

# Join 2025 the Summer Trail Challenge in Gorham

**GORHAM, ME** – Get ready for a summer of adventure with the 2025 Trail Challenge, sponsored by REI Co-op of Westbrook Maine, Westbrook Community Center, the City of Westbrook, Portland Water District, Windham Parks and Recreation, the Town of Windham, and Gorham Parks and Recreation! This community-wide challenge invites you to explore five of our most popular natural sites—and rewards you for doing it.

This self-paced summer adventure is open to all ages—whether you’re looking to hike, bike, or walk your way through some of the region’s most scenic trail systems.

Featured Trail Destinations:

White Mountain Overlook – East Windham Conservation Area, Windham

Mill Brook Overlook – Mill Brook South Preserve, Westbrook

Diamond Trail Boardwalk – Black Brook Preserve, Windham

Snake Pond – Part of the Sebago to Sea Trail, Standish (Please note: Snake Pond is located on Portland Water District land. All visitors must register at kiosks located next to the parking areas.)

Gambo Preserve Mill Ring – Gambo Preserve, Gorham

**Instructions**  
This year’s challenge is centered around a custom-designed passport, created in partnership with Perch design firm. Here’s how it works:

**Register For The Challenge**

Register for the challenge on PRLT’s website, then pick up your passport at one of the sponsoring locations, or print your own at PRLT’s website.

**Pick Up Your Passport**

Passports are available for pick up at the following locations

PRLT Office (Westbrook City Hall, top of the stairs, second floor)

REI (Westbrook)

Windham Town Hall  
Westbrook City Hall  
Westbrook Community Center

Standish Town Hall  
Gorham Parks & Recreation

Download your passport on PRLT’s website, if you would prefer to print your own. Each person participating—kids and adults alike—should have their own passport.

**Visit The Trails & Stamp Your Journey**

Each of the five featured sites will have:

A clearly marked sign  
A stamp station

Use the stamp at each station to mark your passport. You must collect all five stamps to complete the challenge and be eligible for the prize.

**Claim Your Prize**

Once your passport is complete, bring it to REI Westbrook in early September to receive your exclusive 2025 Trail Challenge water bottle—a badge of honor for your summer accomplishment.

Additionally, submit your favorite photos from the challenge to outreach@prlt.org to enter a raffle for a PRLT-branded Miir Coffee Mug.

By submitting photos, you grant PRLT permission to use them in digital or print publications.

**Key Dates:**

Passport Pick-Up Begins: June 30

Challenge Runs: July 1 – August 31, 2025

Prize Pick-up Begins: September, date TBD - email notification will be sent out when prize pick-up begins. As a reminder, you need to be registered for the challenge to be eligible for the prize.

Thank you for being a part of this community effort to connect with nature and each other through local trails. We look forward to seeing you out there!

– The PRLT Team  
outreach@prlt.org

P.S. A contribution to our Path Forward Fund helps keep these trails welcoming and maintained.

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

RESTAURANT GUIDE

eat local

drink local

PAGES 8-10

## Capital expenditure grants now available to Gorham businesses

**GORHAM, ME** – The Town of Gorham is excited to announce the 2025 Capital Expenditure (“CapEx”) matching grant program to support Gorham businesses and farms seeking to expand and grow through a one-time purchase of a capital item, service or site expansion project. These single, one-time procurements will help grantees accelerate plans for growth, and create opportunities for expansion, innovation and job creation in Gorham.

The match grant program provides up to 50% reimbursement of a total project with a maximum award of \$12,000 awarded to a single business.

The program will award grants to businesses in three distinct sectors using a competitive grant application process.

Agriculture, Agribusiness and Agritourism  
Manufacturing and Skilled Trades

Retail & Food Services

Detailed information (including eligibility criteria) and the Application Form can be found at Local Grant Programs - Gorham Economic Development at the Town of Gorham’s website.

The application deadline is July 31, 2025 at 5pm. Applications will be accepted either by email

(preferred) or in-person to the Department of Community Development at the Gorham Municipal Center (75 South Street).

For assistance with any questions or to discuss ideas for grant funding, please contact Economic Development Director Kevin Jensen and/or Economic Development Specialist Nina Yeliseyev at 207-222-1620.

## The Wailin’ Jennys! Concert to benefit Lives in the Balance

**PORTLAND, ME** – The Maine-based non-profit, Lives in the Balance, is excited to welcome the Juno award-winning folk trio The Wailin’ Jennys to Portland’s Merrill Auditorium on November 22, 2025 at 7:30 PM for a special benefit concert. Tickets can be purchased at boxoffice.porttix.com.

Lives in the Balance founder, Dr. Ross Greene, says, “The Jennys have been supportive of the work of Lives in the Balance for

many years, and we are incredibly excited to welcome them back to Portland for the first time in several years. Best of all, we love their music. Their three-part harmonies are as good as it gets, they sing from the heart, and they’re wonderful human beings. A powerful combination. We’re really glad to partner with them and hope as many of our friends as possible can attend the performance.”

Proceeds from this event will support Lives in

the Balance’s efforts on behalf of our most vulnerable kids and their caregivers and will help us grow our training, legal, and advocacy efforts. Lives in the Balance partners with families, educators, and policymakers to ensure that all kids are understood and treated with compassion. The organization provides resources and training to reduce or eliminate the use of harmful disciplinary practices like expulsion, restraint, and seclusion.

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# Newsmakers, Names & Faces

## Maine Smart Growth Awards nomination window is open

AUGUSTA, ME – The 2025 Maine Smart Growth Awards are now accepting nominations! These awards promote and celebrate the use of smart growth principles across Maine. Nominations can include projects (bricks and mortar), plans (policies and ordinances ratified by a governing body), and people (cheerleaders and practitioners of smart growth).

Deadline: 4:00 pm, Friday, July 18, 2025

Winners will be announced at the 2025 GrowSmart Maine Summit on October 16, 2025.

The Summit will be held at the Waterville Opera House in Waterville.

Smart growth is a common-sense concept that helps communities welcome – and navigate – growth where it makes sense for the long term while still maintaining Maine’s iconic historic downtowns and neighborhoods, and natural beauty.

GrowSmart Maine’s eighth annual Maine Smart Growth Awards will recognize the diverse activities that contribute to smart growth and serve

as real-life illustrations of the benefits it can bring.

This year’s judges are C.J. Opperthausen, Executive Director of Friends of Congress Square Park; Sarah Haggerty, Conservation Biologist/GIS Manager at Maine Audubon; Heather Spalding, Deputy Director and Senior Policy Director at MOFGA; and Tyler Norod, Director of Development at the Westbrook Development Corporation.

FMI: <https://growsmartmaine.org/smart-growth-awards/>.

## FAME welcomes new board members

AUGUSTA, ME – The Finance Authority of Maine (FAME) recently welcomed four new members to its board of directors. They bring a wealth of experience from their personal and professional backgrounds that will add to the already strong and effective board membership. The new members include: the Honorable Joseph Perry of Bangor, State Treasurer; Commissioner Michael Duguay of the Department of Economic and Community Development; Simon Ferland of the University of Maine System; and Michael Foley of Five County Credit Union. Perry and Duguay serve ex officio by virtue of their state offices, while Ferland and Foley were nominated by Governor Janet T. Mills and confirmed by the Legislature.



Hon. Joseph Perry



Commissioner Michael Duguay



Simon Ferland



Michael Foley

several bureaus whose mission is to help communities and businesses prosper through a variety of programs that provide everything from targeted tax relief to community block grants to tourism marketing. Previously, as Vice President for Innovation and Executive Director of the Harold Alfond Institute for Business Innovation at Thomas College in Waterville, he helped hundreds of entrepreneurs market their products and scale their businesses, and trained thousands of students to succeed in good-paying careers in Maine. Duguay began his economic development career at the Department of Economic and Community Development in 1990. He has enjoyed an extensive career in business, economic, and community development in Maine, including service as Director of Economic Development for the City of Augusta from 1999 to 2012. A native of Fairfield,

Duguay is a graduate of the University of New Hampshire. He serves ex officio as the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development.

Simon Ferland is the Director of Data Systems—Student Financial Services, at the University of Maine. He oversees daily and long-term financial aid and student financial operations from a systems and data management perspective. A native of Old Town, Ferland earned his BA and MBA from the University of Maine and is currently a student in the Higher Education Ph.D. program. He is a nationally certified financial aid administrator and has been active in the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA). He lives in Bangor. Ferland occupies a seat requiring knowledge in the field of student financial assistance.

Michael J. Foley, Jr. is the Chief Growth Officer, Senior Vice President of Support Services at Five County Credit Union. He leads strategic initiatives of multiple departments for the credit union, which has assets under management of \$380 million and serves over 30,000 members. Foley is an active member of the Maine Credit Union League, including its governmental affairs committee. A native of Cape Elizabeth, he was a long-time coach for the Cape Elizabeth Girls Lacrosse Programs, where he served for nine seasons. His wife and he have a daughter and a son and live in Cape Elizabeth. Foley occupies the seat reserved for a com-

See FAME, page 12

## Annual celebration shows recovery is possible



PORTLAND, ME – On July 16, 2025, MaineHealth Behavioral Health (MHBH) will hold a benefit from 5:30 – 8 p.m. to raise funds for mental health services at the annual Signs of Hope fundraiser at the Portland Country Club, 11 Foreside Road, Falmouth, ME. The event is co-hosted by longtime supporter and member of the MHBH Philanthropy Committee, Falmouth resident Sheri Boulos.

The keynote speaker, Erin St. John, MHBH patient is a person with alcohol use disorder currently in long-term sobriety. He will share his inspirational story of hope to rebuild his life and regain the trust of family and friends through

out his journey of recovery.

As part of Signs of Hope, recent graduates of the MaineHealth Nurse Residency and Psychiatric Technician apprentice programs will be honored. Both programs represent innovative ways MaineHealth Behavioral Health is meeting the growing demands for mental health services.

This year’s event seeks to raise \$190,000 to provide unrestricted support that helps enable MHBH to continue offering a complete behavioral and mental healthcare network serving communities within the MaineHealth system of care.

Registration is required with a suggested

donation of \$150 per guest. A generous variety of appetizers, refreshing beverages, and cocktails will be available.

Learn more at [mainehealth.org/bh-hope](http://mainehealth.org/bh-hope).

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# Newsmakers, Names & Faces

ARB's Laura Everett named  
Managing Principal

MaineHealth affirms commitment  
to substance use treatment

PORTLAND, ME – Albin, Randall & Bennett (ARB) is pleased to announce that Laura Everett, CPA, has been named the firm's new Managing Principal, effective July 1, 2025. Laura succeeds Cheri Walker, who has served as Managing Principal since 2006 and will remain with the firm to continue her client service and leadership in other capacities.

Laura joined ARB in 2006 and has built her career within the firm, becoming a director in 2018 and principal in 2020. She brings deep technical expertise and a collaborative leadership style to her new role, along with a strong commitment to the firm's clients, people, and culture. Throughout her tenure, she has provided accounting, attest, tax, and advisory services primarily to auto dealerships and credit unions across New England.



"Laura brings a strategic vision, energy, and proven leadership that will serve ARB well as we continue to grow and evolve," said Cheri Walker. "Her deep understanding of our clients, our people, and the accounting profession make her exceptionally well suited for this role."

In addition to her cli-

ent work, Laura has played a pivotal role in shaping ARB's talent pipeline as the leader of the firm's recruiting program. She has significantly expanded ARB's campus recruiting reach, strengthened relationships with local colleges and universities, and introduced innovative programs such as Experience ARB, the firm's annual spring externship for accounting students.

"It's an honor to step into this role and follow in the footsteps of a leader like Cheri Walker, whose guidance has shaped ARB into the respected firm it is today," said Laura. "I'm excited to build on that foundation and continue our focus on client service, employee development, and sustainable growth."

## National Cancer Survivors Day held at King's Hill Inn & Barn

PARIS, ME – Over 75 people attended a National Cancer Survivors Day Celebration on June 1st which was organized by the Cancer Resource Center of Western Maine (CRCofWM) and hosted by King's Hill Inn & Barn of Paris, Maine.

National Cancer Survivors Day®(NCSD) is a day when thousands of people in hundreds of communities across the globe hold celebrations to honor cancer survivors and to raise awareness of the challenges of cancer survivorship. It is also an opportunity for all people living with a history of cancer – including America's more than 16.9 million cancer survivors – to connect with each other, celebrate milestones, and recognize those who have supported them along the way. It is also a day to remember those cancer survivors who have passed. "Life after cancer is more than just surviving," said Diane Madden, Executive Director of the Cancer Resource Center of Western Maine, located in Paris, Maine. "It's about thriving and living well. And that's something to celebrate!"

Guest speakers at the



Bottom row center: Kristen Short, cancer survivor and founder of Short Folks for Hope.

event included: Kristen Short, local breast cancer survivor and founder of Short Folks for Hope, a Maine foundation which grants "wishes" to cancer patients (shortfolks.org); and Ray Ruby, Executive Director of the Maine Cancer Foundation. Ms. Short spoke about her personal cancer journey, transition to cancer survivorship, and her work to spread hope and joy to other cancer patients through her foundation.

King's Hill Inn & Barn donated use of their barn for the event, and all food, beverages and entertainment were donated. The event was organized

by CRCofWM Board Member Mallory Cash. Guests enjoyed music by "Just Because," a local trio of musicians; and hors d'oeuvres were provided by Blue Elephant Catering. MaineHealth Stephens Hospital was also a sponsor of this event.

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BRUNSWICK, ME – MaineHealth Mid Coast Hospital's Addiction Resource Center (ARC) has announced a new name and broader alignment: it is now known as Comprehensive Addiction Psychiatry Services (CAPS), with locations in Brunswick and Damariscotta. These services are managed by MaineHealth Behavioral Health, which offers similar programs across the MaineHealth system.

"ARC has been known and trusted in the Mid Coast area for decades," said Leah Bauer, MD, Medical Director. "We are proud to adopt the name, Comprehensive Addiction Psychiatry Services, in alignment with all similar services provided across MaineHealth Behavioral Health. This reflects our united commitment to providing evidence-based care for all substance use disorders.

We are the same people with the same passion for serving the Mid Coast community."

Comprehensive Addiction Psychiatry Services deliver outpatient substance use treatment in a safe, supportive, and confidential setting. The focus is on high-quality, evidence-based care tailored to everyone's recovery journey. Services include:

- Family support groups
- Harm reduction treatment
- Individual assessments
- Incentive-based programs for stimulant use disorders (e.g., methamphetamine, cocaine)
- Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP)
- Medical management of alcohol use disorder
- Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD), including Sub-

- oxone and Sublocade
- Psychiatric evaluation and management
- Specialized support for new mothers with substance use disorder
- Weekly therapy groups
- How to Access Services
- Individuals seeking treatment can contact MaineHealth Behavioral Health's Comprehensive Addiction Psychiatry Services at the following locations:
- Brunswick – 66 Baribeau Drive | 207-373-6950
- Damariscotta – 20 Bristol Road | 207-563-2311
- Biddeford – 235 Main Street | 207-283-7660
- Portland – 165 Lancaster Street | 207-661-7001
- Rockland – 12 Union Street | 207-701-4450
- Springvale – 474 Main Street | 207-324-1500.

## Lakes Region Senior Center invites Gorham seniors to activities

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

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

Call Gerry Day, President, at 839-3859 for more information. Membership fee is \$20 a year with many perks.

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# Seniors Not Acting Their Age Thrills and Spills on the Millinocket X-Stream Canoe Race

I didn't realize Millinocket Stream was a potential whitewater destination until a couple of years ago. In 2022, whitewater enthusiast and Millinocket local, Chris Howe, organized a race on the remote stream that begins at the outlet dam on Millinocket Lake and flows for several miles to the Penobscot River in Millinocket.

The race required the cooperation of Millinocket Lake Dam operators and support of organizations such as Outdoor Sport Institute (OSI), Maine Canoeing and Kayak Racing Organization (MaCKRO), American Whitewater and others. With their assistance, Chris established and publicized a 7.4-mile race course that begins below Millinocket Lake Dam and ends at Crandall Park in downtown Millinocket.

The course consists of some of the most challenging whitewater of any downriver race in Maine. The first four miles includes numerous Class II/III rapids with pools below. However, at about mile four Turtle Pit Rapids begin. A long series of continuous Class III+ rapids, Turtle Pit requires capable navigation skills and proficient river reading abilities. In short, safety is critical.

During the earlier races, officials had experimented with different dam release flows. Last year, they settled on 650 cubic feet per second as the ideal level and that was the release for this year's fourth annual Millinocket X-Stream Canoe Race scheduled for Saturday, June 7.

Beginning last year, my outdoor club, the Penobscot Paddle & Chow-

der Society (PPCS), began its involvement with the race. Several members compete while others provide safety. Safety participants usually run the stream and then set up at the most difficult locations to assist people who encounter a problem.

Millinocket Lake Dam releases water Friday through Sunday on race weekend. PPCS member and canoe racer, Mike Timberlake, scheduled a practice run for late Friday afternoon. Since competing was on my mind, I hoped to join him. Unfortunately, I couldn't make it, so assisting with race safety was my backup choice.

Several Chowderheads met with race officials early Saturday morning to discuss the safety plan. Mike Smith, Executive Director of OSI, was responsible for organizing race safety. He reviewed safety procedures and assigned participants to locations where problems were most likely to occur.

The next step was paddling to our assigned stations. We drove to an alternative takeout a little below Turtle Pit Rapids and left shuttle vehicles. Since all of the safety crew was assigned locations along Turtle Pit Rapids, we transported boats and paddlers to a launch site a couple of miles downstream of the dam.

After the launch, several relatively short entertaining Class II/III rapids followed for perhaps three miles. We stopped above Turtle Pit to discuss the rapids and our plans.

My group of four was assigned to a location on river left just below the first and steepest pitch. We carefully navigated into the turbulent waters

and descended to a micro eddy on the left where we divided into three groups. I set up highest with a throw bag. Two others formed a tether-line team just below. The fourth was farther downstream with a throw bag.

The Turtle Pit Rapids are quite difficult because the gradient is steep, the current powerful and the streambed congested with boulders. Racing is more challenging than normal whitewater paddling because competitors are maximizing their speeds while making split second decisions. Hence, spills, swamps and pins are more common.

Multiple flips and swims occurred during the race. A tandem team swamped and wrapped a canoe around boulders in lower Turtle Pit and the boat was lost. Only one upset occurred near us: a solo kayaker collided with the huge boulder I was standing on and flipped. I was able to get the rope to him but while desperately attempting to rescue his boat, he lost it. However, the rescuers below were able to get him and the kayak safely out of the water.

After about two hours of watching competitors, the final racer passed. We gathered our boats and finished the descent. Although no problems were experienced, everyone found the rapids quite challenging and I acquired a much greater respect for the determined racers. Since it was only mid-afternoon when we finished, we completed a second run on the same sector before dinner.

My book, *Maine Al Fresco: The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine* narrates exciting



Topsham resident and canoe racer Mike Timberlake navigates through turbulent water on the Millinocket X-Stream Canoe Race



A kayaker races down Millinocket Stream during the race



Paddlers load boats in preparation for providing Millinocket X-Stream Race safety

tales navigating the nine best whitewater descents 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](http://www.northcountrypress.com/maine-al-fresco) or in bookstores and through online retail-

ers. His previous books are "The Great Mars Hill Bank Robbery" and "Mountains for Mortals – New England." Visit his website at [www.ronchase-outdoors.com](http://www.ronchase-outdoors.com) or he can be reached at [ronchaseoutdoors@comcast.net](mailto:ronchaseoutdoors@comcast.net).

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## Seize the day as MCPKids! presents Disney’s “Newsies Jr.”

**MAINE** – MCP-Kids!, alongside MCP-Kids! Sponsors Textech Industries, MTAB Painting, Mills Family Monmouth Lights, and Community Credit Union and MCP Marquis Season Sponsor Great Falls Federal Credit Union and Season Sponsors Winthrop Area Federal Credit Union and Readfield Insurance Agency, wish to announce the cast of their upcoming production of Disney’s “Newsies Jr”. The inspiring 60-minute musical, designed for middle school-aged performers, is based on the 1992 Disney film Newsies and the 2012 Broadway production of the same name. The show, under the direction of Danny Gay, will run July 11-13, 2025 at the Winthrop Performing Arts Center in Winthrop. Other production staff include Rachel Scala as Music Director, Gina Hesse as Choreographer, Kyle Mansur as Dance Captain, Josie French as Producer, Jonny Bolduc as Assistant Director, Reilly McCabe as Stage Manager, Ann Fairchild as Costume Support and Alex Lally as Sound Operator.

It’s time to carry the banner with Disney’s Newsies JR.! You’ll be doing flips for the rousing tale of Jack Kelly, a charismatic newsboy and leader of a band of young newsies in Manhattan. When titans of publishing raise distribution prices at the newsies’ expense, Jack rallies young workers from across



**Front to back: Ella Mills, Lucy MacLeod, Calla Juengst, Luke Gaspary, Anthony Paulette, Vash Martel Tarrant, Penny Wronski, Abby Bosshart, Dorothy Gaspary, Kate Bingham, Gwen Bosshart, Vivian King, Juliana Wilcox Gonzalez, Avalea Castonguay, Maddox Grondin, Deacon Crowley, Avery Hamlin, Lucy Allen, Ender Gaspary, Carsyn Sessions, Abigail Violette, Maddie Sullivan, Charlie Wallis-Martel, Silas Carlson, Oliver Hamlin, Eden McCormick, Kerrigan Damon, Grace Mills, Alice Lazure, Noah Bushway, Karabela Davin, Maddie Marshall, Jackie Senft, Beckett Carlson, Polly Lutte, Ramsay Pierce, Audrey Tucker, Meredith Tomassone, Eva Palm-Brown, Acadia Castonguay, Maddie Goodwin, Gwen Morin, Gaby Lazure and Cyrus Knowles.**

the city to strike against the unfair conditions and fight for what’s right! Adapted especially for young performers, this musical features a Tony Award®-winning score by Alan Menken and Jack Feldman and a

book by Tony Award® winner Harvey Fierstein, and includes rousing songs like “Carrying the Banner,” “Seize the Day,” and “King of New York.” Newsies JR. is packed with nonstop

See MCPKids!, page 12

## Pine Tree Camp reaches 80th anniversary milestone

**ROME, ME** – As Pine Tree Camp reaches its significant 80th anniversary milestone, camp programs are expanding and its barrier-free campus is more accessible than ever. This year, camp’s youngest camper is five and its oldest is 80...how fitting!

In celebration of 80 years serving Maine people with disabilities, the public is invited to a summer BBQ filled with friends and fun, including: boat rides, biking, golf cart tours, a special video booth, slideshow and presentation.

What: Pine Tree Camp’s 80th Anniversary Open House

When: Saturday, August 9

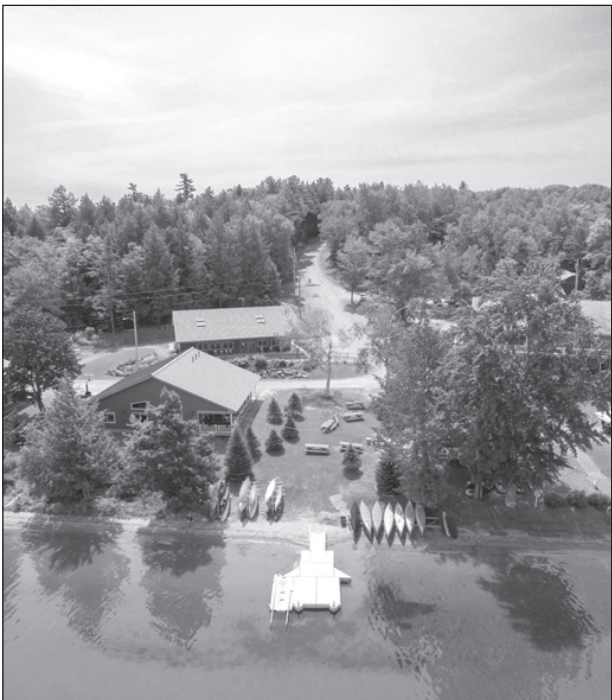
10:00am - 3:30pm

Where: Pine Tree Camp

Cost: Free

RSVP at this link: [www.pinetreesociety.org/80years](http://www.pinetreesociety.org/80years)

The celebration will



**On Saturday, August 9, Pine Tree Camp will celebrate its 80 year anniversary on the shores of North Pond in Rome with a free, day-long celebration open to the public. For more information and to RSVP: [www.pinetreesociety.org/80years](http://www.pinetreesociety.org/80years) Photo courtesy of Pine Tree Camp.**

continue in 2026 when Pine Tree Society reaches its 90 year milestone. This is a very special moment in

our history and represents a significant anniversary that very few organizations reach.

## UMaine’s Division of Lifelong Learning builds knowledge, skills

**ORONO, ME** – For people seeking a new career or to advance within their current one, the University of Maine Division of Lifelong Learning can help with several online programs for professional development available throughout summer and fall.

The programs are designed to benefit professionals from a range of sectors, including health-care, education and non-profits, as well as people who are unemployed or

underemployed. They offer training in grant writing, domestic partner violence intervention, leadership, public speaking, mediation and other skills. The full program list and additional details are available on the Division of Lifelong Learning website. The majority of programs are online and synchronous, with a couple held in person.

A certificate of completion and Continuing Education Units will be available. Reduced rates are available for groups of

four or more participants from a single employer who register together for the same program. Eligible employers can also apply for Maine Workforce Development Compact Funding. In addition to scheduled programs, requests for custom programming on various professional development topics are welcome. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Kathleen Toole, [um.continuinged@maine.edu](mailto:um.continuinged@maine.edu); 207.581.3167.

## Military Academy nomination applications open

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – U.S. Senators Susan Collins and Angus King, Jr., and U.S. Representatives Chellie Pingree and Jared Golden announced that they are accepting nomination applications from Maine high school students for appointments to the United States service academies operated by the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Merchant Marine. No nomination is required to apply to the United States Coast Guard Academy.

Students should apply for a nomination in the spring and summer of their junior year. Senators Collins and King and Representatives Pingree and Golden began accepting nomination applications as of May 15, 2025, from students for admission to the academies in the summer of 2026.

For more information please contact:  
Senator Susan Collins  
Contact: Karen Staples

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[golden.house.gov](mailto:golden.house.gov)

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

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# Arts & Entertainment

## “Hot Fiddle” to perform benefit concert for Sebago Fuller Housing

**WINDHAM, ME** – Ashley Liberty, a virtuoso violinist, and Daniel Strange, a master pianist, are returning to North Windham Union Church (723 Roosevelt Trail, Windham, Maine) to perform their “Hot Fiddle” concert on Saturday, July 12, at 7 p.m.. Ashley and Daniel are Maine natives from this area and are beloved favorites of local audiences. They are known for their skill at multiple genres of music, including classical, jazz, rock, swing, and, of course, fiddle! They have both accompanied numerous pop, Broadway, and classical performers, including Norm Lewis, Michael Feinstein, Ann Hampton Calloway, Andrea Bocelli, Wyclef Jean,

and Bernadette Peters. Ashley and Daniel reside in Miami, but have graciously agreed to perform this benefit concert while home during their summer vacation. Special guests for this show will be Dan and Ashley’s children, Summer and Harrison. This will be their first local Hot Fiddle show since 2019. Their past shows have been to a full house—so come early for the best seats. It will certainly be an evening to remember!

**ADMISSION DO-NATION:** The concert is Free Will Offering, with a suggested donation of \$15. Seating is by general admission. The lobby opens at 6 p.m. and the doors will open at 6:30 p.m.

*More about Sebago*

*Lakes Region Fuller Center for Housing*

*Started in 2019, the Sebago Lakes Region Fuller Center for Housing is part of a national organization, the Fuller Center for Housing, started by Millard Fuller; the former founder of Habitat for Humanity. The only Fuller Center in New England, it was founded in Windham, Maine, by five churches—Unity Center for Spiritual Growth, North Windham Union Church, Windham Hill UCC, Raymond Village Community Church, Faith Lutheran Church, and St. Joseph’s College. St Ann’s Episcopal Church of Windham later also joined. The Sebago Lakes Region Fuller Center for Housing*

*See Fiddle, page 14*

## Documentary on Sen. Mitchell to premiere at MIFF



Photo credit: Fine Point Films

**WATERVILLE, ME** – The Maine Film Center will present a screening of The Negotiator during the 28th annual Maine International Film Festival (MIFF), which will be held July 11–20, 2025, in Waterville. The documentary surveys the life and work of Senator George J. Mitchell, who was born in Waterville and served as the United States special envoy to Northern Ireland during the 1990s.

In 1995, President Bill Clinton appointed Senator Mitchell as his

economic envoy to Northern Ireland. Mitchell later chaired the multi-party peace talks that led to the Good Friday Agreement in 1998. The film follows his involvement in the peace process, including travel between Northern Ireland, Washington, D.C., and Maine, and focuses on the efforts required to reach a political settlement.

Directed by journalist Trevor Birney, The Negotiator uses interviews, archival material, and contemporary footage—including on location in Waterville—

to explore Mitchell’s role in the negotiations and the broader context of U.S. foreign engagement. Birney previously produced KNEECAP, which closed last year’s MIFF. The screening of The Negotiator is sponsored by the Unity Foundation, and will be introduced by the film’s producer Stephen Douds.

The film will be shown at the Waterville Opera House on July 16 at 7PM. Festival passes and tickets are available now at MIFF.org.

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AARP News You Can Use –  
July 2025

Pickling & salsa workshops at  
Little Ridge Farm

By Joyce Buccianti-  
ni, AARP Maine Commu-  
nity Outreach Volunteer

Surrounded by the  
crisp ocean air and the  
deep green woods, it is  
easy to understand why  
Maine is called “Vacation  
Land.” From the early  
“rusticators” of the 1900’s  
to modern tourists, people  
come to bask in Maine’s  
natural beauty each sum-  
mer. Whether we are on  
vacation, taking a stayca-  
tion, or embarking on a  
day trip, Maine summers  
are filled with enough out-  
door adventures, arts, and  
festivals to explore all sea-  
son long.

Maine State Parks of-  
fer a slice of summer fun  
for everyone. Maine’s 48  
State Parks can be found  
along our coastline, blue  
lake shores and moun-  
tain trails. There is bound  
to be a Maine State Park  
nearby. Even better, State  
Parks are free for Maine  
residents over 65. For  
those under 65, you might  
check with your local pub-  
lic library about free day  
passes. What could be bet-  
ter than packing a picnic  
lunch and spending the day  
with friends and family at  
the beach or lake? After  
all, fresh air and spending  
time with others is good  
for us, right? The Maine



State Park website is an  
easy way to locate and get  
all the details about a park  
near you.

We can’t forget to  
mention all of the town  
festivals during the sum-  
mer. There are so many  
to choose from including  
lobster festivals, blueber-  
ry festivals, windjammer  
festivals and even more.  
Traveling to some of these  
festivals is a fun way to  
see Maine and taste some  
yummy food!

Looking for some-  
thing less outdoorsy? Maine  
has a myriad of mu-  
seums and historic build-  
ings in every part of the  
state. The Maine Maritime  
Museum and the Maine  
State Aquarium are fam-  
ily friendly and open for  
the summer. Something  
new this summer is the  
Portland Museum of Art’s



Third Thursday events in  
July and August which  
are free to the public. A  
google search can locate  
nearby museums and their  
information. Exploring  
Maine’s museums creates  
understanding of our his-  
tory and culture and can  
fill a rainy day for family  
members of all ages.

There is no shortage  
of beautiful places to visit  
and interesting things to  
do during the summer in  
Maine. No matter what  
type of vacation or stayca-  
tion you are planning, re-  
member to visit the web-  
sites for State Parks and  
museums to make sure  
you have all the current in-  
formation about fees and  
reservations. It is sum-  
mer in Maine - the time is  
fleeting - it is time to enjoy  
our fabulous state!

As always, check out  
AARP Maine for infor-  
mation about upcoming  
events and get-togethers. I

See AARP, page 12

LISBON FALLS,  
ME – University of Maine  
Cooperative Extension is of-  
fering two food preservation  
workshops at Little Ridge  
Farm, 103 Gould Rd. in  
Lisbon Falls. Pickling and  
canning dilly beans (pick-  
led green beans) will be  
held Tuesday, July 29, 2025,  
from 5:30 – 8 p.m. and pre-  
serving tomato salsa will  
take place Tuesday, August  
26, 2025, from 2 – 5:30 p.m.

Participants will learn  
recommended methods for  
preserving foods, the lat-



Photos courtesy University of Maine Cooperative Extension.

est and safest recipes, what  
equipment to use to ensure  
safety, and how to check  
for properly sealed jars. A  
local snack is included with  
the course. Attendees are  
encouraged to bring a pot-  
holder.

Registration is re-



quired for the courses. The  
fee is \$25 per workshop.  
Register on the program  
webpage. For more infor-  
mation or to request a rea-  
sonable accommodation,  
contact Kate McCarty,  
207.781.6099; kate.mcca-  
rty@maine.edu.

### Lung Association applauds passage of tobacco tax

AUGUSTA, ME –  
The American Lung As-  
sociation praises the vote  
today by the Maine Leg-  
islature for the passage of  
a significant cigarette tax  
increase in the state bud-  
get. The \$1.50 proposed in-  
crease would bring the tax  
from \$2 to \$3.50 per pack  
of 20 cigarettes.

“Tobacco remains  
the leading cause of pre-  
ventable death in Maine  
and the United States,” said  
Lance Boucher, Assistant  
Vice President, State Pub-  
lic Policy for the American  
Lung Association, “Maine  
has not raised its cigarette  
excise tax in 20 years, and



this proven public health  
strategy is long overdue.  
We applaud Governor Mills  
for including the measure  
in her budget and thank the  
Maine Legislature for sup-  
porting it. Raising the taxes  
on tobacco products is one  
of the most effective ways  
to help smokers to quit, pre-  
vent kids from starting to  
use tobacco products, and  
save lives in Maine.”

Healthcare providers  
and Quit lines from both  
Maine and the American

Lung Association provide  
support to smokers who  
want to quit. Quitting tobac-  
co leads to, the potential for  
better health outcomes and  
reduced health care costs.  
Anyone can connect with  
us by calling 1-800-LUN-  
GUSA or 1-800-586-4872  
(press 2) or submitting a  
question or live chat at  
lung.org/helpline.

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What’s Going On  
to the Editor.  
Deadline is  
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# Gridiron: A local favorite serving up food, family, & football

Interview with Owner Schan Martin by Millie Barnard

Since 2006, Gridiron Restaurant & Sports Pub has been serving up hearty meals, ice-cold drinks, and a welcoming atmosphere for locals and visitors alike. Tucked just off of Lisbon Street in Lewiston, the restaurant is known for its massive menu, loyal staff, and family-friendly vibe — all thanks to owner and longtime restaurateur, Schan Martin (Martin), whose passion for food and hospitality runs deep.

Martin’s journey began at Thatcher’s Restaurant, at the young age of 14, where he worked his way up through the restaurant. After years in the industry, opening Gridiron felt like a natural



Schan Martin, owner of Gridiron



Daily specials

truly something for everyone. “We’ve always kept the variety. I like to bring in new things without getting rid of the favorites.” Martin explains.

That variety has become a signature trait. Gridiron’s menu — built and evolved over time by Martin and his team — offers consistency locals can count on, with new specials daily to keep things fresh. While some dishes rise in popularity over time (their seafood and burgers are constant top sellers), the approach is simple: good food, done right, for all appetites.

Family has always been central to Gridiron’s identity as well. The in-house arcade, a feature from opening day, has come and gone over the years but returned post-COVID as a fun way to fill the space left by fewer tables and changing customer needs. “It’s great for families. Parents can enjoy their meals while the kids play,” Martin says.

See Gridiron, page 10

next step. “I’ve always worked in food and hospitality,” he says. “I wanted a place where people could come for great food, good drinks, and to catch the game.” The bar features 27 draft lines and a fully stocked setup, perfect for catching a Patriots game — Martin’s team of choice.

From the start though, Gridiron was more than just a sports bar. With a menu that spans seafood, burgers, sandwiches, and comfort classics, there’s

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# Heidi's Brooklyn Deli: A taste of home with a heart for community



Heidi at the original register

An interview with owners Jenee Massey and Juliana Naples by Millie Barnard

What began as a simple craving for East Coast flavor turned into a beloved deli brand that now spans multiple states—including right here in Maine. Originally from Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, Heidi and Steve Naples founded Heidi's Brooklyn Deli (Heidi's) in 1994 in Denver, as a bagel and ice cream shop initially. Heidi's Brooklyn Deli (Heidi's) has always been

rooted in family. Today, daughters Jenee Massey (Massey) and Juliana Naples (Naples) carry on the legacy, recently taking direct ownership of the Auburn and South Portland locations.

"We grew up in the deli," said Massey. "It was an extension of our home. There wasn't really a line between family and business."

The Maine stores were originally opened and run by franchisee Michele Tribou, who became

a staple in the community. "Michele really loved on Auburn," said Massey. "She cared deeply about her team, her customers, and her community. We

ular items like the Cajun Turkey with Avocado, Hell's Kitchen, and classic Reuben remain fan favorites—the commitment to fresh, clean ingredients has



Pictured left to right are owners: Juliana Naples, Heidi Naples and Jenee Massey

now feel a dual responsibility to carry on both her legacy and our parent's."

While the Heidi's menu hasn't changed much in 30 years—pop-

only deepened. All bread is made from scratch in-house daily, and the company has worked hard in



## RESTAURANT GUIDE

eat local

drink local

assuring their ingredients are of the highest quality, locally sourced when possible. Soon, they will be bringing nitrate-free proteins, organic cheeses, and locally grown produce

to the market in Maine. All coming together to create delicious, memory making foods!

"Our dad created most of the recipes him  
*See Heidi's, page 10*



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Corner entrance of the original Heidi's Location in Denver

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# RESTAURANT GUIDE

eat local   drink local



**Gridiron**  
*Continued from page 8*

Behind the scenes, Gridiron is powered by a dedicated team — including several staff members who have been there since day one. “We’ve been lucky,” Martin says. “A lot of our crew has been here a long time. Even those who’ve moved on — we all learned something from each other.”

Gridiron also keeps its roots close. The business partners with Blackie’s Farm Fresh Produce and Maine sourced seafood when possible and supports local youth sports teams, especially in Poland and Lewiston.

After nearly two decades, Martin remains proud of what Gridiron

stands for: local ownership, a welcoming environment, and food you can count on. “We’re not a chain. All the money stays here, in the community. We’re just doing our thing, and that’s what makes it work.” Martin says.

So whether you’re in the mood for burgers and a game, a family dinner with arcade fun, or just a comforting plate of seafood, Gridiron delivers — no gimmicks, no corporate nonsense, just great food and hometown hospitality.

Gridiron, located at 1567 Lisbon Street, Lewiston, is open seven days a week from 11am - 9pm for dine-in and carry out! Visit their website at [gridironrestaurant.com](http://gridironrestaurant.com) or call (207) 777-6353.



Patriotic flag painted out front of Gridiron

**Heidi’s**  
*Continued from page 9*

self, some of them, the night before opening day,” Massey explained. “He’s Italian, great with food, and just figured it out. And we’ve kept it the same ever since.”

The sisters are also investing in more company updates, including a new patio and renovated

kitchen in Auburn, a potential third Maine location in Brunswick is in the works for 2026.

In addition to exciting updates, they’re also working on a rebrand, which has already started in their Colorado locations. But more than anything, they say, their mission is about offering a place that feels like home, which remains true



Pictured left to right: Franchisee Michele Tribou, Jenée Massey and her son Donovan

even through their rebrand — still the same great company, quality ingredients, incredible food, with deep family-owned and operated roots.

“Our mom talks about ‘taste memory’ — how food can transport you,” said Naples. “That’s what we want people to feel when they take that first bite.”

She added, “it’s more than sandwiches, people

have real emotional connections to Heidi’s. That’s what drives us.”

The sisters take pride not only in the great environment Heidi’s offers customers, but also in the great opportunity it offers employees, especially young ambitious folks entering the workforce for the first time. Massey explains, “Being able to offer a job to high schoolers where they can learn and

grow... it’s a fun aspect of our business that our leaders really enjoy and take a lot of pride in.”

From long time employees to regular customers, Heidi’s continues to bring an authentic, deli dining experience. Whether you’re looking for a comfortable spot for a business meeting, a fun date or an exciting family gathering, Heidi’s Brooklyn Deli is here for you. Stop in today!

Heidi’s Brooklyn Deli’s Auburn location is at 624 Turner St, Auburn. They are open Monday through Saturday 9am - 7pm. Call them at (207) 784-3434 or visit their website at [heidisbrooklyn.com](http://heidisbrooklyn.com). Heidi’s Brooklyn Deli southern Maine location is at 415 Philbrook Ave, South Portland. They are open Monday through Saturday 9am - 5pm and can be reached at (207) 773-4800.



Jenée and her father Steve carrying Ice Cream

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## 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 applications 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 [senior-rebate@gorham.me.us](mailto:senior-rebate@gorham.me.us), or call 222-1670.

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

## Joshua Dunlap nominated to U.S. Court of Appeals

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – U.S. Senator Susan Collins announced that Joshua Dunlap, of Scarborough, Maine, has been nominated by President Donald Trump to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit.

In February, Senator Collins established a Federal Appointments Advisory Committee to evaluate candidates for Senate-confirmed positions in Maine. As the senior Republican member of Maine’s congressional delegation, Senator Collins is advising the Trump Administration as it selects candidates for federal positions in the state, and the Committee’s recommendations are an integral part of that process.

“Mr. Joshua Dunlap was a top candidate recommended by my Federal Appointments Advisory Committee for this important position. Mr. Dunlap currently serves as a Partner at Pierce Atwood LLP where he co-chairs the firm’s Appellate & Amici team. His wealth of appellate experience, along with his intelligence and temperament, make him an excellent choice to serve on the federal bench,” said Senator Collins. “A native of Vassalboro, now living in Scarborough, he will serve Maine well in this critical role. I look forward to working with my colleagues in the Senate to swiftly confirm Mr. Dunlap.”

A native of Vassalboro, Maine, Mr. Dunlap is currently a partner in the litigation group of Pierce Atwood LLP, where he co-chairs the firm’s Appellate & Amici team. He has practiced at Pierce Atwood for over fifteen years, handling substantial civil litigation matters in both appellate and trial courts.

His practice in federal and state courts has involved a wide range of common law, statutory, and constitutional claims. Mr. Dunlap currently serves as the chair for the Maine Appellate Rules Committee, to which he was appointed by the Maine Supreme Judicial Court.

As an associate, Mr. Dunlap assisted multiple special masters, including the Honorable William J. Kayatta, Jr., and Ralph I. Lancaster, Jr., in overseeing original jurisdiction proceedings before the Supreme Court of the United States.

Prior to returning to Pierce Atwood, Mr. Dunlap clerked for the Honorable Paul J. Kelly, Jr., of the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit.

Mr. Dunlap graduated from the Notre Dame Law School, where he was the first in his class.

## 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!

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



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## Scarborough hosts summer Concerts in the Park

**SCARBOROUGH, ME** – Since 2000, the Scarborough Community Chamber of Commerce in partnership with Community Services has put on a Summer Concert Series in the Park, featuring local, regional, and national talent in Scarborough’s beautiful Memorial Park. Reaching over 9,000 area residents each season – and continuing to grow! – these concerts are a wonderful place for families and friends to get together, listen to great music, and have a lot of fun!



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## Examining Maine history through families of infamous slave captain

**AMHERST, MA** – In March of 2024, The Washington Post reported that after a decades-long search, a crew in Brazil may have located the infamous lost slave ship Camargo. Captained by American Nathaniel Gordon III from Maine—who upon landing in Brazil, burnt and sunk the ship and fled arrest—the Camargo was the final known ship to transport enslaved people to Brazil.

Later, Gordon would become the first (and last) person to be executed by the United States Federal Government for their involvement in the slave trade under the 1820 Piracy Law.

Now, a year after the initial discovery, a new book, *The Divided North: Black and White Families in the Age of Slavery* (UMass Press, April 2025), chronicles the histories of two Maine families—the Rubys and the Gordons—throughout the 1800s. The Ruby family, helmed by Reuben Ruby, became closely involved with the abolitionist movement and Underground Railroad, whilst the Gordon family continued to illegally engage in the slave trade as slave ship captains.

The dual-family biography weaves effortlessly through the legacies of these two families, which sometimes converge, diverge, mirror, and juxtapose each other.

In *The Divided North*, author Carol Gardner challenges us to question our preconceived idea of the “free” North during the tumultuous 19th century. “My 20 years of education in the North and Mid-Atlantic failed to offer an accurate picture of slavery, the slave economy and abolitionism in the North,” Gardner says. “That lack of acknowledgment inspired *The Divided North*.”

Jared Ross Hardesty, historian and author of *Black Lives, Native Lands, White Worlds*, says of the book, “Such an intimate portrait of nineteenth-century America’s racial politics helps us better understand what was at stake in the struggle for human freedom and dignity. It was a struggle that echoes into our own time.”

Bob Greene, historian of African Americans in Maine, praises the book, saying, “This engrossing dual biography is another giant step in uncovering the national leadership of an unsung Maine hero, Reuben Ruby.”

Gardner writes, “This book seeks to recover some of what has been forgotten: in particular, what it was like to live in the North throughout the turbulent 19th century. It tells that story through the lenses of two families who played important but opposing roles: abetting and advocating against slavery.”

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Sun - 8 am to Noon

USM creates new Office of Commercialization

Sen. Collins receives inaugural Lieberman award from No Labels

**PORTLAND, ME** – The University of Southern Maine (USM) and the New England Ocean Cluster (NEOC) have formed a new public-private partnership that will expand opportunities for applied research, faculty engagement, and regional innovation in Maine’s economy.

USM has created an Office of Commercialization to turn ideas, research, and creative work into real-world applications — products, services, partnerships, or ventures that create value outside the university.

The new office will be headed by Patrick Arnold, Chief Executive Officer and co-founder of NEOC. He will continue to oversee NEOC while also serving as Director for Commercialization and Entrepreneurship at USM. Chris Cary, Chief Operating Officer and Chief Marketing Officer for NEOC, will serve as Assistant Director of the new USM Office of Commercialization. He will also continue his role at NEOC. This dual-role structure is designed to preserve NEOC’s entrepreneurial agility while strengthening its collaborative work with USM faculty, staff, students, and research programs.

USM and NEOC have been working together for a decade, with USM students interning at NEOC, NEOC providing research opportunities for USM faculty, and NEOC and USM offering joint support and assistance to entrepreneurs throughout Maine.

Arnold and Cary will build USM’s Office of Commercialization using NEOC’s programs as a blueprint to support commercialization efforts across all industries. NEOC’s incubation and acceleration activities under the “Transforming the Blue Economy” initiative will also be co-branded with USM, serving as a pipeline for entrepreneurs and existing businesses to access support through NEOC and expand USM’s role in regional innovation.

“We are celebrating 10 years of USM and NEOC working together by growing our partnership,” said USM President Jacqueline Edmondson. “This is part of our vision for USM to be a critical asset to the community and regional economy, and to prepare our students for gratifying work and a meaningful life. We will be working with NEOC to get all disciplines access to businesses and commercial opportunities. As Patrick has said, ‘Entrepreneurs come from everywhere — every age, every background, every vocation.’ Our job is to support them and cultivate a community with open access, grounded by the knowledge and tools necessary to innovate and solve modern problems with modern solutions.”

Anchored at The Hús, NEOC’s innovation hub on the Portland waterfront, this partnership will continue to serve as an extension of USM’s campuses — providing a dedicated space where faculty and industry can meet, co-design applied research projects, and pursue new funding opportunities.

“This is not just about launching startups — it’s about translating faculty expertise and student experience into real-world solutions that support Maine’s communities,” said Cary.

For USM faculty this means greater access to support in turning research and creative work into real-world outcomes, opportunities to participate in applied industry projects and funding initiatives, collaboration with NEOC’s business and innovation network and innovation ecosystem, and outreach from Arnold and Cary to discuss and co-design initiatives across all disciplines.

“We invite faculty from all disciplines—arts and humanities, science, health, engineering, business, public policy, education, and more—to engage with us in shaping this next chapter,” Arnold said.

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – At a bicameral meeting of congressional No Labels members, U.S. Senator Susan Collins was presented with the inaugural Senator Joseph I. Lieberman Award.

The award, established by No Labels in memory of its co-founder Senator Joseph Lieberman, recognizes courageous leaders who embody his legacy of principled pragmatism and bipartisanship. These individuals have endeavored to persuade and forge consensus for the good of the country, often in opposition to powerful constituencies within their own parties. By acting according to principle rather than party allegiance, they inspire others to follow their lead, just as Senator Lieberman did during his many illustrious years in public service.

“I had the privilege of serving in the Senate alongside Joe Lieberman, and I saw firsthand his deep commitment to public service and bipartisanship. Joe believed that respectful dialogue could bridge even the deepest divides, and he never stopped working to bring his colleagues on both sides of the aisle together to solve problems,” said Senator Collins. “I’m honored to receive this inaugural award in memory of my good friend, and I remain committed to carrying on his spirit of cooperation as we confront the many challenges facing our nation.”

“Susan Collins is a giant of the United States Senate who should be a model for every member of Congress who comes to Washington,” said No Labels board chair Andy Bursky. “She exudes decency, works tirelessly to understand the issues that matter most to her constituents, and has authored and led the passage of the most consequential bipartisan legislation in modern American history. She is both courageous and pragmatic, and I cannot think of anyone who better deserves No Labels’ Lieberman award.”

Senator Collins has ranked as the most bipartisan member of the Senate in 9 of the last 11 years, according to the Lugar Center and Georgetown University’s Bipartisan Index.



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**AARP**  
*Continued from page 7*

hope to see you there!

Joyce Bucciantini is a retired middle school educator. She currently coordinates Delta Kappa

**FAME**  
*Continued from page 2*

mercial lender.

“We are delighted to welcome Joe, Mike, Simon, and Mike to the FAME Board,” stated Renee Ouellette, FAME Board Chair. “These four outstanding leaders bring unique skills through their strong and varied back-

**MCPKids!**  
*Continued from page 5*

thrills and a timeless message perfect for the whole family and every audience.

The cast consists of 44 talented students across central Maine and beyond, including: Dorothy Gaspary, Ender Gaspary, Luke Gaspary and Lucy MacLeod of Auburn; Anthony Paulette of Fairfield; Vivian King, Polly Lutte and Carsyn Session of Farmingdale; Ramsay Pierce and Jackie Senft of Hallowell; Lucille Allen and Eva Palm-Brown of Jamaica Plain, MA;

**Gamma’s Read to Me program, is a tutor with Literacy Volunteers-Androscoggin, and is an active AARP Maine volunteer. She enjoys her gardens, being outdoors and traveling.**

**Please use the following QR Code or web address to find more information about AARP Maine and events near you:**  
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**grounds, which will reinforce the excellent work already being done by the Board to enrich business and educational outcomes through relevant, timely financial support to Maine’s people.”**

The Finance Authority of Maine (FAME) is a quasi-independent state agency whose mission is

**to enrich business and educational outcomes through relevant, timely financial support to Maine’s people. FAME’s vision is a Maine where all people have access to improved economic outcomes through business growth and education attainment. To learn more about FAME, please visit www.famemaine.com**

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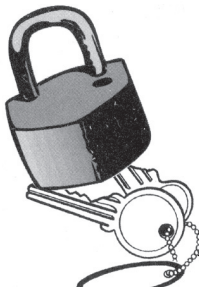
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**July 10**  
LEWISTON – The Lewiston Public Library will be hosting Magic Wes and his show Reading is Magic in Callahan Hall on Thursday, July 10th at 5:30PM for all ages.

Join us for this fun-filled show where books come to life with mind blowing magic, teachable moments and engaging storytelling. Kids won't just hear a story-they will experience it! By making reading feel magical, Wes inspires children to pick up more books and rediscover the joy of reading. Reading is Magic is free, open to the public, and no registration is required.

**July 13**  
AUBURN – Ready to beat the heat on the ice while raising money for a great cause? People of all ages and abilities have the chance to skate with Barnabee, the beloved mascot of Norway Savings Bank, while supporting a local organization dedicated to providing programming for many in need in the Lewiston area.

A public skate is set for Sunday, July 13, at the Norway Savings Bank Arena, located at 985 Turner Street in Auburn. The event will be held from 4:20 p.m. to 5:20 p.m. Admission is \$5, with \$5 skate rentals for adults and children available. Half of the proceeds will be given to the YWCA Central Maine in Lewiston,

# Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

which aims to eliminate racism and empower women while promoting peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all.

**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 per-

son, 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**  
MAINE – Are you ready to advocate for a 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 ArtVan, 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.

**1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month**  
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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.

**Fiddle**  
*Continued from page 6*  
is a nonprofit organization that relies on an all-volunteer force to serve seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities in the communities of Windham, Raymond, and Standish.

\$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:

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Join Friends of the Presumpscot River's Michael Shaughnessy for a conversation about the lost wildness of this ancient 'river of many falls'. Though the dam has been repaired and the water again stilled (impounded), we can vividly remember its breath and know what the river was. We can understand the loss, but also, what it might be again.

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Whales play a vital role in the ocean ecosystem that helps to support all life on Earth. Join Marine Mammals of Maine (MMoME) as we dive deep into the world of whales. We will start with a basic overview of what species have been spotted in the Gulf of Maine (the common and the uncommon). We will also investigate the adaptations that these large mammals have in order to survive in their ocean home. This program will also focus on cetacean stranding response here in Maine, and highlight a few of MMoME's most fascinating cases. What challenges do these animals face, and what challenges does MMoME encounter when a report of a stranded cetacean comes through their hotline?

Tuesday

August 12

6:00 PM

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

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