

Dempsey Challenge 2025

Special Section pages 7-9

DEMPSEY

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CHALLENGE

yourself.

City of Lewiston reimages city streets

LEWISTON, ME –

To reimagine its streets to improve the experience for drivers, walkers and cyclists, the City of Lewiston and Maine Department of Transportation announced today they will hold Reimagining Our Streets, a public engagement event to learn how the public uses its streets and gather ideas on how to make them safer. Designed to be interactive, this event draws in various activities to think creatively about the City’s streetscapes and transportation in a fun, festive atmosphere.

City of Lewiston, Maine Department of Transportation

Reimagining Our Streets Event

Fri., Sep. 26 from 4 PM to 7 PM

Canal Street Demonstration, 110 Canal Street

Alabama BBQ, Lucky Cat Coffee, G’s Hot Dogs, and Legendary Ice Cream Truck will be on hand, along with exciting kids activities. With E-bikes becoming the fastest-growing forms of transportation worldwide, or the curious, the festival

will also have electric bike demonstrations.

Additionally, attendees will have a plethora of informational booths on public transportation and the Center for An Ecology Based Economy will demonstrate EV charging.

Attendees can bring their bike for a test ride on the new bike lanes on Canal St. Relax on the benches along the vibrant colors of the new pavement mural by local artists Melanie Therrien. Most importantly, there are plenty of opportunities to share ideas with staff to make Lewiston’s transportation safer before improvements are made.

The block party is a public engagement opportunity for the Lewiston Village Partnership Initiative, a study aimed at identifying transportation and street improvement opportunities and solutions for Main Street, Sabattus Street, and Canal and Lisbon Streets. The goal of the study is to make Lewiston’s streets safer and more

welcoming for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists.

Anyone who is unable to attend the event can take an online survey to share their feedback. The survey can be found on the project website, which has been translated into French, Portuguese, Lingala, Somali, and Arabic. Visit the website at bit.ly/lewistonvpi

Project partners include MaineDOT, Androscoggin Transportation Resource Center, Toole Design, VIEWSHED, and James Tassé Consulting. This event is also made possible by Maple Way Dental Care, Rainbow Bicycle, Center for an Ecology Based Economy, and citylink bus.

LEWISTON

ME

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

Celebrating the life of Rachel Morin: TCT’s favorite contributor

Rachel Gilbert Morin, 89, slipped away peacefully on Sunday, September 7th, surrounded by her beloved children and her favorite brother, Gene Gilbert. Her final day was filled with laughter, family stories—those legendary “fireside tales” she so enjoyed—and the warmth of the people she loved most. As the sun went down, laughter and tears filled the room and our sweet Rachel peacefully left us, just as she would have wanted.

Born in 1936 to Mary (Shrum) and Arthur Gilbert, Rachel’s early years were shaped by her Catholic school education and the influence of the nuns, which stuck with her throughout her life. A proud Lewiston High School graduate (Class of ’55), she went on to earn her nursing degree from St. Mary’s School of Nursing, (Class of ’58) embodying the true spirit of nursing: empathy, care, and unwavering support.

Rachel’s heart found its home in Auburn when love led her across the bridge when she married Gerard L. Morin in 1959. Together, they raised three children—Catherine, Elizabeth, and Gerry—filling their home with laughter, camping trips, and family adventures. She was a devoted supporter of her children’s activities and interests and a enthusiastic patron of community events, always cheering on her hometown.

If Rachel hadn’t been a nurse, she would have been a writer—and, in many ways, she was both. From childhood pen-pal letters to high school journalism, society columns for the Maine Sunday Telegram, and her beloved “Out and About with Rachel Morin” column in the Twin City Times for over 15 years. Rachel chronicled the heart and happenings of Lewiston-Auburn life. Her words connected people, celebrated commu-



nity spirit, and turned everyday moments into cherished memories.

Her zest for life led her on adventures far and wide—20 countries and counting! Highlights of her trips include climbing the Matterhorn, cruising the Nile, walking on the Great Wall of China and climbing the 2000 steps at 12,000 feet above sea level to the Dalai Lama’s Potala Palace in Tibet. Rachel kept meticulous travel journals, snapped hundreds of photos, and delighted local audiences with her funny, insightful travelogues. In her later years, she surprised us all—she took up acting with Community Little Theater. “Show Time” with her grandchildren became a highlight of family events, complete with costumes and music. She was a flautist in the Auburn Community Band.

Rachel’s nursing career took her to General Electric, where she championed blood drives and broke donation records. She served on the boards of the American Red Cross and Lewiston/Auburn Senior College. She was a member of Auburn’s Readers Theater and a trained docent at

the Portland Museum of Art. She was an active member of Lewiston/Auburn Senior College’s Writers Group. She was a founding member of St Philip’s Church in Auburn and very active in parish activities.

She found joy in many passions—music, art, poetry, and books. Her vibrant perennial garden on Fairview Court drew plenty of admirers, and she was always eager to share her green thumb with her children and grandchildren. Above all, she cherished nature, especially the quiet magic of trees.

In 2016, Rachel was honored as Auburn’s Citizen of the Year—a fitting tribute to a woman who gave so much to her city, its arts, and its people.

Above all, Rachel was fiercely loved by her family and adored by her grandchildren—Sam, Emma, and Adam—who remember countless sleepovers, adventures, trips, and the unconditional love she showered upon them. Rachel’s warmth, wit, and spirit leave a huge hole in our lives. But her stories—and her love—will live on.

Rachel is survived
See Morin, page 14

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Maine Gallery + Studio Guide celebrates 25th year

MAINE – Maine Gallery + Studio Guide, the annual guide to Maine art, is celebrating its 25th year. “Our 25th edition is testimony to the excellence and robust vitality of Maine art today,” says editor and publisher Anthony Anderson. “The Maine art scene is second to only a handful of places in the US. Maine art can be discovered among towns and villages from Kittery to Eastport, along the most beautiful coastline anywhere.”

As Governor Janet Mills wrote in her welcome letter, “I hope that you will visit the galleries and studios showcased on this tour of Maine art and discover for yourself the next budding artist and the artwork that has captured our love for this special place we call home. If you choose to purchase Maine artwork, you will be supporting not only that gallery or studio, but the freedom of a local artist to create high-quality pieces while providing for their family.”

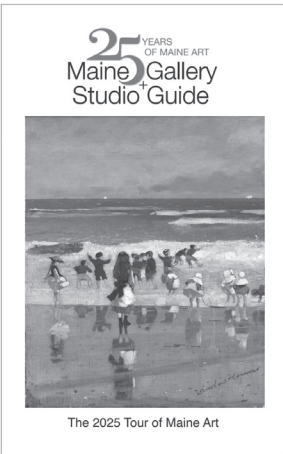
Anderson says, “I think art is one of Maine’s best products. It doesn’t pollute and doesn’t require power, fuel, or construction. It pays state tax. Payment goes directly to the



Suzi + Anthony

artist and stays in Maine, rather than being sent to an outside corporation. For visitors, hanging Maine art on their wall keeps a connection with Maine alive for the whole family, and adds beauty and value to their home.”

Maine Gallery + Studio Guide is published at Lucerne-in-Maine, where Anderson lives and works



lakeside with his jewelry designer wife and Guide co-publisher, Suzanne Anderson. The latest edition of the Maine Gallery + Studio Guide is available free at most Maine galleries and studios, and by mail at mainegalleryguide.com.

Outdoor School for All Maine Students launches statewide

MAINE – This past week marks the launch of the Outdoor School for All Maine Students program, with more than 1,000 students in grades 4–8 attending immersive multi-day programs at outdoor learning centers across the state this fall.

The initiative is made possible thanks to \$450,000 in private foundation support, with major contributions from the Betterment Fund, Horizon Foundation, Leonard C. & Mildred F. Ferguson Foundation, Onion Foundation, and Quimby Family Foundation. These funds are helping to underwrite the costs for students and classroom teachers to attend an outdoor school learning center.

Maine joins Oregon, Washington, and Minnesota as states with ratified commitments to outdoor learning for all public school students. Unlike those states, Maine currently relies on private funding. The group estimates that when fully funded at \$6 million annually, the program will reach up to 14,000 students each year—making it accessible to every student in grades four through eight statewide.

One of the first groups of students to receive funding for Outdoor School programs are the 7th grade students from Sanford Middle School attending a 3 day/2 night program at The Ecology School in Saco this week with additional funding



from Tom’s of Maine. “We’ve been working for years to try and figure out a way to provide Sanford Middle School an inspirational Outdoor School experience and now it’s finally happening,” said Ecology School President and CEO Drew Dumsch. “We know from decades of experience and research that multi-day Outdoor School programs provide high impact experiential learning, authentic STEM-related studies and gives students real life experiences exploring Maine’s distinct landscapes and natural heritage. Our goal now is to secure full and ongoing funding so all of our kids in Maine can benefit.”

The Outdoor School for All Maine Students program was established earlier this year through bipartisan legislation sponsored by state senator Sen. Rick Bennett and signed into law in May by Governor Janet Mills. The funding is administered by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, which will provide grants to certified outdoor

learning centers statewide. These centers will offer hands-on, nature-based education for students in grades four through eight.

Currently, less than 20% of Maine public school students participate in an overnight outdoor program, usually due to cost or access to a local center. Partner organizations in the Maine Outdoor School for All Network include UMaine Extension’s 4-H Learning Centers, The Ecology School, Chewonki Foundation, Schoodic Institute, Kieve Wavus Education, Hurricane Island Center for Science and Leadership, Cobscook Institute, and Maine Local Living School.

Traditionally, public schools have shouldered the full cost of these programs—a challenge as budgets grow tighter. Because the new law did not include state funding, the Maine Outdoor School for All Network led a private fundraising effort to jumpstart the program. The coalition has now launched a new campaign to raise an additional \$1 million for the 2025-2026 school year.

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Homecoming festivities this week at CMCC

PORTLAND, ME – We’re excited to share a few upcoming events at Central Maine Community College, and we’d love for you to join us!

Homecoming Weekend September 26–28

Celebrate with us during Homecoming Weekend! Full details can be found here: [//www.cmcc.edu/homecoming](http://www.cmcc.edu/homecoming)

Hall of Fame Banquet Friday, September 26 at 5:00 PM

Join us as we honor this year’s inductees at our annual Hall of Fame Banquet.

Purchase your tickets here: <https://www.cmcc.edu/2025-hall-of-fame-banquet-rsvp/>

Men’s Basketball Alumni Game Friday, October 10 at 7:00 PM

Come cheer on past players as they return to the court for our annual alumni game!

We hope to see you at these exciting events!

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

New provider joins Central Maine Healthcare internal medicine team

LEWISTON, ME – Central Maine Healthcare is pleased to welcome a new provider. Sheri Wagg, FNP-C, has joined Central Maine Internal Medicine as a family nurse practitioner. Sheri attended Central Maine Community College and completed her graduate studies at the University of Southern Maine. She says she enjoys partnering with patients to prevent, treat and manage health conditions such as heart disease, diabetes and blood pressure.

“My role as a healthcare provider is to partner with patients to assist them in pursuing their healthiest life, in a way that best aligns with their own goals, priorities and circumstances,” Sheri said. “Prevention, screening, chronic conditions management, education, advocacy and assistance with navigating the healthcare system are the pillars on which primary care is built, and these are the areas I focus on in my



practice.” The Central Maine Internal Medicine team is dedicated to preventing, diagnosing and treating diseases that affect adults. Our care providers are trained to solve diagnostic problems and handle severe chronic illnesses and situations where several different illnesses may be present. Care providers help patients understand wellness in the context of disease prevention and promotion. Among the services provided are routine physical exams, gynecological exams, office-based minor surgical procedures and treatment for acute illnesses. Call (207) 795-5700 for an appointment.

Sen. Collins joins Auburn PAL Center grand opening

AUBURN, ME – U.S. Senator Susan Collins delivered remarks at the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the newly built Auburn Police Activities League (PAL) Center. The new PAL Center, which is about five times larger than the original, will continue to serve as a drop-in center for after-school youth activities and mentoring. Auburn Mayor Jeffrey Harmon and City Manager Phil Crowell also spoke at the event.

“The motto of the Auburn Police Activities League is, ‘It is better to build youth than to mend adults.’ Since it was established in 2013, the Auburn PAL Center has provided boys and girls with a safe environment in which to play and learn after school. The children and teens also receive mentoring, nutritious food, warm clothes, and needed school supplies. It is wonderful to see them build relationships with the law enforcement officers who protect them



and their families. That is why, through my role on the Senate Appropriations Committee, I worked hard to secure \$3 million in federal funding for this important project,” said Senator Collins during her remarks.

The new 14,000 square foot center includes a dedicated space for teens, a full-sized basketball court, multipurpose areas, meeting and

storage rooms, as well as a commercial kitchen. The Auburn PAL Center is also planning to build an outdoor playground in the coming months.

Senator Collins, Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, said PAL, page 14

Senior advisory council luncheon Oct 27

LEWISTON, ME – The Lewiston Senior Advisory Council (LSAC) would like to invite Lewiston residents age 50+ to join council members to a free light lunch on Monday, October 27 from 11:00 a.m. to noon to be held at the Senior Center at the Lewiston Armory located at 65 Central Avenue in Lewiston. We will discuss what the Lewiston Senior Advisory Council is doing, how you can help, listen to your concerns and invite your feedback to help us carry out our mission. City administrator, Bryan Kaenrath plans to attend.

Due to limited seating, registration is requested by Friday, October 17. Register online at www.LewistonRecreation.com and click on LSAC meet and greet. For assistance contact Stephanie Cote at 513-3059 or at SCote@LewistonMaine.gov. The Lewiston Armory is handicapped accessible.

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Fashion News

Tias Prom Project

Dedicated to providing dresses & confidence to young women

The Tatiana Morrell Foundation was created to honor the incredible spirit of Tatiana Morrell – a young woman whose light, kindness, and heart continue to inspire us every day. One of the ways we carry her legacy forward is through something truly special: collecting prom dresses for students who may not have the means to purchase one. Tatiana believed deeply in making others feel seen, valued, and beautiful – and this mission reflects that love.

Through every dress given, every smile shared, and every moment of confidence created – Tatiana’s spirit lives on. Thank you for being part of this journey with us. 🌟

The Story Behind Our Mission:
To better understand our mission, you must understand our reasoning:
Tia lived with a heart led by kindness and intuition. When she noticed a new student struggling, she stepped in to make a difference—providing her with a beautiful dress and arranging for her mother to do her hair and makeup. That simple act of love gave the girl, who never imagined attending such an event, the night of her life.

Tia believed every young woman should feel confident, radiant, and celebrated during life’s special moments. In her honor, we are dedicated to continuing that mission—ensuring that no girl misses out on the magic of prom, homecoming, or a school dance because of financial hardship.

How to Donate?
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• 781 Edes Falls Rd, Harrison, ME
• 780 Broadway St, South Portland, ME

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OUT Maine receives \$139K grant

ROCKLAND, ME – Twelve years after making its first donation of \$500 to OUT Maine, a donor advised fund at the Maine Community Foundation has decided to pay out its entire value to OUT Maine through a \$139,000 disbursement meant to benefit programs serving LGBTQ+ youth in Maine. “Now is the time,” says Caroline Pryor, one of the fund advisors, “because

OUT Maine’s work is more important than ever as the LGBTQ+ community faces increased discrimination and hostility including from elected officials here in the state and at the federal level.”

The Fund was established two decades ago by a bequest from Jonathan Stein of Mount Desert and was intended to be given over time to mission-driven organizations that could

benefit most from the funding, especially conservation and climate-focused causes as well as LGBTQ+ organizations. Jon Stein, the fund’s late namesake and source, wanted his estate to provide resources and support organizations like OUT Maine that did not exist when he was young. The fund granted more than \$465,000 through MCF to dozens of organizations over the last two decades and had been awarding an average of \$10,000 to OUT Maine annually for the last several years. The grants have historically gone towards funding youth retreats, in person and online programs, and support groups.

With funding cuts and policy changes in Washington in recent months, the three advisors to the Fund informed Maine Community Foundation that they wished to send out all of the remaining grant money to OUT Maine. The funds will be used to continue funding annual youth retreats and regular programming, and it will also enable the organization to expand several programs as well as implement new ones across the state.

“All of our young people should be able to be who they are and feel safe, loved, and supported. And that’s the work that we’re trying to accomplish,” says OUT Maine’s Executive Director, Sue Campbell. “We’re spending a lot of time trying to make sure that the laws here in Maine stay strong, while also running our direct youth programming, parent and family supports, and work in schools and other community-based organizations. We’re building spaces where youth can be and feel safe so they can truly thrive. In this critical time, none of this would be possible without the generosity of donors who make these programs a reality.

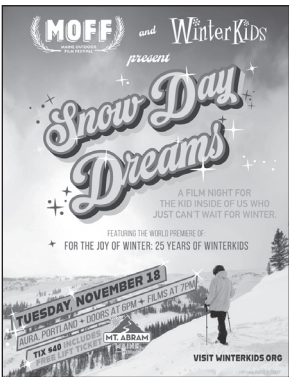
See OUT, page 10

WinterKids launches 25th season with documentary premiere

WESTBROOK, ME – As the first celebration of its 25th season, WinterKids is proud to announce the premiere of a brand-new short documentary at the Snow Day Dreams film event, taking place this November 18 in Portland. This milestone marks WinterKids’ debut outing as a 25-year-old organization, and the excitement is just beginning. The documentary highlights WinterKids’ legacy of helping Maine children build healthy habits through joyful outdoor winter play and education.

The WinterKids documentary, titled *For the Joy of Winter: 25 Years of WinterKids*, is a heartwarming look at the generations of Maine kids, educators, families, and partners who have grown up with WinterKids. From ski and snowshoe adventures to schoolwide Winter Games and statewide community events, the story captures the magic of winter over the course of a quarter-century, and the incredible power of community, as told by the team that leads the work.

“This film is a love letter to Maine winters and to the children who have grown up in them alongside WinterKids,” says Courtney Holub, Executive Director of WinterKids. “For 25 years, families, educators, and community partners have helped us create opportunities for kids to thrive outside and discover the wonder waiting in their own backyards. We hope all who love the outdoors, whether you hike, ski, snowshoe, or enjoy a fresh snowfall, will see themselves in this story and join us in keeping this way of life strong for the next generation. This premiere also sets the stage for raffles, alumni speakers, and a special fund-a-need—clear



ways for our community to come together in celebration while supporting the next 25 years of joyful outdoor learning and play.”

The Snow Day Dreams Film Event celebrates stories that inspire connection to the outdoors and helps local film and outdoor aficionados get ready for their favorite winter pursuits! WinterKids’ film will be featured alongside other cold-weather adventure films from the 2025 MOFF flagship festival, including:

2 LEGS IS 2 EASY | 6.42 minutes | by Tamara Susa | United States | Short synopsis: Steve Karczewski was born with bone cancer in his leg. After a year of chemotherapy, his leg was amputated above the knee. Nowadays, Steve is seen on the slopes of Roaring Fork Valley. He was recruited by Challenge Aspen in 2008 to join their Paralympic racing team. There, coaches trained him to ski without a prosthetic, on one ski.

LINES | 9 minutes | by Josh Goldsmith | United States | Short synopsis: There’s a tense moment before every grand performance where apprehension turns to belief, and preparation meets presentation. We follow the interwoven journey of a skier and a rapper as they individually navigate this moment on stages of their own choosing.

OCEAN PURSUITS | 11.67 minutes | by Casey

Nava | Maine | Short synopsis: Surfing and creativity intersect in Maine in winter.

L’EXPERIENCE MAGNIFIQUE – SPEEDRIDING THE FRENCH ALPS | 16.8 minutes | by Ian Rinefort | United States | Short synopsis: Flying on tiny overhead gliders with skis, this group of pioneering pilots descend big-mountain lines in the French alps – pushing the boundaries of the new sport of Speedflying.

BRIDGERS | 11.67 minutes | by Joseph P Fletcher | United States | Short synopsis: Two Bozeman-based ski patrollers reflect on the rapid changes facing their home and the sport they love. With 50 seasons under his belt, Dene Brandt regards the future with an optimism that infects his younger co-worker.

In addition to the films, guests will enjoy light appetizers, a cash bar, and the chance to win incredible raffle prizes donated by some of Maine’s favorite local brands and businesses. Every ticket purchase also comes with a complimentary lift ticket to Mt. Abram - generously donated in support of WinterKids and the next generation of skiers and riders.

Event Details: Snow Day Dreams Film Event
Date: November 18, 2025

Time: 6:00 pm
Location: AURA, Portland, ME
Tickets: winterkids.org/snow-day-dreams/

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Seniors Not Acting Their Age

Hiking and Biking in Roosevelt Campobello International Park

Seven of us were on the fourth day of a week-long vacation on Deer Island in Passamaquoddy Bay. Located just over the international border in New Brunswick, we were camping at Deer Island Point Campground on the southern end of the island. Several of us had spent the previous two days engaged in exceptional sea kayaking adventures along the remarkable shoreline.

Our original intent had been to combine sea kayaking with hiking and biking while on the island. However, the opportunities for those activities on Deer Island were a disappointment. The only hiking trail of substance was in Chocolate Cove which consists of a mile long loop hike with minimal views. We didn't find any bike trails so cycling was limited to island roads. The island roads are lightly traveled but lack the solitude and ambience of bike trails.

However, we knew of a very appealing alternative a short ferry ride away on nearby Campobello Island, the exceptional trails of Roosevelt Campobello International Park. All veterans of the trail network, we decided to devote a full day exploring them. Five of us planned to bike while the other two would hike.

Four of us traveled in my car while carrying two bikes so the hikers would have a vehicle to access hiking trails. The other three chose to ride their bicycles and leave cars behind, a much less expensive ferry trip.

The ferry supposedly leaves from Deer Island to Campobello on the hour throughout the day. In fact, it really departs when it is full or as soon as all waiting vehicles are loaded, irrespective of the time. Although technically 20 minutes early, two of the cyclists missed the ferry.

We waved to them as the ferry launched into the bay. The message was clear, get to the ferry landing early!

Once on Campobello, we drove and/or biked to the Roosevelt Campobello International Park Visitor Center. This is an ideal place to meet and organize as there is a large parking area and public restrooms.

The two hikers left in search of hiking opportunities. We three cyclists crossed Highway 774 and entered the trail system on Glensevern Road. Turning immediately right onto Fitz Williams Trail, we rode the almost flat surface towards Cranberry Point Road.

Angling left onto Cranberry Point Road, we cycled the bumpy gravel road to scenic Cranberry Point where we stopped to enjoy the views of rugged West Quoddy Head in the distance. The recently constructed Friendship Trail that begins at Cranberry Point was a priority for us. The new, heavily publicized trail crosses a massive bog where a unique bridge has been built.

We biked the hilly trail southeast towards a substantial cove with the unlikely name Lower Duck Pond. After proceeding through a heavily wooded area, we emerged onto a widespread bog. An extensive floating metal bridge traverses the bog to protect the sensitive terrain. In my opinion, the bridge is a masterpiece.

Shortly after leaving the bog, we paid a short visit to picturesque Lower Duck Pond and then followed Liberty Point Road to the magnificent headland where we stopped for a break to enjoy the phenomenal vistas. While there, our missing cycling partners finally joined us after catching a later ferry. We all relaxed on a cliff overlooking mammoth Sugarloaf Rock.



A cyclist traverses a Roosevelt Park floating bridge over a bog in the fog



Cyclists relax on a cliff at Liberty Point

After returning to the Lower Duck Pond area, we followed a stimulating single track trail that tumbles mostly downhill in a northeasterly direction to Raccoon Head where we rejoined Liberty Point Road. Progressing north, we visited another marvelous overlook, Con Robinson's Point.

Shortly beyond, Liberty Point Road connects with Glensevern Road. We followed the rough, gravel road north back to park headquarters.

The hiking duo was waiting when we arrived at the visitor center. They had completed a trek to Eagle Hill which entailed crossing a long boardwalk over another expansive bog to the scenic summit and followed that with a spectacular hike to Friar's Head, a trail that begins at the visitor center.

Following an outstanding day of hiking and



Friendship Trail is a hilly path in Roosevelt Park

ty *Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine* is available at www.northcountrypress.com/maine-al-fresco or in bookstores and through online retailers. His previous books are *"The Great Mars*

Hill Bank Robbery" and *"Mountains for Mortals – New England."* Visit his website at www.ronchase-outdoors.com or he can be reached at ronchaseoutdoors@comcast.net.

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Arts & Entertainment

Augusta Symphony Orchestra opens season with Nov. 2 Concert

MAINE – The Augusta Symphony Orchestra will open its 2025–2026 season on Sunday, November 2, at 3:00 pm with a concert at Cony High School, Viles Auditorium, 60 Pierce Dr, Augusta. This performance marks the beginning of the orchestra’s 105th season, continuing its longstanding tradition of bringing symphonic music to the Augusta community.

Under the direction of Conductor and Music Director Jinwook Park, the program will feature works by Mozart and Mendelssohn. The concert will open with Mozart’s lively *Così fan tutte* overture, followed by the composer’s *Sinfonia Concertante* in E-flat major, spotlighting ASO concertmaster Anne McKee (violin) and violist Jayna Leach. After intermission, the orchestra will present Mendelssohn’s *Symphony*



No. 5, the *Reformation* Symphony.

Founded in 1920, the Augusta Symphony Orchestra is a community-based ensemble dedicated to enriching the cultural life of central Maine through live performances of orchestral music. The ASO provides opportunities for musicians of all ages and backgrounds to collaborate, while offering audiences access to high-quality classical programming. With its long history and commitment

to accessibility, the ASO continues to serve as a vital part of the region’s artistic landscape.

Admission is free. Donations are gratefully accepted to support the orchestra’s mission of providing accessible classical music to the central Maine community.

For additional information, please visit www.augustasyphonymaine.org.

The ASO is supported in part by a grant from the Onion Foundation.

Trailblazing organist Gail Archer comes to Maine

MAINE – Hailed as one of this era’s most adventurous interpreters of the classical organ repertoire, leading female organist Gail Archer celebrates the release of her 11th album: *Dobrich: A Bulgarian Odyssey* (Meyer Media 04.11.25). Renowned for performing and recording undeservedly obscure and unorthodox organ music, Archer continues her sonic journey of Eastern European composers with rarely performed works by seven Bulgarian composers of the 20th century. During her worldwide tour in summer 2024, Archer recorded *Dobrich* in the Concert Hall in Dobrich, Bulgaria, on a 1979 Schuke organ of 36 stops and two manuals. Archer celebrates her new album on a nationwide tour of Bulgarian concerts from September 2026 - May 2026.

Archer’s recordings span the 17th-21st centuries, a festive discography that highlights her “superb musicianship, masterly technique and programming savvy (Gramophone).” *Dobrich* is the fourth installment of Archer’s collection of contemporary organ music from Eastern Europe: *Cantius of Poland* (2022), *Chernivtsi of Ukraine* (2020), and *A Russian Journey: Music of the Russian Five of Russia* (2017).

“Organists and audiences in Western Europe and the United States are typically unfamiliar with the organ literature of



Eastern Europe. There are clearly cultural, economic, and political obstacles to overcome in Bulgaria in order to firmly establish a well-supported organ culture in the country. I hope this recording gives listeners a sense of the remarkable creative spirit among contemporary composers in Bulgaria and is a step forward in the growth of interest in Bulgarian organ music.” - GAIL ARCHER

This riveting collection expertly interpreted by Archer comprises a rich variety of nine works written from 1972 to present day. The album opens with *Erendira* (1990) by the most important living composer of organ music in Bulgaria, Sabin Levi (b. 1970), who currently teaches at the National Academy of Music. Two other contemporary composers are rendering large contributions to the Bulgarian repertoire and can be heard on *Dobrich*: Velislav Zaimov (b. 1951) and his works based upon Lutheran chorale melodies: *Es kommt ein Schiff, geladen*, and *O’Heiland, reis*

die Himmel auf; and the “matriarch” of the Bulgarian organ school, Neva Krysteva (b. 1946), and her improvisational piece *Victimae paschali laudes* based on the Gregorian chant which Archer says is the most technically demanding work on the album. Additional pieces include: *Two Frescoes*, the only two organ works written by Evgeny Cheshmedjiev (1930-2009); *Evharistia* and *Variations on the song “Polegnala e Tudora”* by female composer Radosveta Hurkova (b. 1965); the only work for organ by Bozhivar Abrashev (1936-2006) *Prelude for Organ*; and Kiril Lambov’s (1955-2019) sole organ piece, *Prelude and Toccata*, notable for its demanding rhythm and constantly changing metric scheme.

Gail Archer in Concert:

October 5 Cathedral of St. Peter and St Paul, Lewiston, ME 3pm

March 8 First Congregational Church, Camden, ME 4pm

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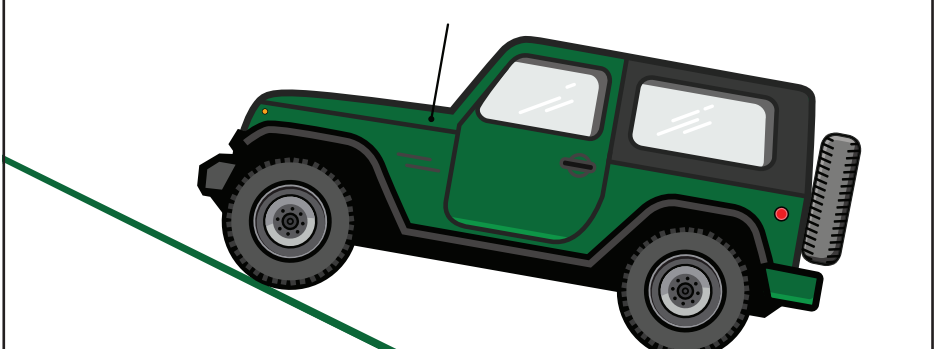
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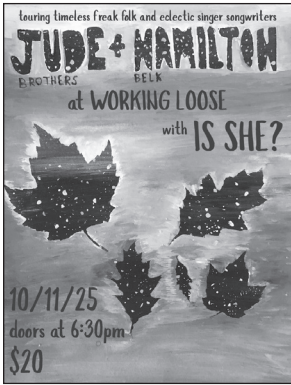


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Upcoming events at Working Loose



MAINE – Working Loose has fun stuff have lined up throughout October! 49 Main Street, Blue Hill, ME 04614

LUDDITE ANTIQUES POP-UP Now Through October 3rd, 2025

Luddite Antiques (Germantown, NY) has set up a shop-in-the-shop in the back gallery space! Expect wild and wonderful art, objects, furniture and more!

<https://www.workingloose.com/blogs/news/luddite-antiques-pop-up>

GREEN ROOM October 6th – October 11th, 2025. Opening Reception: Monday, October 18th 5pm – 7pm

Multiflora will be installing a ONE WEEK ONLY magical + other-worldly plant-scape in the ephemeral show GREEN ROOM. Come throughout the week to witness this transitory display and watch the installation wilt and evolve over the week! Multiflora is a floral atelier of Meg Farrell, dedicated to crafting one-of-a kind arrangements and botanical sculptures using foraged and locally grown flowers

KOKEDAMA TUESDAY October 7th / 4pm-6pm

In conjunction with GREEN ROOM, Meg Farrell will teach us the art of making Japanese moss-balls, Kokedama, to encourage your own sculptural display of plants. cost: \$50/person, all materials provided, pre-registration required

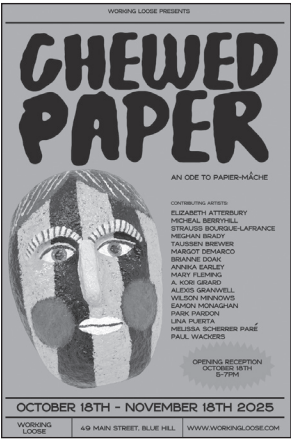
JUDE BROTHERS, HAMILTON BELK + IS SHE? SATURDAY October 11th Doors @ 6:30 \ Show @ 7pm

FREE EVENT
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"Trolling for Maine's Trout & Salmon: The Good, The Bad, The Ugly"

Merrymeeting Bay Trout Unlimited Public Meeting
Tuesday, September 16, 2025
Sea Dog Brewing, 1 Bowdoin Mill Island, Topsham
6:00-8:00 pm

Upcoming meetings are scheduled for **October 21, November 18, and December 16.**
No admission fee. Open to members and non-members alike.



We are thrilled to welcome back our very own Brooksville-darling Estelle Poole (Is She?) along with WL alum Hamilton Belk (Warren, ME) and touring artist Jude Brothers (Fayetteville, AK) to kick off the first of our live music shows of the season. \$20 tix. presale tix **STRONGLY** Encouraged

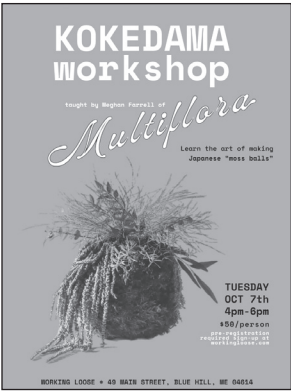
CHEWED PAPER October 18th–November 18th, 2025

Opening Reception: Saturday, October 18th 5pm – 7pm

This fall Working Loose gathers seventeen artists to explore the modest medium of paper and glue. Chewed Paper is a celebration of papier-mâché—a deceptively humble medium that has endured across centuries, cultures, and continents. From the fortified surfaces of medieval armor to the festive vibrancy of piñatas, masks, and parade costumes, this exhibition honors the tactile, transformative nature of a craft born from the simple union of paper and paste.

Contributing Artists Include: Elizabeth Atterbury, Michael Berryhill, Strauss Bourque-LaFrance, Meghan Brady, Taussen Brewer, Margot DeMarco, Brianne Doak, Annika Earley, Mary Fleming, A. Kori Girard, Alexis Granwell, Lina Puerta, Eamon Monaghan, Wilson Minnows, Park Pardo, Melissa Scherrer Paré, Paul Wackers

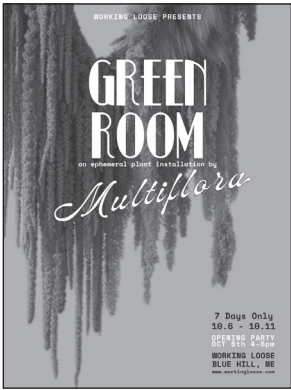
Papier-mâché, quite literally “chewed paper,” holds a unique place in the artistic lineage of humani-



ty. Its accessibility belies its power: scraps and refuse become vessels of imagination, protest, play, and protection. Each piece in Chewed Paper reaffirms that what is discarded can be reassembled into something vital—expressive, joyous, even defiant.

In an age increasingly mediated by screens and fleeting digital imagery, Chewed Paper urges us to slow down and get our hands dirty. It speaks to the necessity of physical making in a chaotic world. The labor of layering, molding, and drying becomes a quiet act of resistance against the ephemeral. It reminds us that craft is not just heritage—it is presence, play, and persistence. It’s a call back to the kind of creativity that doesn’t require a Wi-Fi signal—just a pile of old newspaper, some flour paste, and a good dose of ingenuity.

This show invites viewers to reconsider paper not as something to be thrown away, but as something to be chewed on—reworked, reshaped, and reimagined into something new.



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\$1B to flood, wildfire-impacted livestock producers

WASHINGTON DC – U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke L. Rollins announced eligible livestock producers will receive disaster recovery assistance through the Emergency Livestock Relief Program for 2023 and 2024 Flood and Wildfire (ELRP 2023 and 2024 FW) to help offset increased supplemental feed costs due to a qualifying flood or qualifying wildfire in calendar years 2023 and 2024. The program is expected to provide approximately \$1 billion in recovery benefits. Sign-up begins on Monday, September 15. Livestock producers have until October 31, 2025, to apply for assistance.

“We are providing continued support for livestock producers whose livelihoods and way of life have been disrupted by catastrophic floods, wildfires, and poor forage conditions in 2023 and 2024. Under President Trump’s leadership, USDA is standing shoulder to shoulder with America’s farmers and ranchers, delivering the resources they need to stay in business, feed their families, and keep our food supply strong,” said Secretary Brooke Rollins. “This announcement builds on the Supplemental Disaster Relief Program (SDRP) and the historic levels of assistance we have rolled out over the last few months, once again proving that this administration is working as quickly as possible to get help out the door and into the hands of livestock and dairy producers. USDA will continue to put farmers first and ensure they have the relief they need to weather storms and build for the future.”

Qualifying Disaster Events

To streamline program delivery, FSA has determined eligible counties with qualifying floods and qualifying wildfires in 2023 and 2024. For losses in these counties, livestock producers are not required to submit supporting documentation for floods or wildfires. A list of approved counties is available at



fsa.usda.gov/elrp.

For losses in counties not listed as eligible, livestock producers can apply for ELRP 2023 and 2024 FW but must provide supporting documentation to demonstrate that a qualifying flood or qualifying wildfire occurred in the county where the livestock were physically located or would have been physically located if not for the disaster event. FSA county committees will determine if the disaster event meets program requirements.

Livestock and Producer Eligibility

For ELRP 2023 and 2024 FW, FSA is using covered livestock criteria similar to the Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) which includes weaned beef cattle, dairy cattle, beefalo, buffalo, bison, alpacas, deer, elk, emus, equine, goats, llamas, ostriches, reindeer, and sheep.

Wildfire assistance is available on non-federally managed land to participants who did not receive assistance through LFP or the ELRP 2023 and 2024 for drought and wildfire program delivered to producers in July of this year.

Payment Calculation

Eligible producers can receive up to 60% of one month of calculated feed costs for a qualifying wildfire or three months for a qualifying flood using the same monthly feed cost calculation that is used for LFP.

ELRP 2023 and 2024 for drought and wildfire and ELRP 2023 and 2024 FW have a combined payment limit of \$125,000 for each program year. Producers who already received the maximum payment amount from ELRP 2023 and 2024 for drought and wildfire will not be eligible to receive an additional payment under ELRP 2023 and 2024 FW. Eligible producers may submit form FSA-510, Request for an Exception to the \$125,000 Payment Limitation for Certain Programs, to be considered for an increased payment limit of \$250,000.

Supplemental Disaster Assistance Timeline

USDA is fully committed to expediting remaining disaster assistance provided by the American Relief Act, 2025. On May 7, we launched our 2023/2024 Supplemental Disaster Assistance public landing page where the status of USDA disaster assistance and block grant rollout timeline can be tracked. The page is updated regularly and accessible through fsa.usda.gov. Contact your local FSA county office for more information.

More Information
To learn more about FSA programs, producers can contact their local USDA Service Center. Producers can also prepare maps for acreage reporting as well as manage farm loans and view other farm records data and customer information by logging into their farmers.gov account. If you don’t have an account, sign up today.

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

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OUT
Continued from page 4

We are especially grateful to the Jonathan Stein Fund for helping make Maine a more inclusive and affirm-

ing place for LGBTQ+ youth.”

To donate to OUT Maine, visit: <https://www.outmaine.org/about/support-us/donate/>

Viles Arboretum’s Pollinator Palooza will educate and delight!

AUGUSTA, ME – Viles Arboretum is thrilled to announce Pollinator Palooza, a fun, educational, and inspiring festival dedicated to celebrating the vital role pollinators play in our environment. The event will take place on Saturday, September 27, 2025, from 10am to 3pm at Viles Arboretum, located at 153 Hospital Street in Augusta, Maine.

This lively community gathering will feature hands-on activities for all ages, pollinator-themed crafts, music, workshops, tours, and expert talks on native plants, bees, butterflies, and other pollinators.

Visitors can shop the festival market, featuring local vendors, artisans, and crafters, for unique offerings, grab a bite to eat at a food truck, or learn and connect with local organizations.

“Pollinators are essential to the health of our ecosystems, and this event is a chance to celebrate and learn about these incredible creatures,” says Community Engagement Director, Bethany Drouin. “We hope Pollinator Palooza will become a beloved annual tradition for the community.”

Pollinator Palooza is free for members of the Arboretum. For non-members, admission is just



Eastern Black Swallowtail (*Papilio polyxenes*) on Joe-pye weed (*Eutrochium purpureum*) Photo Credit Brian Lemieux

\$5 per person or \$15 per household. While pre-registration isn’t required, it’s strongly recommended.

This event is possible thanks to the support of our sponsors Kennebec Savings Bank, KV Federal Credit Union, MaineShare, G&E Roofing, Triple G Stump Grinding, Business Communications of Maine, and Lowes.

Event Schedule

All Day Activities - Vendor Market, Food Trucks, Kid Zone

10:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M. - Le Bon Truc, live music

10:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M. - Apple Orchard Tour, walk and talk

10:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M. - Building Backyard Pollinator Habitats, workshop

11:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M. - Pollinator Meadow Planting, service project

11:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M. - Building Better Buffers, talk

12:00 P.M. - 12:45 P.M. - KindKids Music Show, live music

1:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M. - Mason Bee House Building, workshop

1:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M. - Building Backyard Pollinator Habitats, workshop

1:15 P.M. - 2:30 P.M. - Duquette, live music

2:00 P.M. - 2:30 P.M. - Aeroallergen Monitoring Program, talk

2:30 P.M. -3:00 P.M. - Build Your Own Willow Tunnel, talk

For more information, visit <https://vilesarboretum.org/pollinator-palooza>

Sierra Gary joins Fontaine Family Team

MAINE – Fontaine Family - The Real Estate Leader is proud to announce Sierra Gary as the newest addition to their growing Auburn team.

Sierra grew up in Milnot, Maine, where she continues to live today, and is a graduate of Poland Regional High School. Over the years, she has gained valuable experience in a variety of roles, including working for her parents’ business, serving in the hospitality industry, and contributing to a production company. This diverse background has helped Sierra develop strong communication, organization, and problem-solving skills—qualities she now brings to her real estate career.

Beyond real estate, Sierra is a passionate creative with a love for music and the arts, as well as figure skating. She also enjoys woodworking and refurbishing furniture and other pieces, showcasing her appreciation for craftsmanship and detail—skills that will benefit her clients when envisioning the potential of a home.

For real estate opportunities with Sierra Gary, she can be contacted by phone at (207) 754-6848 or email sierragary@fontaineteam.com



Fontaine Family – The Real Estate Leader is a highly skilled real estate team of licensed professionals dedicated to focusing on the client. Fontaine was awarded 2019 Maine Family-Owned Business of the Year, voted Best Real Estate Company in the Greater Lewiston/Auburn Area and Greater Portland Area year after year, recognized by Real Trends as America’s Top 250 Real Estate Team and published in the Wall Street Journal in the Top 250 Real Estate Professionals ranking in

the top ½ of 1% of Realtors outperforming 99.9% of the nation’s Realtors.

The Fontaine Family Team serves 8 counties – Androscoggin, Cumberland, York, Sagadahoc, Oxford, Kennebec, Franklin and Somerset – in two locations, 336 Center Street in Auburn and 432 US Route One in Scarborough. For more information visit FontaineTeam.com, download their free home search mobile app “Fontaine Family Real Estate” or call (207)784-3800 or (207)289-3830.

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

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NSB assists The Root Cellar, supports “neighbors” in need

LEWISTON, ME – In 1984, Mennonite missionaries saw the downtrodden, struggling Munjoy Hill community in Portland and responded by opening up a teen center in the basement of a local church. The basement had been used as a root cellar in the past, and since that day, has adorned the name of an organization from which hopes and dreams have grown across Maine.

The Root Cellar currently operates out of a community center on 94 Washington Avenue in Portland and on 89 Birch Street in Lewiston. Along

the way, the organization has focused on finding ways to love their neighbors, specifically in the immigrant and refugee communities and in areas suffering from higher densities of poverty.

These efforts inspire support from individuals and businesses around Maine, including Norway Savings Bank, which recently delivered a check for \$1,150 to the organization in gratitude for its continuing vigilance to make lives better.

“For decades, The Root Cellar did things ‘for’ those in need, but now

they operate programs that do things ‘with’ those in need, building encouraging and inspiring friendships and partnerships along the way,” said Dan Walsh, President and CEO of Norway Savings Bank. “We’re thankful to be able to help them as they respond to needs and transform communities through their crucial programs.”

Among those programs are:

Abundant Food Share Pantry, which distributes food to anyone in need in Portland on Fridays from noon to 1:30 p.m. and

See NSB, page 14



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MaineHealth launches Trellis Health for primary care



P O R T L A N D , M E – MaineHealth has launched an innovative primary care service designed to transform how Mainers access and experience care. Trellis Health, with its first practice at 1945 Congress Street in Portland, offers a membership model that includes a primary care provider, behavioral health specialist, pharmacist, physical therapist and a health coach all collaborating as a coordinated team.

MaineHealth developed Trellis Health as a wholly owned subsidiary to address some of the most urgent challenges in Maine’s healthcare landscape, like rising costs, limited access, fragmented services and growing rates of provider burnout. Patients can expect timely access to care, longer appointments and a team that works together to keep them well. Monthly payments cover all services, including in-person visits, virtual care and care coordination.

“At Trellis Health, we believe great care starts with a strong, trust-

ing relationship between patients and their care team,” said Tamara St-Claire, President of Trellis Health and MaineHealth Chief Business Transformation Officer. “We’ve created a model that simplifies access and payment, so the focus stays where it belongs – on health, not hurdles.”

MaineHealth began offering Trellis Health memberships to its care team at the end of 2024 and its Portland-based practice is now open to community members across the state. Trellis also offers employers looking for ways to reduce costly emergency, urgent care and specialty care visits the opportunity to sponsor memberships as part of their benefit packages.

“Their patient care and clinical experience is fantastic,” said Jennifer Schoonover, the wife of a MaineHealth care team member and Trellis Health patient who visits the office for primary care, pharmacy and physical therapy services. “Everything is right there in the same office, and I

never have to wait for an appointment.”

While current federal regulations don’t allow Medicare or Medicaid beneficiaries to participate in direct primary care models like Trellis Health, recent legislation has made it possible for individuals to use Health Savings Account (HSA) dollars to cover their monthly membership fee starting January 2026.

“The development of Trellis Health reflects the MaineHealth vision of working together so our communities are the healthiest in America,” said MaineHealth CEO, Dr. Andy Mueller. “We know our current primary care model works for many of our patients, and Trellis offers an approach that we believe will lead to improved access to care, lower costs, a positive patient experience and better health outcomes for our community.”

Trellis offers both individual and household memberships starting at \$109 a month as well as employer-sponsored memberships. Patients and employers who are interested in exploring the Trellis Health model can find more information at trellishealth.org.

Drive Out Cancer golf tournament benefits CRCofWM

MAINE – Norway Country Club was the site of the 12th Annual Drive Out Cancer Golf Tournament organized by the Ladies Golf Association to benefit the Cancer Resource Center of Western Maine (CRCofWM) on August 14, 2025. Over 50 women participated in the 18 hole scramble, which raised a total of \$20,034. Members of the community and area businesses donated money to sponsor the tournament or a golf hole while others donated items and gift certificates for the silent auction and raffle table.

“We are so grateful to the individuals and businesses in our community who continue to support



Members of the Ladies Golf Association present a check in the amount of \$20,034, the proceeds of the Drive Out Cancer Golf Tournament, to Cancer Resource Center of Western Maine Executive Director Diane Madden. Left to right: Jan Beckwermert, Sue Craib, Patty Miller, Diane Madden, Carol Roth

this event each year,” said Sue Craib, event chair and member of the Ladies Gold Association. “This year we raised \$20,014 for the CRCofWM which is the largest amount we have raised to date from this event. We are fortunate to have a resource like the

CRCofWM here in western Maine that can assist patients on their cancer journey by providing one on one cancer resource navigation services, travel and food assistance, as well as support groups, and complementary therapy- all at no charge.”

NBRC awards \$53.9M in 2025 Spring Round Grants

CONCORD, NH – The Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) announced \$53.9 million in new awards as part of the Commission’s Spring Round competition across its Catalyst and Timber for Transit programs. The 69 awards will benefit communities throughout the Commission’s member states of Maine, New Hampshire, New York, and Vermont.

Awards made per program include the following:

\$46.3 million awarded through the Catalyst Program:

36 infrastructure projects support proposals for the construction of drinking water, wastewater and stormwater systems; road and sidewalk infrastructure; childcare, healthcare, and community center facilities; and outdoor recreation infrastructure.

28 non-infrastructure projects fall within tourism and recreation, healthcare, business and workforce development categories. Six projects were awarded through a new feasibility category, for planning and design initiatives that will result in deliverables supporting the implementation of an infrastructure project.

\$7.6 million awarded through the Timber for Transit Program includes three transportation infrastructure projects involving rail, trail, or pedestrian bridges, one feasibility project focusing on maintaining road infrastructure across the NBRC region, and one transportation-adjacent infrastructure project involving the construction of a new passenger terminal.

“The slate of awards approved by the Commission represent a genera-



tional investment in local economies across Northern New England and New York. This public investment in infrastructure will directly lead to the creation of new jobs and businesses, housing construction and improved economic opportunity and vitality in rural communities,” said NBRC Federal Co-Chair Chris Saunders.

A project in Aroostook County, Maine will use Timber for Transit funding to build a pedestrian bridge with laminated, local timber as part of a transformative community initiative:

“We are excited to see how the Island Bridge Project will help to transform our community—not just by providing a safe and scenic crossing to our namesake island, but by supporting ongoing downtown revitalization. The use of lumber harvested from town-owned property makes this project even more meaningful. It will strengthen connections between neighborhoods, trails, and local businesses, encourage more foot traffic and community activity. This project reflects our dedication to accessibility, vibrancy, and a walkable, welcoming town center,” said Jutta Beyer, Town Manager for the Town of Island Falls.

In Chittenden County, Vermont, a Catalyst award will help replace aging wastewater plant infrastructure while setting the community up for extreme weather resilience and future development:

“This grant will have a huge impact on our community, and we are so grateful that this resource

exists to make these improvements possible. With these funds, the Bolton Valley community will be able to move forward with a much-needed wastewater plant upgrade and set the stage for new residential development. These funds will move the needle on these projects. We truly cannot overstate the impact,” said Lindsay Deslauriers, President, CEO of Bolton Valley Water and Community Development Co.

Catalyst grant funding in Coös County, New Hampshire will go towards the renovation and expansion of a dental clinic, doubling capacity to meet oral health needs:

“This important award from the Northern Border Regional Commission will support the expansion of dental services in the North Country,” said Ken Gordon, Chief Executive Officer at Coös County Family Health Services. “Not only will local residents have expanded access to dental care, but the award will create the infrastructure needed to train a new generation of dentists and other oral health professionals.”

The funds for NBRC programs are available thanks to the support of the Congressional Delegations of all four NBRC states: Maine, New Hampshire, New York, and Vermont. The NBRC’s grants management system will open for Fall Round pre-applications in August 2025. Please refer to NBRC’s website, www.nbrc.gov, for important dates and announcements about current and future funding opportunities.



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Through Oct 3
BLUE HILL – LUD-
DITE ANTIQUES POP-
UP Now Through Octo-
ber 3rd, 2025. Luddite
Antiques (Germantown,
NY) has set up a shop-in-
the-shop in the back gal-
lery space! Expect wild
and wonderful art, objects,
furniture and more! Work-
ing Loose, 49 Main Street,
Blue Hill, ME 04614
<https://www.workingloose.com/blogs/news/luddite-antiques-pop-up>.

Sept-Oct
WEST GARDINER –
The Center for Maine Craft
is pleased to announce the
opening of A New Chap-
ter, a compelling two-artist
exhibition featuring prints
and original mixed media
artwork by Larry Clifford
and handcrafted furniture
by Brian Haddock of Ru-
ral Modern Furniture. The
show runs from Septem-
ber 2 through October 26,
2025.

Sept 25, Oct 16, Nov 13
MAINE – The 2025
Maine Hire-A-Vet is a
statewide effort with the
goal of at least 100 em-
ployers 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 | Uni-
versity of Maine-Orono

Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

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

November 13, 2025 |
11:00 am to 3:00 pm | Uni-
versity of Maine-Farming-
ton.

Sept 27
BUXTON – Try our
delicious Haddock Supper
Buffet - Saturday, Septem-
ber 27, 2025 - 5:00 pm at
Living Waters Church,
Parker Farm Road, Buxton.
Suggested donation: \$10
Adult, \$5 Child, \$20 Fam-
ily. Please note: We will
offer the option of takeout
containers for those who
do not want to come inside
for seating.

**Tuesdays, Sept 30
and Oct 7, 14, 21**
AUBURN – Auburn
Public Library: Fall Slow
Flow Yoga to be taking
place on Tuesdays, Sep-
tember 9th, 16th, 30th and
October 7th, 14th, 21st,
2025 from 4:30 to 5:30
PM.

Oct 4, 18
GORHAM – Public
Works will be accepting
brush Saturday, October
4th & Saturday, October
18th at 80 Huston Road
from 8AM - 3PM. Resi-
dents only, no commercial
drop off. No stumps will be
accepted. Leaves & grass
clippings accepted in the

designated area throughout
the season. Please do not
leave bags behind.

Oct 4-5
CANAAAN – Maine’s
Garlic Fest returns this Oc-
tober 4th & 5th, 2025 at
Lake George Regional
Park in Canaan, Maine!

Oct 6 -11
BLUE HILL –
GREEN ROOM October
6th – October 11th, 2025.
Opening Reception: Mon-
day, October 18th 5pm -
7pm.

Multiflora will be
installing a ONE WEEK
ONLY magical + other-
worldly plant-scape in the
ephemeral show GREEN
ROOM. Come through-
out the week to witness
this transitory display and
watch the installation wilt
and evolve over the week!
Multiflora is a floral ate-
lier of Meg Farrell, dedi-
cated to crafting one-of-a
kind arrangements and
botanical sculptures using
foraged and locally grown
flowers. Working Loose,
49 Main Street, Blue Hill,
ME 04614.

Oct 7
BLUE HILL –
KOKEDAMA TUESDAY
October 7th / 4pm-6pm In
conjunction with GREEN
ROOM, Meg Farrell will
teach us the art of mak-

ing Japanese moss-balls,
Kokedama, to encourage
your own sculptural dis-
play of plants. cost: \$50/
person, all materials pro-
vided, pre-registration re-
quired. Working Loose, 49
Main Street, Blue Hill, ME
04614.

Oct 11
BLUE HILL – JUDE
BROTHERS, HAMILTON
BELK + IS SHE? SATUR-
DAY October 11th Doors @
6:30 \ Show @ 7pm.

We are thrilled to wel-
come back our very own
Brooksville-darling Estelle
Poole (Is She?) along with
WL alum Hamilton Belk
(Warren, ME) and touring
artist Jude Brothers (Fay-
etteville, AK) to kick off
the first of our live music
shows of the season. \$20
tix. presale tix STRONG-
LY Encouraged. Working
Loose, 49 Main Street,
Blue Hill, ME 04614.

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 refresh-
ments. This is the Lewis-
ton Public Library’s first
annual literary ball, com-
memorating Jane Austen’s
250th birthday.

Oct 18-
BLUE HILL –
CHEWED PAPER Octo-
ber 18th–November 18th,
2025. Opening Reception:
Saturday, October 18th
5pm - 7pm.

This fall Working
Loose gathers seven-
teen artists to explore the
modest medium of paper
and glue. Chewed Paper
is a celebration of papi-
er-mâché—a deceptively
humble medium that has
endured across centuries,
cultures, and continents.
From the fortified surfaces
of medieval armor to the
festive vibrancy of piña-
tas, masks, and parade
costumes, this exhibition
honors the tactile, trans-
formative nature of a craft
born from the simple union
of paper and paste. Work-
ing Loose, 49 Main Street,
Blue Hill, ME 04614.

Oct 25, 26
MAINE – The Mid-
coast Symphony Orchestra
presents “Heroes: Com-
mon and Uncommon” Ro-
han Smith, Conductor.

Saturday, October 25,
2025 - 7:00 p.m. - Franco
Center in Lewiston.

Sunday, October 26,
2025 - 2:30 p.m. - Orion
Performing Arts Center in
Topsham.

Aaron Copland: Fan-
fare for the Common Man;
Giuseppe Verdi: Overture
to Vespri Siciliani; Lee
Hoiby: I have a Dream
(featuring Philip Lima,
baritone soloist); Spiritual
Medley (featuring Philip
Lima, baritone soloist);
Ludwig van Beethoven:

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Symphony No. 3, “Eroica”.

Nov 15
LEWISTON – Prince
of Peace Parish Christmas
Craft Fair Saturday, from
9-3. Looking for craft-
ers/artists at Holy Family
Church Hall 607 Sabattus
St., Lewiston. Prices for
tables/spaces range from
\$25-\$40! Contact Angela
at adobson@une.edu.

Nov 15
PORTLAND – The
FLUKES benefit concert
for St. Elizabeth’s Es-
sentials Pantry 4:00pm
- 5:30pm at Trinity Epis-
copal Church Forest Ave.
Portland. Suggested Dona-
tion \$10, children under 12
free.

The FLUKES, an
ensemble of enthusiastic
ukulele musicians along
with singer/songwriter
Eileen Rose, and special
guest The Grateful Hearts
present a family friendly
concert to benefit St. Eliz-
abeth’s Essentials Pantry, a
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non-food essentials to all
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whose families have been
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golf tournament that will
raise funds for the organi-
zation. To learn more, visit
www.therootcellar.org.

PAL

Continued from page 3

propriations Committee,
secured \$3 million in
Congressionally Direct-
ed Spending (CDS) in the
Fiscal Year 2023 Transpor-
tation, Housing and Urban
Development Appropri-
ations bill to support the
construction of the center.
Last year, she participat-
ed in the groundbreaking
ceremony for the new PAL
Center.

Since 2021, Senator
Collins has secured more
than \$1 billion in CDS for
514 projects across the
State of Maine.

Morin

Continued from page 1

by her daughter Catherine
Campbell and husband Mat-
thew of Portland; daughter
Elizabeth Morin of South
Portland; son Gerard Morin
and wife Debbie Bolen-Mo-
rin of West Bath; grandson
Sam Campbell and wife
Kara Rowley of Berlin, Ger-
many; granddaughter Emma
Campbell of Portland; and
grandson Adam Campbell
and wife Arianna Paul of
Old Orchard Beach.

Rachel Morin led a
big, beautiful life—full of
love, laughter, and adven-
ture. She never missed a
chance to tell everyone how
proud she was of her fami-
ly and how grateful she was
for every moment. We are
forever blessed to have been
part of her story.

Join us in celebrating
Rachel’s life with a Mass at
St. Philip’s Church on Oc-
tober 10 at 11 AM. Visiting
hours are October 9 from
4-7 PM at Fortin’s Funeral
Home on Turner Street in
Auburn.

In lieu of flowers,
please consider donating
to the Morin Family favor-
ite non-profit organization,
STRIVE. <https://pslstrive.org/donate>.



Finding a fulfilling career with flexibility and room to grow

Petra always knew she wanted to pursue a career that involved helping people. After studying nursing for a semester, and realizing that it wasn’t for her, she discovered her calling as a Mental Health Rehabilitation Technician/Community, or MHRT-C, was the perfect fit.

In that role, she works with individuals living with serious and persistent mental illness, helping them access support services in the community. That might include a wide range of tasks on any given day, from helping clients connect with food and childcare resources, to helping them enroll in college classes.

“I love getting to be a part of people moving forward in their lives,” she says. “I get to see people believe in themselves again.”

Petra is a part of the growing field of Behavioral Health, ensuring that Mainers with behavioral health needs have the support they need to stay safe, independent, and empowered to achieve their personal goals. There are thousands of openings with providers throughout the state. In addition to the rewarding nature of the work, Petra appreciates having flexibility with time to be there for her husband and two young children.

“I have a lot of control over my schedule,” she says. “I really do get to enjoy my kids’ childhood.”

Emily became a Mental Health Rehabilitation Technician-I, or MHRT-I, shortly after getting her associate’s degree, and her son was diagnosed with autism. “I wanted to be prepared to meet his needs and be as knowledgeable as possible,” she said.

The position, working with individuals’ serious mental illness in supported residential settings, turned out to be a gateway to a new path that she could never could have imagined. Emily went on to become a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, get her Doctorate in Social Work, and teach college classes, all as a mother of three. Today, as the Principal Investigator for Behavioral Health Workforce Initiatives at the Catherine Cutler Institute at the University of Southern Maine, Emily oversees MHRT-related certifications and training initiatives across the state. As she reflects on her path, she sees her time as an MHRT-I as pivotal.

“It helped me truly understand the profound impact behavioral health work could have, not only on the clients I served, but also on my own sense of purpose and fulfillment,” she says. “To be able to see people have those light-bulb moments, really discover who they are and witness their resilience; it’s amazing.”

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



“I love getting to be a part of people moving forward in their lives. I get to see people believe in themselves again.”



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

SEPTEMBER 15 - 18, 2025 - THE GRAND CANYON OF PENNSYLVANIA - Trip includes 3 nights lodging, 3 break-

fasts and 3 dinners including the historic Peter Herdic House and The Carriage House. Highlights of this tour are Susquehanna River Cruise, Pennsylvania Grand Canyon Wagon Tour, Millionaires Row Tour, Thomas Taber Museum, Historic Rowley House and much more. A \$75.00 deposit is due upon signing up. Price of this trip is \$769.00 pp double occupancy and \$918.00 for a single. Final payment is due July 17, 2025.

OCTOBER 6 – 10, 2025 – ATLANTIC CITY, CAPE MAY, & PHILADELPHIA - Trip includes 5 days and 4 nights lodging, 4 breakfasts and 4 dinners and a free casino bonus for those who want to gamble. Guided tour of Philadelphia including Liberty Bell, Independence Hall, Betsy Ross House, the Federal Reserve and Mint. Then off to Cape May with a Trolley Tour of the Victorian Mansions of Cape May and a walking tour of a historic Victorian Home. We travel to Cape May Point and the famous Cape May Light-house. Our next day is a free day in Atlantic City to do as you please. Take in

a show, do some gaming or just stroll down Atlantic City's Famous Boardwalk. **A \$75.00 deposit per person is due upon signing up. The price for this trip is \$849.00 per person double occupancy. Add \$210.00 for single occupancy. Final Payment is due 7/30/25.**

NOVEMBER 16-26, 2025 – CLASSICAL GREECE

- Price includes round trip air from Logan International Airport, hotel transfers and all transportation while on tour. Trip also includes 16 meals (9 breakfasts, 1 luncheon, and 6 dinners). Highlights of this tour are Athens, the Acropolis and Parthenon, Delphi, Olympia and Ancient Mycenae. You will visit a Greek Farm, have a Cooking Class, Greek Dance Class, and visit two remote monasteries. We will also have a tasting of local wines, olive oil and sweets.

APRIL 14 - 22, 2026 - HOLLAND AND BELGIUM SPRINGTIME CRUISE - Trip includes 9 days and 20 meals. Highlights are 7 Night River Cruise, Amsterdam with Canal Cruise, Keukenhof Gardens, Middelburg,

Belgium Waterways, Sceanic Sail, Bruges, Antwerp, Kinderdijk Windmills. Ship is the MS Amadeus Brilliant. Included in price is round trip air from Logan International Airport and all Hotel Transfers. Deposit is \$898.00 pp plus \$699.00 if you want travel protection. Rates vary depending on the cabin category you choose.

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

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

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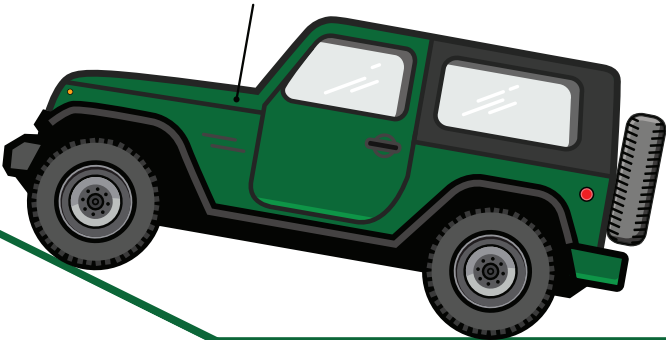
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