

Arts Jubilee: Country-rock singer Aidan Canfield live

CONWAY, NH – The Arts Jubilee Summer Concert Series presents country-rock singer/songwriter Aidan Canfield and his band on Thursday, July 31st at Cranmore Mountain Resort. Gary Plourde (winner of the 2025 93.5 WMWV Local Song of the Year Contest) will be the featured local opening act at 6 pm, followed by Aidan Canfield at 7 pm.

Aidan Canfield's artistry infuses a unique combination of rock and country influences from the sounds that he grew up on—a little bit of Bob Seger and Bruce Springsteen, a little bit of Kenny Chesney meets Zach Bryan. His heartfelt lyrics and melodies have struck a chord of relatability he's witnessed on the road on support dates with Riley Green and, most recently, the Cameron Sacky Band.

When the pandemic hit in 2020, Aidan used the time to discover his passion for playing the guitar, and he started singing and writing songs. Since then, Aidan has released seven singles, an album, and his music has nearly 3 million streams. Featured in country music YouTuber and critic Grady Smith's "Best Music Under the Radar of 2023," Canfield's growing popularity has also led to his first CMA Fest performance on the Hard Rock



Stage and a feature on the Tidal Wave Festival in Atlantic City.

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. Please note that online sales close at 12 pm on the day of each show, but tickets will always be available at the front gate.

Arts Jubilee 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 accessibility.

Special thanks to Cranmore Mountain (Host Sponsor), White Mountain Oil & Propane (Season Sponsor), The Fairfield Inn by Marriott (Lodging Sponsor), the Conway Daily Sun and Conway Broadcasting radio stations (Media Sponsors), and all of our valued sponsors. For more information please visit www.artsjubilee.org.

Town of Gorham nomination papers available

GORHAM, ME – Town of Gorham nomination papers are available starting July 28, 2025 for School Committee & Town Council Seats. The Municipal election will be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2025 for the purpose of electing:

THREE (3) persons for Town Council to serve a 3 year term

TWO (2) persons for School Committee to serve a 3 year term

Nomination papers



will be available from the Town Clerk's Office beginning on Monday 28, 2025. Completed nomination papers must be submitted to the Town Clerk's office

no later than 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 4, 2025.

Any registered voter of the Town of Gorham, who is interested in running for any of these positions, must submit nomination papers with no less than 35 or more than 50 signatures of persons who are registered voters of the Town of Gorham.

Please contact the Town Clerk's Office at 222-1670 if you have any questions.



RESTAURANT GUIDE

eat local drink local

PAGES 8-9

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.

Makers Market, Pick Your Own Blueberries Fest in Gorham!

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

We will have 30 Vendors selling their goods (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, Gunnars Icelandic Hotdogs and Top it on the go serving up ice cream.

We are also having a BAKE SALE (blueberry themed) fundraiser for

MAKERS MARKET & PYO BLUEBERRIES

@ ORCHARD RIDGE FARM

SATURDAY, AUGUST 9TH

10AM - 2PM

RAINDATE: AUG 10TH

30 VENDORS | FOOD TRUCK & LIVE MUSIC

236 SEBAGO LAKE RD., GORHAM, ME 04038

ARLGP with all the funds raised will go to help the shelter continue doing the amazing work they have been doing for years.

This event is going

to be incredible and at the height of blueberry picking season, on one of the most beautiful local farms in Maine. We hope to see you there!

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

WinterKids launches 25 Days of Movement Challenge for families

WESTBROOK, ME – In celebration of its 25th Anniversary, WinterKids has launched the 25 Days of Movement Challenge – a free, statewide initiative designed to get families moving outdoors together this August. Participants receive a downloadable digital guide packed with over 100 screen-free activity ideas and can enter to win incredible prizes from Maine Outdoor Brands, including a \$250 L.L. Bean gift card, a family rafting trip from Northern Outdoors, and Maine Made products from FLYN, Kit Supply + Co., Marin Skincare, and Running Peas.

“This guide is full of easy ways to get outside and have fun as a family,” says Kristel Hayes, WinterKids’ Marketing Manager, who developed the program. “Most activities require no special gear or associated cost, all are low-barrier, and the real value comes from building new habits of getting outside together every day.”

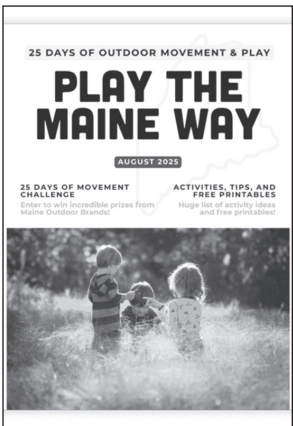
How it works:

Register free between July 21 and August 13 at winterkids.org/25-days-of-movement

Complete one outdoor activity daily between August 1 – September 7

Submit your completed tracker by September 7 for a chance to win prizes

The 25 Days of Movement Challenge is part of WinterKids’ year-long celebration of 25 years of helping Maine children develop healthy habits through outdoor play and education. It was developed in alignment



with Maine’s 10-Year Outdoor Recreation Economy Road Map, and in partnership with Maine Outdoor Brands and the Maine Office of Outdoor Recreation.

To register for the 25 Days of Movement Challenge, please visit winterkids.org/25-days-of-movement.

Donations, volunteers needed for HART’s Yard Sale

CUMBERLAND, ME – The Homeless Animal Rescue Team (HART) of Maine, an adoption center & shelter for cats in Cumberland, is pleased to announce their massive annual Yard Sale fundraiser is back at the Cumberland Fairgrounds, Thursday, August 7 through Sunday, August 10, 2025. Admission is free.

This year’s Yard Sale coincides with International Cat Day on Friday, August 8, and organizers believe there’s no better way to celebrate.

HART’s Yard Sale fills the entire 10,000 sq. ft. Exhibition Hall at the Fairgrounds, where attendees can shop for thousands of items, including vintage and antique items, furniture, clothing, toys, books and so much more. HART uses all proceeds from its flagship fundraiser to care for the hundreds of cats it takes in each year. The money raised will help cover the costs of food, litter, general medical care, and the expenses associated with the more complex medical needs that some surrendered cats require to survive, thrive, and be ready for adoption.

Sarah Michniewicz, HART Board Vice President, long-time volunteer, and organizer of HART’s Yard Sale, noted, “It’s been incredible to watch the excitement and enthusiasm for this event grow every year. Last year, we generated just over \$79,000 for HART. This year, with increases in medical expenses



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YARD SALE

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FREE ADMISSION • THUR-SAT 8AM-6PM • SUN 8AM-NOON

Shop thousands of treasures, find great deals, and pick up delectable treats from our Bake Sale table. All proceeds from this flagship fundraising event go directly to providing essential care for the hundreds of cats we take in every year.

SIP AND SHOP PREVIEW EVENT
WEDNESDAY AUGUST 6 • 4:30-7PM
Early access to the yard sale, beverage, and snacks.
\$28 tickets online / \$30 admission at door
Details and tickets available at hartofme.org

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
HARTOFME.ORG | 207-829-4116



es and the cost of caring for our cats, we hope to exceed the previous amount with a goal of \$85,000. And I know we can do it, based on the generous support of our community and our many dedicated volunteers, who make it all happen.”

SIP & SHOP PREVIEW

On Wednesday evening, August 6, 2025, from 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., HART will open the Yard Sale doors early for a Sip & Shop Preview event. A \$28 presale admission fee (\$30 at the door) will grant shoppers exclusive early access to the Yard Sale, along with snacks and a complimentary beverage. This event is always a fun evening, complete with

live music, gourmet pie sale, exciting raffles, and great conversation with treasure seekers and fellow cat lovers. Presale tickets are available on HART’s website.

DONATIONS AND VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

HART accepted donations of items to sell at the Yard Sale from Saturday, July 12, through Saturday, July 26, at their shelter located at 302 Range Road in Cumberland. Then, HART will continue to accept items (especially furniture) at the Cumberland Fairgrounds Exhibition Hall from Monday, July 28, through Monday, August 4, from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

They are looking for previously loved yet delicately used (or new!) furniture, vintage and antique items, home decor, kitchen gadgets, small appliances, clothing, toys, tools, garden equipment, holiday decorations, collectibles, books, and more. For a complete list of needed items, as well as those they cannot accept, visit their website.

Volunteers are still welcome to help set up for and during the event. For more information on volunteering, visit their website.

Admission to HART’s Annual Yard Sale is free of charge. The event runs from Thursday, August 7 through Saturday, August 9, 2025, from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and on Sunday, August 10, 2025, from 8:00 a.m. to noon. HART holds the Yard Sale in the Exhibition Hall at the Cumberland Fairgrounds, 197 Blanchard Road, Cumberland, Maine 04021.

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Landing School of Boatbuilding and Design hosting open houses

Gorham senior property tax assistance applications available

ARUNDEL, ME – The Landing School of Boatbuilding and Design in Arundel, a non-profit marine trades school, is hosting open houses at our



Help save lives with the Red Cross in Gorham, give blood or platelets

PORTLAND, ME – The American Red Cross calls on donors to give blood or platelets now to maintain a steady national blood supply. Type O blood donors are especially key to keeping critical blood products on hospital shelves into August.

Even a strong blood supply can experience a sudden drop – potentially impacting the availability of lifesaving blood and platelets that could help new mothers, burn and trauma patients, and those facing cancer. Help safeguard patient care by booking a time to give blood or platelets. Visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS or use the Red Cross Blood Donor App.

In thanks, those who come to give by July 31 will receive a Fandango Movie Reward by email.

campus at 286 River Rd. on Aug 4 (1-3 PM), Aug 15 (2-4 PM) and Aug 25 (10AM-12PM).

For details, visit RedCrossBlood.org/July.

Those who come to give Aug. 1-28 will receive a \$15 e-gift card to a merchant of choice. Plus, the Red Cross will perform free A1C testing, commonly used to screen for prediabetes and diabetes, on successful donations (one test result per 12-month period). Visit RedCrossBlood.org/Test for more information.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities July 31-Aug. 7

Cumberland	8/5/2025: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m., Masonic Hall, 166 Harrison Road, Route 117
Bridgton	8/7/2025: 12 p.m. - 4 p.m., Hilton Garden Inn Freeport - Old Town Hall Building, 5 Park Street
Freeport	8/7/2025: 12 p.m. - 4 p.m., Hilton Garden Inn Freeport - Old Town Hall Building, 5 Park Street
Gorham	8/7/2025: 1 p.m. - 5:30 p.m., Cressey Road Christian Church, 81 Cressey Road
North Yarmouth	8/5/2025: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Wescustogo Hall and Community Center, 120 Memorial Hwy
Portland	7/31/2025: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Cambria Hotel, 25 Hancock St
Scarborough	8/4/2025: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Maine Medical Center - Dana Education Center, 22 Bramhall Street
Standish	8/5/2025: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Saint Maximilian Church, 150 Black Point Rd
Yarmouth	8/4/2025: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Gardenside Condo Association, 12 Gardenside Drive
	8/1/2025: 11:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., American Legion Post 91, 196 Main St.

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.

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.

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!

WMPG, local breweries team up with live DJs, cold beer, good vibes

PORTLAND, ME – WMPG is turning up the volume on summer with Freaky Fridaze, a happy hour series that brings your favorite community radio DJs out of the studio and into local breweries across Southern Maine. This free event series is all about good music, great beer, and even better company.

We kicked things off in July at Modestman Brewing in South Portland, where DJs like DJ Comrade, Shaxx & Annela, DRB, and Nick Benson dropped the needle on feel-good sets while fans soaked up the summer sun. Ben (Soulmates) and Kenny Mac (sub) kept the party rolling and Low Down Dirty Shane and Thommy P are bringing the hip hop.

"There's something magical about taking the energy of our DJ booth and sharing it live with the community," said David Roger-Berry, Program Director at WMPG. "Freaky Fridaze brings together music lovers, brewers, and neighbors in a way that only community radio can."

August: Orange Bike

Brewing

In August, we head to Orange Bike Brewing for an afternoon and early evening of local brews and live grooves. Expect a rotating cast of DJs, eclectic vinyl, and maybe even a surprise guest. Whether you're a die-hard WMPG listener or new to the community radio scene, this is a perfect way to experience the station in real life.

September: The Portland Zoo

We wrap things up in September at The Portland Zoo, East Bayside's cozy backyard beer garden and music haven. It's the ultimate spot to toast the end of summer with beats, friends, and a little freakiness.

"WMPG is built on connection - between voices, songs, and people," said Annella Linton, WMPG's Development Director. "Freaky Fridaze is a fun, free way for us to bring the heart of WMPG into the places where our community already gathers. Plus, we dance."

Freaky Fridaze is a celebration of local music, local beer, and the power

of community radio.

Event Info at a Glance:

What: Freaky Fridaze – Live DJ Happy Hour Series

Who: WMPG DJs + You

Where: Local breweries across Southern Maine

When: Fridays this summer, 4-7 p.m.

Why: Because summer sounds better with WMPG

So grab your friends, raise a glass, and come hang with WMPG. Dancing is encouraged. Requests are welcome. Freakiness? Guaranteed!

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Seniors Not Acting Their Age

Kayaking the Islands of Muscongus Bay

For many years, I've organized a Penobscot Paddle & Chowder Society (PPCS) sea kayak trip to visit the puffins on distant Eastern Egg Rock in outer Muscongus Bay in June. This year, logistical issues resulted in a decision to cancel the trip.

Practicing the idiom, "every cloud has a silver lining," I decided to use the same timeframe as an opportunity to explore the islands of eastern Muscongus Bay. When I announced the alternative agenda, three fellow Chowderheads agreed to join me.

Weather is the primary concern whenever I plan a sea kayak trip. Fog had been prevalent along the Maine coast for much of June. After studying Maine Coastal Waters Forecasts for the area, I identified a sunny late-June day with hot temperatures, light winds, and gentle seas predicted. Particularly welcome news, no fog was expected.

Boat landings in Friendship and Port Clyde offer relatively convenient access to the islands of eastern Muscongus Bay. I selected Friendship because parking had been problematic during my last departure from Port Clyde.

Four of us met at the small landing at the end of Barrington Point Road in Friendship on a sunny, steamy morning. Almost high tide, the nearby waters were calm and the scenic harbor seemed to be calling us. After agreeing on an itinerary, we launched in four solo sea kayaks.

Since the tide was high, our first goal was to traverse through Pleasant Point Gut, a narrow channel that separates South Cushing from elongated Gay Island that cannot

be navigated when the tide is low. We paddled southeasterly off Crotch Island and into the gut. Traveling in the twisting passageway that angles northeasterly through a small busy harbor was an entertaining endeavor.

Turning southeasterly from the northern tip of Gay Island, our next objective was Teel Island. Partly owned by a club member whose father had once owned the entire island, I wanted to see the reportedly unique homes that grace the shore.

We paddled south past Caldwell Island and entered a rocky narrows separating it from Little Caldwell Island. Rounding some ledges, we met three kayakers heading in our direction. The encounter was a fortuitous one as Tamara Cody, owner of Port Clyde Kayaks, was guiding two clients on a tour. She recommended a nearby sandy beach for a lunch break and then joined us.

Tamara was a wealth of information. She knew the history of the homes and inhabitants of Teel Island and informed us that Port Clyde had recently constructed a new much-improved parking area next to the boat landing; invaluable information for a future trip. For those desiring sea kayak instruction or guided tours, she is likely a good source.

After lunch, we progressed south along the eastern shore of Teel Island. The unusual homes were particularly fascinating given our recently acquired knowledge.

Gentle seas and almost cloudless skies continued as we entered a picturesque archipelago called Georges Islands. After passing between several small islets, we approached substantial

McGee Island. We found a concealed passage that separates McGee from Barter Island. Impassable at low tide, there was still adequate water to maneuver through the engaging channel.

Exiting west into mirror calm seas, we elected to follow the same island chain north to Goose Rock. At the prominent rock, we completed an open water crossing to the southern end of Gay Island.

One more goal remained on our agenda. Two of us wanted to locate a renowned kayak destination on Gay Island called Maine Island Lodge. We persisted north along the western shore of the island in search of our objective. Once found, we agreed that a multiday stay at the impressive facility would provide an opportunity for numerous day trips while enjoying plush overnight accommodations.

Leaving the resort behind, we kayaked north past Morse Island in search of the landing on Barrington Point. After rounding the northeast corner of Morse Island, the narrow ramp could be seen west of Crotch Island.

The outgoing tide required maneuvering around exposed sand bars and ledges to reach the landing. The weather and sea conditions could not have been better for our approximately 12-mile voyage in magnificent Muscongus Bay.

My book, *Maine Al Fresco: The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine* relates eight more exciting sea kayak trips along the Maine coast.

Ron Chase resides in Topsham. His latest book, *"Maine Al Fresco: The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine"* is available at [\[countrypress.com/maine-al-fresco\]\(http://countrypress.com/maine-al-fresco\) 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 \[www.ronchase-outdoors.com\]\(http://www.ronchase-outdoors.com\) or he can be reached at \[ronchaseoutdoors@comcast.net\]\(mailto:ronchaseoutdoors@comcast.net\)](http://www.north-</p></div><div data-bbox=)



Paddlers prepare to leave Friendship Harbor



Kayakers pass unique homes on Teel Island



Kayakers explore a channel between Barter and McGee Islands

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Books-A-Million doubles down in Auburn: New store brings bigger selection, local author events, and community focus

An interview with Mike Nicholson, Books-A-Million District Manager of New England By Millie Barnard

Book lovers in the Lewiston-Auburn area have something new to celebrate: Books-A-Million has officially opened the doors of its brand-new Auburn location, moving out of the Auburn Mall and into a larger, standalone space that promises double the selection and plenty of community-centered programming.

“This is a great opportunity for us to expand,” said Mike Nicholson, District Manager for Books-A-Million in New England. “This new location is approximately double the size of our old store, which means we can offer a much broader selection of books, toys, games, and gifts that our customers love. We’re really excited to be able to better serve the community.”

The grand opening kicked off Friday with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 11 a.m., followed by a weekend full of author signings and events. The move to a larger space also allowed the store to build out one of its most exciting new features: an expanded local interest section.

“With the new space, we’ve been able to more than double our local interest area,” Nicholson shared. “That means more books about Maine and more opportunities to support local authors. My team has done a phenomenal job curating selections that Mainers are going to love.”

That focus on community extends beyond bookshelves. Books-A-Million plans to host a local author every weekend, creating a steady calendar of events to connect readers with the writers in their backyard. “Our goal is to



Pictured left to right: Glen Holmes, City of Auburn Business and Community Development Director; Denis D’Auteil, Assistant City Manager; Stephanie Doucette, Books-A-Million Assistant Store Manager; Adanica Keene, Books-A-MillionStore Key Holder/Manager; Jay Brechick, City of Auburn Economic Development Director; Mayor Jeffrey Harmon; Johnny Yim, Books-A-Million Store Manager; Mike Nicholson, Books-A-Million District Manager; Scott Dressed, Congressman Jared Golden’s office with Office Intern on his left; Gail Sanborn, Books-A-Million Regional Vice President; Carlene Tremblay, Senator Collins’ Office.

have a local author here every single weekend,” Nicholson said. “We believe strongly in supporting local creators, and this new store gives us the space to do that.”

The opening weekend featured a signing by Paul Doiron, the best-selling author of the Mike Bowditch mystery series, along with appearances from six other Maine authors. Future events include midnight releases for major titles—starting in September with the anticipated novel Alchemized by SenLinYu—and themed celebrations such as a “Percy Jackson birthday” party celebration later this summer.

Beyond author events, Books-A-Million also partners with schools and organizations through its book fair program, which helps local groups raise funds while encouraging reading. “It’s one of our favorite things to do,” Nicholson said. “We bring the books to the schools or organizations, host a sale on-site, and then give a portion of the pro-

ceeds back to them. It’s a great way to support local needs.”

The Auburn store is led by General Manager Johnny Yim and a team of experienced booksellers who together boast nearly 70 years of bookselling expertise. “It’s a pretty great group,” Nicholson said. “John and his team are ready to exceed expectations and give the Lewiston-Auburn area the bookstore it deserves.”

In an age where online shopping and audio-books dominate, Nicholson says the in-store experience is thriving—thanks in part to social media trends like “BookTok” that are driving readers back to physical books. “There’s been a huge wave of enthusiasm for reading over the past few years,” he said. “We’re able to meet that demand by offering what customers actually want—whether it’s a new BookTok favorite, a special edition release, or a curated selection of Maine titles.”

Ultimately, Nicholson says the goal is sim-

ple: to build “world-class bookstores” for the communities Books-A-Million serves. “We just want to be the best bookstore we can be for the Lewiston-Auburn area,” he said. “We’re grateful for the incredible response so far, and we can’t wait to keep growing with this community.”

Books-A-Million is now located at 730 Center Street, Ste 3c, Auburn. They are open 9am - 8pm and Sundays 10am to 7pm. Call 207-786-9412 or visit their website at www.booksamillion.com/.



Mike Nicholson, Books-A-Million District Manager and Gail Sanborn, Books-A-Million Regional Vice President in conversation following ribbon cutting



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Outdoor arts festival returns

BRUNSWICK, ME
– Get ready for an unforgettable day filled with art and music. On Saturday, August 16th, the Brunswick Outdoor Arts Festival returns to Maine Street! With festivities set up throughout Brunswick’s historic downtown, the festival is a great way to explore all the district has to offer.

An event with a humble origin, the Brunswick Outdoor Arts Festival began in 2007 as a small gathering of 17 artists. It has since grown into a locally beloved event, drawing upwards of 10,000 people downtown, and featuring more than 100 juried artists from across the East Coast, as well as dozens of specialty product vendors and demo artisans. Artists and community members alike make the festival an annual tradition, with 70% of artists returning each year to share their craft.

The Brunswick Outdoor Arts Festival offers something for everyone,

with entertainment and activities for all ages and interests. In addition to showcasing the work of over 100 juried artists and vendors, the festival features live performances from a variety of local bands and musicians, hands-on children’s activities and games, and live demonstrations by skilled artisans in woodworking, punch-needling, jewelry making, and more.

Admission into the festival is free, so bring your family and friends and come enjoy an incredible day in downtown Brunswick! Whether you are an art aficionado, a music enthusiast, or just looking for something to do with your Saturday, the Brunswick Outdoor Arts festival is the place to be!

For more information, including a full list of artists, vendors, and demos, visit www.brunswick-outdoorartsfest.com. We look forward to seeing you out there!

Brunswick Down-

town Association Mission Statement: “To promote Downtown Brunswick as a vibrant and attractive place to live, work, play, and do business.”

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Guild Fine Craft Show returns to Bar Harbor



Left to right: Works by Stephani Briggs; Dylan Levesh-Raabe; Purplebean Bindery; The Cultivated Thread; Jeffrey Lipton Pottery

BAR HARBOR, ME
– Guild Fine Craft Show: Mount Desert Island -produced by Shop Maine Craft - returns to College of the Atlantic with a dynamic indoor/outdoor event in downtown Bar Harbor, August 1 - 3. The show features a juried selection of fine handcrafted work by Guild level members of the Maine Crafts Association, along with distinguished guest exhibitors from across the region. Visitors can explore the work of 50 exceptional artists in a scenic coastal setting, meet the artists, and purchase one-of-a-kind pieces.

The Guild shows are a well-established artist marketplace welcoming the public to see, collect and learn about the highest quality craft items made by a membership of dedicated,

talented and skilled artists. The show features work in many mediums including handmade jewelry, ceramics, basketry, wood, metal, fiber (decorative + wearable), paper, print, glass, leather and more. The show opens on Friday, August 1 from 5 - 8pm and will feature a live jazz trio.

“We’re excited to return once again to the stunning COA campus for this year’s show,” said Lizz Brown, Show Director. “This beloved event continues to grow, and we’re proud to showcase the extraordinary craftsmanship of our Guild members alongside an inspiring group of guest exhibitors from across New England. It’s a weekend full of beauty, creativity, and connection in one of the most scenic locations in the

state.”

\$5 weekend admission, and those under 18 may attend free of charge. Open FRI 8/1, 5 - 8pm and SAT 8/2 + SUN 8/3, 10am - 4pm. College of the Atlantic, 105 Eden Road, Bar Harbor, ME. For more information, please email: Lizz.Brown@shopmainecraft.com or visit shopmainecraft.com

Summary:
Guild Fine Craft Show: Mount Desert Island College of the Atlantic | 105 Eden Street, Bar Harbor, ME 04609
\$5 Weekend Admission | Under 18 Free
FRI, AUG 1: 5pm - 8pm
SAT, AUG 2: 10am - 4pm
SUN, AUG 3: 10am - 4pm.

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By FRANK McCOURT

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Gray Wild Blueberry Festival celebrates community, culture

GRAY, ME – The 9th annual Gray Wild Blueberry Festival ‘Celebrating Community & Culture’ and all things wild Maine Blueberries runs 9:30 AM TO 3:30 PM Saturday, August 9. Family-friendly, free event featuring Food Trucks; Bake-Off, Pie Eating Contests, Spelling Bee, Master Beekeeper; 3 Bands, 75



Booths - artisans, crafters, authors and farmers market and 30 school & community groups; Kids Area, Fun Run, Raffle Baskets, fresh wild blueberries, whole pies, and more.

24 Main St, Gray
See www.wildblueberries.me/grayfestival/ for more information.

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

Apply now for Master Gardener Volunteer training

ORONO, ME – Gardeners with a passion for community service are invited to apply for the 2025-26 Master Gardener Volunteer training offered by University of Maine Cooperative Extension. This program combines in-depth horticultural education with meaningful community service. Applications are open now through August 15, 2025 at 4:30 p.m. with training to begin in October. The program is open to individuals living anywhere in Maine, however space may be limited in some counties.

The Master Gardener Volunteer program features a flexible, online curriculum with self-paced modules, live vir-

tual Q&A sessions with horticulture experts, and a 40-hour hands-on volunteer internship. After completing the training, certified Master Gardener Volunteers contribute at least 20 volunteer hours annually to projects such as community and school gardens, educational events, and local food security initiatives.

“This program empowers gardeners of all experience levels to create meaningful change in their communities. Each year, we watch volunteers grow—not just in horticultural knowledge, but in confidence, connection, and sense of purpose. It’s inspiring to see how a shared love of gardening can bloom into lasting im-

pact across Maine,” said Pamela Hargest, Horticulture Professional for UMaine Extension.

For gardening enthusiasts seeking the educational content without the volunteer commitment, Extension will also offer the Maine Gardener Training, a non-volunteer track open for registration starting September 29, with no application required.

Details on course fees, the full schedule, and how to apply are available on the Master Gardener Volunteer Training program website. For questions or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact us at 207-581-3188 or extension.mastergardeners@maine.edu.

Letter to the Editor Social Security’s 90th anniversary

“Social Security’s Legacy and Its Future,” AARP’s recent article in the Bangor Daily News, highlights some of the key challenges that are being faced by Social Security. On its 90th anniversary, these challenges put a spotlight on a program that has served as the foundation of retirement income for millions of Americans.

Here in Maine, 369,221 Mainers collect Social Security benefits, and approximately 102,000 Mainers aged 65 and older are lifted out of poverty through their Social

Security checks. Social Security helps Mainers live and retire with dignity, offers crucial support to those with disabilities, and serves as a financial lifeline for families navigating the loss of a loved one.

Congress hasn’t provided the funding necessary to ensure the Social Security Administration (SSA) can deliver quality customer service. In fact, funding to improve the program has long been on the decline. SSA funding has dropped by 9% since 2018.

The new Social Security Commission-er would be well served

by re-committing the Social Security Administration to providing timely, efficient, and effective customer service. SSA needs to be clear when communicating any possible changes and what effects the lower staffing levels will have. And Congress needs to provide oversight to ensure that customer service is prioritized at an agency that is tasked with serving Americans everywhere.

André Chassé
AARP Maine Volunteer State President

We want to hear from you!
Please submit your letter to the editor by 5pm on Friday for next weeks edition.



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RESTAURANT GUIDE

eat local drink local



Delicious desserts for sale

DaVinci’s Eatery: Nearly three decades of Italian dining & community in Lewiston

An Interview with Manager Katie Farr by Millie Barnard

Since opening in 1996, DaVinci’s Eatery (DaVinci’s) has been a staple in the Lewiston-Auburn dining scene—a place where family-style hospitality meets refined Italian cuisine. Founded by Jules Patry, who entered the restaurant industry without prior experience but with a strong vision, DaVinci’s quickly became a local favorite. “He just decided that having an Italian restaurant is what he wanted to do as a young man,” said Katie Farr, one of Da-



Staff members pictured left to right: Cierra Barker, Emma Couturier, Alex Helms (Manager), Kylie Orcutt and Mary Philbrick.

Vinci’s managers. Patry named the restaurant after Leonardo da Vinci, out of his admiration for the artist.

Originally located in
See Davinci’s, next page



Bartender Lara pouring a drink

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Davinci's
Continued from previous page

a smaller space in a mill building, DaVinci's moved to its current location nearly two decades ago. Patry is officially retired, having passed ownership to Craig Tribuno, a former silent partner who now leads the restaurant's continued growth.

Under Tribuno's ownership, DaVinci's has expanded its use of local ingredients and invested in updates to improve the guest experience. "If you were to look at our almost 30-year-old menus, you'll see a lot of the same items we still have today," Farr said. "But we're always bringing back fan favorites and introducing new specials." Top sellers like chicken parmesan and fettuccine alfredo remain on the menu year-round, while seasonal offerings such as lemon ravioli return by popular demand.

Many items on the menu are freshly prepared on-site. "We make the garlic knots fresh every day. It's one of the first things people ask for when they come in," Farr said. The restaurant also hand-pounds veal, prepares its own meatballs, and freshly breads eggplant for its popular eggplant parmesan.

With multiple seating areas, including a patio, DaVinci's offers a versatile dining experience. "Some people call us a family restaurant, others say fine dining—we're somewhere in the middle," Farr explained. "We'll have a family of 20 with eight kids under five at one table and a couple celebrating their 50th anniversary at another. We really can accommodate anyone."

Tribuno has continued to invest in the restaurant's future, adding a new kitchen floor, planning for a possible pizza oven in the café area, and upgrading essential systems. In June, DaVinci's extended its hours—now open until 9 p.m. on weeknights and



Italian decor throughout the restaurant adds to the authentic Italian dining experience



Beautiful bar and one of the dining areas

10 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays—and expanded its delivery radius to 10 miles, using UberEats and DoorDash.

Beyond its menu, DaVinci's has made giving back to the Lewiston-Auburn community a priority. "Last year and this year we fed almost every teacher in the area," Farr said. The restaurant also donates food weekly to the Auburn drop-in center sup-

porting the homeless and twice monthly to New Beginnings, a youth drop-in center. "Craig really wants DaVinci's to always be known as a place that cares about the community," she added.

For Farr, who has been with DaVinci's for nearly six years, the job is more than just managing a restaurant. "We have about 70 employees, some of whom have been

here over 20 years. Monica, our kitchen manager, started as a teenager and has been with us since the beginning," she said. "Our regulars are just as loyal—they've been coming since the original location, and many know us by name."

As DaVinci's approaches its 30th anniversary, its mission remains clear: good food, excellent hospitality, and strong community ties. "Whether it's a first date, a birthday, or just a Tuesday night dinner, we want everyone to feel at home here," Farr said.

DaVinci's Eatery is located at 150 Mill Street, Lewiston. They are open Sunday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Call 207-782-2088 or visit their website at davinciseatery.com.



Guests enjoying their lunch



RESTAURANT GUIDE

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Maine Community Foundation grants available

ELLSWORTH & PORTLAND, ME – The Maine Community Foundation (MaineCF) is accepting applications for several grant programs that support organizations and projects serving animals, youth, the LGBTQ+ community, the arts and underserved communities.

The application deadline for the following grant programs is Sept. 15. Visit mainecf.org/apply to submit an application.

The Animal Welfare grant program provides three-year general support grants to organizations dedicated to advancing animal welfare for small companion animals in Maine, primarily cats and dogs. For more information, visit mainecf.org/animals.

Edward H. Daveis Benevolent Fund supports early childhood and youth engagement programs in Greater Portland. For more information, visit mainecf.org/daveis.

The Equity Fund supports projects and organizations that serve the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ+) community of Maine. For more information, visit mainecf.org/equity.

The Land for Communities grant program supports community land projects that increase relationships to land for underserved geographies and populations in Maine. For more information, visit mainecf.org/14c.

The Maine Expansion Arts grant program provides general support grants to arts organizations in Maine focused on an underserved geography or population with limited access to arts programming including dance, music, theater, visual and/or traditional arts. For more information, visit mainecf.org/mea.

The Maine Theater grant program supports nonprofit professional and community theaters in the production and presentation of live theater. For more information, visit mainecf.org/theater.

The Maine Women’s Fund provides two-year general support grants to make bold investments

TPT, MSMT present *The Irish... and how they got that way*



Charis Leos, David Girolmo, Curt Dale Clark, Heidi Kettenring. Photo by Kevin Faraci.

BRUNSWICK, ME – Two of Maine’s premier theatre companies, The Public Theatre and Maine State Music Theatre, are thrilled to announce a special co-production of the spirited musical revue *The Irish...and How They Got That Way*, running August 27 through September 14, 2025, at The Public Theatre in Lewiston. This unique collaboration brings together the best of both companies, celebrating the resilience, humor, and enduring spirit of the Irish people in a heartwarming production that will leave audiences clapping, laughing, and singing along.

This marks the first co-production between MSMT and The Public Theatre since their successful collaboration on *Grease* in 2019.

“The Public Theatre is excited to offer Maine audiences an opportunity to see our beautiful theatre in Lewiston,” says Ray Dumont, Executive Director. “Partnering with Maine State Music Theatre, as we did in 2019 with *Grease*, combines the expertise, resources, and commitment to excellence of both organizations to bring a production to our stage that will delight audiences with great music and great performances. We hope that many new theatergoers will come to see what’s happening in Lewiston.”

Written by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Frank McCourt (Angela’s Ashes), this crowd-pleasing revue returns by popular demand following previous acclaimed performances. Through an evocative blend of storytelling, humor, and music, McCourt explores the rich tapestry of the Irish-American experience. Audiences will be treated to classic Irish ballads like “Danny Boy” and “The Rose of Tralee,” alongside contemporary favorites from artists like U2. This lively production offers a stirring portrait of a people shaped by history, hardship, and hope.

The *The Irish...and How They Got That Way* boasts a star-studded cast of long-time Maine State Music Theatre favorites, including Curt Dale Clark, David Girolmo, Heidi Kettenring, and Charis Leos. The production is directed and choreographed by the award-winning Marc Robin, renowned for his dynamic work on MSMT’s most beloved productions. This same production plays to sold-out houses at The Fulton Theatre in Lancaster, PA, from February 7 through March 16, 2025. “This cast is truly the best of the best. Not only are they MSMT favorites, but they are also lifelong friends. I am so excited to reunite this incredible group for an unforgettable theatrical event,” says Curt Dale Clark, Artistic Director of Maine State Music Theatre.

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE:

- Previews: August 27 & 28
- Opening Performance: Friday, August 29 at 7 PM
- Evening Performances: Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays at 7 PM
- Matinees: Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays at 2 PM

TICKET INFORMATION: Tickets range from \$45 - \$60 and are available via:

Website: thepublictheatre.org
Phone: 207.782.3200
In-person: The Public Theatre Box Office, 31 Maple Street, Lewiston, ME 04240

Don’t miss this rare opportunity to experience the warmth and wit of Frank McCourt’s masterpiece *The Irish...and How They Got That Way*, presented by two of Maine’s most celebrated theatre companies.

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Wiscasset Village opens its doors to visitors for WAW, July 31

WISCASSET, ME – Summertime in Wiscasset, Maine, means Wiscasset Art Walk! On the evening of Thursday, July 31, from 4 to 7pm, artists, musicians, crafters, local residents, and visitors experience together the sights, sounds, and tastes of this charming Midcoast Maine village.

Galleries will be in high gear for the evening. Wiscasset Bay Gallery features an exhibit, American and French Impressionism and Post-Impressionism, with gallery owners, Cordelia and Keith Oehmig, on hand to talk with visitors about art and artists. Keith is himself an accomplished artist with a distinctive style; look for his paintings on display throughout the gallery. Be sure to visit the garden patio where refreshments await and enjoy the accompanying sounds of Dave Lawlor playing jazz guitar.

Nearby, Sylvan Gallery, specializing in contemporary New England artists, features recent paintings by Paul Batch. Gallery owner, Ann Scanlon, an artist with paint-



Panacea, in Wiscasset Village, is one of a varied assortment of eating and beverage locations open during Wiscasset Art Walk, Thursday, July 31, 4-7pm. (Image courtesy Panacea)

ings on display, describes Batch’s work as presenting “captivating depictions of sunrises, sunsets, and moonrises, Batch’s paintings illuminate nature’s quiet beauty or its dramatic atmospheric effect.” This evening is a reception for the artist who will be in the gallery to talk with visitors. Note the large round table in the gallery festooned with lovely, tasty bites and something

bubbly. Harpist Torren Nehrboss accompanies the festivities.

Additional Village galleries, Bradbury Art & Antiques, Michael Dunn Antiques, Ingram Art & Antiques, Trifles, and Maine Art Gallery each offer exquisite paintings and rare and unusual objects. This season, The Peaceful Pagan Vintage joins the antiques group with a cu-

See WAW, page 16

Norway Savings Bank donates \$20k to USM Foundation

PORTLAND, ME – Norway Savings Bank recently delivered a \$20,000 contribution to the University of Southern Maine Foundation, part of a multi-year commitment to support the McGoldrick Center for Career & Student Success, the new hub of the university’s Portland campus.

“We’re so pleased to have been designated a ‘Founding Sponsor’ of the center by USM,” said Dan Walsh, President and CEO of Norway Savings. “It is already such an incredible resource for students, faculty, staff, alumni, and the wider community, including the opportunity for business representatives to connect with students in building relationships and



establishing the possibility of eventual employment. NSB is thrilled to be associated with a building that is benefiting so many people today and holds limitless potential for the future.”

The McGoldrick Center’s second floor is home to USM’s expanded Career & Employment Hub, where the employer community intersects with students in the academic community. The third floor is dedicated to cultivating student leadership opportunities and connections with spaces

set aside for USM’s Student Government Association, Diversity Center, and other organizations. The three-story center also features dining facilities, meeting and conference rooms, and student activity rooms.

The USM Foundation is an independent nonprofit that works side by side with the university to support the aspirations of students and the strategic vision of USM. For more information about its work and how you can assist, visit <https://usm.maine.edu/foundation>.

New law addresses knowledge gap around menopause

AUGUSTA, ME – On July 1, Gov. Janet Mills signed into law legislation sponsored by Rep. Kristen Cloutier, D-Lewiston, that will better equip those who menstruate with the knowledge they need to help navigate menopause and make informed decisions about their bodies and health.

LD 1079 will direct the Department of Health and Human Services to work with healthcare providers – including obstetricians, gynecologists and primary care physicians – as well as community-based health programs and hospitals, to develop comprehensive education materials about perimenopause and menopause. These resources will provide information about the symptoms, physical and emotional changes, treatment options and long-term health considerations associated with these transitions.

“I introduced this bill because resources and information about menopause are not mainstream in the ways they are for other normal life phases,” said Cloutier. “Failure to inform and educate people about menopause has huge health and economic impacts. This bill represents a crucial step toward normalizing conversations about menopause and equipping individuals with the accurate information they need to make the best decisions

for their individual health.”

According to data collected by AARP, 80% of graduating internal medicine residents did not feel competent to discuss or treat menopause. Only 20% of OB/GYN residencies offer menopause training and half of all U.S. OB/GYN residencies thought they needed more education on menopause medicine. Additionally, it is estimated that 85% of perimenopausal and menopausal people experience symptoms that impact their

quality of life, but only 60% seek clinical help. Of these people, 75% subsequently go untreated.”

The new law will go into effect September 24, 2025.

Rep. Kristen Cloutier is serving her fourth term in the Maine House and represents House District 94, which includes part of her hometown of Lewiston. She is the House chair of the Taxation Committee and serves as a member of the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee.

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

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Maine CASA Volunteer Training August 2025

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4 lessons kids can learn this summer and still have fun

LOUISVILLE, KY
– As summer hits its stride, the TurfMutt Foundation, a leader in environmental education and stewardship for more than 15 years, reminds families that local parks, backyards and other community green spaces offer an ideal outdoor classroom for hands-on learning—something that doesn’t have to stop while school is out. TurfMutt’s free K-8 curriculum provides fun and engaging ways for kids to keep their minds active while they spend time outdoors.

“TurfMutt’s free educational resources spark children’s natural curiosity about the world around them,” says Kris Kiser, President & CEO of the TurfMutt Foundation. “With TurfMutt’s help, a simple trip to the neighborhood park can become an exciting journey of discovery, teaching kids how our living landscapes work and how important they are to our communities.”

Four TurfMutt Foundation lesson plans to keep kids learning this summer:

Discover the Wonders of Earth
Lessons such as “What’s in One Square Foot of Earth? A Lot!” teach children to observe the hidden ecosystems thriving in a small patch of grass or garden bed. Backyards and local parks provide easily accessible environments for these fascinating, ground-level discoveries.

Investigate How Nature Works
TurfMutt sparks scientific curiosity with hands-on experiments through lessons like “Do Trees Breathe? Let’s Do an Experiment to Find Out!” By encouraging children to spot plant life, insects, and natural cycles, TurfMutt turns a casual stroll into a living science laboratory.

Understand Nature’s Superpowers
Lessons such as “Nature’s Flood Stoppers: Trees” illustrate the environmental superpowers of the landscapes in our parks and backyards and showcase nature as a powerful ally for community

well-being. These green spaces help manage stormwater, clean the air, and provide critical habitats.

Become an Environmental Detective
Through activities such as “Stormwater Sleuthing,” children can learn about water flow, pollution prevention, and how to keep their favorite parks and yards clean and healthy.

Beyond specific lessons, TurfMutt encourages active interaction with and care for our green spaces and encourages learning through direct engagement with the natural world.

TurfMutt’s youth curriculum is free and available for download at their website. Check out the TurfMutt Foundation’s International Backyarding Fact Book to learn more about the power of parks, backyards and other green space around us. Sign up for Mutt Mail, a monthly e-newsletter with “backyarding” tips and all the news from the TurfMutt Foundation at their website.

Free Activities for Kids

Backyard Wildlife Scavenger Hunt

Know Your Zone

Heat Islands: They're All Around Us

Grass Captures Water

How Plants Grow

THE TURFMUTT FOUNDATION

Mid Coast Hunger Prevention to renovate pantry with \$95K grant

BRUNSWICK, ME
– Mid Coast Hunger Prevention Program (MCHPP) is pleased to announce that the nonprofit organization has been selected as a Lowe’s Hometowns project, one of 100 community-nominated, large-scale renovations chosen nationally that will revitalize nonprofit and community spaces serving as hubs and heartbeats for hometowns. Now in its fourth year, Lowe’s Hometowns is the company’s five-year, \$100 million commitment to repairing and restoring millions of square feet of community space.

The Lowe’s Hometowns grant totals \$95,000 and will enable MCHPP to renovate its main food pantry and soup kitchen. Work will include installation of ADA-compliant doors, entrance improvements, resealing of floors, bathroom renovations, interior paint, installation of a covered shelter outside the soup kitchen for inclement weather, replacement of heat pumps, and installation of a new deli case and food storage cooler. Grant

funds remaining at the end of the project may be used to purchase décor, storage and other items that beautify or make the renovated space more functional.

“Our mission is to offer dignity and empowerment by providing all members of our community with access to healthy food,” says MCHPP Executive Director Hannah Chatalbash. “We believe that everyone deserves to access their meals and groceries from a welcoming and well-designed space that values quality, nutrition and inclusion. The renovations to our food pantry and soup kitchen made possible by the Lowe’s Hometowns grant will help us to shift the public perception of standards of service that can be provided to underserved populations. This project will not only improve accessibility, inclusion and independence for our mobility-impaired and older adult guests, but also raise the public standard of what can and should be provided in our community for all.”

MCHPP’s project

is one of three selected in Maine to receive a Lowe’s Hometowns grant, in addition to Preble Street and Milestone Recovery. Across the country, with help from Lowe’s red vest associates, Lowe’s Hometowns projects will expand kitchen and serving capacity for food pantries, restore dignity to well-used transitional housing facilities, revitalize parks and gardens for neighbors to safely gather and build restorative spaces for first responders to rest between calls.

Earlier this year, Lowe’s announced a promise to deliver 10 million square feet of impact to capture the immeasurable difference made when Lowe’s shows up to help, including initiatives like Lowe’s Hometowns. Visit [Lowe’s.com/hometowns](https://www.lowes.com/hometowns) and follow#HowLowe’sHelps on social media for more details on 2025 projects.

Grants

Continued from page 10

that transform the lives of women and girls. For more information, visit mainecf.org/mwf.

The Rines Thompson Fund supports organizations and projects in Greater Portland working in the areas of environment/conservation, early childhood programming, youth programming and arts/culture. For more information, visit mainecf.org/rinesthompson.

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

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Now through Aug 29
WEST GARDINER – Shop Maine Craft presents BIG, a collection of large-scale porcelain sgraffito sculpture and wheel-thrown forms by artist Tim Christensen, on view July 22 through August 29, 2025, at the Center for Maine Craft in West Gardiner.

July 31
WISCASSET – Summertime in Wiscasset, Maine, means Wiscasset Art Walk! On the evening of Thursday, July 31, from 4 to 7pm, artists, musicians, crafters, local residents, and visitors experience together the sights, sounds, and tastes of this charming Midcoast Maine village. A Celtic thread runs through music and song during the Wiscasset Art Walk on Thursdays, July 31, 4-7pm and later, in Wiscasset Village.

Aug 1
AUBURN – The Community Little Theatre (CLT) will host a staged reading of “A New Home” on Friday, August 1, at 7:30 p.m. The script will be read by veteran actors from CLT, and eight songs will be performed live. An original musical production, “A New Home” will be presented as CLT’s first production of the 2025-26 season, opening on October 30.

Aug 1, 2, 3
BAR HARBOR –

Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

Guild Fine Craft Show: Mount Desert Island at College of the Atlantic | 105 Eden Street, Bar Harbor, ME 04609. \$5 Weekend Admission | Under 18 Free. FRI, AUG 1: 5pm - 8pm. SAT, AUG 2: 10am - 4pm. SUN, AUG 3: 10am - 4pm.

Aug 3
BOWDOINHAM – Peter Gallway will be at the Bowdoinham waterfront performing to benefit the Bowdoinham library. The concert is free and the chili supper to benefit the library is \$13. We will have vegetarian and gluten free options Peter Gallway has released more than 25 albums spanning all styles from 60’s rock and roll, to jazzy folk, to atmospheric Americana. Come down to the water front with your blankets and chairs and enjoy some good food and good music!

Aug 4, 15, 25
ARUNDEL – The Landing School of Boatbuilding and Design in Arundel, a non-profit marine trades school, is hosting open houses at our campus at 286 River Rd. on Aug 4 (1-3 PM), Aug 15 (2-4 PM) and Aug 25 (10AM-12PM).

Aug 6
AUBURN – The Au-

burn Public Library: Author Talk with Art Dingley: Reading and Discussion of “Immigrants” to be taking place on Wednesday, August 6th from 4:30 PM to 5:30 PM.

Aug 7-10
CUMBERLAND – The Homeless Animal Rescue Team (HART) of Maine, an adoption center & shelter for cats in Cumberland, is pleased to announce their huge annual Yard Sale is back at the Cumberland Fairgrounds Thursday, August 7th through Sunday, August 10th. Admission is free.

In addition, on Wednesday evening, August 6th from 4:30-7:00 p.m., doors open early for an exclusive Sip & Shop preview event. Tickets are \$28 in advance and \$30 at the door. More info and presale tickets are available on HART’s website.

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 butter-

fly keepsake using their child’s footprints on a pre-printed 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.

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 9
GRAY – 9th annual Gray Wild Blueberry Festival ‘Celebrating Community & Culture’ and all things wild Maine Blue-

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berries runs 9:30 AM TO 3:30 PM. Family-friendly, free event featuring Food Trucks; Bake-Off, Pie Eating Contests, Spelling Bee, Master Beekeeper; 3 Bands, 75 Booths - artisans, crafters, authors and farmers market and 30 school & community groups; Kids Area, Fun Run, Raffle Baskets, fresh wild blueberries, whole pies, and more. 24 Main St, Gray. www.wildblueberries.me/grayfestival/.

Aug 9
OTISFIELD – The East Otisfield Free Baptist Church annual Lobster Dinner is being held on, Saturday, August 9th. The menu will include a 1 1/4 lb., lobster or ½ a grilled chicken, coleslaw, corn-on-the-cob, dinner roll, drawn butter, blueberry cake and other refreshments.

A total of 76 seats are available in 2 seatings, with the first at 4.30PM, the second seating at 6PM.

Tickets should be purchased in advance from Maryanne Hill for \$25.00 for the Chicken Meal or \$30.00 for the Lobster Dinner. All tickets are sold on a first-come-first-serve basis.

Please call 310-8056 or email Maryanne at EO-FBCdinner@yahoo.com for your reservations. All proceeds will benefit multiple church projects. The lobster Dinner will be held at the church located at 231 Rayville Road, 1 mile off Rte. 121 in Otisfield. Hope to see you there.

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.

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\$30K

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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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WAW
Continued from page 11
rated collection of choice antique and vintage clothing.

Explore the many other Village shops that stay open for Wiscasset Art Walk. Each is unique and owner managed. Look for sparkly streamers at doorways and pick up the night's strolling map for the list of participating businesses. Tired feet? Hop on board Woodfield Farm's horse-drawn wagon for a soothing ride around town!

Wiscasset Art Walk strollers will find delightful music on the sidewalk as featured musician, Alex Bigney, plays Celtic harp. Also on the sidewalk: peruse books and prints by Jennifer Merz. Shyborg Games, an indie game development studio in Wiscasset, demonstrates their first game, The Art Collector; get a preview of their new game, No Survivors, due to be released in October. And the art of the floral bouquet will be on display at the Garden Club of Wiscasset's sidewalk stall – take one home.

The Village boasts a varied collection of eating and drinking venues open during Wiscasset Art Walk. Grab a brew at Aekeir Tap Room, enjoy fascinating combinations at Panacea, slurp fresh oysters at Jolie Rogers Raw Bar, delight in lobsters and other seafood at Red's and Sprague's, relax with casual fare at Jodie's, and get mellow with a beverage from the bar and waterfront dining at Water St. Kitchen & Bar.

In 2025, the busi-

nesses that support Wiscasset Art Walk are Lead Sponsor, Ames True Value; Major Sponsors are Big Barn Coffee, Carriage House Gardens, Cheney Insurance, Sherri Dunbar/Dunham Realty, First National Bank, J. Edward Knight Insurance, Newcastle Realty, Peter Eaton Antiques, Red's Eats, Rock Paper Scissors, Wa-

ter St. Kitchen & Bar; with additional support from Aekeir Tap Room, Bradbury Art & Antiques, and IndustrialME.

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.



Hymn of Flight by artist Paul Batch is one of a collection of his recent works on display at Sylvan Gallery in Wiscasset Village. Meet the artist during Wiscasset Art Walk, Thursday, July 31, 4-7pm. (Image courtesy Sylvan Gallery)



Meet the creatives behind Shyborg Games, an indie game development studio in Wiscasset, who will be demonstrating their game, The Art Collector, during Wiscasset Art Walk, Thursday, July 31, 4-7pm. (Image courtesy Shyborg Games)

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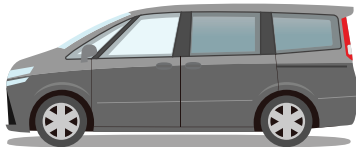
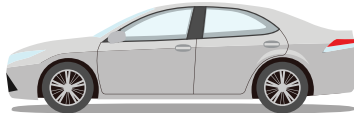
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