

Mango Languages, adult summer reading at Gorham’s BML

GORHAM, ME – Baxter Memorial Library is now offering Mango Languages using your library card! We’re still working on the promotional materials, but there are some links on our website to get you started. Over 70 languages including ASL and ESOL are available anytime with your Baxter library card, and for younger learners we are also offering Little Pim. Special thanks to the Trustees of the Baxter Memorial Library for funding this new offering!! For more information, check out <https://baxterlibrary.org/mango-languages/>

Baxter Memorial Library’s Adult Summer Reading program continues throughout July and into August!

Adults should be able to have a little fun and get credit for reading



over the summer too! Fill out a raffle ticket for every book you read, either online (<https://forms.office.com/r/R3G9yuBLiv>) or in person, to be entered into weekly drawings for prizes and be in the running for our grand prize drawings at the end of the summer! No fine print needed - read anything! Everything counts: beach reads, serious reads, audiobooks, books you read aloud to kids. Reward yourself anytime for your reading progress by picking up stickers, bookmarks, and buttons from the library.

BAXTER ADULT SUMMER READING PROGRAM

STARTS JUNE 18!

Fill out a ticket for every book read, and be entered in weekly drawings all summer!

No fine print needed - read anything!

Everything counts - beach reads, serious reads, audiobooks, books you read aloud to kids. Fill out a ticket for each book, and drop it off at the library. Tickets may also be found at www.baxterlibrary.org

North Gorham Public Library’s Monday Book Club to meet

GORHAM, ME – North Gorham Public Library’s Monday Book Club will meet in the library on Monday, July 28, from 11:00 to noon. The group is reading *How to Read a Book* by Monica Wood.

NATIONAL BESTSELLER

"A beautiful, bighearted treasure of a novel."

—LILY KING

HOW TO READ A BOOK

RESTAURANT GUIDE

eat local

drink local

PAGES 8-10

Scam targeting Gorham Planning Board agenda applicants

GORHAM, ME – Applicants on the Gorham Planning Board Agenda recently received a scam email requesting wire transfer payment of additional fees for their projects. Town IT staff confirmed that the information was extracted from the Planning Board application materials posted on the Town website.

Please be aware that the Town of Gorham will not request and does not accept payment for projects from applicants through wire transfers, and if additional funds are needed for a project, Town of Gorham staff will contact applicants and/or request that applicants make payment at the Gorham Municipal Center.

If a citizen has clicked a website link contained in an email scam that was requesting payment via wire transfer for projects that are under review by the Gorham Planning Board, and if the citizen has entered any personal information through the website link, it is recommended that they contact the Gorham Police Department at their non-emergency phone number at 207-839-5581 for further guidance.

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

Capital Expenditure Matching Grant Program

Gorham Grow with Us

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 Yelisseyev at 207-222-1620.

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Kristin Gillis of HAM honored for exceptional veteran advocacy

AUGUSTA, ME – Kristin Gillis, Veterans Community Engagement Coordinator at Health Affiliates Maine (HAM), was recently recognized by the Maine Military & Community Network (MMCN) at its 13th Annual Conference for her outstanding dedication to Maine’s veterans.

Gillis’ commitment to veterans and service members has been lifelong, beginning with her own father’s service as a child. Her work officially began in 2010 at Central Maine Community College (CMCC), where she successfully championed the creation of a Veterans Club on campus. Since then, Gillis has continued to forge powerful partnerships across the state at every level, providing critical support and resources to veterans.

In her role at Health Affiliates Maine, Gillis has expanded her advocacy by creating bridges between veterans, case managers,



Featured from left to right: Amy Line, UMA Director of Military and Veteran Services; Kristin Gillis, HAM Veterans Community Engagement Coordinator; David Richmond, Director of Maine Bureau of Veterans’ Services; Nikki Vachon, FAME College Access Counselor

and essential services. She is well-known for her active community involvement, participating in events such as Gold Star and Yellow Ribbon ceremonies, stand downs, career fairs, and resource days. She sits on multiple MMCN committees, contributes to the Conference Planning Committee, and collaborates on Hire-A-Veteran events. She is actively involved with the Veterans in Need Foundation and other veteran-focused organizations. Gillis also

regularly engages with municipal leaders to ensure veterans are connected with every available local, state, and federal resource.

Health Affiliates Maine commends Gillis for embodying the organization’s values of integrity, advocacy, and support. Her work is a powerful reflection of HAM’s commitment to improving access to behavioral health and case management services for all—including veterans across Maine.

Bill to protect mobile home park residents sent to Governor’s desk

AUGUSTA, ME – On June 25, the Maine Senate sent a bill from Sen. Donna Bailey, D-Saco, to the Governor’s desk. LD 1768, “An Act to Protect Residents of Mobile Home Parks by Amending the Real Estate Transfer Tax,” would amend the real estate transfer tax, thereby protecting residents of mobile home parks.

“Now more than ever, it is critical that we stand up for residents of mobile home parks. As we contin-

ue to work on the affordable housing crisis, we need to protect and preserve mobile home parks, which offer affordable housing for seniors as well as young families,” said Sen. Bailey. “Yet, as we’ve seen on the news, they are vulnerable to out-of-state private equity firms that purchase the parks, raise the rents and drive residents from their homes. Since then, residents, including those right here in Atlantic Village and Old Orchard Village, have

asked for help. This bill will help.”

LD 1768 would offer another possible solution to the ongoing, growing trend of out-of-state corporations and firms buying mobile home parks and imposing steep rent increases on the residents. The bill would support residents by eliminating the real estate transfer tax on sales of mobile home parks when the buyers are the residents themselves.

It would also clarify the purpose of real estate transfer tax funds going into the Housing Opportunities for Maine (HOME) Fund. These funds could

See Bill, page 5

Red Cross: Make a difference by giving blood or platelets now

PORTLAND, ME – The American Red Cross urges all donors to give blood or platelets now to keep the blood supply strong this summer. Type O blood products are most needed on hospital shelves – especially in the face of summer challenges that can quickly cause blood and platelet reserves to drop.

In addition to summer fun and holidays, severe summer weather can have a sudden impact on the ability to collect blood and platelets. Scheduling and keeping donation appointments are crucial this month to ensure blood products are constantly available in the weeks to come for all patients, including those in trauma situations that may require several lifesaving transfusions.

All blood types are needed, and donors who don’t know their blood type can learn it after donation. Book a time to give blood or platelets by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS or by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App.

As a thank-you, all who come to give by July 14, 2025, will receive an exclusive pair of Red Cross x goodr sunglasses, while supplies last. Donors can personalize their one-of-a-kind shades with a blood type sticker that’s included! For details, visit RedCrossBlood.org/goodr.

For those who come to give through July 31, 2025, the Red Cross will say thanks with a Fandango Movie Reward by email. Use it to catch a summer blockbuster on the Red Cross! See RedCrossBlood.org/July.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities

Androscoggin
Lewiston
7/21/2025: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., CMMC, 12 High Street, Lower Level
Poland
7/19/2025: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Poland Town Hall, 1223 Maine Street, Rt. 26

Cumberland
Brunswick
7/23/2025: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Elks Lodge, 179 Park Row
7/25/2025: 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., American Legion Post 20, 1 Columbus

Drive
Falmouth
7/23/2025: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Lunt Auditorium, 74 Lunt Road
Freeport
7/28/2025: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Hilton Garden Inn Freeport - Old Town Hall Building, 5 Park Street
Gorham
7/17/2025: 1 p.m. - 5:30 p.m., Cressey Road Christian Church, 81 Cressey Road
Harrison
7/30/2025: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., United Parish Congregational Church of Harrison and N. Bridgton, 77 Main Street
Portland
7/31/2025: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Cambria Hotel, 25 Hancock St
South Portland
7/22/2025: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Eastpoint Christian Church, 345 Clarks Pond Pkwy
Westbrook
7/25/2025: 12 p.m. - 4 p.m., Westbrook Community Center, 426 Bridge Street
Windham
7/29/2025: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., North Windham Union Church, 723 Roosevelt Trail, Route 302

Maine Paid Family & Medical Leave contracts with Aflac

AUGUSTA, ME – The Maine Department of Labor has announced that after a competitive RFP process, it has contracted with Aflac to administer claims of the new Maine Paid Family & Medical Leave program.

“I’m excited to start this partnership to provide efficient benefit administration with exceptional customer service for the people of Maine,” said Luke Monahan, Director of the Maine Paid Family

& Medical Leave program. “Aflac’s experience in running the benefit administration of the Connecticut Paid Leave program, as well as their depth of experience and expertise in disability and leave management in the private sector, will be an asset to Maine’s program.”

“We are honored that Aflac has been selected to serve as the administrator of the Maine Paid Family and Medical Leave program,” said Scott Beeman, Aflac Senior Vice President

of National Accounts. “We are proud of the service and care we provide to our customers and look forward to supporting Maine employers and their workers, as they need time away from work under this new program, for an eligible leave reason.”

One of the reasons Aflac was selected was because of its impressive track record as the administrator of Connecticut Paid Leave claims. Connecticut’s 2024 annual report showed that:

99% of new claims’ eligibility decisions were made within 5 days.

More than 97% of the time, a customer service question or issue was resolved in a single phone call.

Beginning May 1, 2026, eligible Maine workers in the private and public sector will have up to 12 weeks of paid time off available to care for a family member with a serious health condition, to bond with a child after birth, fostering or adoption, to care for their own medical needs, to deal with the transition of a family member’s impending military deployment or to stay safe after abuse or violence.

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Norway Savings Bank appoints new CFO, Treasurer EVP

NORWAY, ME – Norway Savings Bank is pleased to announce that Richard St. Pierre (pictured) has been appointed Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer EVP. St. Pierre succeeds the retiring Brian Shibles, who has served at NSB for over 23 years, including 20 years as NSB’s CFO and 12 years as Treasurer.

St. Pierre arrived at Norway Savings Bank in December of 2023 as Senior Finance Officer SVP and has since overseen the overall management of the bank’s financial accounting, budget, investments, facilities management, and project management. He possesses more than 20 years of executive leadership experience, including over a decade in community banking.

“In his time at NSB, Rich has proven to be a tremendous addition, working closely with Brian and the Finance and Facilities Teams to prepare for his transition as well as overseeing the implementation of Norway Savings Bank’s new Online and Mobile Banking platform earlier this year,” said Dan Walsh, President and CEO of NSB. “He has an extensive fi-



nance background and that prior experience combined with his calm and respectful demeanor make him the perfect choice as the bank’s new CFO and Treasurer.”

A Windham native and Biddeford resident, St. Pierre holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting from the University of Southern Maine and

later earned his Certified Public Accountant (CPA) designation.

In addition to his leadership role at NSB, St. Pierre currently serves on the board of Kennebec Valley Community Action Program as well as the board and loan committee of Southern Maine Finance Agency.

Annual Pasture Walk Series comes to Hollis

HOLLIS, ME – University of Maine Cooperative Extension invites local farmers, service providers and agricultural stakeholders to the 2025 Maine Pasture Walk Series, an opportunity to explore and learn at five working farms throughout the state. The third stop in the free series will begin at 11 a.m. on Saturday, August 2 at Tibbets Farm, 192 Salmon Falls Rd., Hollis.

Attendees will have the opportunity to learn about livestock production systems, pasture management, forage species identification, climate-smart practices, regenerative grazing and more from fellow farmers and assistant Extension professor Jaime Garzon. The Maine Pasture Walk Series is open and free for all participants. Future pasture walk events will be held in Rockport



Photo courtesy University of Maine Cooperative Extension.

and New Sweden.

Visit the event webpage for more information and to register. To request

a reasonable accommodation, contact Melissa Babcock, 207.581.2788; melissa.libby1@maine.edu.

Gorham senior property tax assistance applications available

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

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

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

Completed applica-

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

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

Clothes galore at Gorham’s Mission of Hope Clothes Closet

GORHAM, ME – The FREE Clothes Closet at Cressey Road Church (Mission of Hope Clothes Closet) is open to all who need Fellowship, Friendship and Clothes. We are located at 81 Cressey Road, Gorham, and we are open on the FIRST and THIRD Saturday of each month from 9 o’clock AM to 12 Noon.

We focus on clothes and accessories (gloves, scarves, hats, etc.) and welcome your donations during our operating hours. Clean clothes

in good shape help the most, as they go right out to help people locally or in nearby communities. An attempt is made to have season appropriate clothes available to you. After we have displayed them for a time, they are donated to our local second-hand shops.

In addition to helping folks find clothes, we want to spend time with you! There are tables to sit, talk and to share a cup of coffee and usually a goodie with volunteers or others. Come see us! You

might make a new friend. All are welcome!

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be emailed to editor@GorhamWeekly.com.

Proofs

Publisher is not responsible for any errors in ad
copy not inspected by advertiser prior to publication.

Seniors Not Acting Their Age Entertaining Trues Pond

In late May, while kayaking on Stevens Pond in Liberty, I met two kayakers who highly recommended a similar trip on nearby Trues Pond, also in Liberty. I was only vaguely aware of Trues Pond and had never considered it a paddling destination. Always on the lookout for a new paddling opportunity, their glowing report piqued my interest.

A little research found the twisting approximately two-mile long pond with numerous coves and indentations is the third significant body of water in the upper St. George River watershed. The actual headwater is Lake St. George which flows into Stevens Pond and subsequently into Trues Pond. Dams control the flow at outlets of all three. From Trues Pond, the St. George travels generally south to the ocean near Port Clyde.

Two landings provide access to the pond. A northern option is situated on Trues Pond Road in Liberty and a southern location is next to the outlet dam on Choate Road in South Montville.

After a solo trial run, I recommended a Trues Pond trip to my wife, Nancy. She immediately agreed and we invited some of the usual suspects. Two long-time friends, Bruce Weik and Karin Eberhardt, accepted our invitation; an added benefit, they were Trues Pond veterans.

Despite a seemingly endless stretch of bad weather, we were able to select a sunny, warm mid-June day for our excursion. Since light winds out of



Paddlers enter open water in northern Trues Pond

the south were forecast, we decided to launch from the northern landing to take advantage of a tailwind on our return.

We departed south from a dirt landing immediately below the Trues Pond Road Bridge that separates the main body of the pond from a boggy upper sector. Bruce and Karin paddled a tandem canoe and Nancy and I navigated flatwater kayaks.

Initially, we paddled through narrow passages in tall swamp grass near the vicinity where the stream from Stevens Pond enters. After traveling through a shallow area festooned with lily pads and yellow water lilies, we emerged into open water.

We passed to the right of a prominent island and progressed into a light headwind to the western shore. After entering a fairly substantial opening that appeared to be where the pond made an abrupt right turn, we found it to be a cul-de-sac and backtracked.

Shortly after, a constricted entrance on the right led us through a

lengthy, attenuated S-turn and into more open water. As we finished the traverse, we could hear fiddle music coming from the left bank. Directly in front of the complex a young woman was dancing on a paddle board.

Curious about the unexpected encounter, we navigated closer to the dancing paddle boarder to investigate. While entertaining fiddle music was playing in the background, she happily informed us that we'd stumbled onto the Maine Fiddle Camp and they were celebrating the first weekend of a summer of music.

The music played on as we passed by the collection of cabins and large tents that constituted the camp and entered a narrowing channel. Proceeding southerly, we approached the dam at the southern landing. Paddlers need to be cautious in this area as there are no warning signs or protective barriers. Getting accidentally swept over the dam is a risk.

There is a steep bank next to the dam where



A paddler dances to fiddle music on Trues Pond



A kayaker paddles through a marshy area on Trues Pond

boats can launch or land. Climbing the embankment to take a break was unappealing so we began the trip back.

We hoped for more musical entertainment on our return. Alas, the fiddlers and the dancing paddle boarder were taking a break.

Once back at the landing, we decided to explore the upper sector of the pond. It was a wise decision. After ducking under the low hanging Trues Pond Road Bridge, we entered a fascinating marshy area. Narrow channels

weaved through swamp grass where the water surface was decorated with lily pads and yellow pond lilies. We pressed on until a fallen tree prevented further exploration.

After returning to the landing, we reflected on our exceptional paddling experience. The excursion covered about five scenic miles and included an entertaining musical performance. A great day!

My book, *Maine Al Fresco: The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine* narrates paddling trips on several of Maine's

most picturesque lakes and ponds.

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

Bill
Continued from page 2

be used to maintain housing affordability in mobile home parks, including supporting the ownership of mobile home parks, resi-

dent-owned housing cooperatives or other non-profit entities representing the interests of mobile home owners.

In 1982, the Maine State Legislature creat-

ed the HOME Fund as a flexible source of funds to address affordable housing challenges. Currently, a portion of revenue generated by the transfer tax on real estate sales in Maine is

allocated to MaineHousing to address the State's affordable housing needs.

The key characteristic of this dedicated revenue is its flexibility. The HOME Fund also supports down payment assistance for first-time and first-generation homebuyers, home modifications and repairs for low-income households, shelters and supportive housing and the development of new housing units.

Additionally, MaineHousing can use the HOME Fund for a wide variety

of housing initiatives that might not otherwise have adequate funding to provide access to clean water, foreclosure avoidance, mobile home replacement and emergency housing needs.

As amended, the bill includes clarifying language that stipulates real estate transfer tax revenue contributed to the HOME Fund would continue to assist residents of mobile home parks — even after the temporary Mobile Home Community Preservation Fund exhausts its one-time balance.

In 2024, Gov. Janet Mills and the Legislature — with Sen. Bailey's support — allocated \$5 million in one-time funds for MaineHousing to establish the Mobile Home Community Preservation Fund. It supports the purchase of mobile home parks by their residents. Last week, the Legislature passed and the Governor signed a budget that adds \$3 million to the fund, continuing a successful program that has helped hundreds of Mainers save their homes.

LD 1768 now goes to the Governor's desk for her signature.

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

Augusta Symphony Soirée: An intimate chamber concert

AUGUSTA, ME – Looking for a memorable night out while supporting the arts? Get your tickets now for a special summer event on Friday, August 15th presented by the Augusta Symphony Orchestra!

Join us for the Augusta Symphony Soirée, the only ticketed concert in the ASO schedule, which will help support the ASO’s mission and expenses. Held at Jewett Hall on the University of Maine at Augusta campus (46 University Dr.), this elegant evening will feature chamber ensembles drawn from ASO musicians, including Concertmaster Anne McKee. The program will culminate with the ASO’s own Maestro Jinwook Park leading a lively winds and strings nonet with his violin rather than his baton.

The evening will



open with a welcome reception at 7:00 pm during which supporters can meet each other as well as orchestra members. The concert will begin at 7:30 pm.

The ASO is committed to offering its regular-season concerts free of charge to remove any financial barriers for community members. Performing arts opportunities are limited in the Augusta area, and supporters of the ASO are investing in the

cultural enrichment of our community. The proceeds from this concert will help the orchestra maintain its regular season concerts free of admission fees, ensuring that classical music remains a vital and accessible part of the Augusta-area arts landscape.

Seats are limited and tickets are only \$30! To learn more and to purchase tickets, visit our website at www.augustasympphony-maine.org

MIFF co-founder to be honored with Lifetime Achievement Award

WATERVILLE, ME – The Maine International Film Festival (MIFF) announces that Ken Eisen, the festival’s co-founder and longtime programming director, will receive a Lifetime Achievement Award at a screening of *The Long Goodbye* (dir. Robert Altman, 1973). Eisen has, for nearly fifty years, championed independent film at all levels, enabled dozens of films to find audiences worldwide, and helped elevate Waterville as a film destination.

In 1978, Eisen co-founded Railroad Square Cinema, which became one of the few venues in the region regularly showing independent, international, and documentary films. In 1984, Eisen co-founded Shadow Distribution, which has released more than 30 films in theaters across the United States. Notable Shadow releases include *Sherman’s March* (1986), *The Wild Parrots of Telegraph Hill*



(2005), and *Trouble the Water* (2008), which was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature.

Eisen co-founded the Maine International Film Festival in 1998, which now screens approximately 100 films throughout 10 days each July. The festival features American independent films, international cinema, and

highlights made-in-Maine films. Past guests have included Terrence Malick, Sissy Spacek, Jonathan Demme, Peter Fonda, Ed Harris, and Glenn Close, and will honor Clive Owen this year.

The Lifetime Achievement Award will be presented to Eisen during a ceremony at the Waterville Opera House on July 18 at 7:00PM.

Maine’s free community college scholarship ends with class of 2025

AUGUSTA, ME – Maine’s Free College Scholarship ends with the Class of 2025 graduates after state lawmakers declined to fund future graduating classes in the budget signed by the governor on Monday.

The Free College Scholarship, which started in fall 2022, is a last-dollar scholarship that covers 100% of tuition and mandatory fees at Maine’s community colleges for recent high school graduates. The state previously approved the Classes of 2023-25 for the scholarship, which will continue to be available to those students. Qualifying high school graduates have up to two years post-graduation to enroll, and up to four years to complete an associate degree, so Free College Scholarship students will continue to be enrolled at the colleges for several more years.

It would take a separate act of the legislature to continue the scholarship beyond the Class of 2025.

“It’s dispiriting to have such a successful program benefiting so many people – students, their families, Maine employers – come to an end,” said David Daigler, president of the Maine Community College System (MCCS). “We’ll continue our mission to provide affordable, relevant education and training that prepares people for good jobs in Maine – but it will be harder to reach all the deserving, motivated, and hard-working students who came to the colleges because of the Free College Scholarship.”

“I want each one of the potential students who are disappointed they won’t get the scholarship to know that Maine’s community colleges are still very, very affordable, and we’ll help

them any way we can to make ends meet,” Daigler said. Tuition and fees are \$4,156 a year for a full-time student and more than 50% of MCCS students qualify for federal Pell grants that often cover those costs.

The state budget signed Monday includes one-time funding of \$20 million for MCCS to pay for the Free College Scholarship for current students and the Class of 2025; a 4% increase to base funding; and one-time funding to cover new paid family medical leave (PFML) costs.

Since fall 2022, 17,826 Free College-eligible students have enrolled at Maine’s community colleges. In fall 2024, there were 8,989 Free College-eligible students enrolled, out of a total enrollment of 21,385 students. Enrollment has increased 23% since the pre-pandemic fall 2019 enrollment of 17,327.

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Arts & Entertainment

MSMT cuts loose with high-energy production of *Footloose*

BRUNSWICK, ME – Maine State Music Theatre continues its high-energy 2025 summer season with the electrifying Broadway smash *Footloose*, running July 16 – August 2 at the Pickard Theater on the Bowdoin College campus.

Based on the hit 1984 film and packed with unforgettable ‘80s anthems, *Footloose* is the ultimate feel-good musical. With showstopping dance numbers, a driving rock score, and a story about finding joy, love, and liberation through music, the production promises a thrilling summer night at the theatre.

When Ren McCor-

mack moves from Chicago to a small town where dancing is outlawed, he sets off a teenage rebellion that challenges authority, heals old wounds, and ultimately brings a broken community back together. The score includes iconic hits like “Holding Out for a Hero,” “Let’s Hear It for the Boy,” “Almost Paradise,” and, of course, “Footloose.”

“Footloose was last produced at MSMT more than 20 years ago—and judging by the phones ringing off the hook when we announced it, I’d say we hit the revival at just the right time,” said MSMT Artistic Director Curt Dale Clark. “This cast, this cre-

ative team, and this music make for a perfect summer celebration.”

The MSMT production stars J. Antonio Rodriguez (MSMT Debut!, Tour: *Hadestown* 1st National Tour) as Ren McCormack and Maya Jerome Thomas (MSMT Debut!, Broadway: *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*) as Ariel Moore.

Gregg Goodbrod (MSMT: *Les Misérables*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Aida*, *Sunset Boulevard*, *Miss Saigon*, *Grand Hotel*, *Ghost*) returns as Rev. Shaw Moore, and MSMT favorite Charis Leos (*Over 35* MSMT productions including *White Christmas*, *9 to 5*, *Always...Pat-*



sy Cline, *Legally Blonde*, *Hello, Dolly!*, and *42nd Street*) takes on the dual role of Ethel McCormack and Betty Blast. Kristina Leopold (Broadway: *SIX*), fresh from her triumphant run as Julie Nichols in *Tootsie*, plays Vi Moore.

Eli Mayer (MSMT Debut!, *Footloose* at The Muny) plays bad boy Chuck Cranston, and Oliver Prose (MSMT Debut!, Broadway: *New York, New York*) appears as lovable sidekick Willard Hewitt.

The featured cast includes Rachel Alvarez-Robinson, Lauryn Adams, Stemarciac Bain, Corey Barrow, Greta Cardoza, Brooklyn Bronson, Lani Corson, Bryan Fortunato, Morgan Gillott, David Girolmo, Payton Hines, Matthew Irani, Kel-

ly Lomonte, Darren Lorenzo, Sabina Martin, Jack Sippel, Dylan Stukenberg, Todd Turner, Jake Urban, Nolan Um, and Nazaria Workman.

Footloose is directed by E. Faye Butler, choreographed by Tyler Hanes, and music directed by Jason Wetzel. The creative team includes scenic designer Chuck Kading, costume designer Jane Alois Stein, lighting designer Jeff Koger, sound designer Shannon Slaton, video & projections designer Jerran Kowalski, and wig designer Kevin S. Foster II. Amy Bertacini serves as Production Stage Manager.

Footloose features a stage adaptation by Dean Pitchford and Walter Bobbie, based on the original screenplay by Dean Pitch-

ford. Music is by Tom Snow with lyrics by Dean Pitchford, and additional music by Eric Carmen, Sammy Hagar, Kenny Loggins, and Jim Steinman.

Footloose is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals (www.concordtheatricals.com).

For tickets and more information, visit www.msmt.org or call the MSMT Box Office at 207.725.8769.

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

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Forgotten history of Gov. Longley & 1975 Vietnamese resettlement

By Phil Nadeau

Like any year that passes, there is the inevitable journalistic undertaking of looking back over some combination of years to assess how much things have changed or have not. Many events from 1975 are worthy of a 50th anniversary essay. As an historian, I could have chosen to examine the impact on Maine life following Microsoft's founding, the first broadcast of 'Saturday Night Live,' Lee Elder's participation as the first Black golfer invited to 'The Masters,' or the Kennebec River's last log drive not only in Maine, but in the entire country.

I have chosen to place my 1975 focus on Governor James Longley's first year in office. Longley's place in Maine history, as our state's first independent governor, is well known to many. He was the president of his senior class at Lewiston High School when he witnessed his mother receive an insurance check that barely covered family expenses following the death of his father. A Bowdoin graduate, he would run his insurance business during the day and pursue his law degree by attending law school at night. His life experiences fueled his de-

termination to create a very successful insurance business. That success attracted the attention of Governor Kenneth Curtis, who appointed him to a committee assignment that fueled his interest in running for governor.

His tenure as Governor was a study in someone desiring to deliver on campaign promises. Longley sold himself as a change agent seeking to cut bureaucratic waste, reduce spending, and lower taxes. He also promised voters that he would "clean house" within the outgoing Curtis administration cabinet. By the end of his term, he lowered the per-capita rate of state and local taxes twice. He would set a record for the number of vetoes, battle with the University of Maine, advocate for the federal funding of a Maine Native American land claims settlement, oppose the Dickey-Lincoln dam project, relish his adversarial role with the legislature, and always fight the "politician" label. That was the Jim Longley that I remembered.

After years of research, I have chosen to examine one period of James Longley's forgotten history as Maine's Governor—his decision to have

the state resettle Vietnamese refugees following the U.S. withdrawal from Vietnam in April 1975. I lived in Washington, D.C., in 1975 and was not receiving much "local" news from Maine. As decades put more distance between my recollections of the Longley years, I uncovered a random story about the Governor during my 2020 book research. It was a Bangor Daily News article about Vietnam refugees landing at Portland International Airport in 1975. Along with the front-page article was a photo of Longley greeting the refugees. Having no prior knowledge of the story, I conducted further research on Longley's history and the events that led to his refugee decision.

I was disappointed to find that historians chose not to write about Longley's involvement with the Vietnamese refugees. The question is, why did they overlook something that occupied Longley's administration for almost half of his first year in office? Why did this Lewiston native and businessman decide to utilize his newly acquired position in Augusta to establish the state's first and only refugee resettlement program?



Governor Longley, Blainehouse.org

My newspaper research and some discussions with people close to the Governor revealed that Longley's 1975 decision to resettle the refugees was possibly influenced by a trip he made to Vietnam in 1969. That trip resulted in the relocation of 12 Vietnamese orphans to the U.S. and Maine. Six years later, he wrote two letters to President Gerald Ford on April 30, 1975, the same day the U.S. evacuated the last of its government and military presence in Vietnam. One of the Longley letters offered to assist the President with housing

some of the evacuated orphans airlifted in Operation Babylift, an undertaking that evacuated and airlifted over 2,000 orphans into the U.S.

Longley's commitment to Ford did not result in orphan relocations to Maine. Still, it did produce a program hosting 167 Vietnamese refugees, many of whom were entire families. They arrived at the Portland Jetport on July 27, 1975, on three flights from a Pennsylvania military facility that housed primarily Vietnamese and other Indochinese refugees. St. Joseph's College



Gov. Longley greets refugees
Gov. James J. Longley welcomes members of the Tan family, the Chinese section of Hanoi, 1975
the Times family, 10 members strong, January of 1975

Bangor Daily News, UPI photo, p1, 7/28/1975

in Standish became their temporary home. The college offered its facilities to the Governor in response to national public opposition. Comments from some Maine residents triggered the Cumberland County Sheriff's Department to assign deputies to the college to screen incoming campus traffic.

Comments opposing the resettlements may have contributed to a bomb scare at the Portland Jetport that delayed the refugee arrivals on the second plane. After twenty minutes, officials cleared the terminal. Governor Longley, whose knee injury failed to dampen his enthusiasm for this historic moment. Crutches and all, Longley personally greeted the remaining flights and Maine's new residents without incident.

National polling re-
See Longley, page 12



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Governor’s Restaurant: A Maine legacy with humble roots

An interview with Owner, Jason Clay, by Millie Barnard

What began as a simple ice cream stand on Stillwater Avenue in Old Town, Maine, has grown into one of the state’s most beloved restaurant chains. Governor’s Restaurant and Bakery, now with six locations across Maine, is a testament to local grit, hospitality, and home-cooked comfort.

Though current owner Jason Clay (Clay) is not the original founder, he proudly carries on the legacy of the Wadleigh family, who opened the original “Creamees” in 1959 near the University of Maine. “Leith and Donna Wadleigh worked there every summer,” Clay recalled. “They’d go down to Florida in the winter, then come back and slowly build it up year after year.”

Eventually, the stand expanded to include hot food and evolved into a full-service restaurant. The name “Governor’s” came about thanks to founder Leith Wadleigh’s unique way with people. “He couldn’t remember names,” Clay said with a laugh. “So when regulars came in, he’d say ‘Hey Governor, how are you doing?’ When it came



Jason Clay, owner of Governor’s Restaurant & Bakery



The bakery display case at the Lewiston Governor’s Restaurant & Bakery location

time to rename the business, the name stuck.” That same original

Old Town location is still in operation today — now the flagship store — and has been expanded and renovated 19 times over the years. “It’s not your typical corporate-style building,” Clay said. “It’s a little quirky with all its rooflines, but it’s got charm.”

Governor’s began to expand in the late ’70s and early ’80s, first to Bangor, then to Waterville. The Lewiston restaurant opened in 1996 and is coming up on 30 years. Today, the six operating locations are in Old Town, Bangor, Waterville, Ellsworth, Lew-



Don’t miss the buffet every Sunday at all Governor’s locations



Guests enjoying their afternoon meal at the Lewiston Governor’s Restaurant & Bakery location



Famous fresh baked pies

iston, and Presque Isle. As the company grew, so did its offerings. “If you’re serving burgers, you need rolls,” Clay said. “Eventually we thought — why not make our own?” That mindset led to the creation of their in-house bakery, which now produces fresh bread, rolls, and their famous desserts. “We’ve always believed you eat with your eyes first,” Clay added. “When people walk in and see that full bakery case, it gets their appetite going.”

Clay’s journey with the company is a story See Governor’s, page 10

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From vegetable stand to local landmark: Taber’s Restaurant and Golf

An interview with
Owner Dan Hargreaves by
Millie Barnard

Perched above Lake
Auburn, Taber’s Golf
Course, Mini Golf, and
Restaurant has been a be-
loved summer staple for
generations. What began
in 1941 as a roadside veg-
etable stand and ice cream
bar has grown into a local
landmark, offering classic
American fare, a driving
range, and a charming
mini golf course.

Current owner Dan
Hargreaves (Hargreaves),
took over the business in
2008 from his parents.
Alongside his wife, they
are continuing a legacy
that started decades ear-
lier. Although he never
planned on taking the reins
as a child, time—and a
few summers working
back home—eventual-
ly changed his mind. “I
didn’t want to growing
up,” Hargreaves admits,
“but I came back during
college to help out after
my mom was diagnosed
with cancer and found I re-
ally enjoyed it.”

Over the years, the
property has evolved while
maintaining its nostalgic
feel. The original mini golf
course, built in the 1950s,
was fully renovated in
2015. Hargreaves and his
wife preserved some of the
vintage “putt-putt” style
elements while adding a
peaceful stream and water-
fall to enhance the course’s
tranquil atmosphere.

The restaurant,
open mid-April through
mid-September, offers
walk-up takeout with a fo-
cus on simple, homemade
food. The onion rings—
made using the original
Taber family recipe—are
a standout, along with
pepper strips, burgers,
and house-made lobster,
chicken, and tuna rolls.
“We make things that a lot
of other places buy pre-
made,” Hargreaves says.
“Tartar sauce, coleslaw—



Owner, Dan Hargreaves in front of Taber’s Restaurant and Golf sign

we still make it all our-
selves.” Taber’s sources
ingredients locally when
possible, including pro-
duce from Blackie’s Farm
Fresh Produce and bread
from LePage Bakeries in
Lewiston.

Menu favorites in-
clude the “Northburg,” a
cheeseburger with lettuce,
tomato, onion, and mayo,
and its regional spin-
offs—the “Westburg” with
BBQ sauce and bacon, the
“Eastburg” featuring an
onion ring and ranch and
the “Southburg”, with
lettuce, onion, tomato
and mayonnaise. Lighter
options, like the grilled
chicken spinach salad,
have also become custom-
er favorites.

Taber’s draws both
longtime locals and new-
comers with events like
glow-in-the-dark mini golf
on summer weekends and
“Class Nights,” where
high school alumni gather
by graduation year every
Monday and Wednesday

to reconnect. Another ma-
jor draw is the Maine Mini
Golf Open, held annual-
ly on the first Sunday of
August. The 54-hole tour-
nament welcomes serious



Driving range and tables



Restaurant and ice cream

mini golfers from across
New England and beyond,
including members of the
American Mini Golf Asso-
ciation.

Despite being a sea-
sonal operation, Taber’s
employs about 35 part-time
See Tabers, page 10



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RESTAURANT GUIDE

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Governor’s

Continued from page 8

in itself. A University of Maine graduate, he grew up near the Old Town location and has worked at Governor’s in various roles over the years. “I’ve done just about every job here,” he said. “A couple of years ago, I had the opportunity to purchase the management company from the founders’ son — it felt like the right way to continue an iconic Maine tradition.”

Clay now owns five of the six Governor’s locations, with the Presque Isle restaurant operated by a franchisee. His passion for the brand is deeply rooted in its Maine identity and

longstanding connection with customers. “We’re not just a restaurant,” he said. “We’re part of people’s memories — family dinners, celebrations, weekend breakfasts. That means something.”

With nearly seven decades of history and a heart still firmly planted in Old Town, Governor’s remains a homegrown institution dedicated to good food, local roots, and a warm welcome. Stay tuned for news on how they will be celebrating their 30th year in Lewiston next year! Visit your local Governor’s Restaurant and Bakery today:

Old Town: 963

Stillwater Avenue, Old Town, ME 04468. Phone: (207) 827-4277

Bangor: 643 Broadway, Bangor, ME 0440. Phone: (207) 947-3113

Waterville: 376 Main Street, Waterville, ME 04901. Phone: (207) 872-0677

Ellsworth: 253 High Street, Ellsworth, ME 04605. Phone: (207) 610-1880

Lewiston: 1185 Lisbon Street, Lewiston, ME 04240. Phone: (207) 753-0173

Presque Isle: 350 Main Street, Presque Isle, ME 04769. Phone: (207) 769-2274

On the web at GovernorsRestaurant.com

Tabers

Continued from page 9

staff each year—many of whom return summer after summer. Hargreaves’s own daughter, Penelope can be seen helping out in the restaurant scooping ice cream, while his younger

sons spend their time playing at the range. The driving range has become especially popular in recent years, as interest in golf has surged post-COVID. Lessons are available through instructor Jim Berube, who has

been offering guidance and recruiting newcomers at the range for the past several seasons. Taber’s continues to thrive not only because of its scenic location and well-loved food, but because it stays true to its



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original goal: creating a relaxed, family-friendly atmosphere where everyone feels welcome. “We don’t serve alcohol,” Hargreaves notes. “That’s intentional. We want this to be a space where families can come and feel comfortable.”

Whether it’s a first visit or a yearly tradition, a stop at Taber’s offers more than a bite to eat or a round of mini golf—it offers a taste of Maine summer and a reminder of the joy in simple pleasures.

Taber’s Restaurant and Golf, located at 470 Lake Shore Drive, Auburn, is open 10am - 9pm mid-April to mid/late September. Reach them at 207-784-2521, find them on Facebook or visit their website, tabersgolf.com.

Construction begins on Eastern Trail “Gap” in Scarborough

By Allison Carrier, Scarborough Marketing & Communications Manager

Construction is officially underway on the long-anticipated Close the Gap project in Scarborough, Maine.

In partnership with the Town of Scarborough, Eastern Trail Alliance, and the MaineDOT, this project will add 1.6 miles of off-road trail to the Eastern Trail, connecting the trail segment off Eastern Road to the northern trail segment near the Wainwright Sports Complex in South Portland. This new segment will eliminate a key on-road gap, improving safety and accessibility for trail users.

The completion of a 1.6 mile “gap” in trail will provide 16 miles of continuous off-road connection from South Portland’s Bug Light to Downtown Saco. This project is the result of several years of work to raise the necessary funds, complete the project design, align stakeholders, and acquire the necessary permits and land rights. It went out to bid in Spring 2025 and construction began in June.

Plans for the Eastern Trail first began in 1998, when a group now called the Eastern Trail Alliance (ETA) held its first public meeting to make a trail connect Scarborough and Saco. Other major milestones were the steel



footbridge over the Scarborough Marsh that was installed in November 2004, the South Portland Greenbelt completed in 2005, and trail extensions to Kennebunk in 2010-2011. The “Close the Gap” fundraising campaign began in 2012 with gradual momentum over the past 13 years.

The construction project will be completed in phases. The section from Pleasant Hill Road to Wainwright is expected to

be completed by October 2026. The section from the Nonesuch River crossing (off Eastern Road extension) to Pleasant Hill Road will take a little longer, as it requires the construction of two bridges (one over the river, as seen in the photos, and the other over the railroad tracks). The full project will likely be complete in October 2027.

For ongoing project updates, please visit scarboroughmaine.org/close-the-gap.

Ceili Rain to kick off Arts Jubilee’s 42nd concert season

NORTH CONWAY, NH – Arts Jubilee returns to Cranmore Mountain Resort for their 42nd Summer Concert Series on Thursday, July 17th. The first of five concerts will feature Ceili Rain. Family Van will open the show at 6 pm, followed by Ceili Rain at 7 pm.

Ceili Rain—a longtime favorite of the Mount Washington Valley—performs an original, innovative blend of pop-rock music with a dash of Celtic flavor and a subtle, but sincere, uplifting and joyful message. As Billboard Magazine put it, “These guys deserve to be heard by the entire world. Their potential is limitless because they have an appeal that knows no boundaries. Ceili Rain music makes your feet want to dance and your soul soar!” So kick off your shoes, dance a jig, and join Ceili Rain as they carry on in their pursuit of heavenly partiness!



In keeping with a treasured tradition, the July 17th concert will feature a special guest performance by Jeanne Limmer’s AXIS Dance Company during Ceili Rain’s song “Peace Has Broken Out.”

Admission is \$20 for adults, \$15 for seniors, \$5 for students, and free for kids 12 and under. You can pre-order tickets online at www.artsjubilee.org or pay at the gate on the night of the show starting at 5:30 pm. The concerts are ‘rain or shine’ with the exception of rare circumstances,

so concertgoers are advised to come prepared as they would to any outdoor event. Parking is free, food and beverages are available for purchase on site, and there will be a raffle for a variety of prizes at every concert. Seating is not provided at the venue, so concertgoers are encouraged to bring a lawn chair or blanket. Animals are not allowed on the property except for leashed service dogs. There is an elevator located next to the front gate for handicap access-

See Jubilee, page 16



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Longley
Continued from page 7

vealed a majority of U.S. citizens opposed the resettlements. Longley pushed back on the notion of not supporting the refugees, quoting President Kennedy by declaring that the country is “a nation of immigrants.” There was some pushback in Maine. At a time of high unemployment, some Maine employees and Congressman David Emery believed that the resettlements jeopardized vacant job opportunities in the state. Conversely, there was also public support for the refugees, as well as backing from the Maine Legislature, which voted to pass a resolution in early May in support of refugee resettlement.

Numerous challenges and miscommunications tested the governor and his state agencies; however, the largest single-event refugee resettlement in Maine’s and the nation’s history was an extraordinary achievement. The Governor’s resolve to succeed, coupled with the cooperation and support from numerous organizations and state residents, all contributed to this forgotten chapter in Maine’s history.

There were other refugee resettlements in the state before and after the 1975 undertaking. All the other resettlements happened over months and



The Times Record photo, p8, 11/12/1975

even years. Beginning on July 27th, all 167 refugees arrived in Maine over a three-week period and were assigned sponsors, including two Lewiston families, by the end of August.

For more details about Governor Longley, Maine Vietnamese refugee resettlements, and the Vietnamese who resettled in Lewiston, see Episode 6, “The Forgotten History of Governor James Longley” on the YouTube Channel “Deconstructing Lewiston-Auburn and Maine History.”

Phil Nadeau is a researcher, writer, producer, and host of “Deconstructing Lewiston-Auburn and

Maine History.” This article is based on Episode 6 – “The Forgotten History of Governor James Longley: The 1975 Maine Vietnamese Resettlements,” July 7, 2025.



Kennebec Journal photo, p13, 9/1/1975

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Celtic Trad in music & song at WAW, July 31

WISCASSET, ME – A Celtic thread runs through music and song during the Wiscasset Art Walk on Thursday, July 31, 4-7pm and later, in Wiscasset Village.

The evening’s featured musician, Alex Bigney, plays Celtic harp on the sidewalk at the corner of Main and Middle St., near the Garden Club of Wiscasset’s flower stall. Alex lives in mid-coast and plays regionally, his music reflecting his Nova Scotia and Ukraine heritage. His music has been described as emotional; universal and personal at the same time. Alex has recorded five albums as a member of Kirkmount, a group made up of he and his two brothers and named for a deserted village in Nova Scotia where his ancestors once made music.

Across the street in Aekeir Tap Room, 111 Main St., a dedicated group of accomplished local musicians, referring to themselves as the Main St. Music Makers, play traditional Celtic songs with harmony and English country dances from the Baroque period. The group meets weekly to share music-making and to enjoy the company of other musicians. They meet “for the joy of music,” says Laurie Rousseau, who hosts the practice sessions in her home.

During the weekly sessions, Rousseau explains, everyone brings a song they like, and the musicians work on it together until it’s ready to play in public. “It’s not like high school band,” she says, “there’s no pressure.” The Music Makers have performed in several local venues.

The musicians who make up the Music Makers are Rousseau playing penny whistle and recorder; Nancy Cook playing violin; Liz von Huene playing violin, and Kat Logan on accordion, all from Wiscasset; John Schiesser on electric bass from Westport Island, and Alna’s Dave Figa on guitar.

During the WAW on July 31, they’ll be playing on the upper floor of Aekeir from about 4 to 7pm.

Slightly overlapping with them in Aekeir, from



Celtic harpist, Alex Bigney, plays for Wiscasset Art Walk sidewalk strollers on Thursday, July 31, 4-7pm. (photo courtesy Alex Bigney)

about 6:30 to 9pm, will be a group of neighbors, friends, and the simply curious, in the lower level of the pub, who join voices for an evening filled with joy.

“I love to sing, lead

traditional tunes from the British Isles, the U.S., and Canada, a few chanteys, and a bit of traditional folk.

According to Beaton, the sings are open to anyone who wants to come, once or regularly, and usu-



Singers from the region join in to a Celtic-themed song circle during Wiscasset Art Walk, Thursday, July 31, starting around 6:30pm. The public is invited to listen or sing. Hosted by Aekeir Tap Room, 111 Main St. (Bob Bond photo)

songs, and I like getting people together,” says Wiscasset’s Jamie Beaton, co-host with his wife, Deb Small, of the ‘community sings’ that have been happening monthly in Wiscasset Village since December. The format is simple: no rehearsals, little if any sheet music, no amps, and no musical accompaniment. Just voices. “People prepare what they want to sing,” explains Beaton. “They have songs in mind. They start singing and lead the chorus when others join in.” While it’s not a requirement, songs with choruses are encouraged. Beaton says that many people who enjoy singing are accustomed to the song circle format and are comfortable to join in.

Most of the music sung in this song circle are

ally about 20 singers show up, although his email list now runs to 60. And, of course, some people come just to listen.

When Rousseau was asked how she thought Aekeir owner, Jeremy Meyers, felt about all the musical sessions in the pub, she said “he’s an enthusiastic host and has become a community resource for musicians.” When Meyers was asked, he beamed and said he always imagined his tap room would become a place for the community to gather.

In 2025, the businesses-to-date that support Wiscasset Art Walk are Lead Sponsor, Ames True Value; and Major Sponsors, Carriage House Gardens, Cheney Insurance, Sherri Dunbar/Dunham Realty, Newcastle Realty, Rock Paper Scissors, Water St. Kitchen & Bar; with additional support from Aekeir Tap Room and Bradbury Art & Antiques.

For more information about Wiscasset Art Walk, visit www.wiscassetartwalk.org or email to wiscassetartwalk@gmail.com. Wiscasset Art Walk is a program of Wiscasset Creative Alliance.

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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 18
RAYMOND – Gordon Thomas Ward will deliver a very special dinner-concert performance featuring songs & stories at Nathaniel Hawthorne’s Boyhood Home in Raymond (40 Hawthorne Road) on Friday, July 18, with doors opening at 5 p.m.

July 22
AUBURN – The Auburn Public Library will be holding Visible Mending Workshop - an Introduction to Hand Sewing to be taking place on Tuesday, July 22nd from 4:30 PM to 5:30 PM.

July 23
AUBURN – The Au-

Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

burn Public Library will host an Author Talk with Amy Wight Chapman: Just Like Glass, A Family Memoir to be taking place on Wednesday, July 23rd from 4 PM to 5 PM.

July 25, 26, 27
AUBURN – Grand Opening of Books-A-Million bookstore to 730 Center Street, formerly the location of The Sports Authority. Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at 11 am on Friday, July 25th. Local Author Signings including Patsy Baldus, Matt Cost and Peggy Deblois on Saturday, July 26th and Diane Madden, Cody Mower and Anthony Blasi on Sunday, July 27th.

July 25
WATERVILLE – Waterville Rocks, a free, outdoor summer concert series held annually at Head

of Falls Park in Waterville, ME returns on Fridays, July 25, August 1, and August 8, with End of the Line, Atlanta Rhythm Section, and Mallett Brothers Band, respectively.

July 26
BUXTON – Try our delicious Haddock Supper Buffet - Saturday, July 26, 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.

July 26
AUBURN – There will be a baked bean supper at Sixth Street Congregational Church at 109 Sixth Street in Auburn, on Saturday, July 26th 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.

July 26
CANTON – Canton Historical Society celebrating 50th Anniversary. FREE events! Party

4:00-7:30PM w/mobile bar & food truck—both take cash or credit; history speaker at 2PM; museum & country store open 10AM-7:30PM. Raffles; FREE souvenir & cake. 25 Turner Street; handicap access. cantonmehistorical@gmail.com.

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

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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.

July 31
WISCASSET – A Celtic thread runs through music and song during the Wiscasset Art Walk on Thursday, July 31, 4-7pm and later, in Wiscasset Village.

Aug 8
LEWISTON – At 10am the Lewiston Public

Library Children’s Department will be offering a Butterfly Footprints Keepsake program. Caregivers and their babies will be able to create a butterfly keepsake using their child’s footprints on a preprinted background.

This program is recommended for caregivers and their children between the ages of birth-2 years old. Siblings are also welcome to attend. 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.

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

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SENIOR TRIPS

If interested in any of the following trips or upcoming trips, please contact Claire Bilodeau at 784-0302 or Cindy Boyd at 345-9569. If we are not available, please leave a message and we will call you as soon as we can.

SEPTEMBER 15 - 18, 2025 - THE GRAND CANYON OF PENNSYLVANIA - Trip includes 3 nights lodging, 3 breakfasts and 3 dinners including the historic Peter Herdic House and The Carriage House. Highlights of this tour are Susquehanna River Cruise, Pennsylvania Grand Canyon Wagon Tour, Millionaires Row Tour, Thomas Taber Museum, Historic Rowley House and much more. A \$75.00 deposit is due upon signing up. Price

of this trip is \$769.00 pp double occupancy and \$918.00 for a single. Final payment is due July 17, 2025.

OCTOBER 6 – 10, 2025 – ATLANTIC CITY, CAPE MAY, & PHILADELPHIA - Trip includes 5 days and 4 nights lodging, 4 breakfasts and 4 dinners and a free casino bonus for those who want to gamble. Guided tour of Philadelphia including Liberty Bell, Independence Hall, Betsy Ross House, the Federal Reserve and Mint. Then off to Cape May with a Trolley Tour of the Victorian Mansions of Cape May and a walking tour of a historic Victorian Home. We travel to Cape May Point and the famous Cape May Lighthouse. Our next day is a free day in Atlantic City to do as you please. Take in a show, do some gaming or just stroll down Atlantic City's Famous Boardwalk. **A \$75.00 deposit per person is due upon signing up. The price for this trip is \$849.00 per person double occupancy. Add \$210.00 for single occupancy. Final Payment is due 7/30/25.**

NOVEMBER 16-26, 2025

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APRIL 14 - 22, 2026 - HOLLAND AND BELGIUM SPRINGTIME CRUISE - Trip includes 9 days and 20 meals. Highlights are 7 Night River Cruise, Amsterdam with Canal Cruise, Keukenhof Gardens, Middelburg, Belgium Waterways, Scenic Sail, Bruges, Antwerp, Kinderdijk Windmills. Ship is the MS Amadeus Brilliant. Included in price is round trip air from Logan International Airport and all Hotel Transfers. Deposit is \$898.00 pp plus \$699.00 if you want travel protection. Rates vary depending on the cabin category you choose.

SEPTEMBER 20 - 28, 2026 - DISCOVER PAINTED CANYONS OF THE WEST - Trip includes 9 days and 11 meals. Highlights are Colorado National Park, Wine tasting in the midst of Colorado Wine Country. Moab, Arches National Park, Canyonlands National Park, Dead Horse Point State Park, Capitol Reef State Park, Bryce Canyon National Park and Zion National Park all in Utah, last day in Vegas. Included in price is round trip air from Logan International Airport and all Hotel Transfers. Deposit is \$698.00 pp plus \$429.00 if you want travel protection.

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

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Jubilee
Continued from page 11

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