson. "From swimming to archery to standing up on

the stage and belting out a song, our campers are free to explore new things."

Construction began in June and the Maine Cabin Masters crew worked through the summer to finish the project by September when they filmed the big reveal.

When Willard-Rob-

inson first saw the finished space during the September filming of the reveal, her eyes filled with tears.

"They were tears of joy," she recalled. "I could imagine our campers in the space and the emotion was overwhelming."

When to watch:
Maine Cabin Masters

"Curtains Up! Theatre for Extraordinary Campers"

Monday, February 3 9:00pm

Magnolia Network (available on cable, satellite and select streaming channels)

<https://magnolia.com/watch/>

OUT Maine accepting college scholarship applications

ROCKLAND, ME—As of January 10th, OUT Maine is now ac-

cepting applications for its annual college scholarship fund for Maine students.

Thanks to a generous anonymous donor to the organization, OUT Maine is able to offer substantial renewable scholarships to help Maine LGBTQIA2S+ and allied students bridge

the gap between financial aid and need at a college, university, or vocational school of their choice. The scholarships available can be worth up to \$25,000 every year for four years of

schooling.

The goal of this scholarship fund is to uplift queer and allied youth seeking a post-secondary education, especially those who originate from

underserved regions of Maine or demonstrate financial need. First generation college students are also highly encouraged to apply.

In order to apply, students must be Maine residents at the time of application, and send in materials such as a short essay, two letters of recommendation, and financial aid award information from the student's school and/or Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). There is no fee to apply for this scholarship. Submissions will be reviewed by volunteers from OUT Maine's Board of Directors and several internal staff members.

Applications are due by April 1st, 2025. Students can visit OUT Maine's website for further eligibility details and requirements.

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Baker Newman Noyes announces new principals in Gorham-area

PORTLAND, ME - Baker Newman Noyes (BNN), a nationally recognized top 100 accounting and advisory firm, is pleased to announce three new principal promotions in its Portland, ME, office.

Courtney Francis, Stephanie Joyce, and Kelly Pelletier, have been promoted to principal, effective January 1, 2025.

"We are extremely fortunate to welcome these exceptional individuals to our principal group in 2025," said BNN's Chairperson of the Board & Director of Tax Services, Andrew Smith. "Courtney, Stephanie, and Kelly have shown the level of skill, integrity, passion, and commitment necessary to be leaders in our profession and to help move BNN forward into our fourth decade! While this is a huge achievement in their careers, we look forward to many more accomplishments ahead as part of their bright futures."

Francis, CPA, of Scarborough, ME, provides tax and accounting



Courtney Francis

services to high- and ultra-high-net-worth individuals and their related businesses. She specializes in helping clients with complex tax issues, including transactions, integration of entities with individuals and trusts, and qualified small business stock (QSBS). Francis is known for her ability to provide personalized service and attention to detail, ensuring that her clients receive the best possible advice and guidance. Francis is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) and the Maine Society of Certified Public Accountants (MECPA).



Stephanie Joyce

She holds bachelor's degrees in business administration and accounting & finance from the University of Southern Maine.

Joyce, CPA, JD, of Falmouth, ME, has worked in the tax department of the firm's Portland office since 2010. Joyce specializes in tax planning and compliance for high-net-worth individuals and families, trusts and estates, as well as tax compliance for employee benefit plans. Joyce earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Syracuse University and a juris doctor from SUNY Buffalo Law School, with a concentration in financial



Kelly Pelletier

transactions. She is a member of the New York State Bar, the Maine Society of CPAs, Maine Employee Benefit Council, and the Maine Estate Planning Council.

Pelletier, JD, CPA, of Windham, ME, began her career in BNN's tax practice in 2015. She helps to lead the firm's Gifts, Estates, and Trusts group, a specialized team focused on high-level technical compliance and planning in the gifts, estates, and trusts practice area. She is a frequent presenter on gift and estate planning strategies and has developed a reputation throughout New



England as someone that clients, law firms, and investment firms can turn to with complex estate and gift issues. Pelletier graduated from Northeastern University with a bachelor's degree in psychology and a minor in sociology. She earned her juris doctor from the University of North Carolina School of Law. She is a member of the Maine and Massachusetts State Bars and the Maine Society of CPAs and serves on the board for Sexual Assault Support Services of Midcoast Maine. In 2020, Pelletier was recognized as The Rising Star in the MSCPA's Stars Among Stars Awards.

With the addition of these individuals, BNN's principal group is now composed of 45 principals across its five offices and tax, assurance, and advisory practices. BNN is an independent regional

firm with more than 350 employees serving clients nationally and internationally.

"This is an exciting time for the firm, as we celebrate our 30th anniversary and fully implement a new leadership structure that will best support the firm through our next phase," said Smith. "Welcoming these talented and dedicated individuals to our principal group is the perfect kickoff to this momentous year. I know they will serve as leaders and mentors who champion the firm's core values and put people, clients, and community first."

BNN is ranked as a top 100 firm by Accounting Today and INSIDE Public Accounting. Throughout New England and beyond, the firm is known for its specialized knowledge and experience, award-winning client service, and collaborative approach. They are an independent member of HLB, a dynamic international advisory and accounting network.

NSB appoints Gorham's Dawn Mugford as Senior VP, Risk

NORWAY, ME--- Norway Savings Bank is pleased to announce the appointment of Dawn Mugford (pictured below) as Senior Vice President, Risk. Most recently, Mugford served as Executive Vice President, Chief Risk Officer at Rockland Trust Bank, based in Rockland, Massachusetts.



Dawn Mugford

"In her career, Dawn has been responsible for the enterprise-wide monitoring, controls, measurement, and reporting of all major risk types as well as expanding on risk management infrastructure to help maintain and grow customer confidence. We're excited to add an experienced risk professional to our NSB Team and a person who will be a great fit for our achievement and support culture," said Dan Walsh, President and CEO of Norway Savings Bank.

Mugford brings more than 20 years of expertise in risk management, audit, and quality assurance in the financial sector. In addition to her service at Rockland Trust Bank, she was the Se-

nior Vice President and Director of Operational Risk Management and Corporate Securities/Investigations at Eastern Bank in Boston, Massachusetts. She also worked in the areas of risk, audit, and due diligence for TD in both Canada and the U.S.

"Risk Management is always different and interesting," she said. "It's trying to figure out what could possibly go wrong and then be prepared in the best way possible for it. It's also about figuring out how to navigate activities to support our customers and strengthen the Bank but still be within our risk appetite," said Mugford. "Over the years, I've heard about Nor-



way Savings Bank's great culture and reputation in the financial industry, and I'm thrilled to join the team and do what I can to support and enhance that culture."

Mugford earned her Bachelor of Business Administration from the esteemed Wilfrid Laurier University, a top-rated Canadian business school, and was recently recognized as one of the "Top 50 Women Chief Risk Officers of 2024" by Women We Admire. She has volunteered with a number of organizations, including the American Red Cross, United Way, Junior Achievement, the Maine Cancer Society, Park Run, and DOVE, an organization committed to ending domestic violence.

The Gorham resident was born near Manchester, England, and moved to Canada as a youth. She

is also an active athlete, participating in several Tri-For-A-Cure races, a 70.3 Ironman, the Pan-Mass Challenge, ultramarathons, and successfully hiking Mount Kilimanjaro in Tan-

zania.

Looking to make a great career move as 2025 begins? Join a positive, team-based culture that will utilize your unique gifts to help you achieve great

things! NSB is currently seeking motivated individuals for a number of exciting and dynamic roles! Come take a look: www.norway-savings.bank/get-to-know-us/careers.

WHY PEOPLE CHOOSE CHAMPOUX INSURANCE



Jonathan Knowlton
Licensed Agent

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



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Seniors Not Acting Their Age

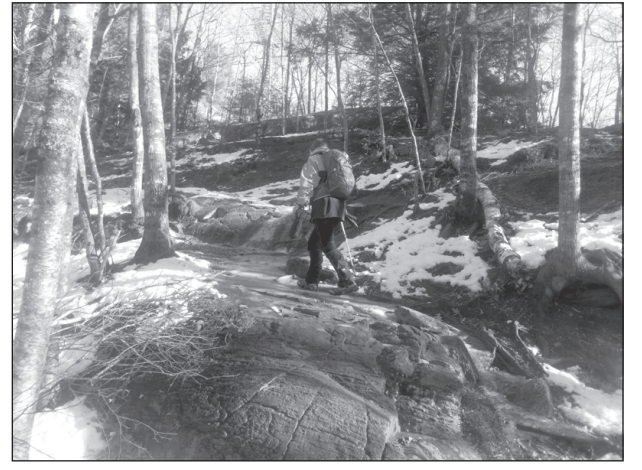
Icy Hazards on Mount Pisgah



A hiker reaches the old fire tower on the summit of Mount Pisgah



Micro spikes were necessary to cross the icy trailhead parking area



Icy rock formations were encountered nearing the summit

My first introduction to Mount Pisgah in Winthrop was about 35 years ago. A friend, Gary Cole, invited me on a cross-country ski trip over the summit.

There were no conventional cross-country ski trails on the mountain. Rather, Gary, who was very familiar with the small central Maine peak, cobbled together a combination of old farm roads, herd paths, informal snowmobile trails, and some bushwhacking. The trek was a very stimulating endeavor and, along with friends, we repeated it several times during the ensuing years.

One of the memories

I have of those early ski trips was passing under the then operating Mount Pisgah Fire Tower and bushwhacking down the sparsely wooded northern slope of the mountain after. I don't recall the existence any hiking trails during that period but I do remember trudging up the Tower Road when skiing wasn't an option.

In 1991, the Maine Forest Service discontinued use of the fire tower. I'm not sure precisely when the current hiking trails were introduced but about 25 years ago my friends and I began hiking them on a fairly regular basis.

The trail system is

maintained by the Kennebec Land Trust and is part of its 1100-acre Mount Pisgah Conservation Area. The network winds through a forested area that was once open pasture cleared and cultivated by early 19th-Century farmers. Stonewalls, used to confine their livestock and establish boundaries, continue to decorate the mountainous terrain and provide a scenic adjunct to the Mount Pisgah hiking experience.

Recently, my wife, Nancy, and I decided on a December Mount Pisgah hike. Unfortunately, our frequent Mount Pisgah hiking companions, Gary and Suzanne Cole, were

unavailable so we had to find our way without them.

Our decision followed a succession of snow, rain, and ice storms so we were unsure what to expect for hiking conditions. When we arrived at the trailhead on Mount Pisgah Road in Winthrop on a cool, breezy, partly sunny day, the spacious parking area was glare ice. Fortunately, we had packed micro spikes and wore them throughout the trek.

Tower and Blueberry Trails begin at the trailhead. The old Tower Road is also an option. We decided to ascend Tower Trail and, if conditions were acceptable, return on Blueberry Trail.

After cautiously negotiating across the icy parking lot, we turned left onto Tower Trail and hiked easily on a hard-packed snow and patchy ice surface in a sparse predominantly hardwood forest. A modest uphill gradient continued for an extended period before passing a junction for the Ledges Trail on the left.

Shortly after Ledges Trail, the path steepened and we encountered a series of upsloping rock formations. The granite inclines were a baffling

combination of ice and bare rock. We carefully ascended them avoiding the treacherous icy areas whenever possible and emerged onto the summit adjacent to the fire tower.

The 60-foot fire tower is open to the public and offers views of the surrounding area. We opted to forego climbing the icy stairway to the top.

Blueberry Trail descends south from the summit. Consulting the conservation area map, we decided to return on Tower Trail and follow Ledges Trail on a sweeping arc that connects with Blueberry Trail farther southeast, adding 1.4 miles to our outing.

After dropping down Tower Trail, we trekked north on Ledges Trail along the west side of a wooded ridge to a sign marking the northern terminus of the path where the landscape declines precipitously. From there, the trail angles abruptly south proceeding over uneven rugged terrain to the junction with Blueberry Trail just a short distance from the summit.

We followed Blueberry Trail first south and then west over rolling forested hills and at one point traversed the remains of

an old farm road we skied three decades ago. Two solo hikers were met in this area where there are a few stonewall crossings. Soon after, we descended steadily to the trailhead, completing about a 3.5 mile trek.

Although we had some difficulty with icy trails, the conditions were manageable. However, without micro spikes the hike would have been quite challenging.

My book, *Maine Al Fresco: The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine* narrates nine more mountain hikes in Maine including icy winter ascents of Mount Katahdin and Traveler Mountain; and a stormy expedition in Baxter State Park during a blizzard.

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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100+ Women Who Care Southern Maine to meet Feb. 10

MAINE -- The next meeting of 100+ Women Who Care Southern Maine will be held on Monday, February 10, 2025, at The Elks Lodge on Congress Street in Portland. Networking begins at 5:45 PM, with the meeting starting at 6:30 PM. Guests are welcome to attend and learn more about the group.

For more details, visit: www.100womenwhocaresouthernmaine.com.

Founded in November

2014, 100+ Women Who Care Southern Maine is a growing community of women who raise funds for local nonprofits. With 488 members, the group has raised over \$660,000 for a wide variety of causes, including support for veterans, children with disabilities, domestic abuse survivors, animal welfare, and more.

Members commit to donating \$50 each quarter to a nonprofit chosen at

each meeting. Three nominated nonprofits present 5-minute pitches followed by a 5-minute Q&A, and the group votes on which nonprofit will receive the donations.

At the November 2024 meeting, Camp No Limits was chosen as the recipient of donations. The organization will present at the February 10th meeting on how the funds were used. Camp No Limits provides specialized camps

for children with limb loss and limb differences, offering mentorship, support, and education in a community-focused environment.

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



Deb Bergeron, founder of 100+ Women Who Care Southern Maine. Deb Maxfield, Camp No Limits. Photo by: LeBel's Lens Photography.

Longfellow Days honors Bowdoin's class of 1825

BRUNSWICK, ME -- Each February in Brunswick Longfellow Days creates events to honor the legacy of Maine poet, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. This year Longfellow Days joins Bowdoin College in celebrating the 200th anniversary of the graduating class of 1825. These were a remarkable group of young men, including Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Jonathan Cilley, and other statesmen and professionals.

In 1925 Bowdoin honored the 100th anniversary of this class with a Literary Festival. They hosted such poets and writers as: Robert Frost, Carl Sandburg, Willa Cather, Edna St. Vincent Millay, and many others.

Events for this 200th anniversary include ongoing exhibits at Bowdoin College Art Museum and Special Collections at Bowdoin

Library. Also, Longfellow biographer Nicholas Basbanes will speak on the lives and wives of Hawthorne and Longfellow. New this year is an Ekphrastic Poetry Workshop by David Sloan.

Longfellow Days is also collaborating with the Bowdoin Music Department to create an evening of music and poetry featuring compositions by Paul Sullivan, Stuart Gillespie, Ann MacDonald Diers, Jud Caswell, and Scott Woodruff, performed by the combined Bowdoin Chamber Choir with chorus members from area community choirs. There will also be two events with nationally recognized spoken word poet, Taylor Mali.

Continuing annual events include: Sunday Readings at Curtis Library focusing on a different century of American poetry each week, Community Readings where Helene McLaughlin

and David Sloan host informal verse-sharing sessions, and Henry's Birthday Celebration with an open mic. Also, area collaborations will offer tours of the Joshua Chamberlain house where Longfellow once lived, a Winter Wisdom talk by James McKenna, and the Unitarian Universalist interfaith service where Longfellow taught Bible Classes during his time as professor at Bowdoin.

For a full explanation of events and presenters go to: <https://www.uubrunswick.org/longfellow-days-2025/>

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE... Thanks to the support of sponsors: Bowdoin College, Brunswick Downtown Association, Curtis Memorial Library, Nathaniel Davis Fund, Pejepsot History Center, The Senter Fund, and the Unitarian Universalist Church of Brunswick.

LONGFELLOW DAYS 2025

200TH ANNIVERSARY OF BOWDOIN'S CLASS OF 1825

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1:00 PM • SUNDAY READINGS
Fireplace Room, Curtis Memorial Library
Part One: 1825 Poets & Writers - Gary Lawless, Kara Douglas and Linda Aldridge reading 19th-century poets, as well as sharing their own work.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6 AT 4:30 PM • TALK BY NICHOLAS BASBANES
Alcege Auditorium at Bowdoin College
 The Longfellow biographer, Nicholas Basbanes (*Cross of Snow*) speaks on "Meeting of the Minds: Longfellow, Hawthorne, and the Productive Influence of their Artistic Wives."

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1:00 PM • SUNDAY READINGS
Fireplace Room, Curtis Memorial Library
Part Two: 1925 Poets - As well as sharing their own poetry, Gibson Fay LeBlanc reads Robert Frost, Dawn Potter reads Edna St. Vincent Millay, and Mike Bove reads Langston Hughes.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 11:00 AM • EKPHRASTIC POETRY WORKSHOP
Zachert Seminar Room, Bowdoin College Museum of Art
 In David Sloan's *Poet As Painter* workshop, participants will explore poetry inspired by art, then view the museum's exhibit, and generate their own ekphrastic poetry.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12 AT 2:00 PM • COMMUNITY POETRY/OPEN MIC
Merrymeting Room, Thornton Oaks, 25 Thornton Way (off Barboons)
 Helene McLaughlin and David Sloan read their own poetry and host this one-hour informal verse-sharing session. Bring a poem to share. Refreshments.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13 AT 2:30 PM • COMMUNITY POETRY/OPEN MIC
Maine Lodge, The Highlands, 30 Governors Way, Topsham
 Helene McLaughlin and David Sloan read their own poetry and host this one-hour informal verse-sharing session. Bring a poem to share. Refreshments.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15 AT 11:00 AM & 1:00 PM • TOURS OF THE CHAMBERLAIN HOUSE
226 Maine Street, Brunswick
 Gemma Cannon, author of *Voices of the Night*, will lead two 70-minute tours of the house, focusing on Henry's early writing and his first wife, Mary. Each tour is limited to 15 people and **Registration is Required**. Email: outreach@pejepsot.org Subject: "LD Tour" Please give preferred time, registrant name(s), and a phone number.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16 AT 1:00 PM • SUNDAY READINGS
Fireplace Room, Curtis Memorial Library
Part Three: 2025 Tribute to Poets - Today we remember three Longfellow Days poets who departed in 2024: Sally Cowperthwaite reads poetry by her father Steve Cowperthwaite. Georgia Nigro reads work by her husband Rob Farnsworth. Maryli Tiemann reads poetry by Ruth Bookey and introduces Nicole Chvatal, reading her own work.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19 AT 1:00 PM • WINTER WISDOM WITH JAMES MCKENNA
Morrill Room, Curtis Memorial Library
 Maine poet James McKenna will share his personal introductions to Longfellow and Edna Saint Vincent Millay, "My Two Grandmothers' Differing Poetic Tastes." Co-sponsored with MidCoast Senior College.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21 AT 7:30 PM • POETRY WITH TAYLOR MALI
Studzinski Hall at Bowdoin College
 Taylor Mali, Bowdoin Class of 1987 and nationally recognized spoken word poet, performs an evening of poetry beginning with three present Bowdoin student poets: King Weatherspoon, Chayma Charif and Kaitlin Weiss.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22 AT 7:30 PM • CLASS OF 1825 TRIBUTE: EVENING OF MUSIC & POETRY
Studzinski Hall at Bowdoin College
 Longfellow's poetry set to music and voice, featuring compositions by Paul Sullivan, Stuart Gillespie, Ann MacDonald Diers, Jud Caswell, and Scott Woodruff. Performed by the combined Bowdoin Chamber Choir with chorus members from area community choirs. Directed by Stuart Gillespie and Will Bristol. Spoken word poet, Taylor Mali performs in tribute to the Class of 1825.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23 AT 10:00 AM • INTERFAITH SERVICE: THE INCLUSIVE POWER OF POETRY
Unitarian Universalist Church, 1 Middle Street
 Service led by Rev. Dr. Kharma Amos, Minister with Maryli Tiemann. Music by the UUCB Choir under the direction of Will Bristol.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23 AT 1:00 PM • SUNDAY READINGS
Fireplace Room, Curtis Memorial Library
Part Four: Future Poets & Writers - Poet John Reinhart emceeds readings by three poets who were part of the Portland Poetry Slam Team: Elle MacGilvray, Yashu Derisala, and Alex Wu.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25 AT 2:00 PM • INTERPRETING THREE POEMS
Pejepsot History Center, 159 Park Row
 Join Karin Dillman to discuss three 19th- and 20th-century poems by Dickinson, Whitman, and William Carlos Williams. Refreshments. Registration is Required. Email: outreach@pejepsot.org with Subject: "Interpreting Three Poems." Please include name(s) of registrants and a phone number. Co-Sponsored with Pejepsot History Center.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26 AT 12:00 PM • GALLERY TOURS: BOWDOIN COLLEGE MUSEUM OF ART & LIBRARY
Lobby, Bowdoin College Museum of Art
 A Longfellow Days tour of Bowdoin's two special exhibitions: *Poetic Truths: Hawthorne, Longfellow, and American Visual Culture, 1840-1880*, on view February 6 through July 20, 2025, Bowdoin College Museum of Art and *The Student Days of the Class of 1825* at the Hawthorne Longfellow Library.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28 AT 5:30 PM • OPEN MIC & LONGFELLOW'S 218TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION
Unitarian Universalist Church, 1 Middle Street
 Open Mic with host Ren Bernier, a cappella music by Bowdoin's "Longfellows," and CAKE. Come share your poem or another's that you appreciate.

ONGOING POETRY EVENTS & EXHIBITIONS AT BOWDOIN COLLEGE:
 • "Poetry Across Maine" - a statewide poetry mapping project created by John Reinhart - add your poetry to place: www.poetryacrossmaine.com
 • "Poetic Truths: Hawthorne, Longfellow, and American Visual Culture, 1840-1880" on view February 6 through July 20, 2025, Bowdoin College Museum of Art
 • "Before They Were Famous: The Student Days of the Class of 1825," on view January 27 through June 6, 2025, Hawthorne-Longfellow Library.

Longfellow Days is an annual month-long cultural and community program, with support from Bowdoin College, Brunswick Downtown Association, Curtis Memorial Library, Nathaniel Davis Fund, Pejepsot History Center, The Senter Fund, and the Unitarian Universalist Church of Brunswick.

Thanks to our sponsors. All events are Free and Open to the Public.



CareerCenter Resume Workshop

Tuesday, February 11th
11am- 1pm
Second Floor Idea Lab

No Registration Required



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Arts & Entertainment

Camp is calling! Girl Scouts open registration for summer campers

STATEWIDE – Ready for limitless fun, friends, and new experiences? Girl Scouts of Maine (GSME) is excited to announce the official opening of online registration for Summer 2025 overnight camp sessions. Beginning January 15 at 9:00 a.m., prospective campers of all ages can register by visiting the camp page on our website—no Girl Scout experience necessary!

The upcoming season ushers in a wave of first-time and returnee campers ready to explore outdoor programs and new hands-on activities this summer. Beginning sessions in July, a wide variety of single and multi-week camp opportunities are offered at both Camp Pondicherry in Bridgton, and Camp Natarzwi in Baxter State Park. Each camp provides unique, unforgettable experiences amongst some of Maine’s most scenic natural settings.

Nestled on over 600

acres in the foothills of the White Mountains, Camp Pondicherry has a private waterfront on Adams Pond and miles of untouched woodlands, fields, hills, and trails to explore. In addition to classic GSME summer camp offerings such as archery, hatchet-throwing, swimming, arts and crafts, kayaking, hiking, and fire safety, other Pondicherry-specific activities include horseback riding, theater, and more!

“I am so pleased to be returning for a third summer as Camp Director! All of our camp programs are designed to build lifelong skills and foster independence. This year, I’m most excited about our Ultimate Camp Experience. Our two-week Ultimate Camp Experience gives girls an opportunity to enjoy both of our GSME summer camps,” says Tonia Stewart, Camp Pondicherry Director.

For nearly 90 years, Camp Natarzwi has provided a unique camping



experience for Girl Scouts. Located in Baxter State Park, Camp Natarzwi sits in the shadow of Mt. Katahdin, hugging the shoreline of Lower Togue Pond and making it the perfect spot for breathtaking views and pristine waters. Natarzwi-specific camp activities include rock-climbing, paddleboarding, backpacking, and boating.

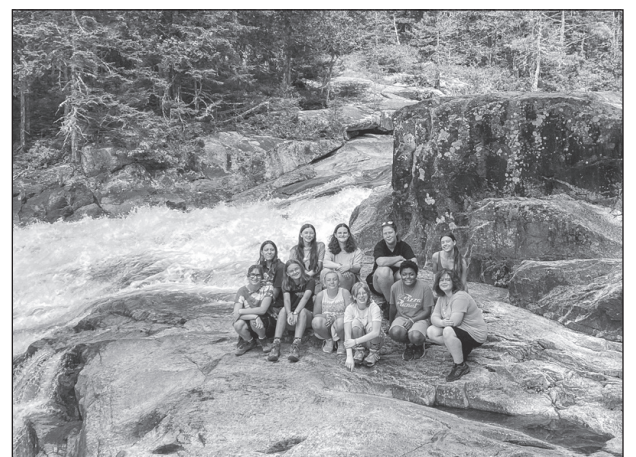
“I’m super excited about all of our programs this year, especially our three-week Wilderness

Expedition program. The campers in that program will get to explore so much of our North Maine woods,” says Barbara Ireland, Camp Natarzwi Director.

Check out the 2025 GSME Summer Camp Guide for more information on pricing, specific camp sessions, themed weeks, programs, activities, and important dates. Whether you’re interested in classic camp adventures or specialized programs, there’s something for every camper with GSME.

Looking for an inspiring summer job? GSME summer camps are the perfect opportunity to strengthen leadership skills, build friendships, and spend meaningful time in the outdoors as a counselor or staff member! Camp staff are CPR

girl scouts of maine



and first-aid certified, and many hold advanced certifications such as lifeguarding, archery instruction, wilderness first-aid, and more. Visit the summer camp employment page on our website to learn more!

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Feb 8

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ThePublicTheatre.org | 782-3200

The Ball will be held at the Kora Shrine Temple, Lewiston



31 Maple Street, Lewiston

3 million visitors to Maine State Parks in 2024

AUGUSTA, ME – The Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry’s Bureau of Parks and Lands (BPL) announced that Maine State Parks welcomed 3.12 million visitors in 2024, marking the third time in four years that visitation surpassed three million. This represents a 6.5% increase over 2023 attendance. While overall attendance climbed, day-use visitation increased by 7.3%, highlighting the popularity of Maine’s parks as trusted and accessible destinations for outdoor recreation. Camping attendance saw a slight decrease of 0.8%, partially attributed to the early closure of Cobscook Bay State Park for a construction project. Notable park-specific trends included an 18% increase in attendance at Reid State Park, while Popham Beach

State Park saw a 7% decrease, likely due to beach erosion caused by January 2024 storms.

Maine State Park visitation at a glance:

2024: 3.12 million visitors (2.83 million day-use visitors and 288K campers)

2023: 2.93 million visitors (2.64 million day-use visitors and 291K campers)

2022: 3.28 million visitors (2.96 million day-use visitors and 319K campers)

2021: 3.3 million visitors (3 million day-use visitors and 315K campers)

2020: 3 million visits (2.79 million day-use visitors and 280K campers)

2019: 2.97 million visits (2.71 million day-use visitors and 258K campers)

2025 Campground Reservation Opening Dates
The BPL also an-

nounced the 2025 Maine State Parks campground reservation opening dates:

February 3, 2025 (9:00 AM, EST):

Lily Bay State Park and Sebago Lake State Park reservations open.

Group Camping and Picnic Shelter Reservations begin via phone (no online group reservations).

Storm Date: February 4, 2025, if Maine State Government offices are closed.

February 6, 2025 (9:00 AM, EST):

Reservations will be available for all parks except Aroostook and Cobscook Bay, where reservations are temporarily delayed due to major improvement projects. The completion date for these upgrades has not yet been determined.

Storm Date: February 7, 2025, if Maine State

Government offices are closed.

How to Reserve Your Spot

Online: Visit www.CampWithME.com to browse maps, fees, and amenities.

By Phone: Contact the park directly for Group Camping and Picnic Shelter Reservations.

By Mail: Reservation details and instructions are available online.

Tips for Online Reservations:

Specify tent or RV size to find appropriate campsites.

Request water and electricity hook-ups at select parks: Aroostook, Camden Hills, Mount Blue, Peaks-Kenny, Rangeley Lake, and Sebago Lake.

Check park-specific fees and amenities in advance.

Minimum Stay Re-

quirements:

Sebago Lake requires a 4-night minimum stay for February reservations during the camping season.

Weekend stays require a 2-night minimum (Friday and Saturday) until July 1, after which single-night reservations are available.

About Maine State Parks

Maine State Parks offers experiences for all kinds of outdoor enthusiasts. With over 30 parks and historic sites across the state, visitors can explore scenic hiking trails, camp under starry skies, and enjoy water activities such as swimming, kayaking, and fishing. Winter brings opportunities for snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, and ice fishing, while year-round wildlife watching, picnicking, and photography attract nature lovers.

Discover Maine’s rich history at sites like Fort Popham and Colonial Pemaquid or participate in family-friendly programs like Junior Ranger activities and guided nature walks. Adventure seekers can find rock climbing, ATV trails, and snowmobiling, while cultural enthusiasts can enjoy workshops, stargazing and seasonal events.

From the cliffs and bogs at Quoddy Head and the eddy pools at Two Lights and Kettle Cove, to the breathtaking vista from atop Mt Battie and the big hikes and western views of Mt Blue, Maine State Parks offer unforgettable moments and a deep connection to nature, history, and community.

For more information about Maine State Parks and to plan your visit, visit www.CampWithME.com.

New Ventures Maine launches competition for small businesses

AUGUSTA, ME—New Ventures Maine (NVME) has announced open applications for their statewide Marketing Mini-Grant competition.

The NVME Marketing Mini-Grant Program aims to strengthen access to markets for small businesses by supporting the development of marketing tools, materials, and activities. NVME will award cash mini-grants—up to \$1,000 per region (defined below)—to microenterprises for new or expanded business marketing and promotion projects through a competitive application process. Applications are due by Friday, February 28, 2025 at noon.

Eligible applicants include individual micro-business owners, business partners, or groups of business owners. Businesses apply to the region in which they are based (see



NVME Microenterprise Program Manager Alicia LaFosse accepts a \$3,000 donation from Duncan Mixer, AVP & Commercial Loan Officer at Norway Savings Bank.

below for details).

Application criteria include: 1) Five or fewer full-time equivalent employees; 2) sales in the past 12 months; and 3) gross annual sales of no more than \$150,000 (previous calendar year).

Terrill Waldman, co-owner of Tandem Glass with Charlie Jenkins, winners of a 2023 marketing mini-grant, said of its impact, “This grant gave us the energy to pursue and invest in a new logo and a ‘suite’ of marketing goodies. We

are so proud of the work we have done. Overall, we are currently up 15% in sales over last year. Traffic to our web site is steady and traffic to our brick and mortar shop is up!”

Regions and contacts for the 2025 Winter/Spring



contest are:

Cumberland & York Counties: Martha Leonard, 207-245-3663, martha.leonard@maine.edu

Androscoggin, Oxford & Franklin Counties: Gina Platt, 207-753-6581, gina.platt@maine.edu

For more information, contact the region representative listed above or visit the New Ventures Maine website.

Marketing mini-grants are sponsored in part by Norway Savings Bank, Katahdin Trust Company, and Kennebec Savings Bank.

“We are excited to sponsor mini-grants that

empower small businesses to boost their marketing efforts and overall success,” said Duncan Mixer, AVP & Commercial Loan Officer at Norway Savings Bank. “Bringing financial support to the communities we serve is an important priority for us.”

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

MaineCF grants available to nonprofits

PORTLAND & ELLSWORTH —Non-profit organizations throughout the state may be eligible for grants from the Maine Community Foundation’s (MaineCF) Community Building Grant Program.

The grant program

invests in local projects and organizations that help build strong communities in all 16 counties. Community Building supports projects and organizations that invest in people, engage with the people served and strengthen community resources.

In 2024, MaineCF’s county and regional committees awarded \$1.97 million in grants through the Community Building Grant Program. Learn more about the Community Building Grant Program and application process at www.mainecf.org/community-building.

The deadline to apply is Friday, Feb. 14.

The Community Building Grant Program is MaineCF’s largest grant program. It is one of the only grant programs in the state that supports a broad range of interest areas, in-

cluding arts, education, environment, economic development and human services.

The grant program offers two types of funding: project grants and general support. Project grants are only available to larger organizations for new projects. General support grants

are geared towards smaller organizations and this flexible funding may support new, expanding or ongoing programs as well as operational needs.

For a list of 2024 Community Building grants by county, visit www.mainecf.org/recentgrants.

Maine CASA to hold training March 10-14

MAINE -- Interested in advocating for the best interests of a child? The Maine Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) program is holding its next training for volunteer advocates from March 10th through March 14th, 2025.

This free, five-day training is designed to prepare attendees for certification as volunteer guardians ad litem (GALs) in Maine child protection cases. Trainees may participate virtually or in person. For those who wish to partici-

pate in person, the training will be held in Augusta. Accommodations may be available.

The foundation of a CASA’s work is learning about the case and then advising the court what the CASA believes is in

the child’s best interest. CASAs come from a wide variety of professional and personal backgrounds and are guided throughout the process by CASA program staff. CASAs bring their own unique perspectives to their work as volunteers.

If you are willing to advocate for a child’s best interests, we encourage you to apply to become a CASA volunteer. Those interested in the training must complete an application and, if invited to participate, must also com-

plete criminal and child protection services background checks.

For more information about becoming a volunteer, please contact Maine CASA at 213-2865 or by e-mail at casa@courts.maine.gov

UMA Saco Center opens at new downtown location

SACO, ME – The Saco Center of the University of Maine at Augusta (UMA) is open for business and will begin the spring semester in its new location, Suite 104 at 209 Main St., Saco, continuing to serve as a welcoming hub for academic and community engagement.

For the past 40 years, the UMA Saco Center has proudly facilitated higher education in the area, serving an average of 350 students each semester. Approximately 1,500 York County community members have achieved their educational goals and now serve our community in fields such as mental health

services, business administration, computer information systems, the justice field and more.

Though the Saco Center's new home has less physical space, it will continue to offer all the same services and support for students and partners. "UMA has been part of the greater Biddeford/Saco community for over 40 years, and we are excited to now be part of Saco's vibrant downtown," said Saco Center Director Dan Philbrick.

The new facility addresses the needs of how students now access higher education and includes a computer lab, three onsite



The new home of UMA's Saco Center at 209 Main St., Saco

classrooms, office space and break area. One of the three classrooms can also serve as a public meeting room.

Equipped with an in-

frastructure that includes all-new Cat 6 ethernet cabling and a dark fiber network, the UMA Saco Center provides cutting-edge connectivity, with faster,



more reliable internet speeds that support advanced learning tools, high-tech classrooms, and scalable bandwidth for future growth. In addition, through its video conference capabilities, the center continues to provide the flexibility and ability for members of the community to work at a distance.

For more information about UMA's Saco Center and its offerings, please

call (207) 282-4111 or visit uma.edu/saco.

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, excellent student support and civic engagement and innovative professional and liberal arts programs. For more information, visit uma.edu.

Gorham Food Pantry Friends needs canned pasta this week



GORHAM, ME -- Greetings, pantry friends! We have a need for canned pasta this week - ravioli,

Spaghetti-Os, etc. They can be dropped off in the bin at the top of the ramp, or you can message us to set up a

time that works for you.

Thanks for helping to feed your neighbors here in Gorham!

Gorham BackPack Program needs your help restocking Food Closet



GORHAM, ME -- A huge THANK YOU to Coach Tanguay, Coach Stone and the members of

the indoor track teams for their generous donation to the Backpack Program as part of the GHS Athletic's

Winter Sports Food Drive!

For the month of January, we will focus our efforts on restocking the Food Closet at GHS. Items can be dropped off directly at the high school or mailed to GMS and we will deliver.

The Backpack Program will also receive a \$1 donation for every \$2.50 reusable Fight Hunger Bag sold during all of January at the Gorham location. We appreciate the continued support of Hannaford!

It takes a village and the Gorham village is amazing!

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.

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

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2025 Gorham online dog licensing information

GORHAM, ME -- Please note that as of January 1, 2025, the State of Maine is issuing dog tags for online registrations for 2025.

Please visit the Town's website for more information including on-

line costs for new licenses or renewals, and/or to register online through the State of Maine's Dog Licensing site. An online license fee of \$1 will be included in online registrations, and an additional shipping/handling fee of

\$1.75 will be added to a registrant's total when you register online.

Dog Licensing Information/ FAQs

All dogs age 6 months and older are required by State Law to be licensed by Decem-

ber 31st of each year. A \$25.00 late fee will be due for any dog licensed after January 31st, per state law.

A current rabies vaccination certificate and proof of spaying or neutering, if applicable, is re-

quired to license a dog.

Dogs may be licensed at the Town Clerk's office or licenses may be done online as long as they are not late.

The Animal Control Officer will be notified of all unlicensed dogs and

owners could be fined for keeping an unlicensed dog.

Please contact the Town Clerk's office at (207) 222-1670 with your name, home address, and e-mail address to be added to an e-mail reminder list.

Maine Hospice Council hosting conference

AUGUSTA, ME - The Maine Hospice Council and Center for End-of-Life Care will host a "Community-Based Palliative Care for ME: State-wide Educational Conference" at Thomas College in Waterville, ME, March 27-28, 2025.

Maine palliative care enhances quality of life through physical, emotional, spiritual and psycho-social interdisciplinary team management of pain and other symptoms. Palliative care services are a high quality, cost-effective approach to helping individuals deal with serious illness.

Market research data,

compiled by Hospice Analytics in 2015, reveals only 10 of 34 Maine hospitals report having a palliative care program. In addition, those programs may have varying structures, staffing, and services.

The March 27-28 Educational Conference at Thomas College, will bring together a number of palliative care experts to share current data analytics, messaging, education and other relevant information to providers and consumers in Maine. They will underscore the value of offering palliative care statewide, as well as developing palliative care programs in all Maine hospitals.

The Conference Key-note Speakers and their topics are:

Marian Grant, DNP, ACNP-BC, ACHPN, FPCN, FAAN, RN "Using Evidence-based Principles to Strengthen Public/ Provider Engagement with Palliative Care"

Constance Dahlin, MSN, ANP- BC, ACHPN, FPCN, FAAN "National Consensus Guidelines: Framing Quality Palliative Care"

Torrie Fields, Founder/CEO TFA Analytics; Strategic Advisor to the Coalition to Transform Care "Developing a State-wide Medicaid Palliative Care Benefit for Maine:

Focusing on Value-based Analytics"

"When individuals are living with serious illnesses and their pain and symptoms are not managed effectively, quality of life is often compromised, resulting in poor healthcare outcomes. Palliative care is a team approach to effectively managing pain and symptoms for a patient at any age and any stage of a serious illness. The goal is to enhance the individual's quality of life, help them remain at home for as long as possible and generate higher quality healthcare outcomes for all Maine people." says Kandyce Powell, Maine Hospice

Council Executive Director.

Complete information, including details on the Conference speakers

and presenters, and Conference Registration, is available on the Maine Hospice Council website: <https://mainehospicecouncil.org/>

NBRC announces infrastructure award recipients

CONCORD, N.H. - The Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) announced just over \$24 million in new awards as part of the Commission's Fall 2024 round of funding across all three of its competitive programs. The 37 new awards will benefit communities

throughout the Commission's member states of Maine, New Hampshire, New York, and Vermont.

Awards made per program include the following:

\$20.6 million awarded through the Catalyst Program, including 18 projects expanding the

region's critical infrastructure and 15 projects building a diversified economy and competitive workforce.

Two awards totaling \$1.9 million awarded through the Forest Economy Program (FEP) include expanding forestry workforce initiatives and sup-

port for an immersive high school forestry program.

Two awards totaling \$2.28 million awarded in
See NBRC, page 14

**GHS ATHLETIC'S
WINTER SPORTS
FOOD DRIVE**

Items Needed:

	Individual servings/snack packs:
❄️ Chef Boyardee	❄️ Goldfish
❄️ Canned Tuna Fish	❄️ Cheez It
❄️ 16 oz Pasta	❄️ Popcorn
❄️ 16 oz Creamy Peanut Butter	❄️ Fruit Cups
❄️ Canned Chicken Noodle Soup	❄️ Pudding Cups
	❄️ Nutra-Grain Bars

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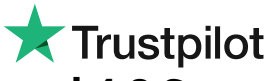
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WinterKids Winter Games kick off with outdoor learning fun

MAINE — Let the Games begin! WinterKids is thrilled to announce the official start of the 8th Annual WinterKids Winter Games! From January 13 to February 7, students across Maine will step outside, and embrace the joy of outdoor winter learning. This year's theme, "Weather" invites over 10,000 students and educators to become young scientists, observing and documenting Maine's winter climate in real time.



Track, enjoying activities tailored to their own pace.

Opening ceremonies happened at participating schools across the state today, setting the tone for a month of dynamic challenges and community-building activities.

□ Weekly themes—Temperature, Precipitation, Wind, and Clouds—will guide students through engaging outdoor lessons.

What's in store for this year?

Program Highlights:
□ 16 schools will compete in the Competitive Track, vying for cash prizes up to \$5,000.

The WinterKids Winter Games is not just about education—it's about transformation. The WinterKids Winter Games inspire teamwork by encouraging students to collaborate on



outdoor challenges, fostering a sense of camaraderie and shared achievement. Through activities such as weather observations, data collection, and creative projects, students and teachers will be outdoors



participating in hands-on lessons.

Jon Morrill of Kittery Trading Post, a proud WinterKids Supporting Sponsor, shared why this program resonates with the community: "Kids are the

future of our business, our economy, and the state resources. Anything that we can do to enrich the lifestyle of our children, we're all about that." His words reflect the shared commitment of WinterKids and its partners to nurture healthy, vibrant communities through outdoor engagement and education.

Schools report tangible benefits during the four-week program, including increased attendance and

fewer visits to the nurse, demonstrating the positive impact of active, outdoor learning on students' overall well-being. WinterKids provides weekly incentives like keychain thermometers, tape measures, sunglasses, and weather notebooks for added inspiration!

WinterKids encourages local media outlets to join us in sharing this incredible story of community, learning, and resilience. Find a participating school near you and celebrate the energy of winter learning in action!

The Winter Games are sponsored in part by Aroma Joe's, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care, MMG Insurance, and the Stockhouse Station.

For a detailed map of partner schools and more information, visit winterkids.org/winter-games/.

Give the gift of time as a Red Cross volunteer

PORTLAND, ME — The American Red Cross asks you to consider giving the gift of your time in 2025, resolving to help people in need as a volunteer in Maine — and throughout the Northern New England Region.

builds our capacity to help people in what can be their darkest days."

Depending on your interests, the Red Cross offers a variety of volunteer opportunities — from supporting a family after a home fire, helping a military member during an emergency, or helping us ensure blood is available for patients in need.

Disaster Action Team (DAT): Help families in your community after a home fire or other disaster. DAT team members provide emotional support,

emergency financial assistance and information to help families begin to recover.

Hero Care Caseworker: Support members of the military, their families and our veterans. Become a casework volunteer and help provide emergency communications and critical services to military families all over the world.

Blood donor ambassadors: Engage with blood donors by greeting them at blood drives, helping them register, answering ques-

tions, providing information and assisting them at the refreshments table.

Blood transportation specialists: Volunteer transportation specialists support hospital patients by delivering blood from our facilities to local hospitals. If you have a little free time, love driving and enjoy meeting new people, the Red Cross has a great volunteer spot waiting for you.

In 2024, 600 Red Cross volunteers in Maine logged nearly 42,000 hours supporting the region's hu-

manitarian needs.

"Red Crossers aren't volunteering for a paycheck. We give our time because we are passionate about the mission," said Maryellen Tarling, a Red Cross volunteer from Cape Elizabeth, Maine.

Tarling joined the Red Cross more than three years ago after searching for a way to make a positive impact in her community. She currently serves on the Southern Maine Disaster Action Team, responding to and helping Mainers recover from

home fires and other disasters. She also leads the region's preparedness team.

"You often see people at their worst, but as a Red Cross volunteer you can take comfort knowing, that through your role, you will be providing hope when people need it most. It's a rewarding experience and I highly recommend it."

The need to help has never been greater. Join us to provide relief and hope when it matters most. Visit redcross.org/Volunteer-NNE and get started today.

SAPARS, community partners host film on sex trafficking

AUBURN, ME -- Join Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Services, along with several community partners, Thursday, January 30th from 5-7pm at the Auburn

Public Library for a special screening of Sexploitation and an engaging discussion to follow.

Sex trafficking is here. It's happening in Maine. In this special film, you'll

meet 4 brave Mainers who not only survived their experiences with sex trafficking, but have thrived in the aftermath, choosing to now serve others with similar experiences.

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"SEXPLOITATION" A FILM SCREENING

JAN. 30TH 2025
5:00 PM TO 7:00 PM
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In this film, meet 4 courageous Maine women who endured the dark world of sex trafficking and survived, recovered and turned their trauma into a life of service for others.

A QUESTION AND ANSWER STYLE DISCUSSION WILL FOLLOW THE FILM.

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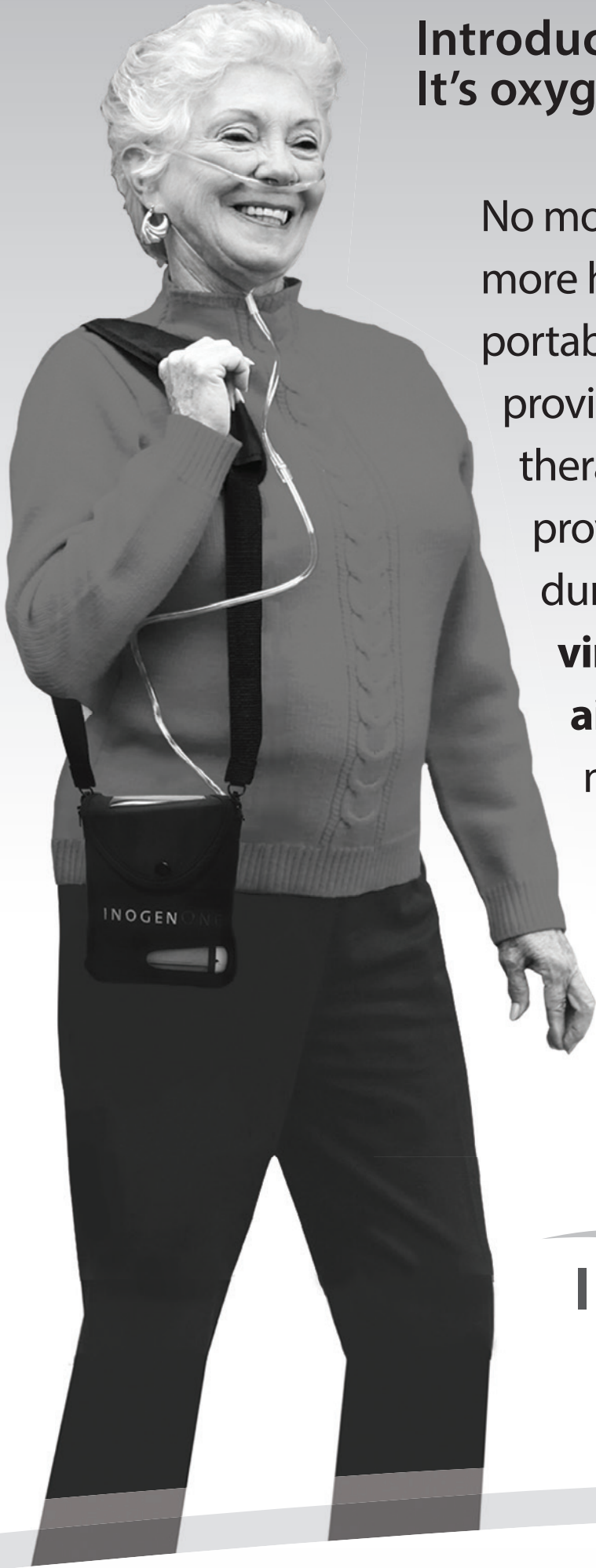
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OSJL donates essential supplies to those impacted by wildfires

NORTH KINGSTOWN, RI — Ocean State Job Lot (OSJL), the region’s premier discount retail chain headquartered in Rhode Island with 159 stores throughout New England, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania, this week began its efforts to transport essential supplies to communities in California severely impacted by wildfires. OSJL has partnered once again with its generous customers and the United Cajun Navy, which is coordinating logistics to get shipments to the most impacted areas.

Last week, OSJL began its donation efforts which included providing more than 20 tons (40,000 pounds) of water, clothing (adults and children), non-perishable food, cleaning and sanitation supplies, and pet food and supplies.

“The total devastation we are seeing from the wildfires in California is heartbreaking and hard to comprehend,” said David Sarlitto, Executive Director, Ocean State Job Lot Charitable Foundation. “Partnering with the United Cajun Navy, we were able to quickly mobilize our donation effort, and with the help of our generous and loyal customers, we will continue to provide additional necessities to help those who have lost so much.”

All donated supplies are purchased at cost, in part through donations made by customers at each OSJL store to the 501(c)(3) Ocean State Job Lot Charitable Foundation to support the relief efforts. Monetary donations are being accepted in-store and online at: <https://www.oceanstatejoblot.com/osjl-charitable-foundation>.



Photos courtesy of the United Cajun Navy.

AARP MAINE opens Community Challenge Grant application

PORTLAND, ME —AARP Maine invites local eligible non-profit organizations and governments across the country to apply for the 2025

AARP Community Challenge grant program, now through March 5, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. Eastern. AARP Community Challenge grants fund quick-action

projects that help communities become more livable by improving public places, transportation, housing, digital connections, and more. Now in its ninth year, the program is part of AARP’s nationwide Livable Communities initiative, which supports the efforts of cities, towns, neighborhoods and rural areas to become great places to live for all residents, especially those age 50 and older.

“The Community Challenge is a critical part of how AARP Maine works with local residents, advocates, and policymakers to make our communities better places to live and thrive for people of all ages,” said Noël Bonam, AARP Maine State Director. “The Community Challenge grant program has proven that quick-action projects can lead to long-term change, especially for Mainers 50-plus.”

This year, the AARP

Community Challenge is accepting applications across three different grant opportunities. All projects must be consistent with AARP’s mission to serve the needs of people 50 and older along with other eligibility criteria.

Capacity-building microgrants are paired with additional resources, such as one-on-one coaching from national nonprofit organizations, webinars, cohort learning opportunities and more for improving walkability, bikeability; implementing safe, accessible home modifications; and disaster preparedness training.

Demonstration grants fund projects that encourage replication of exemplary local efforts. This year’s focus is on improving pedestrian safety with funding support from Toyota Motor North America; expanding high-speed internet access and adoption with funding support from Microsoft; reconnecting communities divided by infrastructure; and implementing housing choice design competitions.

Flagship grants sup-

port projects that improve public places; transportation; housing; digital connections; and community resilience.

“AARP is committed to creating communities where people of all ages and abilities can thrive,” said Nancy LeMond, AARP Executive Vice President and Chief Advocacy & Engagement Officer. “The Community Challenge helps cities, towns and counties get things started with small improvements that can kick-start meaningful changes that improve people’s lives and strengthens the places they call home.”

Since 2017, AARP has invested \$20.1 million toward 1,700 projects – including 70 in Maine – nonprofit organizations, and government entities across all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands through the Community Challenge. The program aims to provide support to all community types, including rural, suburban and urban communities with a special focus on the needs of

those 50 and older.

AARP Maine works in collaboration with communities across the state, bringing people together, and providing resources and expertise to help make Maine’s counties, towns and cities great places to live for people of all ages. In Maine, projects have included disaster preparedness initiatives, transportation improvements, community park and open space enhancements, and much more.

The Community Challenge is open to eligible 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(6) nonprofit organizations and government entities. Other types of organizations are considered on a case-by-case basis. Grants can range from several hundred dollars for small, short-term activities to tens of thousands for larger projects.

The application deadline is 5:00 p.m. Eastern, March 5, 2025. All projects must be completed by December 15, 2025. To submit an application and view past grantees, visit www.AARP.org/CommunityChallenge.

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Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

Wednesdays
GORHAM – Story Hour every Wednesday from 10:30 to 11:30 at North Gorham Public Library.

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.

Jan 30-Feb 2
HERMON -- Celebrity Egg Riders are revved up for the 52nd annual Dysart's Snowmobile Ride-in Weekend to benefit Pine Tree Camp.

Thursday, January 30: Live WABI-TV5 Telethon and Dysart's Spaghetti Dinner, 4:00pm at Dysart's Restaurant & Truck Stop, 530 Coldbrook Road, Hermon

Friday, January 31:

Live and Silent Auction - Hosted by Maine Cabin Masters Jedi and Dixie, 6:00pm at Morgan Hill Event Center, 82 Morgan Hill Lane, Hermon

Saturday, February 1: Celebrity Egg Ride and Poker Run, 9:30am at Dysart's Restaurant & Truck Stop, 530 Coldbrook Road, Hermon

Sunday, February 2: Penobscot Snowmobile Club Radar Run, Noon at the Penobscot Snowmobile Club, 795 Bog Road, Hermon

Feb 3
AUBURN -- On February 3rd from 4-6 at the Auburn Public Library, the Stanton Bird Club will be hosting the third in its 2024-25 lecture series presenting "Birding in the Falkland Islands" with Loring (Danny) Danforth, PhD.

Feb 13
AUBURN -- BOOK DISCUSSION --DEMOCRACY AWAKENING: NOTES ON THE STATE OF AMERICA by Heather Cox Richardson. Thursday, February 13, 2025 – 4:00-5:00 p.m., Auburn Public Library

Feb 14
LEWISTON -- At 10am the Lewiston Public Library Children's Depart-

ment will be offering a Valentine's Day Keepsake program. Caregivers and their young children will be able to make a collaborative family handprint keepsake on canvas for Valentine's Day. All family members can participate in this program.

Free. No registration required. Recommended families and their young children ages birth-6 years old. Older siblings are also welcome to attend and participate.

Feb 15
WESTBROOK -- The Chinese and American Friendship Association of Maine (CAFAM) will ring in the Year of the Snake, Saturday, February 15, 2025, at the Westbrook Performing Arts Center, 471 Stroudwater Road, Westbrook, ME

Feb 18, Mar 18, Apr 15
TURNER -- Music for Mavis" hosts 2025 Cabin Fever Concerts at 98 MATHEWS WAY, OFF RT. 117 TURNER CENTER. 6:00-7:30 PM. Leave the winter blues behind and enjoy music with your fellow music lovers, right beside the gazebo, downstairs in the TPLibrary Building. The music is as follows:
February 18: Stan

Keech & friends, Bluegrass/folk

March 18: Robbie Coffin, Maggie, & Dave Rockin' Rock & Roll
April 15: Jim Galant and Billy Belskis, Instrumentals/blues/Celtic/a mix

Feb 19
LEWISTON -- Let's Grow Crystals at 11am, Lewiston Public Library Children's Department. Children will be provided with materials to grow tetragonal crystals by creating a solution with water and a package of monoammonium phosphate and powdered pigments.

Because the crystals take many days to grow, the crystal solutions will be kept in the display case so patrons can see their growth. After 2 weeks or so the finished crystals will be removed from their solution. The crystals will be kept in the display case on a lighted stand. Participants may also take the crystals home at that time.

Free. No registration required but supplies are limited. Recommended kids 8-12 years old. The Lewiston Public Library is located downtown at 200 Lisbon Street at the corner of Pine Street.

Mar 15
BRUNSWICK -- The 2024-25 UUCB Concerts for a Cause Series season will include folk, jazz, blues, celtic, and choral singing for justice. This

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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/>.

Women in Harmony - Sat, Mar 15, 2025 at 7:30 pm. Doors open 7:00 pm. Tickets: \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door, \$10 Students/Children

Women in Harmony is a Portland-based chorus of 60 women's voices, which has been singing for social justice for over 20 years. It is a diverse group of gay and straight, musically sophisticated and musically untrained women who unite in song and a spirit of fairness. Women in Harmony is dedicated both to musical excellence and social justice.

Tickets: \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door, \$10 Students/Children. Available at the church office,

Gulf of Maine Books, or online at <https://ticket-stripe.com/womenharmony>

NBRC

Continued from page 9

the Commission's new Timber for Transit (T4T) Program will support replacing deteriorated bridge materials with wood-based materials and composites, as well as the design and construction of an outdoor hybrid timber pavilion for year-round small business use.

"Community centered economic development is at the heart of NBRC's work. What's consistent about all the projects receiving funds from the Commission's fall competition is that they will create economic opportunity and improve day-to-day life for the people who call this region home," said Chris Saunders, Federal Co-Chair of the NBRC.

GORHAM LITTLE LEAGUE

Field Funding Campaign

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

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

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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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CATEGORY: _____

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AD INFO: _____

NUMBER OF WEEKS TO RUN: _____

Connections & Confections



**Confectionary Connections:
A Progressive Tour**
February 6, 13 or 20 | 2 p.m.

Connect with the **HEART** of our community as you journey through each space and meet our cherished residents and dedicated team members. Celebrate the sweetness of life on this unforgettable tour of indulgence and camaraderie.

We look forward to sharing these rich moments with you.

Choose your date and RSVP today at slcheartfelttour.com or call 207-746-0657



A HEARTFELT EXPERIENCE

When you join us for this special progressive tour, you'll discover the HEART of our community - the core values that guide our team members every day:

HOSPITALITY | EXCELLENCE | APPRECIATION | RESPECT | TEAMWORK

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