

Take the bus from Gorham Village for An Evening for Your Brain

PORTLAND, ME – Looking for something different to do after work? Step into a university setting, join thought-provoking conversations, and leave inspired — no textbooks required.

On Wednesday, September 3, the University of Southern Maine kicks off its USM Forum on American Democracy with part one of a four-part series:

Strengthening Democracy Through Pluralism: A Conversation with Eboo Patel at Hannaford Hall – Abromson Community Education Center, Portland Campus

This event is on the PORTLAND campus. We just couldn't resist a Gorham campus shoutout

Keynote: 5 – 6:30 PM
Book Signing: 6:30 – 7 PM



Free – registration required: see USM's website.

National civic leader Eboo Patel, founder of Interfaith America, will share how connecting across differences can strengthen our communities and our democracy. For more information: <https://usm.maine.edu/.../usm-forum-on-american-democracy/>

But wait.. there's

more! Make it a full experience:

Hop on the Greater Portland Metro bus from Gorham Village — it drops you right at USM's door. No parking, no stress. (Use the UMO app for a streamlined experience! Learn how here: <https://vimeo.com/954405379?fl=pl&fe=sh>)

Go early (or stay late)

for dinner in Portland — ride the bus and you won't have to worry about driving back.

Travel together with friends or family and turn your commute into part of the evening.

Bus Rider Photo Contest: You know we love a good photo contest.. Snap a picture of your crew on the bus and share it with #GorhamRidesMetro for a chance to win a prize!

Bonus idea: we're exploring possible Portland restaurant discounts for METRO riders that day — show your ridership receipt to save.

It's not your usual dinner-and-drinks night... but it could still be dinner-and-drinks plus an evening that challenges and inspires you.

BALLOON FESTIVAL

PHOTO SPREAD PAGES 7-10

Gorham invited to Bears & Shares: Back to School Bash

SCARBOROUGH, ME – Join The Little Gym of Scarborough and Real Maine Mom Guide at 700 Gallery Blvd Suite C, Scarborough on September 6th from 3-5:15 PM for a heartwarming back-to-school celebration where fun meets giving!

Each kiddo will get to stuff two adorable The Little Gym teddy bears — one to take home and one to donate to Adoptive and Foster Families of Maine.

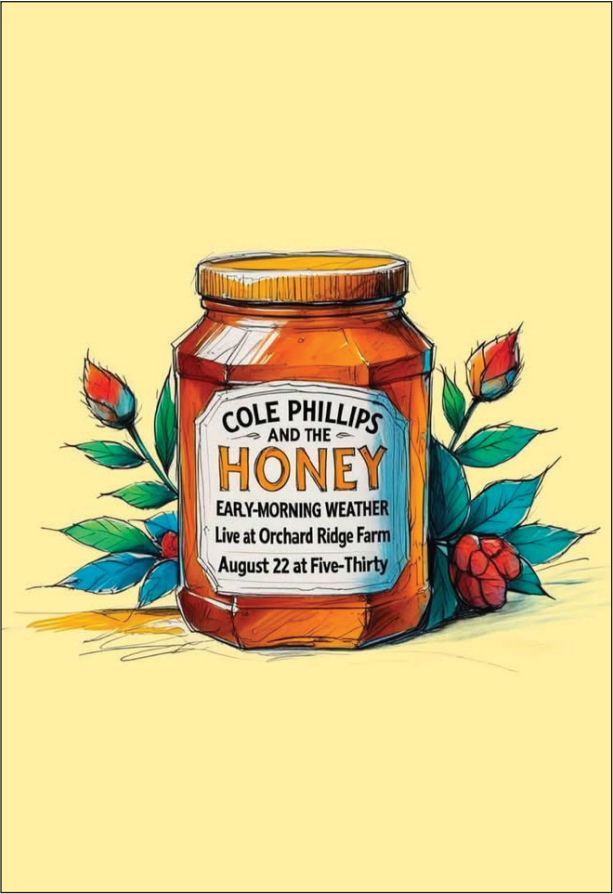
This special event is a partnership between The Little Gym of Scarborough and Real Maine Mom Guide, bringing families together to play, create, and give back to our community.

Alongside bear-stuffing, kids will enjoy gym time and leave with big smiles (and even bigger hearts!). Let's kick off the school year with Serious Fun and serious kindness!

Live music tomorrow at Gorham's Orchard Ridge Farm

GORHAM, ME – Join us at Orchard Ridge Farm for live music, food specials, drinks, and more!

The Early Morning Weather will play live, starting at 5:30. 236 Sebago Lake Rd, Gorham, ME.



Author event at Gorham's BML: Nick Fuller Googins

GORHAM, ME – Nick Fuller Googins is the author of the novels The Great Transition (chosen for this year's ReadME program) and The Frequency of Living Things (out August 12!). The Great Transition is a "richly imaginative, immersive, and electrifyingly relevant debut novel [that] follows a shocking disappearance amid the climate crisis of our near future."

The Frequency of Living Things is "a heart-breaking American epic about three sisters who unearth lifetimes of family tensions as they are forced to rescue one of their own from peril, testing the lim-

its of sacrifice, sisterhood, and forgiveness."

His short fiction and essays have appeared in The Paris Review, Men's Health, The Sun, The Los Angeles Times, and elsewhere. He lives in Maine, and works as an elementary school teacher.

Read ME is a statewide summer reading program offered by the Maine Humanities Council, Maine State Library, and Maine Writers & Publishers Alliance that gets Maine's adults all reading the same books — by Maine authors and recommended by Maine authors.

August 27, 6:00 pm.

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

09.06.2025

BEARS & SHARES

BACK TO SCHOOL BASH!

Open Gym & The Little Gym Bears!

Ages 0-35 Months 3:00-4:00

Ages 0-12 Years 4:15-5:15

Help us stuff bears for Adoptive & Foster Families of Maine!

\$20 Per Kiddo

Come join us for an afternoon of fun in the gym and stuffing TLG teddy bears! Each kiddo will get 2 bears to stuff. One to keep and one to donate to AFFM.

The Little Gym Serious Fun.

Adoptive & Foster Families of Maine, Inc. & The Kinship Program

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Lisbon Community FCU's Basket Raffle has 51 prizes up for grabs

LISBON, ME – Lisbon Community Federal Credit Union is thrilled to announce its record-breaking Basket Raffle—featuring an incredible 51 themed baskets—with all proceeds benefiting the Campaign for Ending Hunger.

Raffle tickets are on sale now through September 4, 2025, and are available to both Lisbon Credit Union members and the general public. Winners will be drawn on September 5, 2025. Tickets are just \$1 each or seven for \$5, making it easy for everyone to take part in this community-favorite fundraiser.

Baskets are on display at both Lisbon Credit Union locations, and tickets can be purchased in person at either location. From sweet indulgences to outdoor adventures, this year's baskets offer something for everyone. Here is a short sample of the baskets offered this year:

\$5 Uncirculated Bills Basket – For the first time in history, two women's signatures appear on these Federal Reserve Notes—uncut and uncirculated \$5 bills in a collector-worthy presentation.

Sweet Tooth Basket – From Maine Gourmet Chocolates: handmade pistachio bark, thin mint bark, orange Needham's, penuchi fudge, chocolate-drizzled pretzels, and a spicy crunch mix for a flavor-packed experience.

Bling in Bloom Basket – A jewelry tree adorned with stunning handcrafted gemstone bracelets by Victoria Lajoie Handcrafted Jewelry, featuring citrine, amethyst, tiger eye, garnet, carnelian, peridot, and labradorite.

Catch 'Em All Basket – An angler's dream from Pine State Sports Supply, loaded with hooks, lures, bobbers, tackle, and premium braided fishing line.

Get Busy Gardening Basket – Donated by Bush's Bushes Landscape Nursery, this gardener's bundle includes \$250 in gift certificates, top-tier tools, fertilizers, and a sturdy wooden trellis.

Disc Golf Package Basket – Donated by Dr. Disc Golf, this pro-level set includes a Discover Disc Golf backpack, Maine-themed cap, Birdie Bag by INNOVA, Dr. Disc Golf marker, and 8 high-quality discs to cover all your

throwing needs. Perfect for seasoned players and newcomers alike.

"This event is one of our favorite traditions," said Sarah Perkins, President/CEO of Lisbon Community FCU. "Every basket represents the generosity of our members, local businesses, and staff—and every ticket purchased helps us fight hunger right here in our communities."

Whether you're drawn to gourmet treats, sparkling jewelry, fishing gear, disc golf, or gardening goods, there's a basket waiting for you. Don't miss your chance to win big while giving back to the community.

Raffle Details:
Tickets: \$1 each or 7 for \$5
Sales End: September 4, 2025
Winners Drawn: September 5, 2025
Locations: LCFCU Lisbon & Lewiston Offices
For more information, visit LisbonCU.org/basket to view ALL 51 baskets and their contents or stop by one of our branches today.

Joshua Dunlap of Scarborough nominated to US Court of Appeals

WASHINGTON, D.C. – At a hearing of the Senate Judiciary Committee, U.S. Senator Susan Collins introduced Joshua Dunlap of Scarborough, Maine, who has been nominated to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit.

Mr. Dunlap grew up in Vassalboro, Maine, and is currently a partner in the litigation group of Pierce Atwood LLP, in Portland, where he co-chairs the firm's Appellate & Amici division. He has practiced at Pierce Atwood for over fifteen years, handling substantial civil litigation matters in both appellate and trial courts. He also chairs the Maine Appellate Rules Committee, to which he was appointed by the Maine Supreme Judicial Court. Prior to his work at Pierce Atwood, Mr. Dunlap clerked for the Honorable Paul J. Kelly, Jr., of the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit. Mr. Dunlap graduated first in his class from Notre Dame Law School. He came to Washington for his hearing with twenty members of his family, including his parents, wife, and children.

Senator Collins:
"Chairman Grassley, Ranking Member Durbin, members of this committee, I'm pleased to appear before this distinguished committee today to wholeheartedly support Joshua Dunlap's nomination to serve on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit."

"Josh grew up in Vassalboro, Maine and now lives in Scarborough with his wife, Sydney, and their three children. If you look in back of



me, you will see his three children, his wife, his parents, and numerous other members of his family. In fact, 20 of them, who are so proud of his nomination that they've made the trip to Washington. Josh graduated first in his class from Notre Dame Law School, where he received the law school's highest honor, awarded to the student with the most distinguished academic record. He then clerked for Judge Paul Kelly of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit.

"In 2009, Josh joined the very well-respected law firm Pierce Atwood in Portland, Maine. During his 16 years at the firm, he has specialized in complex civil litigation matters and currently serves as co-chair of the firm's Appellate & Amicus division. Josh is admitted to practice in multiple U.S. Courts of Appeal and before the U.S. Supreme Court. He has also assisted special masters in three original jurisdiction proceedings before the U.S. Supreme Court. Finally, Josh also chairs the Maine Appellate Rules Committee to which he was appointed by the Maine Supreme Judicial Court. This impres-

sive experience, coupled with his extraordinary intelligence and integrity, makes Josh exceptionally well-qualified for a seat on the First Circuit. His substantial appellate litigation experience will bring a practitioner's perspective to the court.

"The committee has already received many compelling letters of support for this nominee, and I would like to highlight a couple of them. A diverse group of faculty and alumni of Notre Dame Law School who taught Josh or studied alongside him have praised his, "respect for differing views" and "deep appreciation for the rule of law." A letter signed by 19 leading Maine attorneys, who described themselves as having a broad spectrum of political views and legal philosophies, wrote that Josh has all the qualities the finest judge's exhibit; he is hardworking, courteous and judicial in temperament, very smart, and of sterling character with a commitment to fairness and the rule of law.

"Mr. Chairman, before I conclude, I would like to thank Judge William Kayatta, whom Josh has been nominated to replace, for his outstanding service to the First Circuit. I joined in recommending him to President Obama, and had the honor of introducing Judge Kayatta to this committee. Now, it is my honor to recommend Josh, who actually worked with Judge Kayatta early in his tenure at Pierce Atwood, to this committee. I am confident that, if confirmed, Josh will serve Maine and the nation extraordinarily well in this critical role.

"For these reasons, I urge the committee to support his nomination, and I appreciate this opportunity to introduce him to the committee."

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Business, resilience workshop held for Cumberland County

ORONO, ME – University of Maine Cooperative Extension in partnership with the Maine Business School will offer Build a Better Business, a hands-on workshop for business owners and prospective entrepreneurs, on the following dates and at these locations:

Tuesday, Sept. 16 – Cumberland County Extension, 75 Clearwater Drive, Falmouth

Wednesday, Sept. 17 – Somerset County Extension, 7 County Drive, Skowhegan

Wednesday, Sept. 24 – UMaine Machias, 116 O'Brien Avenue, Machias

Tuesday, Sept. 30 – Penobscot County Extension, 307 Maine Avenue, Bangor

Each session offers a full-day program from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., or the choice of a half-day morning or afternoon session. Morning sessions will focus on business strategy and financial modeling. Afternoon sessions will cover business resilience planning and developing a growth mindset. All sessions include a locally catered lunch and snacks.

Presenters include Jason Entsminger, Ph.D., assistant professor of entrepreneurship and innovation at the Maine Business School and Extension state specialist for small business; Jason Harkins, Ph.D., executive dean of the Maine



Business School and dean of the Graduate School of Business; Jens Kaus, Ph.D., postdoctoral fellow in sustainable business at the Maine Business School; and Lisa Liberatore, serial entrepreneur and adjunct instructor at the Maine Business School. The presenters bring experience in applied research, rural entrepreneurship, venture scaling and business education.

The cost is \$75 for a half-day or \$100 for a full-day session, including lunch. A minimum of 12 participants may be required per site. Scholarships are



available for participants working in Maine's outdoor recreation economy; those with businesses related to outdoor recreation may select a reduced rate of \$20 for the full-day session when registering. Registration closes three days prior to each event. To register or learn more, visit the program webpage.

For more information or logistical questions, contact Lisa Liberatore at lisa.liberatore@maine.edu. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Jason Entsminger at 207.581.1999 or jason.entsminger@maine.edu.

Landing School of Boatbuilding and Design hosting open houses

ARUNDEL, ME – 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 25 (10AM-12PM).

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.

Living Waters Church invites Gorham to Haddock Supper

BUXTON, ME – Try our delicious Haddock Supper Buffet - Saturday, August 30, 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.

Walker's Landing, Maine Pointe Lending host school supply drive

STANDISH, ME – Walker's Landing is partnering with Maine Pointe Lending for a backpack and school supply drive. They donate these items to kiddos all over Southern Maine. Every little bit

helps, so whether it's a backpack or pencils, it'll put a smile on a kids face! We hope our region will show up in force, so let's show these kids some love and help them kick off their school year the right way!!

Box is located immediately upon entering the store.

You can also make a monetary donation via the Venmo barcode on the box.

2 Chadbourne Road in Standish.

Town of Gorham seeks to fill committee, council seats

GORHAM, ME – 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, July 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.

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

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Jonathan Knowlton
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Jonathan Knowlton joined Champoux Insurance Group in February as an Account Executive, with 20 years of experience in the insurance and investment field. After graduating from Thomas College with honors, he went to work for Metlife as a personal financial representative. From there he worked for Allstate insurance and within 3 years, had opened his own agency on Sabattus Street in Lewiston. Jonathan closed the agency after 13 successful years. Making sure clients are educated about the risks they face and protecting them with auto home, and life insurance products has always been important to him; local families truly are in good hands with him. Jonathan lives in Auburn with his wife and son and enjoys ice fishing, ATVing, hiking, growing hot peppers and volunteering with the Boy scouts. Champoux Insurance Group welcomes Jonathan to our Team.



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Press Releases

All submissions, including photos, must
be emailed to editor@GorhamWeekly.com.

Proofs

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copy not inspected by advertiser prior to publication.

DaPonte String Quartet concerts in August & September

MAINE – DaPonte String Quartet concerts in August & September will be performing Beethoven and Korngold: A Journey from Heroic Classicism to Hollywood Romance.

Sunday August 24 3:00 pm St. Columba’s Episcopal Church, 32 Emery Lane, Boothbay Harbor.

Wednesday August 27 7:00 pm Maine Jewish Museum, 267 Congress Street, Portland.

Thursday August 28 7:00 pm Union Church, Rt. 129 & Middle Road, South Bristol.

Friday August 29 7:00 pm St. Paul’s Union Chapel, 1065 Dutch Neck Rd., Waldoboro.

Sunday August 31 3:00 pm Great Cranberry

Island Church, Great Cranberry Island.

Thursday September 4 7:00 pm First Church in Belfast, UCC, 8 Court St., Belfast.

Friday September 5 7:00 pm Union Hall, 24 Central Street, Rockport.

Saturday September 6 3:00 pm Brunswick Unitarian Universalist Church, 1 Middle St., Brunswick.

Sunday September 7 7:00 pm Old Walpole Meetinghouse Annual Candlelight Concert, a fundraiser for the Meetinghouse.

Saturday September 13 5:00 pm Eagle Hill Institute, 59 Eagle Hill Rd., Steuben.

Sunday September 14 4:00 pm Surry Arts & Events at the Barn, 8 Cross Rd., Surry.

For additional information and tickets go to www.dapontequartet.org.

2025 Maine Hire-A-Vet campaign kicks off

MAINE – The 2025 Maine Hire-A-Vet Campaign kicks off this Thursday, August 14, at the Augusta Civic Center! Maine’s annual campaign is a statewide effort with the goal of at least 100 employers hiring at least 100 veterans and military family members during a 100-day period.

The kickoff will be followed by monthly in-person hiring events throughout the state. The first session was August 14, 2025 and is followed by sessions on:

September 25, 2025 | 11:00 am to 3:00 pm | University of Maine-Orono

October 16, 2025 | 11:00 am to 3:00 pm | Maine Sports Arena, Saco

November 13, 2025 | 11:00 am to 3:00 pm | University of Maine-Farmington

While the campaign is focused on veterans and their families, these events are open to ALL jobseekers!

The Maine Hire-A-

Vet campaign provides support and resources to connect veterans with employers through a network of state and federal agencies, resources and non-profits, education on military language and culture, recruiting and hiring assistance, and recognition for the hiring and advancement of veterans and military family members.

Learn more at www.myworksourcemaine.gov/events/maines-hire-vet-campaign-2025.

Local families provide school supplies for children in need

MAINE – As the summer season comes to an end, local families are preparing for the school year with back-to-school sales, but many families are not just shopping for their own children. Families are collecting school supplies, along with personal care items and fun toys, for children in need around the world. These items will fill Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts, which will be sent to children in over 100 countries—reminding children that God loves them and they are not alone.

For many children around the world, school supplies like coloring pencils and markers are a luxury many cannot access. For Dioany Yosuiño, a shoebox recipient from Venezuela, colorful markers were something she longed to have as she attended school,

but her family could not afford them.

When Yosuiño received an Operation Christmas Child shoebox, she remembers all the vibrant colors and the brand-new toys. “To my surprise, I also received really good, quality markers,” said Yosuiño. “From that moment and through the shoebox gift, I understood what the Bible says is true. Whenever we trust in God, He promises to give us the desires of our heart,” said Yosuiño. This simple gift, filled with school supplies, made a life-changing impact for Yosuiño because it opened the doors for her to trust God in a new way.

For more information visit samaritanspurse.org/occ. National Collection Week is Nov. 17 – 24. Participants can donate \$10 per shoebox gift online through



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15% of all food sales on September 24th from 4pm to 9pm will be donated by Lost Valley to help keep our mission going!



Wednesday, September 24th | 4pm to 9 pm

Lost Valley
200 Lost Valley Rd. Auburn, ME

Seniors Not Acting Their Age Exploring Lower Togus Pond

For several years, I've organized Penobscot Paddle & Chowder Society spring whitewater trips on Togus Stream from Chelsea to Randolph where it joins the Kennebec River. Those adventures recently motivated me to investigate the source of the stream, Togus Pond in Augusta.

My research indicated Togus Pond is separated into two distinct bodies of water called Togus Pond and Lower Togus Pond. Togus Pond is a wide, circular pond whereas Lower Togus Pond is elongated with numerous coves, inlets, and islands. Lower Togus Pond appeared to be a much more appealing destination for kayak exploration so that was my choice.

After identifying a hot, sunny July day with light southerly winds forecast, I sent an email invitation to the usual suspects. My neighbor and friend, Seth Blodgett, was free and agreed to join me.

The only boat access to Lower Togus Pond is located on Route 105 in Augusta. The small hand-carry landing has a paved parking area with space for a few vehicles.

The skies were partly cloudy and winds nonexistent when we arrived at the boat launch. After carrying boats through a narrow path for a short distance, we embarked in two solo flatwater kayaks.

The first thing that impressed us about northern Lower Togus Pond was that it was essentially undeveloped. Initially, we cruised south through a narrow passage with swamp grass along both shores. Soon after entering a widening section of the pond, we passed a family of loons feeding in a cove on the western shore, indicative of an abundant fish population. A confusing array of islands, peninsu-

las and coves populate this part of the pond. Lacking an obvious route south, we followed a twisting path that was free of swamp grass and lily pads.

The character of the pond gradually transitioned from swampy terrain to a more rugged rocky shoreline. Ledge outcroppings were observed on several of the small islands in the central part of the pond. We stopped for lunch on one of the ledges which had a convenient place to land. An old stone fire ring at the top was evidence fires had been built there in the past and the site may have been used for camping.

More route finding was necessary when we set off again. We chose a narrow passageway between some small islands and emerged into open water. A large inlet on the left appeared to be a cul-del-sac, so we elected to angle right into an attenuated channel.

We made the right choice passing a cottage on the right and entering narrows with a developed shoreline. A colony of camps and year-round homes line both shores nearing the southern terminus of the pond.

At that point, we had not seen anyone on the water. Numerous paddle boats were associated with the camps but there was an apparent absence of motor boats. We stopped to talk with three women who were swimming to escape the heat. They reported there was no prohibition against motorboats but their access is limited to launching from the cottages so there aren't many on the pond.

We progressed south through a field of lily pads to the outlet dam near Route 17. The dam is an interesting contrast of old and new. Originally built in 1804 and rebuilt in the 1980s, the Worromonto-



A kayaker arrives at the outlet dam on Togus Pond



A gentle tailwind benefited paddlers on the return trip

gus Lake Association is the owner. A fishway was completed in 2019 and the unique design is considered one of finest in the country. Getting out of our boat to view the interesting facility was worth the effort.

The fishway has successfully reintroduced alewives into Togus Pond. The hope is that other species which populate the stream such as Atlantic Salmon will climb the ladder and spawn in the pond.

The return trip was one of pure bliss. We benefited from a gentle tailwind, sunny skies and warm temperatures while traveling through one of central Maine's most scenic ponds. Remarkably, no other boaters were encountered during our voyage.

Lower Togus Pond is the ideal destination for boaters searching for an outstanding paddling expe-

rience on a predominantly undeveloped remote pond with quality access. We'll be back.

My book, *Maine Al Fresco: The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine* narrates 28 paddle trips on Maine's rivers, streams, lakes and ponds, and along the coast.

Ron Chase resides in Topsham. His latest



Topsham resident Seth Blodgett kayaks through an undeveloped section of Lower Togus Pond

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.ronchaseoutdoors.com or he can be reached at ronchaseoutdoors@comcast.net.

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\$5.3M for local TRIO Student Support Services grants

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Susan Collins, the co-chair of the bipartisan Congressional TRIO Caucus, announced that the Department of Education has awarded a total of \$5,354,951 in TRIO Student Support Services grants to 11 Maine colleges and universities. These grants are given to colleges and universities to improve the retention and graduation rates of first-generation and low-income college students. The announcement comes after Senator Collins, Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, questioned Secretary of Education Linda McMahon on the proposed elimination of TRIO programs at an Appropriations hearing to review the Fiscal Year 2026 budget request for the U.S. Department of Education.

“I have seen the lives of countless first-genera-

tion and low-income students, not only in Maine, but across the country, changed by the TRIO program. I am glad the Secretary of Education followed through on the commitment she made to me at our Appropriations hearing to disburse these grants, and I will continue to urge the Administration to support this critical investment into our students and schools,” said Senator Collins.

The following Maine colleges and universities received Student Support Services grants:

University of Maine at Augusta - \$566,531.
University of Maine at Farmington - \$352,530.
Kennebec Valley Community College - \$352,531.
Southern Maine Community College - \$544,728.
University of Maine at Presque Isle - \$746,168

University of Maine - \$694,807.
Central Maine Community College - \$620,879.
Eastern Maine Community College - \$272,364.
University of Maine at Fort Kent - \$356,773.
University of Southern Maine - \$544,728.
Washington County Community College - \$302,912.

In June, Senator Collins announced the Department of Education’s release of TRIO Upward Bound Grants for Maine following her urging.

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

Maine Youth Circus at Wiscasset Art Walk, Aug. 28

WISCASSET, ME – Juggling, unicycling, balance acts! Welcome to the world of Maine Youth Circus, performing during Wiscasset Art Walk on Thursday, August 28, from 4 to 7pm, on the sidewalks of Wiscasset Village.

Maine Youth Circus is based in Portland, ME, and has been a circus school for youth since 2023. According to Andrew Silver, MYC coach, instructor, and board member, some young people are drawn to circus arts because the rewards are great, and the environment is collaborative. The young circus students put their imaginations to use, develop their creativity, and enjoy the physicality. Then, with practice and honing of skills, they experience the confidence and pride that comes from performance.

Many of the skills involved in circus arts, says Silver, are useful in everyday life. Spatial awareness, eye-hand coordination, balance, and collaboration are critical to mastering circus arts, but are also “useful to everybody else every day.”

Silver, an enthusiastic supporter of teaching circus arts and himself a full-time performer as a circus variety artist, believes that “circus is accessible for everybody.” To illustrate the point, MYC will offer demos. and preliminary instruction in juggling, low stilt-walking, and other feats, in a workshop space, under the tent, during WAW. Adults are welcome, too!

In 2025, the businesses that support Wiscasset Art Walk are Lead Sponsor, Ames True Value; Major Sponsors are Big Barn Coffee, Carriage House Gardens, Cheney Insurance, Cope & Co., Sherri Dunbar/Dunham Realty, First National Bank, J. Edward Knight Insurance, Newcastle Realty, Peter Eaton Antiques, Red’s Eats, Rock Paper Scissors, Water 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 wiscassetartwalk@gmail.com. Wiscasset Art Walk is a program of Wiscasset Creative Alliance.



THE IRISH... AND HOW THEY GOT THAT WAY
By FRANK McCOURT

A heartfelt musical tribute to the Irish-American experience.

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Photos by Millie Barnard, Gorham Weekly





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Photos by Millie Barnard, Gorham Weekly



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Norway Savings Bank contributes \$10K to the Mitchell Institute

PORTLAND, ME – “No one should be guaranteed success, but everyone should have a fair chance to succeed, to go as high and as far as his or her talent, willingness to work, and willingness to take risks will carry them.”

The words of Senator George J. Mitchell offer a succinct, yet apt, description of the hope engendered by the Mitchell Institute, an organization that, for 30 years, has greatly increased the likelihood that young people from every Maine community aspire to, pursue, and achieve a college education.

Senator Mitchell founded the Mitchell Scholarship Program in 1995 with a goal of increasing educational opportunities for Maine students. Four years later, the Mitchell Institute was established, adding career and personal support programs for Mitchell Scholars, fellowships, and a research component.

Mitchell Scholars are selected based on academic promise, community impact, and financial need.

“Every year, the Mitchell Institute awards a college scholarship to at least one graduating senior from each public high school in Maine. This year, 200 Mitchell Scholarships were awarded. It’s remarkable to see the ways in which the Institute helps these promising students develop leadership skills, find professional development opportunities, and form career networks in addition to the crucial financial support,” said Dan Walsh, President and CEO of Norway Savings Bank, which recently donated \$10,000 to the Institute and its impact.

Each scholar carries a story of drive, perseverance, and achievement in the face of adversity. Fueled by hope and an eagerness to leverage their hard work and determination to improve their lives, the lives of their families, and the world around them. In the 30 years since its inception, over 4,000 Mitchell Scholars have been named



and nearly \$29 million distributed to deserving young people throughout Maine.

“They have done incredible things for their communities,” said Janice de Lima, Community Reinvestment Act Officer VP at Norway Savings Bank. “In providing this support to the Institute, NSB is helping to ensure the spirit and enthusiasm of young people from every community in Maine are nourished and celebrated, and we’re grateful for the opportunity.”

Through the work of the Institute, Mitchell Scholars graduate from college at a rate (90%) that far exceeds the national average (58%), and the guidance they are offered, both during and after college, helps provide an invaluable roadmap to a fulfilling life.

“As a Mitchell Scholar, I’ve joined a lifelong community dedicated to helping one another thrive,” said Ideh Rohani, a graduate of Edward Little High School who now serves as a Clinical Research Nurse Coordinator for MaineHealth. “Having witnessed firsthand how the Institute transforms Scholars and strengthens communities, I am deeply grateful to be part of this network, one that is committed to advancing Maine’s future.”

“This organization isn’t just a scholarship. It’s

a lifelong community of support, mentorship, and opportunity. It has helped me become a better leader and more engaged member of my community, and I will always be deeply grateful for its impact on my life,” said Adam Fortier-Brown, a Gardiner High School graduate who is now a law student at the University of Maine School of Law and the Editor-in-Chief of the Maine Law Review.

“The Mitchell Institute has consistently empowered me to explore. I’ve changed directions many times, sometimes by choice and sometimes not,” said Adriana Ortiz-Burnham, a Monmouth Academy alum and development lead for Presente! Maine which offers aid to displaced and dispossessed Afro/Indigenous-Latines. “The Institute was there through it all, investing material and intangible resources in me and my future, reflecting my potential back at me.”

“When you hear just one of the Scholar stories, you’re moved by what this organization is accomplishing. Having the chance to be a small part of this assistance and the betterment of Maine’s future is an honor for us,” said Walsh. “The Mitchell Institute is changing the course of thousands of young people to a better destination, and NSB as

well as our state is thankful for the creation and maintenance of that path.”

To learn more about the Mitchell Institute, its work, or to learn how you can help the organization in its mission, visit www.mitchellinstitute.org.

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Tips for trolling for Maine trout & salmon

BRUNSWICK, ME – Trolling Maine’s ponds and lakes is a traditional and effective way to enjoy fishing. Lifelong angler Stan Pauwels will share tips and secrets for trolling for trout and salmon at the Tuesday, September 16, 2025, monthly get-together of the Merrymeeting Bay Chapter of Trout Unlimited.

Stan moved to Maine in 1983 to attend graduate school. He fell in love with the tremendous fishing, hiking, and camping opportunities across the state. Stan specializes in catching smallmouth bass on large rivers in the summer, and salmonids on ponds and lakes across the four seasons. He particularly enjoys the technical challenge of targeting salmon and trout on lakes in the summer, which is the topic of his presentation – “Trolling for Maine’s Trout & Salmon: The Good, The Bad, The Ugly.”

Members and the public are invited to attend the Merrymeeting Bay monthly meeting of this national cold-water conservation organization as we gather sportspeople and conservationists on Tuesday, September 16,



2025, at Sea Dog Brewing, 1 Bowdoin Mill Island, Topsham.

Social hour begins at 6:00 pm, the presentation starts at 7:00 pm. The event is free; dinner and drinks can be purchased.

MMBTU monthly membership meetings are held at Sea Dog on the third Tuesday of each month, September through May. Upcoming meetings are scheduled for 21 October, 18 November, and 16 December.

No admission fee. Open to members and non-members alike.

Please join us. Our mission is to conserve, protect, and restore our

area’s cold-water resources and the watersheds on which they depend. Trout Unlimited is the nation’s oldest and largest cold-water fisheries conservation organization dedicated to caring for and recovering America’s rivers and streams so our children can experience the joy of wild and native trout and salmon. Across the country, TU brings to bear local, regional, and national grassroots organizing, durable partnerships, science-backed policy muscle, and legal firepower on behalf of trout and salmon fisheries, healthy waters, and vibrant communities.

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



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

LEWISTON, ME – Two of Maine’s premier theatre companies, The Public Theatre and Maine State Music Theatre, are thrilled to present 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. Almost 3,500 tickets have already been sold and matinees are filling up quickly.

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 lively and heartfelt musical revue offers a stirring tribute to the Irish-American experience. Through a seamless blend of storytelling, humor, and music, the production showcases beloved ballads like “Danny Boy” and “The Rose of Tralee” alongside contemporary hits from U2, creating a theatrical journey that is both poignant and uplifting.

This crowd-pleasing production of *The Irish...and How They Got That Way* boasts a star-studded cast of longtime 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. Last spring, this same production played to sold-out houses at The Fulton Theatre in Lancaster,

PA.. “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.

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.

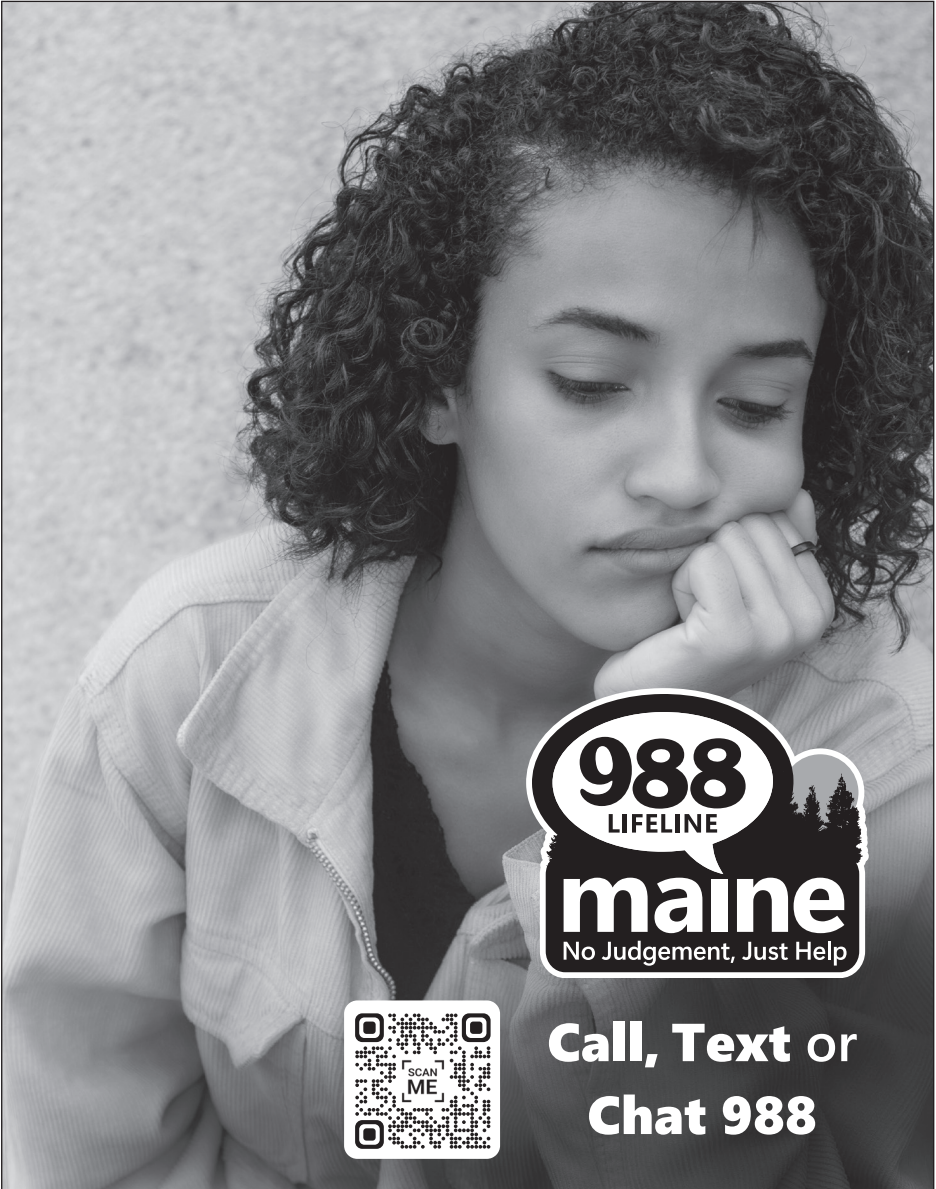
PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE: Previews: August 27 & 28 • Opening Performance: Friday, August 29 at 7 PM • Evening Performances: Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays at 7 PM • Matinees: Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays at 2 PM. All performances take place at The Public Theatre, 31 Maple St., Lewiston.

TICKET INFORMATION: Tickets range from \$45 - \$60 and are available exclusively through The Public Theatre:

Website: thepublictheatre.org.

Phone: 207.782.3200.

In-person: The Public Theatre Box Office, 31 Maple Street, Lewiston, ME 04240.



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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.

Aug 21
LEWISTON – Lewiston Public Library: Paint Night at the Library 5-7PM.

Aug 22
MINOT – Please join us in our parking lot for a Free Family Friendly Movie Night and a Make Your Own Smores Event! at the Minot United Methodist Church on Friday, August 22nd. Movie starts at 7:00 p.m. Please bring your own chairs! Hope to see you there! Minot United Methodist Church, 142 Minot Avenue, Minot Maine. If raining, movie will be shown indoors! Any questions, please contact: Joan Spitzform at 207-998-2819.

Aug 23
THOMASTON – The 6th annual Maine Book Festival (formerly the Maine Authors Book Festival) will be held on August 23, 2025, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Thomaston Public Library and sponsored by Maine Authors Publishing.

Aug 24, 27, Sept 6

Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

MAINE – Beethoven and Korngold: A Journey from Heroic Classicism to Hollywood Romance,

Sunday August 24 3:00 pm St. Columba’s Episcopal Church, 32 Emery Lane, Boothbay Harbor,

Wednesday August 27 7:00 pm Maine Jewish Museum, 267 Congress Street, Portland,

Saturday September 6 3:00 pm Brunswick Unitarian Universalist Church, 1 Middle St., Brunswick,

For additional information and tickets go to www.dapontequartet.org,

Aug 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 15 (2-4 PM) and Aug 25 (10AM-12PM).

Aug 30

BUXTON – Try our delicious Haddock Supper Buffet - Saturday, August 30, 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.

Sept 3

LEWISTON – The Oasis of Music Wednesday series opens its seventh season on September 3 with a performance by local legend Denny Breau.

The Oasis of Music happens at Trinity Commons, 247 Bates Street in Lewiston, every Wednesday beginning at 12:30, from September through May. Attendees are treated to a short concert of music of many genres, from folk to pop to rock to jazz and classical and beyond, performed by many of our finest local musicians, in what is considered “an acoustic jewel” of a performance space.

Sept 6

AUBURN – The Maine Iris Society is having its public auction of Siberian Iris and Daylilies on Saturday, September 6, at 1 pm at the United Methodist Church, 439 Park Avenue, Auburn. This is a public auction where members and non-members can obtain Maine garden grown Siberian irises and daylilies.

<https://www.facebook.com/maineirissociety>,

Starting Sept 10, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays

LEWISTON – The Lewiston Public Library, in partnership with ArtVan, will be offering in-person art programs. Starting on September 10th, the programs will take place on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month from 3:30pm-5:00pm in the Children’s Department for children ages 5-14. Make Art with ArtVan is free, open to the public, and no registration is required. All art supplies will be provided.

Sept 12

LEWISTON – At 10am the Lewiston Public Library Children’s Department will be offering the program Baby Footprints Keepsakes. Caregivers and their infants will be able to create a baby footprints keepsake using the imprints of their children’s feet on salt dough. This activity is recommended for caregivers with children ages 0-24 months old.

Sept 16

TOPSHAM – “Trolling for Maine’s Trout & Salmon: The Good, The Bad, The Ugly” Merry-meeting Bay Trout Unlimited Public Meeting at Sea Dog Brewing, 1 Bowdoin Mill Island, Topsham, 6:00-8:00 pm,

Sept 17

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MAINE – St. Mary’s Vein Care will host a free screening event for varicose veins and circulation concerns from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Appointments are required, with time slots available every 10 minutes. To schedule an appointment, call (207) 777-4469.

Sept 25, Oct 16, Nov 13

MAINE – The 2025 Maine Hire-A-Vet is a statewide effort with the goal of at least 100 employers hiring at least 100 veterans and military family members during a 100-day period. While the campaign is focused on veterans and their families, these events are open to ALL jobseekers!

September 25, 2025 | 11:00 am to 3:00 pm | University of Maine-Orono.

October 16, 2025 | 11:00 am to 3:00 pm | Maine Sports Arena, Saco

November 13, 2025 | 11:00 am to 3:00 pm | University of Maine-Farmington.

Oct 18

LEWISTON – Party like it’s 1813! Join us at the Lewiston Public Library’s Jane Austen Regency Ball, doors will open at 6:30pm, and the dance will run from 7 to 9pm. The ball will include English Country Dancing and light refreshments. This is the Lewiston Public Library’s first annual literary ball, commemorating Jane Austen’s 250th birthday.

Nov 15

LEWISTON – Prince of Peace Parish Christmas Craft Fair Saturday, from 9-3. Looking for crafters/artists at Holy Family Church Hall 607 Sabattus St., Lewiston. Prices for tables/spaces range from \$25-\$40! Contact Angela at adobson@une.edu.

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Expert to lead on-farm dairy grazing workshops

ORONO, ME – University of Maine Cooperative Extension, the Maine Grass Farmers Network, the National Grazing Land Coalition, and Northern Tilth announce a three-day series of workshops focused on pasture and forage management on August 26, 27 and 28. These hands-on workshops are designed to help farmers, graziers and landowners improve their grazing practices and soil health.

Troy Bishopp, Practical Grass Whisperer and Northeastern Region Resource Manager, will lead the workshop series. With decades of experience in pasture management, grazing plan design and training, Bishopp is a nationally-recognized expert. He will be joined by Graham Mallory, practical farmer and Northern Tilth consultant, and Jaime Garzon, assistant Extension professor and forage educator, to provide additional expertise about Maine-specific livestock production, forage identification and grazing management planning. The workshops are free to attend and are designed as stand alone workshops or as a series on managed dairy grazing.

The first workshop will be held from 10 a.m.–noon on Monday, August 26, at The Milkhouse, a certified organic dairy farm in Monmouth. This pasture walk will be a practical discussion on regenerative pasture management, including grazing, forage



and weed identification, and strategies for efficient fencing.

On Tuesday, August 27, the workshop moves to Reed Farm in Windsor. This session, from 10 a.m.–noon, aims to equip farmers with the knowledge and tools needed for effective grazing planning and pasture management. Presenters will delve into the key considerations for creating a robust grazing plan, offering practical insights into how to read the land from a farmer’s perspective.

The series concludes

on Wednesday, August 28 from 9 a.m.–noon at Wolfe’s Neck Center in Freeport, with a discussion to build upon key planning procedures, economics and strategic decision-making. This session will teach participants how to use a grazing chart effectively, explore methods for handling unexpected challenges and build resilience into your operation. By the end, participants will have a clear understanding of what a grazing plan looks

like in action and the practical nuances of day-to-day management.

Visit the event webpage for more information and to register. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Melissa Babcock at 207.581.2788 or melissa.libby1@maine.edu.

These workshops are a part of the education series supported by the collaboration of the New England Grazing Network with funding from the USDA Grazing Land Conservation Initiative.

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