

City of Auburn awarded HUD loan to develop resource center

AUBURN, ME – HUD awarded the City of Auburn, Maine a \$1 million loan guarantee under Section 108 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 that will be used to develop the Androscoggin Resource Center Project. This project will serve as a resource center for homeless individuals and other at-risk populations in Auburn, providing critical support to those in crisis while helping launch them on a path toward self-sufficiency.

“At HUD, we are working hand-in-hand with local and state leaders to help vulnerable Americans get off the streets and back on their feet,” said U.S. Housing and Urban Development Secretary Scott Turner. “Supportive services like those slated to be offered at the Androscoggin Resource Center are key to breaking long-term cycles of poverty and uplifting forgotten communities.”

About the Androscoggin Resource Center Project:

This loan guarantee will be used for the devel-

opment of the Androscoggin Resource Center Project in Auburn.

The development involves the adaptive reuse of a vacant, city-owned facility, located at 121 Mill Street in Auburn.

The funds will be used to transform it into a 15,000-square-foot community resource center that includes different spaces and uses, such as offices, community room, kitchen, and storage.

The Center will create a central location where individuals can access a variety of services, which enhances support for vulnerable populations and strengthens Auburn’s community development initiatives.

Through this facility, nonprofit service providers will be able to offer housing assistance, clothing, food, counseling, and case management services.

About Section 108: The Section 108 Loan Guarantee Program (Section 108) provides Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) recipients with the ability to leverage their annual grant allocation to access

low-cost, flexible financing for economic development, housing, public facility, and infrastructure projects.

Communities can use Section 108 guaranteed loans to either finance specific projects or to launch loan funds to finance multiple projects over several years.

Section 108’s unique flexibility and range of applications makes it one of the most potent and important public investment tools that HUD offers to state and local governments.

It is often used to catalyze private economic activity in areas in need of revitalization in cities and counties across the nation or to fill a financing gap in an important community project.

The program’s flexible repayment terms also make it ideal for layering with other sources of community and economic development financing including, but not limited to, New Markets Tax Credits (NMTC), Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC), and Opportunity Zone investments.

Summer Reading at Lewiston Public Library

LEWISTON, ME – The 2025 Summer Reading program at Lewiston Public Library begins Monday, June 23rd and will run until Saturday, August 23rd. The library will have free public events, performers and programs for children, teens, and adults throughout the summer. Check the library’s website at www.lplonline.org/events-programs for a full list of upcoming events.

For the Summer Reading program, all ages will be using a bookmark to track reading and activities for free books and prizes. Pick up a bookmark

at the library, complete the activities listed, and turn it in at the library to be entered into our end-of-summer prize drawings. Children and Teens will also get to choose a free book to keep for every reading bookmark completed.

All ages may complete as many reading bookmarks as they wish throughout the summer reading program. We are encouraging participants not only to read or listen to books but also to make a new craft or recipe or explore a favorite place in our beautiful city or a new landmark in our wondrous

state. Bookmarks are available starting on Monday, June 16th.

Admission is free to all Summer Reading events, and no library card is required to participate in the reading programs. Prizes must be picked up in person at the library.

The Lewiston Public Library is located downtown at 200 Lisbon Street at the corner of Pine Street. More information on the 2025 Summer Reading program is available by contacting the Lewiston Public Library at 207-513-3135 or LPLReference@lewistonmaine.gov.

HOME IMPROVEMENT special section pages 7-10

Maine’s Got Talent winner at the Franco Center

LEWISTON, ME – Maine’s Got Talent winner Amy Stacey Curtis will be performing at the Franco Center in Lewiston, Maine, July 30th, 6-7pm! The performance has been described as a “celebration of strength, creativity, and the healing power of music.”

More about Amy Stacey Curtis:

In early March 2017, like the flip of a switch, something was horribly wrong with my brain. My brain was deluged with horrific, repetitive, vivid, moving images, images that would play nonstop, 24 hours a day, for 22 months. Six months into this psychosis I lost all control of the muscles in my body including the muscles in my face. I lost my ability to speak, stricken with a severe palsy and sometimes complete non-verbalism, as if the cord between my brain and my mouth had been cut.

After 15 months of schizophrenia-diagnosing doctors, two psychiatric wards, and eight antipsychotic drugs, it was finally determined by a naturopath that I had had Lyme disease some time in my past and that it had attacked and severely injured my brain.



By then it was too late to treat the Lyme disease; it was all about strengthening my brain and trying to reclaim my abilities.

After 22 months, the psychosis would eventually be slowed with 16 treatments of electroconvulsive therapy. But it would take two more years for the images to completely stop. Meanwhile, I met a local occupational therapist with whom we figured out muscle control fixes through trial and error. After six years of progressing from psychosis and wheelchair, to walker, to cane, back to my feet, I was still struggling with my speech when I intuited that playing an instrument could help, doing multiple things at the same time as a regular practice.

Within a week of playing the ukulele I was capable of perfect-for-me speech unless overstimulated. For over two and a half years, I have practiced an hour every day, learning five new songs a week, as a self-prescribed occupational therapy. To date I have learned over 500 songs, and over the past two and a half years, my speech has improved even when palsied. I share my story and sing my latest new-for-me cover songs publicly and on social media including Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and TikTok where one of my videos has over 600K views.

And I recently won Maine’s Got Talent! View the performance at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yyEl2a83B5s>.

Strawberry Festival coming to Nathaniel Hawthorne home

RAYMOND, ME – One of southern Maine’s beloved annual events—the Strawberry Festival at Nathaniel Hawthorne’s Boyhood Home in Raymond (40 Hawthorne Road)—returns this year on Saturday, June 28, from 6 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. This year’s special guest speaker

will be Kris Hansen, the author of “My Dear Sister: Nathaniel Hawthorne and His Sisters.” Ms. Hansen will present her reflections on Nathaniel’s life from Salem to Raymond, and his compassionate relationship with his two sisters, which evolved upon his marriage to Sophia. She also will read excerpts from the family letters, and share an insightful, multimedia presentation of Nathaniel Hawthorne’s story on the big screen. After the presentation, signed copies of the delightful “My Dear Sister” will be available for purchase, and everyone will enjoy the chance to meet the author!

Admission is \$15 for

adults and \$5 for children aged 8 and under, with reservations at Hawthorne@Maine.RR.com or by calling Becky at 207-329-0537 strongly recommended. Walk-ins also are welcome.

Wrapping up the event, all attendees will enjoy yummy homemade strawberry shortcake—along with luscious chocolate-dipped strawberries from Migis Lodge—served with coffee, punch, and lots of friendly smiles!

How to Donate to Nathaniel Hawthorne’s Boyhood Home

Those who would like to donate to the ongoing restoration of Nathaniel Hawthorne’s Boyhood

See Strawberry, page 14

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Helping turtles close to home

When you hear the word “turtle,” is the first thing that comes to mind a creature with flippers that lives in the ocean? You’re not alone. Sea turtles are iconic, beloved symbols of the ocean and endangered wildlife, and the chance to witness a mama turtle nesting on a tropical beach is on many a bucket list. In fact, people pay to volunteer to help protect these magnificent animals who are so vulnerable for the brief time that they’re on land.

Yet few realize that they can do the same here at home for free. A parallel phenomenon happens every year right under their noses. And this one is equally heroic and imperiled, if not more so, and just as in need of help.

Sometime in very late May or early June, our local resident turtles—the freshwater cousins of their marine relatives—embark on a mass exodus from their wetlands. Just like their maritime cousins, they leave their watery homes to make the journey to a warm, dry spot to lay their eggs, then return home. But while a mother sea turtle’s journey is—pardon the pun—a walk on the beach, our native turtle mamas travel up to a mile to nest, and that means crossing roads full of cars, yards full of people and dogs, and even construction sites full of heavy equipment.

And that’s not all. In two or three months, when the eggs hatch and the babies emerge from their underground nest, just like sea turtles, they make their way back to the water on their own...following the



Spotted Turtles, which might be mistaken for hockey pucks on the roadside, are on Maine’s list of Special Concern, Threatened and Endangered Species. Every turtle matters to the survival of listed species, so injured animals need the care of the most experienced rehabilitators and vets.

same route their mothers took. Imagine being the size of a quarter and a tasty treat for nearly every predator out there, and having to navigate an urban environment to reach a wetland you’ve never seen.

Maine is home to seven species of native turtles. They are an integral part of our natural heritage. Three are on the state’s list of Endangered, Threatened and Special Concern Species: the wood turtle, the spotted turtle and the Blanding’s turtle. Three are considered “common” species—snapping turtles, eastern painted turtles and musk turtles. And eastern or woodland box turtles remain a question mark, since biologists haven’t been able to con-

firm any populations here, despite individuals occasionally turning up.

Each of these species is incredibly different in appearance, habitat requirements, diet and even behavior. But all are long-lived, late reproducing species, meaning that it takes 10-20 years before they can even begin to reproduce. Statistically, it takes a turtle 50 years just to replace itself. And scientists agree that all, even the “common” species, are in decline. Turtles are one of the most endangered taxa on the planet. Every single animal is important to save.

Here are ten ways you can help turtles crossing roads:

- 1) Don’t drive distracted. Keep an eye out for small, dark objects that look like hockey pucks or tire fragments; one may be

See Turtles, page 5

USDA reminds Maine producers to file crop acreage reports

BANGOR, ME—After spring planting is complete, agricultural producers in Maine should make an appointment with their local Farm Service Agency (FSA) county office to complete crop acreage reports before the applicable deadline.

“In order to receive many USDA program benefits, producers should file an accurate crop acreage report by the applicable deadline,” said Tommy Higgins, Executive Director in Maine. “Call your local FSA office to make an appointment after planting is complete to report your acreage and take care of any other FSA-related business.”

How to File a Report

A crop acreage report documents a crop grown on a farm or ranch, its intended use and location. Producers should file an accurate crop acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage and prevented planted acreage before July 15, 2025.

To file a crop acreage report, producers need to provide:

- Crop and crop type or variety
- Intended crop use
- Number of crop acres
- Map with approximate crop boundaries
- Planting date(s)
- Planting pattern, when applicable
- Producer share(s)
- Irrigation practice(s)
- Acreage prevented from planting, when applicable
- Other required information
- Acreage Reporting Details
- The following exceptions apply to acreage reporting dates:
- If the crop has not



been planted by the acreage reporting deadline, then the acreage must be reported no later than 15 calendar days after planting is completed.

If a producer acquires additional acreage after the acreage reporting deadline, then the acreage must be reported no later than 30 calendar days after purchase or acquiring the lease. Appropriate documentation must be provided to the county office.

Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) policy holders should note that the acreage reporting date for NAP-covered crops is the acreage reporting date or 15 calendar days before grazing or crop harvesting begins, whichever is earlier.

Producers with perennial forage crops should check with their local FSA office to see if their crops are eligible for continuous certification, which rolls the certified acreage forward each year until a change is made.

Prevented Planted Acreage

Producers should also report the crop acreage they intended to plant but were unable to because of a natural disaster, including drought. Prevented planted acreage must be reported on form CCC-576, Notice of Loss, no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date as established by FSA and USDA’s Risk Management Agency (RMA).

Farmers.gov Portal

Producers can access their FSA farm records, maps, and common land units through the farmers.gov customer portal. The

portal allows producers to export field boundaries as shapefiles and import and view other shapefiles, such as precision agriculture boundaries within farm records mapping. Producers can view, print and label their maps for acreage reporting purposes. A login.gov account that is linked to a USDA customer record is required to use the portal.

Producers can visit farmers.gov/account to learn more about creating an account. Producers who have the authority to act on behalf of another customer as a grantee via an FSA-211 Power of Attorney form, Business Partner Signature Authority or as a member of a business can now access information for the business in the farmers.gov portal.

Geospatial Acreage Reporting

Acreage reports using precision agriculture planting boundaries can be filed electronically with an approved insurance provider or an authorized third-party provider, who will then share the file with FSA staff. Producers should notify their local FSA office if they submitted an electronic geospatial acreage report containing precision planting boundaries that they want to use as part of their FSA acreage report.

More Information

For more information, producers should contact their local USDA Service Center.

FSA helps America’s farmers, ranchers and forest landowners invest in, improve, protect and expand their agricultural operations through the delivery of agricultural programs for all Americans. FSA implements agricultural policy, administers credit and loan programs, and manages conservation, commodity, disaster recovery and marketing programs through a national network of state and county offices and locally elected county committees. For more information, visit fsa.usda.gov.

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

Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Lewiston Adult Ed celebrates graduation with local artist

LEWISTON, ME – “Hopeful” represented the theme of the Lewiston Adult Education graduation ceremony held on June 3 in the Lewiston High School gymnasium.

Multimedia artist Charlie Hewitt, who created the “Hopeful” sign, explained the significance during his speech to graduates.

“It’s not a passive word. It means action. It means get up,” he said.

Hewitt joined Lewiston Public Schools Superintendent Jake Langlais, Assistant Superintendent Karen Paquette and Lewiston School Board Chairperson Megan Parks in congratulating graduates after they received their diplomas. A total of 23 students received their high school credential at Lewiston Adult Education in the past academic year.

Gerda Tuffour presented the graduation welcome at the start of the ceremony, relaying to the audience how she and fellow graduates leaped over various hurdles, including overcoming the demands of work and school to get to that moment.

“But we did not jump alone. At Lewiston Adult Education, the teachers,



administrators and staff encouraged us time and time again, just like family. Because of this, all of us are Lewiston Adult Education!” she said.

Questia Kabemba, the student speaker, talked about being born in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and growing up in South Africa. She told of having greater opportunities in the United States in the past two years, taking the Healthcare Pathway Pre-Apprenticeship program at Lewiston Adult Education, starting her Apprenticeship working as a CNA at Central Maine Medical Center in Lewiston and earning her high school diploma. Kabemba will attend Central Maine Community College in the fall and plans to become a nurse.

“Today, we - your graduates - are ready to step into the world with pride and purpose,” she said.

The ceremony included the presentation of the employer partner

recognition award, which went to Central Maine Healthcare. Patrick Jones, Monique Roy and Kelsey Sukeforth accepted the award on Central Maine Healthcare’s behalf.

Lewiston Adult Education Director Jen Tiner said that community partners helped to make classes more accessible to residents. In the past year, Lewiston Education has provided community education, such as high school equivalency classes, to 605 adults, language and academic instruction to 1,776 adults and workforce training to 113 adult students.

“Central Maine Healthcare has been a valued employer partner, contributing to healthcare pathways training programs by providing clinical site support, presentations to students and mock interviews. They have furthered their commitment to adult learners through their participation in the apprenticeship program,” Tiner said.



Lewiston Adult Education graduate Gerda Tuffour stands at the podium in the Lewiston High School gymnasium on June 3 in front of a smaller version of the “Hopeful” sign created by local artist Charlie Hewitt.



Multimedia artist Charlie Hewitt speaks to Lewiston Adult Education graduates on June 3 in the Lewiston High School gym in front of a smaller version of his “Hopeful” sign.

At the end of the ceremony, Hewitt donated the “Hopeful” sign to Lewiston Adult Education and will be put on display at the Adult Learning Center at Gov. Longley School in Lewiston in the near future.

Block print your own bookmarks at the Auburn Public Library

AUBURN, ME – Learn the art of printmaking this summer at the Auburn Public Library as part of their Color Our World Summer Reading Program! Adults are invited to sign up for APL’s Block Print Bookmarks program happening on Tuesday, July 1st from 3:30 to 5:30 PM. By the end of the program, participants will have created their own collection of handprinted bookmarks!

You can dive into the wonderful world of printmaking by designing, carving, and handprinting your own stamp. Participants will take home their very own stamp as well as multiple handprinted bookmarks, ready to be gifted or to save the spot in your many in-progress books this summer!

This program will be taught and led by Andy Jones. Andy is an art educator, printmaker, and multidisciplinary artist with an undying desire to be surrounded by color, pattern, and endless work-

»»»»

COLOR OUR WORLD

««««

Block Print Bookmarks

Tuesday, July 1st

3:30 PM - 5:30 PM

Androscoggin Community Room

in-progress piles. Through prints, books, textiles, and ceramics, they create a wobblier-than-reality world.

This program will take place in the Androscoggin Community Room at the Auburn Public Library. Registration is required. To register, visit the event’s page on the Auburn Public Library website or contact the Reference Desk at 207-333-6640 ext. 4.

For more information about this and other programs offered at the Auburn Public Library, visit their website at www.auburnpubliclibrary.org or call the library at 207-333-6640.

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

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 Biking Sebago to Sea Trail

The Sebago to Sea Trail offers something for all biking enthusiasts. A significant portion is paved, but there is also some moderately challenging mountain biking in the northwestern sector and a gravel ride on a side trail. One of my favorite trail rides; the diversity is a significant attraction for me.

The biking portion of the trail system is located in Standish, Windham, and Gorham and connects Sebago Lake with Route 202 in South Windham. The trail network continues south to Portland and Falmouth, but is limited to foot traffic.

Although there are several access points, I usually start at Shaw Park in Gorham which was where I began a recent ride. To reach the park from South Windham, drive two miles northwest on Route 237 to the park entrance on the right. Follow the road to the trailhead where there is ample parking.

If a cyclist wants to ride just the paved trails, a road bike is fine. However, I recommend a mountain or hybrid gravel bike for the unpaved sections. Since I intended to include the whole enchilada in my ride, I chose a mountain bike.

The Sebago to Sea Trail, which sometimes overlaps with the Mountain Division Trail, is very popular and riders need to be alert for runners, walkers, dog walkers and occasional horseback riders. While dogs are required to be on a leash, not all dog owners follow the rules, so loose dogs are sometimes a concern.

The sun was shining and temperatures unseasonably warm when I started my ride on a short paved connector trail between the park and the



A Cyclist rides the mountain biking section of Sebago to Sea Trail

main trail. I turned left at the junction and rode west on the paved trail that parallels discontinued railroad tracks and passes through a scenic rural area.

There are four road crossings in the three-mile ride to the western end of the paved trail. Three are relatively minor secondary roads with minimal traffic. However, the second crossing, Route 237, is a busy highway with fast traffic and requires extra caution. After the fourth crossing at Wescott Road, the trail narrows and riders need to be wary of surprise potholes and boils.

At the end of the paved section, riders can travel left on a gravel trail to Standish, turn right on the mountain bike trail, or return on the paved trail. I chose left and climbed steeply for a short distance on loose gravel. The gradient moderated at the top and I rode south and then westerly for a long mile to Johnson Field on Route 35 in Standish. Johnson Field is an alternative trail access point.

I returned to Sebago to Sea Trail, entered an open gate and began riding the rough mountain bike trail north. Af-

ter passing a small pond, I climbed two steep rocky hills. The second more precipitous climb gets a rider's attention. Once the dual ascents were completed, "Sebago to Sea" signs showed the way as I weaved through a narrow twisting passage to Route 237, another access point.

After crossing Route 237, I reentered the woods and rode on a wet relatively flat surface for a short mile to Route 35. After turning left onto the bustling highway for a short distance, I angled abruptly right onto the paved Pond Road and followed the lightly traveled route for a mile to the end.

A gate marks the beginning of a challenging mile-long segment of mountain biking to a left turn. The remaining .3 mile to Sebago Lake is rough, wet and requires careful maneuvering. My efforts were rewarded with glorious views from a small beach on the eastern shore of the lake. On this day, Mount Washington was hidden in the clouds.

After a break, I backtracked to the paved trail and returned to the Shaw Park connector. Continuing straight, I immediately traversed an impressive



Sebago to Sea Trail includes extensive paved riding



Teenagers jump off the Sebago to Sea Railroad Bridge over the Presumpscot River

former railroad bridge over the Presumpscot River where teenagers often congregate to jump. Soon after, I crossed Gambo Road and proceeded to Route 202 in South Windham.

On my return, I turned left onto Gambo Road and biked a short distance to a trail bridge on the right that again crosses Presumpscot Riv-

er. From there, I followed a winding paved path that climbs to Shaw Park completing a very entertaining 20-mile ride.

My book, Maine Al Fresco: The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures narrates the five best trail rides in Maine.

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.

Maine CASA to hold training August 11-15

MAINE – Interested in advocating for the best interests of a child? The Maine Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) program is holding its summer training for volunteer advocates from August 11th through August 15th, 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 participate 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 complete criminal and child protection services background checks.

Are you ready to advocate for a child's best interests? If so, we hope you can join us for our August 11-15, 2025 training. For more information about becoming a volunteer, please contact Maine CASA Legal Services Advisor Darren Defoe at 213-2864 or by e-mail at casa@courts.maine.gov.

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Outdoor Lifetime Achievement Award nomination opens

MAINE – The Fly Rod Crosby Outdoor Lifetime Achievement Award is presented annually by Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to individual who is dedicated to the stewardship and wise use of Maine's natural resources and who has been active in the Maine outdoors for a lifetime.

The Fly Rod Crosby Outdoor Lifetime Achievement Award honors not only the annual recipient, but also recognizes Cornelia “Fly Rod” Crosby, and her work in promoting and showcasing Maine’s outdoors.

Crosby is well known as Maine's first registered guide, a program that she worked hard to establish, but she was also an outdoor mentor, and an ambassador for the state. For 15 years, she wrote an outdoors column in the local newspaper, the Phillips Phonograph, in which she detailed her outdoor adventures, passing on tips and tales that helped others enjoy the outdoors. She organized Maine sporting exhibits at national sportsman's shows in Boston,



New York, and Philadelphia, showcasing the wonders of Maine's rich outdoor resources, and of course, she guided, sometimes introducing people to their first taste of the Maine outdoors, and for those more experienced, helped fine tune their skills.

Nomination Information

To be eligible, nominees must have hunted, trapped, and fished in Maine for a combined total of 40 years. For example, to meet that requirement an individual may have fished for 20 years, trapped for 10 years, and hunted for 10 years; or could have fished for 30 years and hunted

for 10 years. Ideal candidates would also be active in mentoring, teaching, or instructing outdoor activities.

Nominations should include the nominee's name, address, phone number, photograph and a few paragraphs about the individual, their experience in the Maine outdoors, and an explanation of why they are a deserving candidate. The nominators' contact information should also be included.

Nominations must be submitted between January 1 and July 1 of the calendar year and can be sent by email to Emily MacCabe at Emily.MacCabe@maine.gov or by mail to 353 Water St, SHS 41, Augusta, Maine 04333.

Download nomination form (PDF) or submit a nomination online

The recipient(s) of this year's Fly Rod Crossby Lifetime Outdoor Achievement Award will be selected by a committee of individuals from the Department and will be recognized at the Sportsman's Alliance of Maine Annual Banquet this September.



It's a good idea to carry a bin with a towel and locking lid in your car in the event that you need to rescue an injured turtle. The towel can be thrown over a snapper to protect yourself while lifting it, as well as used to cushion the victim, and the lid prevents escape by these amazing climbers.

Turtles

Continued from page 2

a turtle you can intercept
before it gets hit.

2) Stop if it's safe to do so and help the turtle get to the side they're headed towards. If you turn them back, they'll simply cross the road again. Turtles know where they're headed, especially when they're nesting, and won't be deterred.

3) Be aware that your stopped vehicle may prevent those behind you from seeing the turtle and they may hit it trying to go around you. Put your flashers on and try to motion to let the next driver know why you pulled over.

4) If the turtle is injured, take it with you, keep it covered to keep flies away from the wound, and contact a wildlife rehabber that specifically treats turtles ASAP. If you leave the turtle behind, don't expect it to be there when you get back; even mortally wounded turtles can crawl away. And shell fractures must be dealt with quickly.

5) Remember that, during June and July, turtles are often carrying eggs



Putting up turtle crossing signs from Memorial Day to Labor Day at known road mortality spots helps driver awareness during nesting season.

you may damage its spine.

9) Don't judge an injury by face value. Injuries that look minor may be serious, and injuries that appear fatal often aren't. Remember that turtles have amazing abilities to heal from things that other animals can't, but that every injury requires attention.

10) Learn to ID our local turtle species! It's critical to get injured wood, spotted or Blanding's turtles to the most experienced turtle rehabilitator possible, regardless of distance. That turtle could be the last breeding female of a tiny, struggling population; it's important to give her the best possible odds for a good outcome. Transport can always be arranged. The Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife is a good resource for help locating the best rehabber for injured Maine wildlife: call (207) 287-5209.

Pamela Meier is the founder and director of The Turtle's Back, Inc., a midcoast rehabilitation and education facility that has been dedicated to native turtles for ten years. Find her at www.theturtlesback.org.

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

Mom will return!

Last week, a concerned community member spotted a young fawn walking near their home in the afternoon, blatting. As a wildlife lover, this individual was tempted to intervene, but he remembered hearing that touching or moving a fawn might actually put it at greater risk. So, he chose to wait and observe.



Photo by MDIFW's Wildlife Conflict Agent Grierson

mother nearby, they often assume the worst. But in this case, the mother was simply teaching an important lesson: making a lot of noise will not get you an early dinner.

The nutrient profile of a mother's milk enables a doe to leave her fawn for many hours while she feeds on her own to sustain the demands of nursing. Until the fawn is strong enough to keep up and come along, 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.


Bravo to this wildlife lover for resisting the urge to "rescue" a baby animal that did NOT need rescuing. Thanks to his thoughtfulness and knowledge, this young fawn remains wild where it has the best chance at long-term sur-

vival.

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Arts & Entertainment

Discover, connect, collect at Found Object

PORTLAND, ME – Shop Maine Craft invites you to Found Object, a community marketplace of seconds, supplies and activities held on Saturday, June 28, 2025, in Portland’s East End. Found Object brings together over 40 local artists, makers, and friends from Running With Scissors Art Studios and the Maine Crafts Association for a single-day market.

Discover handmade goods, studio seconds, surplus supplies, equipment, and more at this outdoor event. Whether you’re a fellow maker, an art collector, or just curious, Found Object is your chance to shop directly from local artists, score unique finds, and connect with Maine’s vibrant craft scene.

This free, family-friendly event is open to the public, rain or shine, with ample parking available on Anderson Street, Marginal Way, and the nearby commuter lot.

SPECIAL FEATURES

Pots on Wheels (POW!)

Step into POW!’s mobile clay studio and gallery to experience the Make-A-Cup, Take-A-Cup exchange, live artist demos, and hands-on clay activities for all ages. Celebrate the joy of ceramics and take home a handmade cup while contributing to future community events.

Tintype Portraits by Cole Caswell (AgNO3 Lab)

Back by popular demand, experience the magic of 19th-century photography! Cole Caswell will be on site offering tintype portraits made using the historic wet-plate collodi-



on process. Attendees will walk away with a one-of-a-kind metal photograph developed on-site and ready to take home.

Snacks Galore
Enjoy delicious bites and beverages throughout the day from M Platter Paradise and Side by Side coffee cart, keeping the creative energy flowing while you shop and explore.

“Expect the unexpected at Found Object,” says Whitney Gill, Executive Director of Shop Maine Craft and Maine Crafts Association. “Whether you’re an estate sale treasure hunter, a hobbyist, or a collector, you’ll find pieces here that are unlikely to surface at your typical craft show or supply store. From one-

of-a-kind discoveries to special guests like Pots on Wheels, this is a fun & fresh event designed for Portland’s creative community.”

The Gist of it:
What: Found Object – A Seconds & Supplies Marketplace

When: Saturday, June 28, 2025 | 9:00AM – 3:00PM

Where: Running With Scissors, 250 Anderson Street, Portland, ME

Admission: Free & open to the public

Parking: Available on Anderson Street, Marginal Way, and nearby commuter lot

Website: shop-mainecraft.com/programs/found-object

Creativity, community take to the street for Art Walk Block Party

LEWISTON, ME – It’s officially outdoor fun season in Maine, and on Friday, June 27th, downtown Lewiston is the place to be. Between 5-8pm, Lisbon Street will be blocked off between Ash and Main streets for LA Arts’ second annual Art Walk Block Party. From fine arts to local crafts indoors and out, food trucks to full-service local restaurants, and live performances from one end of the street to the other, there’s something for everyone at this free, family-friendly event.

Art Walk LA turns Lewiston’s downtown into a bustling arts district on the final Friday of each month from May through September. For the June 27th Block Party, organizers are going all out with featured artists, performers, vendors, and venues, including:

Juggler Jason Tardy and Aerial Jade performing in Dufresne Plaza

Taiko Drummers at the opposite end of the event strip

Live painting with muralists Serafim Yssolo and The Color Wizard

Caricatures and macramé crafting in the Wicked Wing Alley family zone

Visual art from Jason Alexander of Fogbreaker Studios (MEDco, 40 Lisbon St.), Edna Sebastião (Angolan Community of Maine, 86 Lisbon St.), Mariah Pfeiffer (Androscoggin Historical Society, 93 Lisbon St.), Libby Sipe (LA Arts, 168 Lisbon St.), Kayleigh Pulsifer (Ellard Studios, upstairs at 178 Lisbon St.), and others;

Hands-on activities with Art Van;

“Name That Mystery House” game at Androscoggin Historical Society;

Open studios with visual artworks-in-progress from Clara Boluc and live piano music, photography, and vintage clothing from Shanti Deschaine at Ellard Studios;

“I Wish My Teacher Knew” window display and Friends of LPL book



sale outside the Lewiston Public Library;

Food truck fare from Lucky Cat Coffee, Alabama BBQ, Rollin in the Dough, and Yeti Dogs; and more!

Building on the energy from last month’s successful Art Walk event, June’s Art Walk LA Block Party is not to be missed.

Event Details

Location: Lewiston’s Downtown Arts District on lower Lisbon St.

Time: 5:00-8:00 pm

FMI: www.laarts.org/artwalk

Share your favorite Art Walk LA experiences: #finalfridayla

Free and open to the public; kid-friendly

Call for Artists: Artists, musicians, craftspeople, and performers are encouraged to participate in future Art Walks by registering at www.laarts.org/artwalk. Art Walk LA is a great opportunity for artists to share their work, connect with new audiences, and be a part of a thriving and supportive arts community.

Thanks to our Champion sponsors!

LA Arts continues to engage and inspire a vibrant community through arts and culture with support from its generous

Champion Sponsors, including: Austin & Associates; Baxter Brewing; Berman & Simmons; Brann & Isaacson; City of Auburn; City of Lewiston; Davis Family Foundation; Elmina B. Sewall Foundation; Helen & George Ladd Charitable Fund; Liberty Mutual Group; Maine Arts Commission; Maine Community Foundation; Morton Kelly Charitable Trust; Mount Auburn Dental; Onion Foundation; Platz Associates; Sun Journal; Town Fair Tire Foundation; Turner Publishing.

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Home improvements and tools to prepare for summer storms

ALEXANDRIA, VA – Summer storm season is upon us, but having the right outdoor power equipment on hand can help you weather storms better, says the Outdoor Power Equipment Institute (OPEI).

“If you think ahead, you can mitigate damage done by high winds, flooding and other storm surprises,” says Kris Kiser, President & CEO of OPEI, an international trade association representing manufacturers and suppliers of outdoor power equipment, small engines, battery power systems, portable generators, utility and personal transport vehicles, and golf cars.

To ready for inclement weather, homeowners should assess their area in advance, identify which equipment is needed and focus on limiting potential damage:

Chainsaws and pole saws can trim limbs and shrubs ahead of a storm with high winds.

String trimmers and pruners can remove combustible material from around your home, making it less vulnerable to wildfires.

A portable generator will power key appliances and charge cell phones. Before an outage, plan where the generator will be set up. NEVER place a generator in a home, garage, carport, or near an open window or door. Have on

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- ✓ Get out equipment needed
- ✓ Remove dead/dying tree limbs
- ✓ Keep kids/pets away from equipment

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hand and use outdoor-rated power cords long enough to keep it a safe distance from the house.

Water pumps can help get water and muck out of basements and homes. Never pump substances that your equipment is not designed to cope with. Pay attention to avoid overheating and follow all safety precautions.

A utility type vehicle can transport people and supplies quickly in an emergency. Keep the vehicle stable and drive slowly. Do not turn mid-slope or while on a hill. Consider taking a safety course.

Kiser also adds to fol-

low manufacturers’ guidance. “It sounds basic, but it’s important,” he says. “And never disable, modify or remove safety devices.”

OPEI also advises equipment users to pay attention to energy levels and health. Preparation for bad weather, a power outage and storm cleanup can be taxing. Do not operate power equipment when tired or overly fatigued, and always use safety equipment like chaps, gloves, eye protection or hearing protection.

For more tips and information, go to WeatherItBetter.com.

HOME IMPROVEMENT special section pages 7-10

Vacation mode: Tips to keep home safe while owners are away

News provided by Harts Plumbers, Electricians and HVAC Technicians

TACOMA, WA / PRNewswire – With vacation season now in full swing, the experts at Harts Plumbers, Electricians and HVAC Technicians, a top-rated Western Washington home services provider founded in 2013, want to provide homeowners with a checklist to keep their homes secure while they are away.

“We’ve all had that sinking feeling that we’ve forgotten to close the garage door or left the water running once we’re on our way to our vacation spot,” said Richard Hart, co-owner of Harts Plumbers, Electricians & HVAC Technicians. “No one wants to run up their utility bill while they’re away or come home to a flooded home. But with a little planning, you can relieve yourself of this uneasy feeling and enjoy your break.”

Hart said homeowners should learn how to turn their water heater to

vacation mode and program their air conditioning to work less while they’re away.

“Many water heaters allow you to turn them on vacation mode when you’re going to be away so it’s not heating water when no one will be home to use it,” he said. “You should also re-program your air conditioner to run at a warmer temperature—between 75 and 85 degrees—while you’re away. There is no need to waste energy while you’re gone, and it can give you a break on your utility bill.”

Hart said the most common home accident that happens when homeowners are on vacation is burst pipes and water damage.

“While many homeowners simply shut off their water, you may need to leave it on for a variety of reasons, and, if so, it’s worth it to invest in a smart water shut-off valve,” he said. “These devices monitor water flow and pressure and can be programmed to either alert users when leaks are detected or shut

off the water flow to prevent flooding.”

Reports say that water damage restoration costs can run between \$3 and \$7.50 per square foot, and that is in addition to the cost of fixing the damaged pipe.

“Homeowners usually take other safety measures like securing their valuables in a safe, putting lights on a timer or having a neighbor bring in the mail and check on the home, but they should also consider some other simple safety measures they may not have thought of,” Hart said. “Unplugging large appliances and electronics can prevent electrical fires, for example. You should also test alarm batteries to make sure they’re working. You may not be home to hear if the alarms go off, but your neighbors are, and they can alert emergency services.”

For more tips on what homeowners can do to prepare their house for a long vacation away, visit the Hart’s blog at <https://hartservices.com/blog/pnw-home-prep-for-long-summer-vacation/>.

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Improvements to keep costs down on hot days

News provided by FirstEnergy Corp., PRNewswire – With the first major heat wave of the season approaching, FirstEnergy Corp. (NYSE: FE) is here to help you with practical tips to stay cool, comfortable and in control of your energy costs.

Wade Smith, President of FirstEnergy Utilities: “When the weather heats up, it’s easy for energy use to climb. With a few simple steps, customers can control their comfort without spending more than they need to.”

Here are 10 easy ways to keep cool and cut costs this summer:

Boost airflow with ceiling or box fans to reduce AC use.

Use window AC units only when rooms are occupied.

Set thermostats as high as comfort allows.

Block the sun by keeping blinds and curtains

closed during daylight hours.

Close vents and doors to rooms not being used.

Delay chores like laundry, dishwashing and cooking until early morning or late evening.

Grill outdoors instead of heating up your kitchen.

Unplug electronics and chargers when not in use.

Choose ENERGY STAR® appliances and HVAC systems when upgrading.

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Need help with your bill? Explore bill assistance programs and budget billing options that help manage monthly costs at firstenergycorp.com/billassist.

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

Ready to sell? These paint colors can boost home sale prices

News provided by Zillow Group, Inc.

SEATTLE, WA / PRNewswire – New Zillow® research finds that a dark olive green kitchen and a navy blue bedroom can boost a home’s sale price. Nearly one-third of all homeowners paint their home before listing it for sale, but sellers can earn top dollar when they pick the right colors.

Zillow’s study finds recent and prospective home buyers prefer muted green kitchens over all other colors, and they’re willing to offer \$1,597 more for homes with cabinets painted this color. Buyers liked navy blue bedrooms the best. This restful shade can increase a home’s sale price by \$1,815.

“Buyers view olive green and navy blue as contemporary colors, and that can have a halo effect on their perception of the entire home,” said Amanda Pendleton, Zillow’s home trends expert. “These shades of blue and green are associated with

organic modernism, a value-driving aesthetic that incorporates sustainable materials like wood and stone. These nature-inspired colors evoke the same feelings of serenity and tranquility.”

Charcoal gray was the top choice in Zillow’s previous paint color analysis, and it remains the preferred color in the living room. Homes with a dark gray living room can sell for \$2,593 more. Charcoal also performed well as an alternative to olive green and navy blue in the kitchen and bedroom. A mid-tone brown, similar to the 2025 Pantone Color of the Year, commanded the highest offer prices when painted in the bathroom.

The wrong colors can cost sellers thousands. Recent and prospective buyers would pay nearly \$4,000 less for a home with a daisy yellow kitchen (\$3,915 less) or living room (\$3,891 less). They would pay nearly \$2,000 less for a home with a fire hydrant red living room

(\$1,820 less) or bedroom (\$1,987 less).

Darker shades of green, blue and gray outperformed white and lighter shades of sage green and pale sky blue in Zillow’s analysis. These findings challenge the old adage that home sellers should always go light and bright when painting their home for resale. Instead, today’s buyers are drawn to bold, personalized hues that make a home feel like a sanctuary.


Before pulling out the drop cloth and paint roller, homeowners should consult with a trusted local real estate agent for advice on what buyers are looking for in their particular neighborhood. Savvy sellers would also be wise to combine the right paint colors with other smart selling strategies to earn top dollar on their home.

This research was conducted by Zillow’s behavioral science team, which surveyed more than 4,200 recent and prospective home buyers around the country. In the study, buyers were randomly assigned images of a home with interior spaces painted in one of 10 colors. Each color got a score based on how much buyers liked a home, how interested they were in buying the home, their likelihood of touring the home and the price they would be willing to pay for the home.

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Home renovation trends: What to expect in modern living

Contributed by Reliant Construction

The world of home renovation is constantly evolving, influenced by shifts in design preferences, technology, and sustainability goals. As we move into 2025, homeowners are focusing on creating spaces that are not only functional but also eco-friendly, tech-savvy, and tailored to individual lifestyles. Here's a look at the top renovation trends to watch in the coming year.

1. Sustainability Takes Center Stage: With growing awareness of environmental concerns, sustainable materials and energy-efficient upgrades are becoming a top priority for homeowners.

Key Trends in Sustainability:

Recycled and Repurposed Materials: Expect more homes incorporating reclaimed wood, recycled steel, and eco-friendly composites for flooring, cabinetry, and furniture.

Solar Integration: Rooftop solar panels and solar-integrated roofing tiles are on the rise, especially in sunny regions like Houston.

Energy-Efficient Upgrades: From smart thermostats to energy-efficient windows, these upgrades



not only reduce utility bills but also align with green living goals.

2. Open-Concept Living Evolves: The open-concept floor plan remains popular, but with a twist: flexible, multifunctional spaces. Homeowners are looking for designs that balance openness with privacy.

Trending Features: Sliding Glass Walls: Create a seamless indoor-outdoor transition, perfect for entertaining.

Room Dividers: Functional dividers, like shelving units or foldable screens, allow for privacy without fully closing off a space.



Convertible Rooms: Spaces that can easily switch from a home office to a guest room are in demand.

3. Smart Homes Become Smarter: The integration of smart home technology is more sophisticated than ever, with systems that streamline daily living.

Innovative Additions: AI-Integrated Home Automation: Systems that control lighting, climate, and security through voice or smartphone apps.

Kitchen Technology: Smart refrigerators with inventory tracking and AI ovens with recipe guidance are transforming how we

HOME IMPROVEMENT special section pages 7-10

cook.

Health-Focused Tech: Air purifiers, water filtration systems, and circadian lighting that mimics natural daylight are trending.

4. Biophilic Design for Wellness: Biophilic design emphasizes the connection between indoor spaces and nature, promoting wellness and tranquility.

Biophilic Elements: Indoor Gardens and Green Walls: Living walls and herb gardens bring nature indoors while improving air quality.

Natural Materials: Wood, stone, and bamboo are being used for everything from flooring to furniture.

Large Windows and Skylights: Maximizing natural light enhances mood and reduces the need for artificial lighting.

5. Bold Colors and Textures: Neutral palettes are giving way to bolder design choices, with homeowners opting for vibrant colors and textured finishes.

Trending Styles: Earthy Tones with Pops of Color: Rich greens,

terracottas, and mustard yellows add warmth and depth to interiors.

Textured Walls: From Venetian plaster to 3D wall panels, textured finishes are making a statement.

Artisanal Touches: Handmade tiles, custom light fixtures, and unique decor add a personal touch to any space.

6. Outdoor Living Spaces Shine: Homeowners are embracing outdoor spaces as an extension of their homes.

Must-Have Outdoor Features:

Outdoor Kitchens: Complete with built-in grills, refrigerators, and seating areas for entertaining year-round.

Fire Features: Fire pits and outdoor fireplaces add warmth and ambiance

to patios.

Weather-Resistant Furniture: Comfortable and durable furniture is a staple for creating inviting outdoor lounges.

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HOME IMPROVEMENT

special section pages 7-10

Make your home new again with backyard improvements

News provided by
TurfMutt Foundation
ALEXANDRIA, VA

/ PRNewswire – The housing market always has its ups and downs, and home renovations appear to be hitting some record highs in the last few years. With more people staying home to work, relax and play, many homeowners have chosen to renovate rather than move to a new home to obtain their dream house and have it work better for their family. But what about extending those enhancements outside, into the family backyard?

According to a recent poll commissioned by the TurfMutt Foundation and conducted online by The Harris Poll, more than three-quarters of Americans who have a yard (76 percent) say the family yard space is one of the most important parts of their home. When it comes to design, it makes sense family backyards are being taken as seriously as the interior of the home.

“Backyard improvements can impact your home’s value should you decide to sell someday, but we think it’s also important

to make changes that enhance your experience and enjoyment of your yard today,” says Kris Kiser, President & CEO of the TurfMutt Foundation, which encourages people to care for and utilize the green space around them, including our own backyards and community parks.

He adds, “Mulligan the TurfMutt and I are loving our newly renovated backyard as we’ve brought some of our indoor living, outdoors. It feels like we’ve added onto the house by just utilizing the outdoor space more effectively.”

Maybe you’ve already completed the improvement projects inside your home such as adding a fresh coat of paint, putting in new flooring, or updating appliances and furniture. But how are home improvements taken to the backyard so the “outdoor living room” works better for your family and at the same time make your home feel new?

Here are seven suggestions from the TurfMutt Foundation for turning home renovations “inside out”:

Replace flooring inside = cleaning up the yard and improving its turfgrass.

Grass is the canvas for your outdoor living room. Improve existing turfgrass by overseeding or aerating, or start fresh with new sod. Clean out flower beds and remove debris from all parts of your yard, and then build the other elements from there. Remember, outdoor power equipment like a lawn mower, hedge trimmer, or leaf blower can help make even big jobs easier.

Repaint inside = planting flowers to attract and support backyard wildlife.

A fresh coat of paint can transform a room, just like planting flowers outside does for a yard. Choose native plants that have evolved to thrive in your microclimate (they are better for the ecosystem and require less input from you). Selecting native perennials over annuals means only having to plant once to enjoy their beauty for years to come. Plus, pollinators and other backyard wildlife will thank you as these types of plants are natural habitat and food for them.

Replace household

appliances = freshening up your cache of outdoor power equipment. Getting the right equipment for your lawn size and type customizes the experience of caring for your yard. Good news is there are lots of options available for all needs and tastes. Robotic mowers that act like a Roomba for the lawn and battery-powered leaf blowers that are lightweight, powerful, and portable are good choices. For larger lawns, zero-turn mowers and even a UTV might be helpful.

Swap out furniture inside = creating high-value spaces outside. Spending time outside is all about connection with nature and others. Really think about what you need for your lifestyle, and buy outdoor furniture accordingly to create spaces that support your family’s lifestyle. Things like a picnic table for backyard study sessions, an outdoor sectional for connecting with others, a hammock for swinging away stress, or even an outdoor office to strike a better work life balance are all ways you can create high-value outdoor spaces.

Kitchen renovation = adding an outdoor kitchen. The sky is the limit when adding an outdoor kitchen. You can certainly create full set-up complete with a sink, refrigerator, and built-in grill and cooktop.

Or keep it simple with a beverage cart or cooler and spend a little more on a quality grill to cook meals on.

Add on to your home = creating a true outdoor living room. Go all out and add a deck, hardscaped area or screened in porch if you have the time and budget, or simply make the most of the yard you have. Create a soccer or croquet field on a grassy flat area. Add a fire pit and use string lights in trees to enhance enjoyment in the winter-time. For warm summer days, a pergola covered in colorful vines that attract butterflies might be just the ticket.

Add a game room inside = creating activity zones outside. Make your backyard the neighborhood gathering hot spot by creating activity zones that are fun for the whole family. Cornhole, soccer, bocce ball, and a giant checkers board game can help parents more easily manage their kids’ screen time. A patio or deck is a great setting for family game nights. Or go all out and add a swimming pool to lock in your backyard as the place-to-be for your kids and their friends. Involve your family in the planning and keep in mind that shrubs and hedges are a great way to distinguish the different activity zones you create in your yard.

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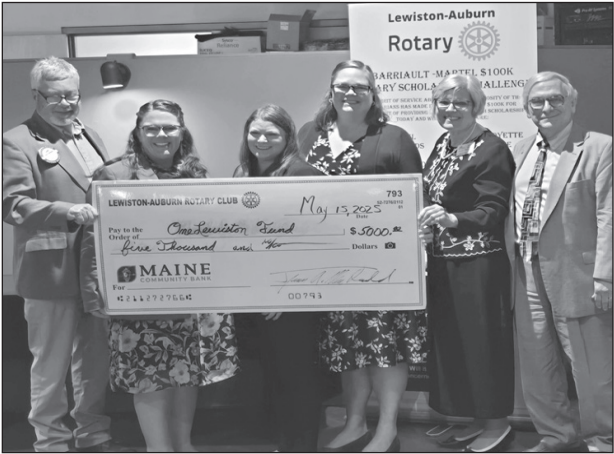
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Two Rotary Clubs donate to One Lewiston Resiliency Fund

LEWISTON, ME – The Farmington Rotary Club and the Lewiston-Auburn Rotary Club jointly presented a check for \$5,000 to the One Lewiston Resiliency Fund at an awards banquet held at the Green Ladle in Lewiston on May 15. The formal presentation was made by Sue Pratt, past president of the Farmington club and governor-elect of Rotary District 7790; and Roger Philippon, immediate past president of the L-A club.

Both clubs belong to Rotary International District 7790, which consists of 58 clubs spread out over the province of Quebec and the state of Maine, from Lewiston-Auburn north. The L-A club was established in 1917, and the Farmington club just celebrated its one hundredth anniversary on May 17.

The One Lewiston Resiliency Fund is a collaboration between the City of Lewiston and the



Two Rotary clubs joined together to make a \$5,000 donation to the One Lewiston Resiliency Fund. From left in the photo are Larry Delhagen, president of the Lewiston-Auburn club; Shanna Cox, president and CEO of the LA Metro Chamber; and One Lewiston Fund committee coordinator; Danielle Parent, director of the Maine Resiliency Center; Nicole Welch, director of recreation for the city of Lewiston and a One Lewiston Fund steering committee member; Sue Pratt, past president of the Farmington club and governor-elect of Rotary District 7790; and Roger Philippon, immediate past president of the L-A club.

Lewiston Auburn Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce. The Fund is guided by a committee representative of those communities impacted by the tragic and violent events of October 25, 2023. The purpose of

the committee is to steward the donations of the One Lewiston Resilience Fund to support the long-term healing for our community and economy. More information is available at onelewisiston.org.

UMaine Extension offers online equine speaker series

MAINE – University of Maine Cooperative Extension announces a virtual Equine Speaker Series for 2025. The theme of the summer webinar series is “From Foaling to Farewell: Essential Knowledge Covering the Equine Lifecycle” with presentations by topic experts from Maine and across the country. All webinars start at 6 p.m. EST.

The first in the series will be held on June 26 with Devan Catalano, Ph.D, Extension equine specialist at Colorado State University speaking about setting up foals and young horses for success. On July 30, Dr. Fran Roew, DVM,



Photo courtesy University of Maine Cooperative Extension.

Equine Nutritionist at Mad Barn, will discuss basic equine nutrition at every life stage. On August 15, Mary Walby, the founder of God’s Window Senior Horse Rehab and Hospice, will talk about grief management for equine and livestock care givers,

and on August 21, she will present her experience with senior horse care. Last in the series on September 3, is a talk about managing equine mortalities on-farm, presented by Nicholas Rowley, sustainable agriculture professional at UMaine Extension. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions at the end of each presentation.

There is a suggested donation of \$5 per event. Registration can be found on the program web page. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Sue Beaz and 207.667.8212 or sue.baez@maine.edu.

\$10.5M for Lewiston, Auburn public housing properties

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Susan Collins, Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, announced that 15 Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) in Maine have been awarded a total of \$10,772,889 through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s (HUD) Public Housing Capital Fund Formula Grant program to support the development, financing, and modernization of Public Housing properties.

“The dedicated staff

at housing authorities throughout Maine work hard to connect seniors, individuals with disabilities, and low-income individuals and families to programs that help them improve their quality of life,” said Senator Collins. “With this funding, housing authorities across the state will continue the important work within their local communities to ensure that the needs of their residents are met.”

The grant funding is allocated as follows:

thority - \$3,413,858
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Lewiston Housing Authority - \$1,298,068
Waterville Housing Authority - \$745,293
Presque Isle Housing Authority - \$688,006
Auburn Housing Authority - \$478,784
Brewer Housing Authority - \$452,242
Bar Harbor Housing Authority - \$383,748
Van Buren Housing Authority - \$332,926
Fort Fairfield Housing Authority - \$332,926
See Housing , page 14

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

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4-H offers hands-on workshops during summer learning series

ORONO, ME – University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H will offer its hands-on virtual summer learning series July 7–August 11. The series presents more than 20 workshops on a wide variety of topics to fit a broad range of interests.

Originally launched in 2020 to provide additional educational opportunities for youth during the pandemic, the UMaine Extension 4-H Summer Learning Series continues to play an important role in helping to alleviate some of the learning loss that occurs each summer. The series features engagement-building activities in the fields of arts and crafts, food and nutrition, STEM, marine science and aquaculture, animal science and agriculture, and more. Participants log on and learn from UMaine staff and volunteers with a variety of expertise. The workshops also provide opportunities to learn more about the 4-H program and to connect with other youth from across Maine. All materials needed to complete the hands-on activities will be mailed to participants at no cost.

Workshops are free with optional sliding scale fee and open to all youth ages 5–18. Registration is required. Find more information on the Extension 4-H Summer Learning Series webpage. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Sarah Sparks at 207.581.8206 or sarah.sparks@maine.edu.



Photos courtesy University of Maine Cooperative Extension.



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

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June 26
AUBURN – Auburn Public Library: Author Talk with Nicole Beaudry to be taking place on Thursday, June 26th from 4:30 PM to 5:30 PM.

June 27
LEWISTON – LA Arts is excited to bring its second annual Art Walk Block Party to Lisbon Street in Lewiston on June 27!

From fine arts to local crafts, food trucks to full-service local restaurants, and live performances from one end of the street to the other, there’s something for everyone at this free, family-friendly event.

June 28
BUXTON – Try our delicious Haddock Supper Buffet - Saturday, June 28, 2025 - 5:00 pm at Living Waters Church, Parker Farm Road, Buxton. Suggested donation: \$10 Adult, \$5 Child, \$20 Family. Please note: We will offer the option of takeout containers for those who do not want to come inside for seating.

June 28
RAYMOND – One of southern Maine’s beloved annual events—the Strawberry Festival at Nathaniel Hawthorne’s Boyhood Home in Raymond (40 Hawthorne Road)—returns this year on Saturday, June 28, from 6 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.

Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

June 28
AUBURN – There will be a baked bean supper at Sixth Street Congregational Church at 109 Sixth Street in Auburn, on Saturday, June 28 from 4:30 until 6:00. There will be two kinds of beans, red hotdogs, brown hotdogs, coleslaw, assorted casseroles, assorted desserts, and beverage. The cost of the supper is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 6 to 12; children 5 and under are free.

June 28
PORTLAND – Found Object, A Seconds & Supplies Marketplace Saturday, June 28, 2025 | 9:00AM – 3:00PM at Running With Scissors, 250 Anderson Street, Portland, ME. Free & open to the public. Parking is available on Anderson Street, Marginal Way, and nearby commuter lot. Website: shopmainecraft.com/programs/found-object.

June 28
WINDHAM – St. Anthony of Padua Summer Festival to be held 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, que-

sadillas, 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 diners at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, St. Hyacinth’s in Westbrook and St. Anne’s in Gorham for a year starting in September 2025.

July 1
AUBURN – Auburn Public Library will host Block Print Bookmarks, taking place on Tuesday, July 1st from 3:30 PM to 5:30 PM.

July 1-5
RANGELEY – The Rangeley Friends of the Arts will produce a live theater event, “Chicago”, the musical. This show will feature a live orchestra and cabaret seating is available. Show dates are July 1,2,4, at 7PM, July 5 at 5PM. Tickets are \$20 adults/\$10 youth. To reserve your seats visit our website at www.rangeleyarts.org.

July 18
LEWISTON – At 10am the Lewiston Public Library Children’s Department will be offering the

program Seashell Picture Frame Keepsakes. Caregivers and their children will be able to decorate a keepsake picture frame with a variety of seashells.

July 26
LEWISTON – The Lewiston Public Library Children’s Department will be offering the program Within the Whale, an immersive marine science experience where guests can step inside a life-size inflatable humpback whale to explore its anatomy and learn about ocean conservation. Fun, educational, and perfect for all ages! There will be four available times for patrons to participate in the 30-minute program. The starting times are: 10:30am, 11:00am, 11:30am, and 12pm.

Each session is limited to 20 participants, so registration is required. Signups will be at the Children’s information desk. Patrons can register in person, by phone, or by email. This free Summer Reading program will take place in Callahan Hall on the third floor of the library.

July 30
LEWISTON – At 12PM the Lewiston Public Library Children’s Department will be offering the program Woven Herb Garden Baskets. Kids and teens will be provided with materials to create their own woven basket for growing small plants. Various herb seeds, soil, and paper cups to sit inside the woven baskets will also be provided so participants can start their own windowsill herb garden. This program is recommended for kids and teens ages 5 and older. Children under the age of 8 must be supervised by a caregiver.

This activity will take place at the back tables in the Children’s Department on the third floor of the library. This program is free, and no registration is required. All materials will be provided.

Aug 9
GORHAM – Makers Market & Pick Your Own Blueberries Fest at Orchard Ridge Farm in Gorham, August 9th from 10-2 (rain date August 10th, 10-2).

We will have 30 Vendors selling their goods including Ceramics, Jewelry, Woodworking, Illustration and Painting, Vintage Clothes, Stained Glass, Soap and Body Products & More. There will be live music, farm animals and we will have 2 food trucks!

We are also having a BAKE SALE (blueberry themed) fundraiser for ARLGP with all the funds raised will go to help the shelter continue doing the amazing work they have been doing for years.

Aug 11-15
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child’s best interests? If so, Maine CASA hopes you can join us for our August 11-15, 2025 training. For more information about becoming a volunteer, please contact Maine CASA Legal Services Advisor Darren Defoe at 213-2864 or by e-mail at casa@courts.maine.gov.

Mondays through Aug 18

LEWISTON – The Lewiston Public Library, in partnership with Art-Van, will be offering art programs in the Children’s Department for children ages 5-14 every Monday from June 23rd-August 18th from 3:00PM-4:30PM. Children aged 5-8 must be accompanied by an adult.

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 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.

Every Third Thursday

LEWISTON – The Lewiston Farmers’ Market is excited to announce the introduction of “Third Thursday” markets, which will take place every third Thursday of the month, June through September from 4:00-7:00 pm on the green space at 75 Lincoln St.

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.

Housing
Continued from page 11

ing Authority - \$266,251
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Southwest Harbor Housing Authority - \$139,133
Tremont Housing Authority - \$60,782
Mount Desert Housing Authority - \$52,054
HUD’s Public Housing program ensures safe, decent, and affordable housing, and creates opportunities for residents’ self-sufficiency and economic independence.

Strawberry
Continued from page 1

Home in Raymond may do so by sending a much-appreciated check payable to “Hawthorne Community Association” to: Hawthorne Community Association / PO Box 185 / South Casco, ME 04077. Secure credit card, debit card, and PayPal donations may be made online at: <https://www.hawthorneassoc.com>.

For reservations and other information, please send email to Hawthorne@Maine.RR.com or call (207) 329-0537.



Discovering a rewarding career in substance use disorder counseling

Flexible opportunities abound with providers statewide.

Technically, Elisa is a Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor, or LADC. But when she describes the role she plays, offering individual and group counseling to people struggling with substance use disorder, she considers a more accurate job description to be a “hope donor.”

“I help people to find what their passion and motivation is, then give them the hope they need to go after it,” she says.

Elisa is a part of the growing field of Behavioral Health providers, ensuring that Mainers with behavioral health needs have the support they need to stay safe, independent and empowered to achieve their personal goals.

Elisa reaps a deep sense of satisfaction from seeing clients heal, grow and meet major milestones to get back on their feet. Watching them repair relationships, find employment, stable housing, get their driver’s licenses restored, and be reunited with their children, is transformational.

“The changes that I’ve seen clients make have been profound,” she said.

The field is widely accessible, and requires at least an associate’s degree, or credit hours in substance use disorder counseling, plus time training in the field. While Elisa has lived experience and thinks it can be helpful for anyone entering the profession, she doesn’t think it’s a prerequisite for the job. “If somebody has compassion, empathy and the willingness to work through hard things, they can do this job,” she says.

There’s a growing demand for substance use disorder counselors with providers throughout the state, and Elisa was able find a position that gives her the latitude to balance school and family commitments and work with ease.

“It can be full time, part time, or per diem, depending on what’s going to work best for you,” she says. “There’s no zip code for substance use disorder. It impacts every area in Maine. There’s a huge need for people to do this work.”

To learn more about full-time, part-time, and per-diem opportunities in your community, go to MaineCareersWithPurpose.org or Follow @MaineCareersWithPurpose on Facebook & Instagram.



“If somebody has compassion, empathy, and the willingness to work through hard things, they can do this job.”

ACCB presents free July 2 concert to celebrate Independence Day



Auburn Community Concert Band

AUBURN, ME – The Auburn Community Concert Band will present an evening of patriotic music on Wednesday, July 2nd at Festival Plaza in downtown Auburn. The free concert will take place from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at this Main Street location.

The 90-minute performance will include well-known marches and patriotic songs, along with hit songs made popular by Neil Diamond, the Beach Boys, Earth, Wind and Fire, and the Four Seasons.

The band will also play a tribute to audience members who have served in the Armed Forces, by performing the theme song of all five military branches.

According to Band Director Milt Simon, this may be the only such patriotic-themed concert of its kind taking place anywhere in Central Maine. He stated that the music to be performed by this 49-member band will reflect the country’s sentiments of patriotism and nostalgia, in a true showing of Americana.

People planning to attend the event should bring their own lawn chair on which to sit, and are advised to arrive well before the 7:00 p.m. start time, as the largest audience of the summer is anticipated.

Ample free parking will be available in the parking garage located across the street from the Plaza. Auburn’s Age Friendly group will be onsite selling refreshments, and portable toilets will be available alongside the parking garage.

This will be the band’s 3rd performance of their 10-week summer series. Concerts will continue to take place every Wednesday evening through August 20th, weather permitting. For more information, including a weekly song listing, visit the band’s web site at www.auburncommunity-band.com.

Spectrum Healthcare Partners donates to Trinity Jubilee Center

LEWISTON, ME – The Trinity Jubilee Center is proud to announce a major gift from Spectrum Healthcare Partners, who have pledged \$75,000 to support the construction of the Center’s new facility. In recognition of this generous contribution, Trinity will name the new Medical Exam Room in honor of Spectrum Healthcare Partners.

The new medical exam room will expand Trinity’s ability to serve uninsured Mainers unable to afford medical care. The exam room will allow healthcare professionals to meet with patients in a clinical environment and address both chronic health conditions like diabetes and COPD and acute conditions like injuries.

“We are incredibly grateful to Spectrum Healthcare Partners for their leadership and generosity,” said Erin Reed, Executive Director of the Trinity Jubilee Center. “This gift directly supports our goal of creating a permanent clinic where people can receive compassionate, life-changing care. Naming the Medical Exam Room in their honor



Erin Reed, Executive Director, Trinity Jubilee Center, receiving a donation check from David Landry, Chief Executive Officer, Spectrum Healthcare Partners, in the new medical exam room.

reflects the vital role they are playing in building a healthier community.”

Trinity Jubilee Center has long provided a bridge between vulnerable community members and critical health services. The Center’s Free Clinic opened in 2013 and a volunteer doctor provides pro bono medical care. Current services are limited to one morning per week due to space constraints. The new exam room will formalize and expand that work, improving health outcomes for some of Lewiston’s most underserved residents.

“Spectrum Health-

care Partners is proud to support Trinity’s vision,” said David Landry, Chief Executive Officer of Spectrum Healthcare Partners. “Our physicians and staff are committed to strengthening community health across Maine, and this partnership helps ensure that more people can receive care, guidance, and hope when they need it most.”

Trinity Jubilee Center opened in 1991 and serves more than 1,000 individuals each week. Services including a Soup Kitchen, Food Pantry, Diaper Bank, Day Shelter, Free Clinic, Resource Center, and Immigrant Integration Program. The new facility, currently under construction, will double the Center’s capacity and allow for enhanced programming in a modern, accessible, welcoming space. More information is available at: <https://trinityjubileecenter.org/hope>.

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

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