

Gorham “Amazing Race” meaningful for students, NSB team

GORHAM, ME – A special event on May 30 brought students on a scavenger hunt throughout Gorham for a day of excitement and exploration with the participants hopefully having enriched their future aspirations by the finish line. The “Amazing Race” paired eighth graders from Gorham Middle School with fifth graders at Village Elementary School to solve and follow clues that led them on a journey to businesses and community organizations in town. One location happy to welcome the inquisitive students for a visit along the way was Norway Savings Bank’s Gorham branch, located on 65 Main Street.

“The Gorham team welcomed the students in and answered questions about the banking industry, our Go>2 digital checking accounts, and our summer teller program. As they get older, they might aspire to a career in banking!” said Pam DiPietro Hale, Commercial Loan Officer VP for NSB. “Many questions also revolved around the handling of money and the vault.”

Among the NSB team members who engaged with the students were Kelly Sturmer, Mortgage Loan Officer VP; Amy Lehigh, Market Manager VP; and Matt Petros, Jo Allard, and Katlyn Doughty, all customer relations representatives.



“Their willingness to welcome our student teams, share their time, and bring energy and kindness made this event truly special,” said Lexie Caddell, an organizer of the event and ed tech at Village Elementary.

Part of the exercise is for the students to utilize the formal introduction techniques they have learned and pose questions they had prepared for NSB team members.

“It was wonderful to see the respect and courtesy the students showed to

each other and to us, and observing their genuine interest in learning is a great sign for our future,” said Lehigh.

Now in its fourth year, the “race” is aptly named simply for the amazing connections, community, and camaraderie it inspires.

“It was a joy to watch our students explore their community, meet the people who help make it thrive, and begin to imagine their own future roles in it,” said Caddell. “I’m excited to grow and improve this tradition together.”

Volunteers needed for Gorham Affordable Housing Committee

GORHAM, ME – The Town Council Appointments Committee is seeking citizen volunteers for a newly formed Affordable Housing Committee.

The committee has been created for the purpose of aiding in the Town’s response to those adverse housing trends, including rising housing costs and limited housing options.

The committee shall

consist of seven members, all of whom shall be Gorham residents or residential property owners or residential property operators/managers in the Town of Gorham. In making appointments to the Committee, the Council shall seek to include representation of diverse perspectives and opinions.

If you are interested in applying to serve on the Affordable Housing

Committee, or for more information, please visit the Town Clerk’s Office. To apply, please complete and submit a Committee Volunteer Application available online. You may also contact the Town Clerk’s Office at 222-1670 or e-mail the Town Clerk Laurie Nordfors at lnordfors@gorham.me.us.

Applications will be accepted until June 26, 2025.

HOME IMPROVEMENT special section pages 7-10

Gorham resident advocates for mobile home affordability

AUGUSTA, ME – The Maine Senate took initial votes in favor of two bills that advance legislative efforts to help residents of mobile home communities purchase their parks, preserving and protecting some of the strongest affordable housing options in Maine. Residents and legislators held a press conference at the State House to celebrate the positive votes and discuss more pending legislation that would combat the growing trend of out-of-state private equity firms attempting to buy up parks.



Dawn Beaulieu, a 30-year resident of Friendly Village Mobile Home Park in Gorham, and the President of the newly created Friendly Village Cooperative, speaks at a press conference at the Maine State House while Democratic legislators, advocates and mobile home park residents look on.

LD 1145, “An Act to Protect Residents Living in Mobile Home Parks,” sponsored by Sen. Tim Nangle, D-Windham, would create a right of first refusal for resident cooperatives to match a third-party offer to purchase the park they live in, providing them with the ability to control their future housing costs while ensuring that sellers receive the full mar-

ket value of their property. The Senate took a strong, bipartisan vote of 25-7.

“When these communities get bought up by corporate landlords, rents rise,” said Sen. Nangle in remarks on the Senate floor. “Repairs get delayed. Evictions become more common. People who live their lives like any other homeowners suddenly are faced with seemingly in-

surmountable consequences: They own a structure, but not the ground beneath it. And the ground is shifting under their feet. [LD 1145] says: if the residents want to own their community — and they have the means to do so — we ought to let them.”

LD 1016, sponsored by Cameron Reny, D-Bristol, would create a

See Affordability, page 11

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!

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

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Pollinator-friendly gardening course, certification offered

ORONO, ME – As the weather warms and gardens come to life, Maine gardeners have the opportunity to support pollinators while enjoying their outdoor spaces. Simple steps, like planting native flowers that bloom all season, removing invasive species, and preserving nesting habitats, can transform any garden into a pollinator haven. To guide and inspire these efforts University of Maine Co-operative Extension offers two resources to help gardeners support pollinators: the Pollinator-Friendly Gardening course and the Pollinator-Friendly Garden Certification.

The self-paced online course helps participants create gardens that provide food, water, shelter and protection for pollinators such as bees, butterflies and hummingbirds. The course fee is \$30 with a sliding scale available. Participants who complete



Native plants like fall sneezeweed (*Helenium autumnale*), pictured here being visited by a bumble bee, are a vital resource for pollinators. Photo courtesy University of Maine Cooperative Extension

the course requirements will also receive a Pollinator-Friendly micro-badge, recognizing their mastery of key knowledge and skills.

Residents in Maine and New Hampshire can also apply to have their gardens certified as pollinator-friendly. Certified gardens receive a certificate and may purchase a UMaine or University of New Hampshire Extension

garden sign to promote pollinator conservation. The application fee is \$25; garden signs are available for \$35.

More information about the course and certification are available on the program website. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Rebecca Gray at 207.356.1348 or extension.gardening@maine.edu.

Enormous two-day barn sale fundraiser at Shaker Village



NEW GLOUCESTER, ME – Antiques, collectibles, furniture, glassware, kitchenware, garden and lawn equipment, tools, electronics, toys, and much more will be available at Sabbathday Lake Shaker Village during an enormous two-day barn sale. This event will take place on Saturday, June 14th, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, June 15th, from 12 noon to 4 p.m.

Sales items were gathered from the Shakers' household and donated by dozens of neighbors and supporters in the community. All proceeds from the

sale will underwrite critical repairs for the historic 1830 Shaker Barn, which is the centerpiece of the Shaker Farm (established in 1783) and home to the Shakers' flock of 70 sheep and Scottish Highland cattle, as well as 50 tons of hay each season.

Decades of hidden leaks, frost, erosion, and heavy use have placed the centuries-old hand-hewn timber frame at risk of imminent failure. In 2022, a \$500,000 challenge grant from the National Park Service's Save America's Treasures program, along with a match from a pri-

vate charitable fund, initiated a \$1.4 million restoration effort to preserve the only active Shaker barn in America. This barn is part of Maine's largest National Historic Landmark and one of the state's oldest continuously operating farms. Funds raised at the Barn Sale will help close the remaining \$100,000 needed to complete this project.

The 3,400 square-foot barn will be filled with items for sale. Come shop for hidden treasures and help save one of Maine's most iconic cultural sites! The Barn Sale will feature folk and fiddle music, barbecue meals, popcorn, cotton candy, and wagon rides around Shaker Village. Constant Galore Estate Sales has generously donated their professional services and commission to assist with the event and fundraiser. <http://constantgalore.com>

The Barn Sale extravaganza will be held at Sabbathday Lake Shaker Village, located at 707 Shaker Road in New Gloucester, Maine. The event will take place rain or shine. Don't forget to bring your favorite shopping bags, as you're sure to fill them up!

For more information, please visit maineshakers.com.

Sen. Collins announces release of TRIO Upward Bound Grants

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Susan Collins, Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, announced that the Department of Education has released the TRIO Upward Bound grants—which fund programs preparing high school students from disadvantaged backgrounds for college—to current grant recipients in Maine. This action from the Department follows a letter sent last week by Senators Collins and Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) to Secretary Linda McMahon

urging the immediate release of this funding after reports that multiple Upward Bound programs had yet to receive the funding they'd been promised for the coming program year.

"I am pleased that Secretary McMahon responded quickly to our request and that Upward Bound students in Maine will continue to have access to this lifechanging program," said Senator Collins. "TRIO has made an incredible difference in the opportunities provided for many low-income and

first-generation students seeking higher education. As Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, I will continue to work to ensure this program is protected for Maine families and students across America."

The following Upward Bound programs received funding, which will support over 180 Maine students:

- Bowdoin College Upward Bound - \$549,957
- Currently serving students at:
- Carrabec High School
- Lawrence High School
- Madison High School

See Grants, page 4

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Bucket Step Garden at Gorham’s Cressey Road Christian Church

GORHAM, ME – Our Bucket Step Garden at the Community Garden at Cressey Road Christian Church, 81 Cressey Road, Gorham is free, user friendly, minimal bending required, water available. Just bring your plants or seeds.

Bucket Steps were built by Eagle Scout Christopher Bolton with help from his troop, scout leader Kelley Deprez and Rick Smart. Bucket Steps



Buckets ready for seeds or plants.

have 3 rows, with 4 buckets each. You may plant a full set or share them with someone.

There is no fee. To

use one of these planters, please contact Lorraine lindcabin@mail.com or call the church at 839-3111.

Gorham senior property tax assistance applications available

GORHAM, ME – Applications are available for the Town of Gorham Senior Property Tax Assistance Program. This program was established to provide property tax assistance to persons 65 years of age and over who reside in the Town of Gorham. Under this program, the Town of Gorham will provide refund payments to those

individuals who maintain a homestead in the Town of Gorham and meet the criteria established by this article.

To obtain an application, please visit the Town Clerk’s Office at the Gorham Municipal Center (75 South Street) or visit the Town of Gorham’s website.

Completed applica-

tions can be submitted to the Town Clerk’s Office now through the deadline of August 1, 2025. If you have questions and/or need assistance completing your application, email seniorrebate@gorham.me.us, or call 222-1670.

The Town of Gorham Senior Property Tax Assistance Ordinance can be read online.

NSB donates \$3K to Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project

LEWISTON, ME – For over 30 years, the Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project (ILAP) has served as far more than just an organization that helps immigrants in Maine improve their legal status. It has fought for just and humane laws and policies affecting immigrants, offered compassion and respect to tens of thousands of immigrants from more than 150 countries, and stood as a beacon of hope for those seeking assistance and light.

It’s a mission that has engendered over a decade of support from Norway Savings Bank, including a recent \$3,000 donation.

“Over the last 30 years, we’ve learned that change happens when the entire community comes together. The support of Norway Savings Bank and local businesses is critical to ILAP’s work advancing justice for Maine’s immigrants,” said Sue Roche, Executive Director of ILAP.

As Maine’s only statewide immigration legal services organization, ILAP provides a full range of direct legal services that cover a range of humanitarian and family-based immigration issues. The organization also offers accessible information and



educational materials on legal issues to immigrant communities and service providers from York to Aroostook counties.

“The work of ILAP is so impressive and meaningful. Their efforts to collaborate with groups committed to social justice in ensuring immigrants are valued and treated justly in our society are crucial,” said Dan Walsh, President and CEO of Norway Savings. “They directly serve thousands of people each year and reach many more through their community initiatives. It’s overwhelming.”

ILAP operates full-time offices in Portland and Lewiston and have a regular presence across the state through its “Rural Maine Project.” From helping individuals find safety and economic security to keeping families together, ILAP’s contributions to the greater good are impossible to estimate.

“ILAP is driven by the belief that when we all work to advance justice for immigrants, everyone benefits,” said Janice de Lima, VP, Community Reinvestment Act Officer

at Norway Savings Bank. “They are helping thousands navigate a complex legal system today while reimagining and striving for a better immigration system tomorrow.”

“In many ways, immigrants represent the economic future of our state,” said Roche. “This fact impacts businesses and communities across Maine, and we appreciate allies like Norway Savings that support immigrants, the essential services we provide to them, and the work we do to preserve dignity and achieve justice for them.”

There are many ways you can support ILAP’s mission. To learn more, visit www.ilapmaine.org/ donate or www.ilapmaine.org/volunteer.

Evergreen Credit Union adds 5 new directors

PORTLAND, ME – Evergreen Credit Union has added 5 members of the southern Maine community to their Board of Directors.

Evergreen Credit Union’s new directors are:

Glen Holmes – Director of Business and Community Development, City of Auburn, ME

Nick McCrillis – Attorney with CaseiroBurke

Andrew Bourgoin – Founder and Principal at Bourgoin Insights Group

Florence Williams – Head of Transformation at UNUM

Skyler Redford – Head of Transformation at UNUM

Evergreen’s Board represents the members’ interests and prioritizes the credit union’s financial well-being, transparency,



and long-term sustainability. The Directors set strategic goals, oversee financial and risk management, and ensure compliance with local, state, and federal regulations. “I’m thrilled to welcome these five new Directors, who bring a diverse array of expertise and perspectives to the Board,” said Rachel Green, Evergreen’s Board Chair. “Most importantly, they are all committed to ensuring that Evergreen Credit Union continues to thrive and serve the needs of its members.”

“As a not-for-profit financial cooperative, a volunteer-based Board

of Directors is vital to ensure Evergreen remains member-focused, financially sound, and ethically governed,” said Jason Lindstrom, Evergreen’s President/CEO. “It is great to add 5 accomplished professionals to our Board of Directors. I truly feel that they will contribute to the ongoing success of the credit union and look forward to working with all of them.”

Evergreen Credit Union is Maine’s 5th largest credit union with over \$590 million in assets as of May 2025. They provide convenient and affordable banking services to over 33,000 businesses, individuals, and families across southern Maine. To learn more about Evergreen Credit Union, visit <https://www.egcu.org/>.

Volunteer opportunity: Windham Summer Fest

WINDHAM, ME – Presumpscot Regional Land Trust is looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help staff our booth at the Windham Summer Fest on Saturday, June 21, from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM. We are looking for volunteers to help in the booth for a few hours during this time



frame.

As a volunteer, you can share information about the Presumpscot Regional Land Trust with community members and help spread awareness about our work.

If you’re interested in helping, please email brenna@prlt.org with your availability during the event window. We welcome volunteers for all or part of the day!

Thank you for helping us connect with the community!

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Seniors Not Acting Their Age Unexpected Adventures on the South Branch of the Dead River

When my friend, Brent Elwell, invited me to kayak the lower section of South Branch of the Dead River near Stratton in mid-May, I readily accepted. Although we had both paddled the challenging upper South Branch several times, neither of us had experienced the lower.

Based on a conversation he had with a lower South Branch veteran, Brent expected the trip to be relatively mellow and, with the exception of a couple of minor ledge drops, essentially whitewater free. His primary focus was finding and picking fiddleheads. A fiddleheads lover myself, that sounded like an excellent plan.

The South Branch of the Dead originates in Saddleback Lake near Rangeley and flows generally northeast for about 30 miles to Flagstaff Lake in Stratton. The South and North Branches of the Dead originally converged near this location before the area was flooded to create the lake.

Brent and I had experienced numerous adventures, and a few misadventures, on the upper. But, except for his friend's observations, our knowledge of the lower was minimal.

We met at a boat landing on Route 27 about a mile north of Stratton on the western end of Flagstaff Lake on a cool gray morning. Consulting the

Delorme Maine Atlas, we determined the best access for the lower was from Kennebago Road about eight river miles southwest. Heavy rains had saturated the area a few days earlier so we expected plenty of water.

Kayaks and gear were loaded onto my vehicle and we left Brent's car for the shuttle. After returning to Stratton, we drove about five miles southwest on Route 16 to Kennebago Road on the right. A bridge over the river is located a little over a mile down the rough dirt road where there is a place to park and launch.

We departed in flat water on a moderately wide river. There was a good current from the outset that continued for much of our voyage. We passed over several waves that appeared to be created by submerged ledges. We wondered if high water had flushed out the only rapids.

Some low areas appeared to be good locations for fiddleheads. But, closer scrutiny failed to turn up any of the tasty greens.

Most of the river is free of development and quite remote. However, there were a couple of cabins on the right early on. After traveling perhaps two miles, we passed a substantial structure on the right that looked like an extravagant cottage or a

small resort.

Shortly after, the river steepened and unexpected whitewater began. Initially, the rapids were relatively easy descents that tumbled over small ledges forming short stimulating wave trains with numerous surfing opportunities. However, following a mile of similar rapids, the character of the river changed when we turned left into a narrow canyon. The gradient increased, waves were larger, and careful maneuvering was required to avoid a variety of obstacles.

In the middle of a long stretch of standing waves, we saw a red canoe upside down on the left shore. Brent caught a nearby eddy and hauled the serviceable vessel to higher ground. No signs of paddlers were found.

Farther downriver, we spotted a green canoe wrapped in rocks at the bottom of a difficult section of whitewater. Closer inspection indicated the bow of the canoe was badly damaged and a waterproof river bag was attached. Again, there were no signs of paddlers.

The identity of the probable canoeist and evidence indicating he had begun paddling a few days before was found in the bag. The possibility that he was in the river or lost in the woods was cause for concern. The Warden



Long sections of unexpected whitewater were encountered on the South Branch



Brent Elwell retrieves a broken canoe and a waterproof bag



Service needed to be contacted.

We loaded the waterproof bag onto the deck of Brent's kayak and paddled the remainder of the river to the Stratton landing. When cell service was available, we reported our findings to the Warden Service ending a very exciting, yet unsettling, day of paddling.

Skunked with fiddleheads, we purchased some in Stratton. They were great!

Good news regarding the missing canoeist followed; the Warden Service found him safe in New Hampshire the next day.

My book, *Maine Al Fresco: The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine* narrates trips on the best whitewater rivers in Maine including the demanding Dead River from Flagstaff Lake to the Kennebec River.

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 ronchaseoutdoors@comcast.net.

Red Cross prepares for upcoming hurricane season

PORTLAND, ME – The Atlantic hurricane season started June 1, and experts report we could see several powerful storms before the season ends on November 30. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) predicts there could be 13 to 19 storms strong enough to be named. Of these, six to 10 could become hurricanes with as many as five strengthening into major hurricanes with winds of 111 mph or higher.

It only takes one of these powerful storms to cause overwhelming devastation. Hurricanes not only cause problems for people in coastal areas but can also cause damage hundreds of

miles inland. If you live on the coast, you are most at risk for extreme winds and flooding from rain and storm surge. Live inland? You are at risk for wind, thunderstorms, flooding and power outages.

Even before the first hurricane forms, the American Red Cross is working behind the scenes to make sure people don't have to face the worst alone.

"At the Red Cross we never stop preparing for disasters because we know they can happen anytime, anywhere," said John Montes, Red Cross regional disaster officer, Northern New England Region. "It's critical that people prepare in advance. Large disasters

are occurring almost continuously, and it only takes one to change someone's life forever."

To prepare for hurricanes, the Red Cross focuses on coordinating response plans and readying both volunteers and supplies. For example, the Red Cross works closely with government officials and community partners to ensure people will have access to safe shelter, food and water, and critical relief supplies when needed. We're checking that our local response vehicles and warehouses are stocked and ready to go if needed. And finally, we're actively recruiting and training vol-

See **Red Cross**, next page

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Grants			Waterville High School			Lewiston High School		
Continued from page 2			School			School		
Mt. Abram High School			The University of Maine at Farmington Upward Bound - \$437,584			Lisbon High School		
Skowhegan High School			Currently serving students at:			Medomak Valley High School		
Spruce Mountain High School			Gardiner Area High School			Wiscasset Middle High School.		

Cancer Resource Center holds June activities, classes

NORWAY, ME – UPCOMING ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

Maine Dragon Boat Club Celebrates Cancer Survivors - SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 2025/Rain Date June 22nd.

In Honor of National Cancer Survivors Day in the month of June, the Maine Dragon Boat Club will sponsor a FREE paddle opportunity for anyone impacted by cancer. Cancer survivors, families and caregivers are invited to gather at 61 Lake Road, Norway, Maine. No prior experience is necessary and Club staff will be on hand to assist participants. Dragon boating is a fun, safe, worthwhile activity and has many health benefits. Around the world, dragon boating has become a very popular group sport, especially among all cancer survivors. The Maine Dragon Boat Club goal this year is to start an All Cancer Paddler Team which will include family, friends and caregivers.

Times: 9:00am-5:00pm-Open House-Check out information about the MDBC and the boat. Family, friends, caregivers invited .10:00am-12:00pm and/or 2:00pm-4:00pm Participate in paddling the Dragon Boat. On land paddling and safety instruction will be given prior to going out in the boat. All equipment is provided. (No reservation needed)

In-person Classes
Stamping Up at the Cancer Resource Center: First Monday of each month: 1:00 - 2:30pm
Join Kathy Pulsifer and make some beautiful greeting cards to take home! All materials provided.

Craft & Chat at the Cancer Resource Center: Mondays 1:00 – 3:00pm.
Drop in and explore your creative side, and

meet new friends at the same time. All supplies are provided. No pre-registration is required.

Chair Yoga at the Cancer Resource Center: Thursdays 1:00 – 2:00pm. Join Kat Larsen for this gentle form of yoga which utilizes both seated and standing poses using a chair for support to provide all the benefits of traditional yoga. Chair yoga can help improve core strength and balance, promote better breathing techniques, increase flexibility and help reduce stress. Please call the Cancer Resource Center to register at 890-0329.

Chair Yoga in Bridgton: Mondays and Fridays 10am -11am. PLEASE NOTE SUMMER 2025 CLASS DATES: June 2,6,9,13,23,30; July 7,14,21,28; August 4,18,25.

Taught by Susan Kane, this class is open to all cancer patients and can easily be modified to anyone's ability level. You do not need to register in advance. Meet at the Bridgton Community Center, 15 Depot Street, Bridgton.

Support Groups
Women's Support Group and Coffee Hour: Meets the third Wednesday of every month from 10:30 to 12:00 noon at the Cancer Resource Center. No registration needed. For more information, call Kelsey at the Center at (207) 890-0205.

Men's Rally Group: Meets the third Friday of each month from 1:00pm-3:00pm at the Cancer Resource Center. No registration needed. For more information, call Nel Bernard at 207-312-9955 or Vance Jordan at 207-583-2975.

Sacopec Valley Cancer Support Group for Men and Women: Meets the fourth Friday of each month from 1:30-3:00 pm

at the Riverside United Methodist Church, 5 Porter Street, Porter. For more information, please call Marianne Wyer at: (207) 749-0392.

Access to Free Counseling Services

For patients and caregivers looking for more support during their cancer journey, please ask us about our access to free counseling programs. You have the option to meet with a professional counselor in person or via telehealth. Some limitations do apply.

Soup Program
The Cancer Resource Center of Western Maine has begun a Free Soup Program for patients who are in treatment. For those who are too tired, feel too ill or otherwise cannot prepare a meal, the Resource Center has individual containers of frozen, homemade soup that are easy to thaw. Several kinds of soup are available. Please call or stop in during our open house hours on Thursdays to pick some up.

Public Swim Passes: For cancer patients who have completed their treatment and their caregivers, the Cancer Resource Center offers a free pass for 10 visits at the Colonial Mast Campground Pool & Hot Tub in Naples Maine. Ask for more details.

Virtual Classes on our website: www.crcofwm.org

Please pre-register at www.crcofwm.org.
"A Mindful Hour" Mindfulness -based Stress Reduction: Thursdays, 9:00-10:00am. Learn how the practice of Mindful-based Stress Reduction (MBSR) can assist with reducing stress through breath, movement and meditation. Kat Larsen leads this class, and also integrates other practices from her work as a certified

See Activities, page 12

Red Cross

Continued from previous page

unteers who will be ready to step up and help their neighbors.

Here in Northern New England, we continue to invest in and strengthen our disaster response teams. Last weekend, the Red Cross of Northern New England hosted its annual Disaster Training Institute in Pembroke, New Hampshire.

"The annual Disaster Training Institute is an opportunity to convene our teams from across three states, develop training skills, and prepare for the upcoming storm season. We are building capacity and leadership for our region's future," Montes said.

The three-day, intensive event included 60 classes, hands-on exercises and workshops for volunteer disaster responders aimed at honing their skills, building volunteer bonds and growing in their roles. We welcomed approximately 125 participants from Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont.

New law updates septic system rules, protects clean water

AUGUSTA, ME – A bill to strengthen water quality statewide through modest changes to Maine's septic system rules has been signed into law by Governor Janet Mills after receiving overwhelming approval from lawmakers.

The changes were specifically crafted not to increase the burden on property owners but rather to ensure new septic systems being installed in certain sandy soils in Maine are being designed with both public health and environmental protection in mind.

"Poorly performing septic systems are a significant threat to Maine's clean water," said Luke Frankel, Staff Scientist

TAKE THESE STEPS TO GET READY FOR HURRICANE SEASON

Have plans to evacuate and to shelter safely at home. The evacuation plan should include knowing where to go, how to get there, and where to stay. The stay-at-home plan should focus on gathering the right supplies to live safely without power, water, gas, phone or internet for several days.

Sign up for free local government emergency alerts, which will include important information such as evacuation orders in an emergency. Download the free Red Cross Emergency app for real-time weather alerts, open shelter locations and expert advice in both English or Spanish.

HOW YOU CAN HELP People look to the Red Cross for assistance every day and our volunteers help and support them on what often is one of their worst days. Because the Red Cross is operating in a state of continuous disaster response, there is an urgent need for new volunteers. Visit redcross.org

org/volunteer to learn more and sign up for free online training today.

There is a critical need for these key positions:

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.

Shelter Volunteers: Ensure needs of shelter residents are met and help them access additional services.

Disaster Health/Mental Health Services: Use your professional skills as a licensed health care provider to help meet people's immediate needs in emergency shelters and refer them for ongoing, specialized care.

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at the Natural Resources Council of Maine. "This new law will curb pollution by improving the design standards for septic systems in sandy soils next to lakes and ponds to ensure wastewater is properly treated."

Due to Maine's glacial history, much of the state is now covered with sandy soils that do a poor job of removing nutrients through natural processes like cation exchange, microbial activity, and root uptake. This phenomenon where septic system effluent receives minimal treatment because of its location within sandy soils or above shallow bedrock has been called "short circuiting," and Maine's current underground wastewater

rules do not have provisions in place to address it.

LD 1550, sponsored by Senator Henry Ingwersen (York), aims to fix this by directing the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to amend the state's current septic system rules to better promote nutrient removal in sandy soils through natural processes, like what already occurs in fine-grained soils. By focusing on natural processes backed by science to reduce pollution, the approach proposed in this bill represents a cost-effective means to tackle an emerging threat facing water bodies in Maine.

"There are many aspects of lake health that are

See Septic, page 12

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Arts & Entertainment

Birds visit North Gorham Public Library Children’s Corner



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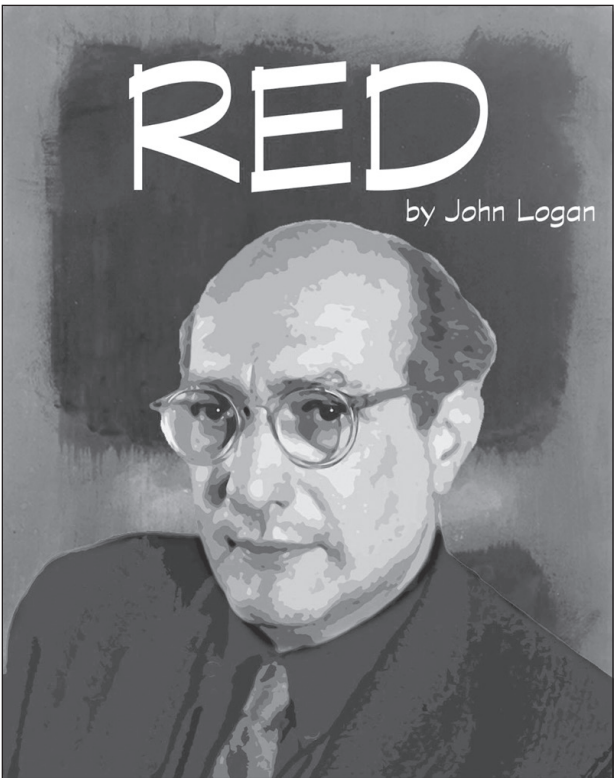
Boothbay Summer Theater announces performances

BOOTHBAY, ME – Boothbay Summer Theater, bringing great THEATER MADE IN MAINE to the Boothbay Region since 2023, will present Red by John Logan at the Railway Village Town Hall in Boothbay for six performances, June 27 through July 6, 2025, during Windjammer Days and the July 4th celebrations in the region.

Red is the compelling account of a giant of the art world, abstract expressionist Mark Rothko, as he struggles to synthesize his growing fame with his artistic purity in this Tony Award-winning play. While matching wits with his ‘modern’ apprentice Ken, Rothko embarks on a spirited artistic debate on the purpose and power of contemporary art, all while the fate of his most celebrated group of paintings hangs in the balance. The play’s message of embracing one’s artistic passion resonates strongly with those struggling to identify their purpose and passion in life’s pursuits.

Written by John Logan (Tony Award winner and Academy Award nominee, screenwriter for Gladiator, The Aviator, Hugo, and Skyfall, among others) and directed by Margit Ahlin, the role of Mark Rothko will be portrayed by Snowlion Repertory Company Artistic Director Al D’Andrea (member AEA). The role of Rothko’s assistant Ken will be played by South Portland local Tristan Rolfe.

Red will have six performances as follows, all at the historic Railway Village Town Hall, 586 Wiscasset



Road (Route 27) in Boothbay:	Friday June 27 at 7 pm	Saturday June 28 at 7 pm	Sunday June 29 at 3 pm	Thursday July 3 at 7 pm	[No show Friday July 4]	Saturday July 5 at 7 pm	Sunday July 6 at 3 pm
							All seats are \$25 and can be purchased at www.BoothbaySummerTheater.com . More information is available by calling 207.315.6612. The show runs 90 minutes without intermission. Recommended for ages 13 and over.

St. Anthony of Padua Summer Festival held in June

WINDHAM, ME – St. Anthony of Padua Summer Festival will be held on June 28 from 8-3 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Windham.

This is the 4th Annual Summer Festival with a yard sale, sales of plants,

books and jewelry, Italian food, quesadillas, Knight of Columbus Grill for breakfast and lunch, and homemade baked goods. There also will be music, games for children and adults, and raffles.

This year featured is

the “Golden Ticket” raffle. The winning ticket gets two passes for all the dinners at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, St. Hyacinth’s in Westbrook and St. Anne’s in Gorham for a year starting in September 2025.

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

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HOME IMPROVEMENT

special section pages 7-10

Study: New generation of renovators is on the rise

Contributed by CRAFTSMAN TOWSON, MD / PRNewswire – Despite a backdrop of uncertainty, younger homeowners don’t plan to hit pause on their planned home improvement projects. Rather than waiting or compromising, many Millennials and Gen Zers are rolling up their sleeves and literally taking matters into their own hands, according to newly released research from CRAFTSMAN®, the most trusted and recommended brand in Tools & Outdoor* for today’s DIYers.

To better understand how today’s DIYers feel about taking on home renovation projects in 2025, the challenges they encounter and what ultimately drives them from one project to the next, CRAFTSMAN developed the Driven to DIY Report. The report highlights survey findings from 1,000 DIY enthusiasts, homeowners between the ages of 25 and 40 who have completed recent renovations or home improvement projects.

According to the survey results, a new wave of homeowners is choosing to renovate on their own terms. Whether motivated by a desire for creative freedom, budget restraints or the pride of hands-on accomplishment, more Millennials and Gen Zers are taking on projects themselves as a primary approach to home improvement.

“Today’s DIYers are some of the most resilient and determined individuals out there,” said Eric Bernstein, President and General Manager, CRAFTS-



Despite a backdrop of uncertainty, CRAFTSMAN® found younger homeowners don’t plan to hit pause on their planned 2025 home improvement projects.

MAN. “They power through the messy middle – whatever obstacles come their way – and get the job done. That grit doesn’t just lead to a better space; it delivers something even more valuable: a real sense of pride and confidence that stays with them long after the project’s done.”

Respondents said they are entering 2025 with confidence and determination to take on their planned projects. However, more than four in 10 projects stall due to overestimating the skills, time and budget needed to complete a project.

Skills and Knowledge Gaps: When extra knowledge is needed, the modern DIYer turns to their digital and personal networks. YouTube re-

mains the most popular learning tool (67%), followed by family members (45%) and friends (31%).

Tip: Before starting a new DIY project, research, research, research! Review video tutorials, articles and more from trusted resources to learn the right techniques, processes and safety precautions.

Time Management: In the planning phase, 38% say they drastically underestimate how long a project will take, while 35% find themselves unexpectedly taking on additional work once they begin. When DIYers need assistance throughout the project, most (84%) enlist the help of family and friends.

Tip: Avoid building a project timeline around

See Renovators, page 10

A functional facelift: Explore the benefits of a bathroom upgrade

Contributed by Family Features Editorial Syndicate

MISSION, KS / PRNewswire – A freshly remodeled bathroom is a welcome addition to any home, from aesthetics that reflect your personal style to the glossy, untouched surfaces and the refreshing scent of a newly finished space. Done right, even more rewards come from the practical touches that enhance your everyday use and how they make you feel.

Bathrooms are among the most common spaces for home renovations, whether you’re updating outdated fixtures and decor or reimagining features to better suit your lifestyle. In a world where every dollar matters, transforming your bathroom into a personal haven that blends your style with functional purpose makes it a smart investment you’ll appreciate long after the renovation is complete.

For a renovation that not only represents a worthwhile investment for today and tomorrow but also delivers emotional ROI, consider these ideas from the experts at Bath Fitter, a leader in stress-free custom bath and shower remodels.

Quality



Photo courtesy of Bath Fitter

Of all the rooms in the house, the bathroom may be where quality materials and workmanship matter most. Because it’s a confined space that sees a great deal of moisture and humidity, it’s essential that you use quality materials that stand up to the task and enlist professionals who know how to incorporate effective measures to prevent mold, mildew and other water-related damage.

Paying attention to quality throughout your renovation is also likely to bring you greater functional benefits, as well as increased home value and an overall more pleasing result.

Durability

Especially if you’re planning to be in your home well into the future, it’s a good idea to plan for durable features that can

See Upgrade, page 10

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HOME IMPROVEMENT

special section pages 7-10

Prepare now: Homeowners along coast urged to strengthen homes

Contributed by Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety

RICHBURG, SC / PRNewswire – At the traditional start of hurricane season, the Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety (IBHS) advises both coastal and inland homeowners to take steps now using its research-based Hurricane Ready guidance to prepare their homes ahead of the next storm.

While homes closer to the coast are at higher risk of experiencing the full force of a hurricane, Hurricane Helene’s 500-mile path of destruction across the Southeast last year served as an example of the severe structural damage that can result from sheer wind force and catastrophic inland flooding. The 2024 hurricane season brought the third-highest number of tornadoes from tropical storms and caused major

inland damage, highlighting the need for preparedness in all areas.

“Storms don’t just impact the coastline – high winds, heavy rain and flooding can cause significant damage far inland. Taking proactive mitigation steps now can make all the difference,” said Sarah Dillingham, IBHS senior meteorologist. “Hurricane preparation isn’t just about staying safe during the storm – it’s about ensuring your family, home and community can recover quickly afterward. Preparedness today means resilience tomorrow.”

IBHS researchers have identified science-backed actions to strengthen vulnerable areas of buildings against high wind and heavy rain. Larger projects like re-roofing to the FORTIFIED standard, installing hurricane shutters or upgrading to a wind-rated garage door

may require more time or resources and should be tackled now.

Resilience begins with the roof, which is the first line of defense against severe weather. If the roof is compromised during a storm, it often leads to significant structural damage and interior water damage. Homeowners should prioritize having their roof inspected and repairs made if needed.

When it’s time to re-roof, ask your contractor to install your new roof following the FORTIFIED Roof standard, which was developed based on decades of IBHS research into how homes are vulnerable to storms and methods to minimize damage caused by hurricanes, tornadoes and other high wind events. A new study from the Center for Risk and Insurance Research (CRIR) at the University of Alabama found after Hur-



ricane Sally, which made landfall in Gulf Shores, Alabama, in 2020, FORTIFIED homes were 70% less likely to file a claim than homes built to typical construction standards.

To better understand roofs and their materials, homeowners can use IBHS’s Roofing Roadmaps, an online tool that provides tangible guidance on roof systems to reset roof cover performance expectations.

Garage doors also play a fundamental role in structural resilience as high winds can force a garage door inward, allowing air to rush in and pressure to build pushing up on the roof and out against the surrounding walls. This can create a chain reaction of structural failure compromising the entire building.

IBHS recommends garage doors that are labeled with a wind rating of 130 mph or higher. A

wind-rated garage door, along with its reinforced components, such as tracks, jamb brackets, hinges, rollers and struts, have been tested to show they can withstand high winds from thunderstorms, derechos and even hurricanes, significantly reducing the risk of storm damage. If a garage door is not labeled as wind resistant, homeowners should replace it with one wind-rated based on their area.

“Our post-event field damage investigations conducted after Hurricane Ike and the tornadoes in Joplin, Missouri, and Moore, Oklahoma, revealed 90% of homes with garage doors that survived the storm had no structural damage to the roof,” Dillingham explained.

Besides the larger projects, there are budget-friendly actions to take just before a storm to reduce high wind and rain damage:

Prevent water entry: Caulk gaps and cracks around windows and doors to keep wind and rain out.

Trim trees: Trees can pose a threat to your home during high winds. According to the CRIR study, over 46% of the claims during Hurricane Sally in 2020 were the result of falling trees. Reduce the risk of this type of damage by removing branches that overhang the house and any dead, dying or diseased trees.

Clear the yard: Clear debris from the yard to prevent wind-driven hazards and have a plan to quickly store items like patio furniture, grills and toys inside.

Secure power: Maintain or purchase a generator to keep essential appliances running during outages.


Document belongings: Use your phone to create a geotagged home inventory video of belongings and store it in the cloud for access after the storm in the event you do experience damage and need to file an insurance claim.

Visit ibhs.org/hurricane-ready for the full IBHS Hurricane Ready guide with more critical actions to prevent storm damage.

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Making home updates for National Pollinator Month

LOUISVILLE, KY – As National Pollinator Month unfolds in June, the TurfMutt Foundation urges everyone to support vital pollinator populations, such as birds, bees, butterflies and bats, in their family yards, parks, community gardens, greenways, municipal golf courses and other community green areas. These living landscapes can provide essential shelter and food for important pollinators.

“Pollinators are the unsung heroes of the natural world, and are essential in growing fruits, vegetables and flowers,” says Kris Kiser, President & CEO of the TurfMutt Foundation, which advocates for the care and use of managed green space. “By creating and maintaining healthy green spaces in our communities and backyards, we can directly support their survival and contribute to a healthier planet.”

A recent survey conducted by The Harris Poll for the TurfMutt Foundation revealed that connecting with nature (60 percent) and observing wildlife (51 percent) are among the most enjoyed activities in public green spaces, like public parks, underscoring the shared value these areas provide for both people, pets and pollinators.

The TurfMutt Foundation offers four ways communities can tap into the power of green space for pollinators:

1. Prioritize plants for your climate zone: Plant, tree and shrub species that naturally occur in your region are more beneficial to local pollinators than invasive species that can disrupt the ecosystem.



Milkweed, for instance, is particularly valuable for monarch butterflies – a fantastic addition to any public green space.

2. Plant for continuous blooms: Selecting a variety of nectar-rich, flowering plants and shrubs that bloom at different times during the year ensures continuous support for pollinators.

3. Empower young pollinator advocates: Create programs to engage children in becoming pollinator champions. TurfMutt’s free STEM-based lesson plans include an activity called Protecting Pollinators to help students learn how to design a green space where pollinators will thrive.

4. Foster community stewardship: Foster community engagement to support pollinators through volunteer opportunities and pollinator-specific events. Encourage your community to plan for and protect parks, community gardens, green school yards and other community green space. For inspiration, consult the National Recreation & Park Association’s Parks &

Pollinators resource.

To learn more about how to create pollinator-friendly green spaces, explore the TurfMutt Foundation’s International Backyarding Fact Book and sign up for Mutt Mail here. Follow the adventures of Mulligan the TurfMutt on the CBS Lucky Dog television and Mission Unstoppable shows on Saturday mornings.

HOME IMPROVEMENT special section pages 7-10

Study: Time outdoors calms stress, lifts mood, gives sense of purpose

Contributed by OtO Lawn TORONTO / PRNewswire – A new nationwide survey of 500 U.S. adults who care for their outdoor spaces, commissioned by OtO Inc. and conducted by Pollfish, reveals that tending lawns, gardens, and patio plants delivers powerful psychological benefits:

71% say their yard “provides a sense of calm during stressful periods.”

62% report a better mood when they spend time among their plants.

58% agree that tending to their lawn or garden helps manage anxiety.

67% feel greenery gives them “a meaningful sense of purpose.”

Respondents aged 35–44 expressed the strongest positive sentiment, suggesting that mid-career

adults may gain the most significant mental-health lift from outdoor time.

“During a time when many are seeking relief from stress and anxiety, our research confirms what many homeowners feel intuitively: the simple act of spending time outdoors can make a real difference,” said Ali Sabti, CEO of OtO Inc. “We’re proud to help families reclaim their yards as spaces for healing, connection, and joy.”

Open-ended survey responses indicate five recurring themes behind the yard’s therapeutic power:

Gardening is therapy. Growing or tending living things is a go-to coping mechanism.

Private wellness retreat. In times of stress, grief, or burnout, the backyard is often the first stop

for peace and clarity.

Nature’s micro-moments. Birdsong, sunshine, flower fragrance, and the smell of fresh-cut grass offer small cues with big calming impact.

Pets amplify joy. Playing fetch, watching cats explore, or simply relaxing in the grass with a furry friend boosts happiness.

Space to heal and connect. Yards double as social hubs—perfect for barbecues, family time, and fresh-air gatherings that strengthen bonds.

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

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Upgrade

Continued from page 7

stand the test of time. Be sure to select premium materials and consider their durability and maintenance requirements. Some of the latest design options offered by Bath Fitter deliver the perfect blend of beauty and functionality, ensuring long-lasting durability. For example, the Lucca wall, a sophisticated textured and seamless Chevron tile pattern, offers the ideal combination of modern design and classic charm.

Another design-forward selection is the Sorrento wall, a large-scale 12-by-24 grout-free tile pattern featuring a textured design and a durable, easy-to-clean surface. Unlike tiles and grout, these walls combine on-trend beauty and innovative materials so homeowners can enjoy their bathrooms rather than stress about maintenance. Perfect for minimalist designs and traditional bathrooms alike, Ovation is a sleek and stylish skirted tub. The full line of brushed gold accessories, from trim kits and shower rods to doors and grab bars, can add a sense of warmth to your space.

Aging in Place

The wet and slippery surfaces in bathrooms can lead to injuries. While the risk can affect anyone at any age, bathroom safety is especially important for



Photo courtesy of Bath Fitter

older adults with reduced mobility.

Planning ahead for your retirement years, or considering the needs of a future buyer, can help create a safe environment and reduce the risk of serious injuries. Some potential problems can be fixed with simple adjustments like rearranging the shelving, installing grab bars, adding seating or increasing lighting levels. In addition, a bathtub's edge can be hard to navigate, but walk-in showers have a narrower edge, or can even be edgeless, making it easy for wheelchairs to roll in and out the shower.

Ease of Installation

Another important consideration is how the installation process will be carried out in your home. Installing a beautiful tub or shower doesn't have to be complicated. A custom solution designed to fit your space and requirements may be more attainable than you expect. For example, with an option like Bath Fitter, you can have a premium-quality tub installed

right over your existing one so there's no demolition or mess involved in the remodel whatsoever. It's the perfect blend of beauty and functionality without the stress and disruption of a traditional bath or shower remodel.

Because a local expert is with you every step of the way – from dreaming up the concept and selecting finishes to measuring, manufacturing and installation – there are no surprises. The result is a tub or shower with a seamless, grout-free watertight wall system that's easy to keep looking great for years to come. All backed by a transferable lifetime warranty to provide peace of mind.

“As a renovator, I've seen firsthand how a bath or shower upgrade can completely transform not just a space but the way people feel about their homes,” said Scott McGillivray, HGTV star and home renovation expert. “That's why Bath Fitter has been my go-to. Their installers provide high-quality workmanship

HOME IMPROVEMENT

special section pages 7-10

while homeowners are left with the consistency, reliability and durability of beautiful products with lifetime warranties.”

Safety

A well-placed grab bar can mean the difference between a confident step and a dangerous slip in the bathroom for those aging in place, young children and everyone in between. Knowing where to place grab bars in the shower and around the tub creates a safer, more accessible space for everyone. Proper placement reduces the risk of falls and can bring added peace of mind and confidence to you and your family.

Professionals can guide you through selecting the best grab bars for your bathroom by considering the layout, your needs and design preferences, as well as ensuring your grab bars are installed at the correct height and securely anchored for maximum safety and convenience.

Discover more inspiration and design ideas to boost the long-term value and enjoyment of your bathroom renovation at bathfitter.com.

Renovators

Continued from page 7

a big event or holiday to allow for ample time if unforeseen issues or delays arise.

Budgeting: Thirty-four percent say estimating costs is the hardest part. When trips to the store for another part or tool start stacking up, many homeowners find themselves spending more than anticipated.

Tip: A good rule of thumb is to build in an additional 10-20% of the total project budget to account for unexpected costs.

But being stalled doesn't stop these DIY enthusiasts. According to the CRAFTSMAN survey, respondents believe they can overcome their obstacles, and more often than not, they do – with only 2% of projects ever left totally abandoned.

In fact, 67% of DIYers say that a sense of accomplishment and pride is what pushes them to finish their projects, even when challenges pop up. That feeling becomes fuel for what comes next: once a project is completed, 65% feel motivated to begin another project, and 59% are ready to tackle something bigger and more complex than before.

other project, and 59% are ready to tackle something bigger and more complex than before.

CRAFTSMAN BUILD ON™

In April 2025, CRAFTSMAN launched BUILD ON™ and its What You Build Builds You campaign. BUILD ON™ captures the DIY journey and how, through that journey, DIYers overcome challenges and celebrate successes, urging them on to the next project with confidence. Through it all, CRAFTSMAN is there with the right tools and solutions to help get the job done.

About the Survey

Stanley Black & Decker commissioned an online survey of 1,000 adults throughout the United States. The makeup of the sample is representative of 25- to 40-year-old homeowners taking on DIY projects in 2025, compiling data on nearly 8,000 completed and planned projects. The survey fielding took place between April 1-11, 2025. A sample size of 1,000 provides a confidence level of 95%, ±3%.



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Continued from page 1

per-lot transfer fee on the purchase of mobile home parks which applies only to purchasing entities with a net worth of more than \$50 million, preserving the ability of local for-profit, non-profit and resident co-ops to buy and sell parks as they have for decades. Revenues from the transfer fee paid by equity firms and other high-end investor entities would go to a permanent Mobile Home Park Preservation Fund to support residents at risk of displacement.

“This bill helps protect affordable housing at a time when we need it most,” said Sen. Reny in remarks on the Senate floor. “It’s time to make rich, out-of-state investors pay their fair share and make sure our older Mainers, young families, veterans, and more, can afford to stay in their homes.”

Both bills have received strong support from the Governor’s Office of Policy Innovation and the Future (GOPIF).

“Mobile home parks are an essential source of affordable housing in our state, providing homes to 45,000 Maine people,” said Greg Payne, senior housing advisor in the Governor’s Office of Policy Innovation and the Future. “That’s why the Mills Administration partnered with

the Legislature to pass the Opportunity to Purchase law and create and fund the Mobile Home Park Preservation Fund. These bills further protect mobile home park residents by helping them compete against wealthy investors when parks go up for sale and generating new funds to support housing stability and preservation.”

LDs 1145 and 1016 now await further votes in the House and Senate.

In a press conference following the Senate votes, the chairs of the Joint Standing Committee on Housing and Economic Development discussed the package of work the committee has done to protect mobile home communities from having their costs driven up by out-of-state investors.

“As legislators, we consistently hear that one of the top issues on the minds of Maine people is access to safe, affordable housing,” said Sen. Chip Curry, D-Belfast, Senate Chair of the Housing and Economic Development Committee in his remarks. “That’s why our committee has been focused on two deeply connected challenges: how to build more housing in Maine, and just as urgently, how to protect the affordable housing we still have. It has become very clear to us that a critical component of this

mission is protecting the residents of mobile home parks. I’m incredibly proud to stand here with some of those residents and report that the Senate has just voted in favor of some really fantastic proposals to help them and thousands of Mainers.”

“We need every available tool to tackle the complicated housing crisis our state faces,” said Rep. Traci Gere, D-Kennebunkport, House Chair of the Housing and Economic Development Committee in her remarks. “Collectively, all of the bills we’ve mentioned here today will work together to protect Maine’s mobile home parks and their residents, which are one of Maine’s most vulnerable – and underappreciated – types of housing.”

“In March, we were notified that our park was for sale, and that there was an interested buyer from California,” said Dawn Beaulieu, a 30-year resident of Friendly Village Mobile Home Park in Gorham, and the President of the newly created Friendly Village Cooperative in remarks at the press conference. “After researching the interested corporation, we started organizing immediately to try to retain an affordable housing option for ourselves and our fellow residents. We, the residents, formed a cooper-

ative and have since made a counteroffer to purchase the park. As of today, we are still waiting for a response to that offer. Our livelihoods should not be in the hands of an out-of-state conglomerate that sees us not as a community, but as an investment. The legislation being considered here in Augusta will help us put our fate in our own hands.”

Other legislative efforts from this year regarding mobile home parks that were discussed included:

LD 1183, “An Act to Ensure Rent-to-own Protections Apply to Mobile Home Park Tenants” Sponsored by Rep. Traci Gere,

D-Kennebunkport

Signed into law by Gov. Janet Mills

LD 1723, “An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Manufactured Housing Communities to Prevent Excessive Rent and Fees Increases” Sponsored by Rep. Cheryl Golek, D-Harpswell

Majority “Ought to Pass as Amended” report in committee, awaiting votes by the full Legislature

LD 255, “An Act to Support Mobile Home Residents in Purchasing Their Mobile Home Parks” Sponsored by Sen. Joe Baldacci, D-Bangor

Initially approved by the House and Senate,

awaiting funding

LD 554, “An Act to Encourage Resident-owned Communities and Preserve Affordable Housing Through Tax Deductions” Sponsored by Sen. Cameron Reny, D-Bristol

Initially approved by the House and Senate, awaiting funding

LD 1768, “An Act to Protect Residents of Mobile Home Parks by Amending the Real Estate Transfer Tax” Sponsored by Sen. Donna Bailey, D-Saco

Initially approved by the House and Senate, awaiting further action in the Senate.


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Fri - 8 am to 5 pm
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MDIFW: If you care, leave them there

MAINE – It is not uncommon to find a young fawn all alone in the spring and early summer. Until the fawn is strong enough to keep up, an adult doe may hide her fawn in the forest floor leaves, returning two or three times a day to nurse. During this time, the fawn is protected from predators by its camouflaged coat and its lack of scent. Most fawns found alone are not orphans and should be left alone in the wild. Fawns raised

by their mom have a significantly higher chance at survival. It is always best to leave fawns alone, and you should never attempt to feed them. Repeated visits to a fawn can draw the attention of predators, and could discourage the mother from returning. Leave the area, and ensure pets stay away. To determine if the fawn is truly injured or orphaned, please visit our website at mefishwildlife.com/livingwithwildlife.



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Septic

Continued from page 5

out of our hands, but managing septic systems is entirely within reach,” said Susan Gallo, Executive Director of Maine Lakes. “This new law protects

Maine’s lakes and ponds, and the wildlife and people who use them, by ensuring that future septic systems are constructed to reduce both pathogen and nutrient flow into lake water.” Excess nutrients in

Maine’s freshwater systems, especially phosphorus, contribute to declines in water quality and clarity, degradation of lake habitat for fish and wildlife, and excessive algae growth or “blooms.”

Activities

Continued from page 5

fied yoga therapist and registered yoga instructor. Recorded Classes: Recorded classes are


available via our YouTube Channel via the YouTube link on our website: www.crcofwm.org Other Local Wellness Activities

Wellness Share at Center for Healing Arts, 180 Main St., Norway; 2nd Saturday of each month, 10am to 2pm. Free event offering Reflexology, Massage, and more. For more information: Charlotte LaBelle – 207-890-2177. Drum Circle at Center for Healing Arts, 180 Main St., Norway – 4th Saturday of each month, 11am to 2pm. Free event, drums available for use. For more information: Dan Gravel - 207-604-0323 or Nel Bernard - 207-312-9955.

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 CALL JERRY DEWITT (207)-576-0376 TODAY, DON'T MISS IT, CALL TODAY. COST IS \$40.00. HONOR THOSE THAT HAVE SERVED.



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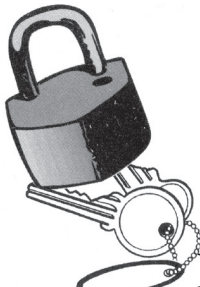
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1st, 3rd Wednesday of every month
LEWISTON – Join Lewiston Public Library for Bumps & Babies on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday every month starting June 4th from 10:30am to 11:30am in the Children’s Department.

Bumps & Babies is a support group that provides a safe, compassionate space for individuals navigating the emotional and physical challenges of pregnancy and the postpartum period. Members can share experiences, receive encouragement, and connect with others facing similar struggles, such as anxiety, depression, or the joys and adjustment to parenthood.

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 emotion-

Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

al 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.

Saturdays
AUBURN – THOUSANDS OF BOOKS for sale at the APL Bookstore on Saturdays 9:30-1:00. Gently used books of all types, DVDs, music CDs and puzzles & games - new items added every week. Kids’ books are 50 cents and all other books are \$3 or less! Stop by the lower level of the Auburn Public Library for great deals. Auburn Public Library, 49 Spring Street, Auburn.

Sundays
LEWISTON – Lewiston Farmers’ Market held every Sunday, May 11th-November 23rd from 9:30am-1:00pm. Hours change to 11:00am-1:00pm beginning first Sunday in November. Located at 2 Oxford St., Lewiston.

June 12
AUBURN – The 23rd Annual GAHS Golf Tournament is coming up on June 12th! Whether you’re a seasoned golfer, know just enough lingo to get by, or are a total newbie, our

tournament promises a fun and relaxed day—all while supporting a great cause: helping animals in need throughout our community. Register as a team or sign up solo—we’ll match you with other players so you can meet new friends on the course. Enjoy raffles, golf challenges, and more, all set against the beautiful backdrop of Martindale Country Club. We can’t promise a hole-in-one, but we can promise a great time! For more information or to register, visit: <https://gahumane.org/golftournament/>.

June 13
BRUNSWICK – The Brunswick Downtown Association (BDA) is excited to announce the season opener of 2nd Friday Brunswick on June 13th. 2nd Friday Brunswick is a series of four immersive events featuring local artists and makers, live music, and theatrical performances taking place on the second Friday of each month from June to September.

June 14
GORHAM – Plant Sale June 14, 2025, 9am to 11:30am at St. Anne’s Church, 299 Main St. Gorham.

June 14, 15
NEW GLOUCESTER – Enormous Two-Day Barn Sale Fundraiser at Shaker Village. Antiques, collectibles, furniture, glassware, kitchenware, garden and lawn equipment, tools, electronics, toys, and much more will be available. This event will take place on Saturday, June 14th, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, June 15th, from 12 noon to 4 p.m.

The Barn Sale extravaganza will be held at Sabbathday Lake Shaker Village, located at 707 Shaker Road in New Gloucester, Maine. The event will take place rain or shine. Don’t forget to bring your favorite shopping bags, as you’re sure to fill them up! For more information, please visit maineshakers.com.

June 14
Living Waters Chili and Chowder Cook-off, Saturday, June 14, 2025 - 5:00 pm. Suggested donation \$8 per person; \$20 for family. Proceeds to benefit Vacation Bible school for July 2025.

June 14
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

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the concerts, go to <https://www.uubrunswick.org/events/>.

Susan Werner - Sat, June 14, 2025 at 7:30 pm. Doors open 7:00 pm.

Susan Werner is a singer/songwriter, guitarist, and pianist who has built a reputation as one of the country’s most compelling live performers. She has been playing to sold-out audiences across the country for 27 years. Renowned as a charismatic performer, she’s known above all for challenging herself to conquer new styles every few years. She writes ambitious concept albums with subject matter and sounds to match. She has produced 18 albums of songs that effortlessly slide between folk/rock, jazz, Tin Pan Alley to gospel, country, and pop, all delivered with sassy wit and classic Midwestern charm.

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

June 16
AUBURN – Auburn Public Library: Author Talk with Sharon Kitchens: “The Murder of Dorothy Milliken: Cold Case in Maine” to be taking place on Monday, June 16th from 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM.

St. Anne’s in Gorham hosting plant sale

GORHAM, ME at St. Anne’s Church, - Plant Sale June 14, 2025, 9am to 11:30am 299 Main St. Gorham.

\$50K

\$40K

\$30K

\$20K



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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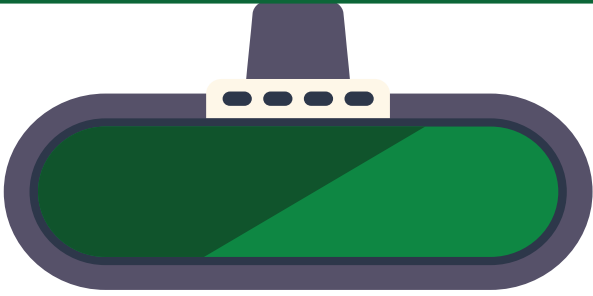


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