

Quilts on display, for sale at North Gorham Public Library



GORHAM, ME – Local quilter Mary Dacey is displaying many of the beautiful quilts she has

made at North Gorham Public Library. You have to see them in person to appreciate her craftsmanship!

The quilts are also for sale. We can share Mary's contact information if you are interested.

Home energy assistance funding available for Gorham residents

MAINE – Funding through Maine Housing's Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) has opened for the year, with funding available now through May 29, 2026 or until funds are exhausted.

The program helps qualified homeowners and renters pay for heating costs. Benefits include assistance with fuel costs and emergency fuel delivery. Applicants can also qualify for energy-related repairs and utility

payments if eligible for HEAP.

To learn more and/or apply for the HEAP program through Maine Housing, please visit <https://mainehousing.org/programs-services/energy/energydetails/liheap>.

Goodwill observes Disability Employment Awareness Month

GORHAM, ME – Goodwill Northern New England announced today that it will join the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy in recognizing National Disability Employment Awareness Month, an annual awareness campaign that takes place each October. The purpose of National Disability Employment Awareness Month is to bring attention to disability employment and celebrate the many and varied contributions of America's workers with disabilities. This year's theme is "Celebrating Value and Talent."

The history of NDEAM traces back to 1945, when it began as a week-long recognition of peo-

ple with physical disabilities. Later, NDEAM was expanded to a full month and evolved to include all people with disabilities, including those with mental health conditions and other nonobvious disabilities, acknowledging the importance of increasing their access to employment.

This October, Goodwill NNE will be highlighting several employees to help raise awareness about disability employment and our commitment to building an inclusive, accessible workplace where everyone can thrive.

"Goodwill NNE is proud to take part in this year's National Disability Employment Awareness Month," said President

& CEO Tripp Harrison. "We want to spread the important message that we value all perspectives, including those of individuals with disabilities."

Employers and employees in all industries can learn more about how to participate in National Disability Employment Awareness Month and ways they can promote its messages—during October and throughout the year—by visiting dol.gov/NDEAM.

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

October Special Section Domestic Violence Awareness Month pages 8-9

Gorham public health notice: West Nile cases

GORHAM, ME – The Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Maine CDC) has recently identified two cases of West Nile Virus (WNV) in crows in the Town of Gorham.

Town Guidance for Arboviral Infections

When an arbovirus is present in a community, Maine CDC suggests the following recommendations:

Draining sources of artificial standing water where mosquitoes can lay their eggs.

Covering exposed skin when outdoors.

Long-sleeved shirts, pants, and socks.

Using Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved repellents.

DEET, IR3535 (ethyl butylacetylaminopropionate), Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus, or Picaridin on skin.

Permethrin on cloth-

ing Always follow the instructions on the product's label.

Avoid being outdoors during dawn/dusk when mosquitoes are most active.

Use screens on windows and doors to prevent mosquitoes from entering buildings.

Repair torn screens.

Consult with an Integrated Pest Management Specialist. Specialist can provide information on the use of products to control mosquitoes.

Consider rescheduling outdoor events including:

Sporting practices

Sports games

Any other events that put the public outside during peak mosquito activity

Maine Municipal Arbo Plan

The Maine Arboviral (Mosquito-borne) Illness

Surveillance, Prevention, and Response Guidance for Maine Towns and Communities, otherwise known as the Municipal Arbo Plan, contains detailed information on arboviral prevention and control methods for local municipalities. The document can be found at www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/infectiousdisease/epi/vector-borne/documents/Municipal-Arbo-Plan.pdf

Additional Resources

Find a West Nile Virus Fact Sheet, prevention checklists and additional resources attached below.

For assistance with ques-

tions, the Maine CDC can be reached at (800)

821-5821 or via email at disease.reporting@maine.gov.

More information can also be found on the Maine CDC website at <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/infectious-disease/epi/vector-borne/west-nile/index.shtml>.

Save the date: French Discussion Group meets in Gorham

GORHAM, ME – Join us for some casual conversation en francais! French Discussion Group meets the first

Tuesday of every month

at Baxter Memorial Library from 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm, the second

Wednesday of the month

at Falmouth Memorial Library, and the fourth Thursday of the month at Scarborough Public Li-

brary.

General Code launching in Gorham soon!

GORHAM, ME – We're excited to announce that Gorham's municipal ordinances will soon be available through a homepage link to General Code, a modern, digital-first platform designed to make our local laws more accessible and easier to navigate.

What is General Code?

General Code organizes and publishes our ordinances in a searchable, user-friendly format via the eCode360® portal. Wheth-

er you're a resident, staff member, or official, you'll be able to view, search, and share Gorham's code from any device.

Why This Matters:

Transparency: Easy access to local laws for everyone.

Efficiency: Quick reference for staff and officials.

Accessibility: Available 24/7 online.

Explore Gorham's Code:

Prior to the official launch of General Code on

the Town's homepage via a graphic link, visit www.ecode360.com/GO6630 to begin navigating and searching Gorham's Code.

Questions or Feedback?

For more information or assistance, please contact Town Clerk Laurie Nordfors at 207-222-1670 or Town Planner Carol Eyerman at 207-222-1620.

Thank you for being part of this exciting step toward a more connected and informed Gorham!

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

MEMIC to acquire The Dakota Group

PORTLAND, ME – Workers’ compensation specialist The MEMIC Group, led by parent company Maine Employers’ Mutual Insurance Company, has entered into an agreement to acquire The Dakota Group®, including Risk Administration Services, Inc. and its four affiliated insurance services companies.

The combining of the companies will make The MEMIC Group the third largest multi-state workers’ compensation specialist in the U.S. with estimated combined 2025 writings of more than \$600 million and coverage for more than 25,000 employers nationwide. Both The MEMIC Group and The Dakota Group are rated A (Excellent) by A.M. Best.

This acquisition includes the purchase of The Dakota Group’s subsidiary-affiliated service companies, including OHARA LLC, TLC Advantage LLC, and Precision Bill Review LLC. Together, these entities provide both insurance coverage and cost-containment services, such as case management, PPO networks, and medical bill review, to a broad

client base across the Midwest.

The transaction also includes Risk Administration Services, Inc. (RAS), which serves as attorney-in-fact to the reciprocal insurer Dakota Truck Underwriters (DTU), as well as a controlling interest in First Dakota Indemnity Company, which is managed by RAS.

The transaction is subject to regulatory approval and is expected to be finalized in early January 2026. Aon Securities LLC is serving as financial advisor, and Pierce Atwood LLP is serving as legal counsel to The MEMIC Group on this transaction. Keefe, Bruyette & Woods, a Stifel Company, is serving as financial advisor, and Troutman Pepper Locke LLP is serving as legal counsel to The Dakota Group on this transaction.

This acquisition is an important strategic step to expand The MEMIC Group’s national footprint, strengthen its operational capabilities, and advance its mission to make workers’ compensation work better for employers and employees alike.

“The Dakota Group’s

strong regional brand, accomplished leadership, and consistent recognition as a Ward’s Top 50 performer since 2020 make these companies a strategic match for The MEMIC Group’s mission and values,” said Michael Bourque, President and CEO of The MEMIC Group. “The companies complement each other perfectly and will position us to be able to compete nationally with our special brand of customer-focused workers’ compensation.”

With a significant presence in the upper Midwest, The Dakota Group has a strong and growing market share in workers’ compensation that aligns well with The MEMIC Group’s growth along the Eastern seaboard.

The Dakota Group brings an expansive presence and a long-standing record of underwriting excellence. It is the leading voluntary workers’ compensation writer in South Dakota and a Top 15 writer in Minnesota, Iowa, Kansas, and Nebraska.

“For more than 35 years, RAS Companies has been committed to protecting workers and supporting businesses across the Midwest. Joining forces with MEMIC opens an exciting new chapter for our company. MEMIC’s deep expertise in workers’ compensation and its alignment with our core values and mission make this partnership a natural fit. Together, we have an incredible opportunity to combine our strengths, innovate, and deliver even greater value to the customers and partners who rely on us every day,” said Richard Johnson, President and CEO of The Dakota Group.

Make a plan to give blood with the Red Cross this fall

PORTLAND, ME – As fall officially begins, the American Red Cross urges people to mark the new season with a lifesaving blood or platelet donation to help keep the blood supply strong. Donors of all blood types, especially those with types O positive and B negative blood, are needed now.

For many, daily routines shift as the seasons change, but blood and platelet donations must remain top of mind. Every single donation is key to making sure all patients relying on critical transfusions, including car accident victims, those living with sickle cell disease and those facing cancer, get the care they need.

Fall into donating blood or platelets. Make an appointment to give now by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS or by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App. All who come to give blood, platelets or plasma through Oct. 19, 2025, will receive a \$10 Amazon.com Gift Card by email. For details, visit RedCrossBlood.org/Fall.

Upcoming blood do-

nation opportunities
Androscoggin
 Lewiston
 10/4/2025: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., CMMC, 12 High Street, Lower Level
 10/14/2025: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Bates College Gray Cage, 124 Central Ave

Cumberland
 Bridgton
 10/7/2025: 11 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Masonic Hall, 166 Harrison Road, Route 117

Brunswick
 10/8/2025: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Elks Lodge, 179 Park Row

Cape Elizabeth
 10/9/2025: 1 p.m. - 5 p.m., Saint Bartholomew Church, 8 Two Lights Rd

Falmouth
 10/8/2025: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., The Episcopal Church of St. Mary, 43 Foreside Rd

Gorham
 10/2/2025: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., St. Annes Church, 299 Main Street

New Gloucester
 10/8/2025: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., The Commons, 59 Pineland Drive

Portland
 10/6/2025: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Maine Medical Center - Dana Education Cen-

ter, 22 Bramhall Street
 10/14/2025: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Cambria Hotel, 25 Hancock St

Scarborough
 10/7/2025: 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Maine Health Institute for Research, 81 Research Dr

10/7/2025: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Saint Maximilian Church, 150 Black Point Rd

10/13/2025: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Hospice of Southern Maine- Admin Building, 390 U.S. Rte 1

Standish
 10/6/2025: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Gardenside Condo Association, 12 Gardenside Drive

Westbrook
 10/10/2025: 12 p.m. - 4 p.m., Westbrook Community Center, 426 Bridge Street

Windham
 10/15/2025: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., North Windham Veterans Center, 35 Veterans Memorial Drive

Yarmouth
 10/3/2025: 11:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., American Legion Post 91, 196 Main St

10/9/2025: 12 p.m. - 4:30 p.m., First Parish Congregational Church, 116 Main Street

MaineHealth Symposium to address youth eating disorders

PORTLAND, ME – MaineHealth will host its annual Glickman Family Center Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Symposium on Friday, October 10, 2025, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:50 p.m. at the MaineHealth Conference Center, 110 Free Street, Portland. The event will convene national and local experts to address current trends in eating disorders among children and adolescents, one of the most pressing behavioral health

concerns facing youth today.

The symposium will feature a keynote address by Lisa Namerow, MD, University of Connecticut School of Medicine, followed by a series of sessions exploring a multidisciplinary approach to eating disorder treatment. Topics include adolescent medicine perspectives, screening and treatment strategies within weight management programs, gastroenterology insights, and therapeutic approaches such

as family-based and individual therapy.

The day will conclude with a panel discussion on strategies for effective communication and collaboration across disciplines to improve care for adolescents and adults with eating disorders. Attendees are eligible to earn 6 CME credits, and breakfast and lunch are included with registration.

“At MaineHealth, we recognize the urgent need for greater awareness and collaboration around eating disorders in children and adolescents. This symposium provides an opportunity to learn from leading experts and strengthen the care we provide across our communities,” said Melissa Bowker-Kinley, Vice President of Physician and APP Services at MaineHealth Behavioral Health.

Event Details

What: Glickman Family Center Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Symposium
 When: Friday, October 10, 2025 | 8:00 a.m. – 3:50 p.m.

Where: MaineHealth Conference Center, 110 Free Street, Portland

Credits: 6 CME credits available. Register online.

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Matthew Reid named Lasell's Head Women's Basketball Coach

NEWTON, MA – Lasell University is pleased to announce the hiring of Matthew Reid as the new Women's Basketball Head Coach. Reid joins Lasell after serving as Associate Head Coach at the University of New England (UNE) for the past five years, where he played an instrumental role in building a competitive and successful program.

Reid brings a comprehensive coaching background to Lasell, with nearly two decades of experience across collegiate, high school, and AAU basketball. In addition to his collegiate coaching at UNE, Reid has 13 years of coaching experience at the high school and AAU levels, most recently with the Maine Firecrackers 17U program. He also held coaching roles at Noble High School and Cape Elizabeth, working with both boys' and girls' varsity teams.

Known for his player-first approach, Reid emphasizes skill development, team culture, and competitive excellence. His leadership has helped student-athletes succeed both on and off the court, and his background includes extensive work in recruiting, game preparation, and individual instruction.

"We are excited to welcome Matt to Lasell. Matt's commitment to



individualized player development, strong communication skills and deep understanding of the game resonated with us throughout the hiring process. Matt has a passion for teaching the game and creating a positive environment, allowing student athletes to perform at their best. He will be a great addition to Lasell Athletics, and I am looking forward to watching him and the team continue to elevate our women's basketball program both on and off the court." said AVP for Athletics Jamie Marcoux.

Reid holds a Master's in Teaching and Learning from the University of Southern Maine and is also a certified personal trainer, bringing a holistic perspective to athlete development. His multifaceted background in education,

fitness, and coaching positions him as a dynamic leader for Lasell Women's Basketball.

Matthew expressed both enthusiasm and gratitude as he takes the reins at Lasell. "I am extremely grateful and excited about the opportunity to join the women's basketball program at Lasell University. Many thanks to Athletic Director Jamie Marcoux and to the search committee for having faith in me to get the job done. There are no shortcuts to the places we want to get to as a program; hard work, communication and positive energy will be instrumental to our success on and off the floor. I'm fired up to start my journey as a Laser!"

Please join us in welcoming Coach Matthew Reid to Lasell University!

Law protects consumers from negative impacts of medical debt

AUGUSTA, ME – On Wednesday, September 24, a new consumer protection law from Sen. Donna Bailey, D-Saco, took effect. LD 558, "An Act to Strengthen Consumer Protections by Prohibiting the Report of Medical Debt on Consumer Reports," prohibits a consumer reporting agency from listing medical debt on an individual's consumer report. It also prohibits medical providers and debt collection agencies from reporting medical debt to any consumer reporting agency.

"Given the recent action taken by a federal judge in Texas to remove the federal prohibition on the reporting of medical debt, this new state law has a big impact," said Sen. Bailey. "Although Americans no longer have the federal protection, Mainers will continue to have protection here in our state. When we go to the hospital

for medical care, especially for emergencies, any debt that we take on should not hold us back from buying a car, renting a home or taking out a loan. In the next session, I plan to continue this work. I will propose a bill to ban liens on homes or the taking of people's wages while they work to pay off their medical debt."

Consumers for Affordable Health Care released data that shows that nearly half of Maine families have taken on medical debt in the last two years. In addition, one out of four Maine families with medical debt owe \$5,000 or more.

More than half of Mainers with medical debt report that their credit score has been negatively affected by the debt, and a lower credit score can negatively impact someone's ability to rent or otherwise obtain housing. The majority of those surveyed have in-

dicated that their ability to obtain employment or loans has also been negatively impacted by their debt.

For the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Maine State Legislature, Sen. Bailey has submitted "An Act to Strengthen Consumer Protections by Prohibiting Liens on Principal Residence and Wage Garnishments for Medical Debt." In the Second Regular Session, the Legislative Council must approve any new bill requests from lawmakers before they are introduced to the full Legislature. The Council is set to meet on Thursday, Oct. 23. For any denied requests, lawmakers will have an opportunity to appeal denials.

For assistance with removing medical debt from consumer credit reports, contact the Maine Consumer Credit Protection Bureau at 1-800-332-8529.

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

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Clothes galore at Gorham's Mission of Hope Clothes Closet

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

We focus on clothes and accessories (gloves, scarves, hats, etc.) and welcome your donations during our operating hours. Clean clothes in good shape help the most, as they go right out to help people locally or in nearby communities. An attempt is made to have season appropriate clothes available to you. After we have

displayed them for a time, they are donated to our local second-hand shops.

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

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.

Gorham WEEKLY

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Deadline

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Press Releases

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Proofs

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

I screen, you screen...We all need to screen

Prostate Cancer: What you need to know
By Ann Morrell RN, Health Writer

Screening is a cornerstone of cancer control. Cancer screening tests increase the chance of finding cancer early, when treatment is likely to work best. With some types of cancers, early and regular screening can prevent the occurrence of cancer.

I SCREEN, YOU SCREEN is a monthly initiative of the Cancer Resource Center of Western Maine to share information with the public about the importance of early cancer detection and screening. Each month, there will be a focus on a different cancer, including some of the possible signs and symptoms that should prompt a conversation with your primary care provider.

We have covered more than a few cancers in our "I Screen, You Screen series" so we know that cancer starts as an abnormal growth of cells and prostate cancer is just that: an abnormal growth of cells in the prostate. The prostate is a small gland found just under the bladder in men, which helps make semen. Prostate cancer is the second most common cancer in men second only to melanoma. Symptoms get more severe as the cancer grows or spreads (metastasizes). Cancer that has spread outside the prostate gland is termed metastatic cancer, stage 4 or advanced prostate cancer.

The good news is that prostate cancer is often detected early (thanks to screening) and is very treatable.

Early symptoms include blood in the urine or pink colored urine, blood in semen, needing to urinate more often and trouble starting to urinate.

More severe symptoms that can signal a need

for more advanced testing: Accidental leaking of urine.

Back pain.
Bone pain.
Difficulty getting an erection, called erectile dysfunction.

Feeling very tired.
Losing weight without trying.

Weakness in the arms or legs.

Causes for prostate cancer are unknown but risk factors include family history, obesity, age over 50, smoking and race/ethnicity. We don't completely understand the higher risk for ethnic/Black men in the US to develop prostate cancer, be diagnosed at later stages and progress more quickly. Certainly, more research is needed.

Early screening is easy and starts most often around age 50. Those with family history, symptoms and people of color might discuss risks with their provider sooner. Screening tests include a simple PSA – Prostate Specific Antigen blood test and digital exam. An abnormal PSA could detect prostate enlargement or infection as well as cancer, making it an important part of men's health screening. If cancer is suspected, your provider will recommend further testing to determine the size and speed of cancer growth.

Treatment for prostate cancer ranges from active surveillance termed "watch and wait" (if it is growing slowly or small) to surgery and depends on many factors. Your medical team will discuss your options and your preferences with you if you are diagnosed with prostate cancer. Again, the importance of screening cannot be understated!

If you have any of the listed symptoms please contact your provider or attend a screening near you. There is support available,

you are not alone. Resources such as The Cancer Resource Center of Western Maine are a wonderful place to gain knowledge, community and education as well as practical items you might need during your cancer journey. It may feel as though there are many risks and toxins in our lives today, but we must be realistic about our risks and lifestyle. There is help available to make changes like quitting smoking, maintaining a healthy weight and avoiding cancer causing toxins. Please know your risks and get screened.

The Cancer Resource Center of Western Maine in Norway offers many items and programs for those going through cancer treatment. Support groups, chair yoga, comfort items, travel and food assistance and more. Check the website for more information or give us a call. Let's keep those healthy habits going. Cancer is scary, but the friends we make along the way are a gift.

And please see your provider to stay up to date on screenings for your age and sex.

I SCREEN, YOU SCREEN highlights one cancer topic per month to remind all of us of the importance of screening.

About the Author

Ann Morrell is a practicing Registered Nurse and Health Content Writer. Her varied 12+ years of nursing experience ensure that her content provides technical information with practical insights.

The Cancer Resource Center of Western Maine is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization located at 59 Winter St, Norway. Their services are free to anyone affected by cancer. Check out their website, www.crcfwm.org, find them on Facebook, or for more information, call 890-0329.

By Joyce Bucciantini, AARP Maine Community Outreach Volunteer

As summer blends into fall, Maine's forests trade their summer green for fall reds and yellows; a sure sign the autumn is upon us and that winter will not be far behind. Before we give way to winter, let's take time to get outside and enjoy all autumn has to offer. From apple picking and cider doughnuts to pumpkin patches and hayrides, there are plenty of ways to spend a beautiful Maine afternoon with friends and family.

While I do enjoy a good cider doughnut, I also enjoy gawking at the autumn leaves. I am a confirmed leaf peeper. The fall foliage report at maine.gov where to enjoy the best fall foliage viewing.

Several parks located along Maine's coastline have views of both fall colors and the rocky ocean shores. The Marginal Way trail in Ogunquit, the Francis Perkins Historical site in New Castle and Quoddy Head State Park near Lubec have easy walks with both foliage and ocean views. A hike or drive up Mount Battie in Camden Hills State Park leads to sweeping vistas of colorful treetops and Camden Harbor.



Moving inland, there are many places to see fall colors. One of my favorite leaf-peeping hikes is in Bradbury State Park in Pownal. An easy hike up the mountain is rewarded with the view of the golden landscape below. Thorncrag Bird Sanctuary in Lewiston and the Palermo Preserve near Palermo are also lovely wooded walks. These parks have short, family-friendly hikes leaving time to enjoy other fall adventures like finding the perfect cider doughnut.

Farther north are two amazing scenic drives: Grafton Notch Scenic Byway and Rangeley Lakes National Scenic Byway. The Grafton Notch Scenic Byway starts in Newry on Rt. 26 leading to Grafton State Park. Hikes and waterfalls in the park add to the adventure. Rangeley National Scenic Byway includes a stop at the Height



of Land overlooking Mooselookmeguntic Lake. The view is stunning. The website visitmaine.com

We all know that fresh air and exercise are good for us. Lots of experts will tell us so. Before the winter snows start, let's put on our flannel shirts and step outside with our friends and families to enjoy picking pumpkins, eating cider doughnuts and taking in the glorious colors of the Maine fall season.

As always, check out the AARP Maine website to find an AARP event or coffee near you.

Joyce Bucciantini is a retired middle school educator. She currently coordinates Delta Kappa Gamma's Read to Me program, is a tutor with Literacy Volunteers-Androscoggin, and is an active AARP Maine volunteer. She enjoys her gardens, being outdoors and traveling.

aarp.org/me · me@aarp.org · [@aarpmaine](https://www.instagram.com/aarpmaine) · 866-554-5380

For the love of fishing: Stories from Maine and beyond

BRUNSWICK, ME – Author, life-long angler, and L.L. Bean casting instructor for 20 years, Sue Daignault will address the October gathering of the Merrymeeting Bay Chapter of Trout Unlimited.

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

Tuesday, October 21, 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.

Sue will talk about fresh and salt water fishing in Maine and across the U.S., the Bahamas, New Zealand, Virgin Islands, Australia, Patagonia, and

Argentina. She will sign copies of her book, A Full Net, which can be purchased at the event.

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

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

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Seniors Not Acting Their Age

Kayaking and Exploring Historic Swan Island

Swan Island on the Kennebec River in Richmond has a long and rich past. Human activity on the island can be traced back thousands of years. Native Americans known as Abenakis, some likely my ancestors, inhabited the island for centuries before the first Europeans arrived in 1607.

Relations between the Native Americans and early European settlers were very turbulent for about one hundred years. By the mid-1700s, disease and warfare had drastically reduced the Native American population on the island. The remainder fled north or assimilated into settler society.

In 1750, Captain James Whidden purchased Swan Island and the first settlement was established. At the beginning of the Revolutionary War, Colonel Benedict Arnold visited the island before embarking on his ill-fated march to Quebec. Some of the homes built during that era still survive today.

For many years, Swan Island prospered as a shipbuilding, farming and ice harvesting community. However, during World War II the island was abandoned as a result of a decline in these industries. In the 1950s, the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (DIF&W) purchased the island and created a wildlife preserve. Visitors can now boat to the island for camping and exploration.

I've been visiting

Swan Island for many years by canoe or kayak. I find paddling along the island shoreline a very stimulating endeavor and, while on the island, enjoy walking back into history.

After identifying a September day when the tides, winds, and weather were ideal, I invited frequent paddling companions to participate in an 11-mile kayak voyage around the island. Three friends quickly agreed to join me.

When the four of us met at the DIF&W ferry landing in Richmond, the skies were clear, temperatures toasty, and the tide was running out. The primary entrance onto Swan Island is almost directly opposite the landing which is only a couple of hundred yards across the river. Based on my research, the ferry to the island is no longer operating, so private watercraft is the only means of access. The western shore of the island closely parallels the mainland for its entire length.

We departed in solo sea kayaks and rode the outgoing tide south through the narrow western passageway. The western side of Swan Island is undeveloped while homes clutter the shoreline in Richmond and then more sporadically farther south in Bowdoinham. With the tide providing added momentum, we quickly passed Theobald and Swan Island Points on the southwestern end of the island and completed the western traverse.

An extensive tid-

al marsh dominates the southern end of the island and marks the beginning of Merry Meeting Bay. The marsh features multitudes of migrating waterfowl, wading birds and shorebirds and is home to wild rice and various species of cattails.

Paddling into a strong sea breeze, we encountered moderately rough seas rounding the southern terminus. Once turned, the steady tailwind and a changing tide propelled us rapidly north.

Progressing upriver, we passed Maxwell Cove and Shipyard Point on the southeastern sector of the island. The Deering ice harvesting house was once located near Shipyard Point.

The river narrowed as we kayaked past Green Point on the east shore where Eastern River enters. Little Swan Island was visible in the distance.

A narrow channel called Little River separates Little Swan Island from the main island. We turned left into Little River and soon arrived at a landing next to the campground.

We stopped for lunch and some exploration. Several historic buildings are located in the immediate vicinity and ten lean-to campsites are nearby.

Miles of dirt roads and hiking trails intersect the island where many more fascinating structures and sites are located. Those desiring a tour of the entire island should travel

directly to the landing or the campground as several hours are needed.

By the time we finished our limited investigation, the incoming tide had reached the kayaks. We departed north on Little River past rugged Little Swan Island and returned to the main river.

As we rounded the northern end of the island, we could see the impressive Maine Kennebec River Bridge that connects Richmond and Dresden in the distance. A short paddle south brought us back to the DIF&W landing completing a very entertaining day of kayaking and exploring.

My book, *Maine Al Fresco: The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine* narrates many more exciting paddle trips around the state.

Ron Chase resides in Topsham. His latest book, *"Maine Al Fresco: The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine"* is available at www.northcountrypress.com/maine-al-fresco or in bookstores and through online retailers. His previous books are *"The Great Mars Hill Bank Robbery"* and *"Mountains for Mortals - New England."* Visit his website at www.ronchaseoutdoors.com or he can be reached at ronchaseoutdoors@comcast.net



Kayakers begin paddling north along Swan Island on the Kennebec River



Little River separates Swan Island from Little Swan Island



A kayaker rounds the northern end of Swan Island

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Arts & Entertainment

Wiscasset Homes on Tour on Oct. 18

WISCASSET, ME – A collection of historic, and extravagant, homes will be open to the public during Wiscasset Homes on Tour, on Saturday, October 18, from 11am to 4pm. Located in or near Wiscasset Village, the stately homes on tour harken back to the town's early shipping days and embody the wealth of those entrepreneurial residents.

The Swett-Johnston-Neal House (1805) has long been recognized as a home with historic distinction and is featured in Wiscasset's Museum in the Streets. Located on the edge of Wiscasset Village, this home has sweeping views of the Common and is only a few blocks from the Village center. Ship's mate, Joseph Swett, built the house then sold it to John Johnston, captain of the Stirling, a sailing vessel renowned for successfully defeating ocean-roving pirates. Current owners



The Lee-Payson-Smith House, built in 1792, was once owned by a Maine governor and now owned by his sixth generation descendant. Visitors to this historic home will also view the private Italianate Garden in the rear. Tickets for Wiscasset Homes on Tour, on Saturday, October 18, from 11am to 4pm, can be purchased online or on the day of the tour. Tickets and details on www.wiscassetcreativealliance.org (Wiscasset Creative Alliance photo)

have traveled extensively around the globe. Visitors will find art, curios, and memorability from decades of their living abroad, which complement the slightly quirky post-colonial qualities retained by the home.

The Davis House (1803) in Edgecomb is vast and has a significant place in local history. The original owner, Moses Davis, Jr. was greatly responsible for building the nearby Fort Edgecomb,

See Homes, page 11

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



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Philip Lima, Baritone

Spirituals
Deep River, Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho,
'Roun' About de Mountain,
Plenty Good Room, Swing Low

Philip Lima, Baritone



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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.

MaineHealth brings Behavioral Health under one convenient roof

BRUNSWICK, ME – Beginning September 15, several MaineHealth Behavioral Health (MHBH) programs currently situated at 66 Baribeau Drive in Brunswick will relocate to the newly renovated behavioral health center at the Parkview campus, 329 Maine Street in Brunswick. This move is the final step in consolidating MHBH services in the Brunswick area under one roof, making care more convenient and coordinated for patients. Earlier this year, MHBH services at 11 Medical Center Drive transitioned to Parkview. With the Baribeau Drive move, the following programs will relocate to the Parkview campus as part of MaineHealth Behavioral Health (formerly MaineHealth Mid Coast Hospital):

Senior Outpatient Services

Comprehensive Addiction Psychiatry Services (CAPS) previously known

as the Addiction Resource Center (ARC)

Partial Hospitalization Program (PHP)

Effective September 15, the above programs will be part of the behavioral health center that also houses outpatient therapy, psychiatry, case management and the Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) program.

“Bringing services together into one location enhances patient access, coordination and continuity of care,” said MHBH President Kelly Barton, MPH, FACHE. “It also increases the likelihood that patients will stay engaged in treatment. This project represents a significant collaborative effort between Mid Coast and MHBH. By integrating various aspects of care delivery as a unified system, MaineHealth is ensuring comprehensive and seamless care for all patients.”

How to reach pro-

grams effective September 15:

MaineHealth Behavioral Health – Brunswick

Adult & Adolescent Outpatient Therapy, Senior Outpatient Services

329 Maine Street, Suite BH1

Phone: 844-292-0111 | Fax: 207-373-9418

MaineHealth Behavioral Health – Comprehensive Addiction Psychiatry Services (CAPS)

Formerly known as the Addiction Resource Center (ARC)

329 Maine Street, Suite BH3

Phone: 844-292-0111 | Fax: 207-373-6959

MaineHealth Behavioral Health – Partial Hospitalization Program (PHP)

A department of MaineHealth Behavioral Health at Spring Harbor Hospital

329 Maine Street, Suite BH2

Phone: 207-373-6950 | Fax: 207-373-6959.

Maine-based Holocaust survivor book to be released

AUGUSTA, ME – The Holocaust and Human Rights Center of Maine (HHRC) proudly announces its publication of *From the Holocaust to Maine: Testimonies of Survivors*, a powerful new book by photographer and writer Jack Montgomery. This deeply moving collection, developed in close collaboration with the HHRC, captures the lived experiences of Holocaust survivors who ultimately made Maine their home. The project reflects years of relationship-building, storytelling, and a shared commitment to preserving memory for the next generation.

With support from community champions and institutional partners, Montgomery and the HHRC seek to make *From the Holocaust to Maine: Testimonies of Survivors* distributed to every middle and high school in Maine—offering students, educators, and communities the opportunity to engage directly with survivor stories rooted in both historical trauma and resilience.

In alignment with the HHRC’s mission of educating about the Holocaust, genocide, and human

rights, the book arrives at a moment when education about the past is urgently needed to inform our present and shape a more just future. The HHRC, based on the campus of the University of Maine at Augusta, continues to serve as a statewide leader in Holocaust and human rights education through exhibitions, teacher training, and school programs.

“This book is more than a collection of survivor stories—it’s a bridge between generations,” said Tam Huynh, Executive Director of the HHRC. “In a time of rising antisemitism, hate-fueled violence, and widespread misinformation, we see *From the Holocaust to Maine* as a critical educational tool. It centers the voices of those who survived the unthinkable and chose to build new lives in Maine. We are honored to support its publication and ensure every student, grades 6th through 12th, has access to these lessons of courage, identity, and justice.”

The book will be officially launched at the HHRC’s Annual Gala on September 16, 2025, at The Woodlands Club in Falmouth. This meaningful

evening will bring together families of survivors, educators, community leaders, and supporters of the HHRC’s work, marking its 40th anniversary milestone. Tickets are available for purchase at www.hhrc-maine.org.

In tandem with the book’s release, the HHRC will open a new photography exhibition titled “Behind the Lens: Portraits of Memory and Survival” in the Judith Magyar Isaacson Gallery in October 2025. The exhibit will showcase never-before-seen photographs by Jack Montgomery of Holocaust survivors featured in the book, offering a visual companion to the testimonies and underscoring the role of photography in bearing witness.

“These are not just portraits—they are documents of survival, endurance, and hope,” said author Jack Montgomery. “I have been honored to spend time with these individuals, to listen, and to share their stories with care. This book would not have been possible without the vision and trust of the Holocaust and Human Rights Center of Maine and, most importantly, the survivors and their families.”

Maine transportation infrastructure work plan released

AUGUSTA, ME – Sen. Rotundo, D-Lewiston, is pleased to announce the details of Maine’s three-year transportation infrastructure work plan, and what it means for Senate District 21. The plan is released annually with an outline of the Maine Department of Transportation’s strategy for road, bridge and other transportation upgrades and maintenance projects.

According to the Maine DOT, the three-year work plan makes a historic \$4.8 billion investment in construction and maintenance of transportation infrastructure across the state. It includes 2,716 individual work items for the calendar years 2025, 2026 and 2027.

In 2025, the Maine

DOT will undertake numerous projects to improve the transportation in Lewiston, including improvements and future planning for public transport in the Lewiston-Auburn, as well as meaningful highway repairs.

“Investments in our public infrastructure are very important to our community and to the State of Maine as a whole,” said Sen. Rotundo. “Our roads and bridges are constantly under wear and tear from Maine weather, and I’m glad to see that Lewiston will receive plenty of funding for improvements and rehabilitation. Our public transportation system is slated for numerous improvements, which will make navigating the city easier, safer and more af-

fordable for residents of Lewiston.”

The following breakdown is the planned capital and maintenance work by MDOT for the City of Lewiston in 2025:

Bicycle/Bus/Pedestrian

Install stamped concrete crosswalks, ADA upgrades, and high visibility markings and signage on Route 196.

Make pedestrian safety improvements to the on-road sidewalks at the intersection of Route 196 and South Avenue.

Make pedestrian safety improvements to the on-road sidewalks at the intersection of Route 196 and Scribner Boulevard. This will also include safety improvements at St.

See work plan, page 12

Maine delegation urges Dept of Ed to fund Upward Bound Programs

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senators Susan Collins and Angus King and U.S. Representatives Chellie Pingree and Jared Golden wrote to Education Secretary Linda McMahon urging her to reverse the Department of Education’s decision to terminate funding for two federally funded TRIO Upward Bound programs in Maine: the Veterans Upward Bound Program at the University of Southern Maine (USM) and the River Valley Upward Bound Program at

the University of Maine at Farmington (UMF). The TRIO Upward Bound program helps prepare low-income and first-generation students for success in higher education by providing academic support, mentoring, and other college readiness services. Both the USM and UMF programs were awarded five-year TRIO grants in 2022 and expected funding to continue through 2027, but the Department recently notified them that funding would end prematurely

on September 30, 2025. Both programs have filed formal requests for reconsideration.

“The Department’s decision to terminate funding for these Upward Bound programs is deeply upsetting, and the negative impact on the students enrolled in these two programs cannot be overstated,” the Delegation wrote.

“Upward Bound has proven its effectiveness in the lives of countless first-generation and



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October Special Section: Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Through These Doors serves Cumberland County

Only one of its kind in the county

Through These Doors began its work in 1977 as Family Crisis Shelter and continues to work together with survivors to offer holistic services, give voice to their experiences, and shape our community's response to the issue of domestic abuse.

Social Change Advocacy

TTD supports individuals experiencing domestic violence, while working to end domestic violence everywhere. We connect with survivors and their supportive networks to strengthen our community as a whole and to create solidarity around the issue of violence against women.

Community Focused
TTD calls on community members, partners, leaders, and ourselves to respond, repair, and prevent the damage caused by violence.

Survivor Centered
TTD engages in meaningful relationships that affirm the whole person, honoring our interdependence with each other and our environment.

Innovative Services
TTD learns from

survivors and community members, developing and adapting services to respond to the changing world. We help rather than rescue survivors.

24 Hour Helpline
We can help. Call our free, confidential Helpline at 1-800-537-6066 or 207-874-1973. Trained, experienced advocates are available 24 hours a day by phone for support, information, and safety planning. We are here to listen and support.

Residential Services
TTD's residential services program includes Emergency Shelter for people fleeing abuse and Transitional Housing which provides long-term support and assistance with housing. Emergency shelter can be accessed by calling our 24-hour helpline. Transitional housing is a two-year program that requires an application. Sometimes where you are is just not safe. Please contact TTD for assistance.

Support Groups
Through These Doors offers support and educational groups throughout Cumberland County. These groups are for anyone who has or is currently experiencing abuse in their

relationship. We provide a variety of groups and all groups are FREE and CONFIDENTIAL. Talking with others who have been through similar experiences can be empowering and life-changing. Contact us to learn more.

Advocacy Services
Through These Doors operates three outreach offices in Cumberland County, Maine in Portland, Brunswick, and Bridgton. TTD advocates assist with Protection from Abuse orders, help navigate the court systems, assist with safety plans, and provide information and referrals related to the legal system. Navigating these complex systems while trying to stay safe can be overwhelming. Our advocates can help.

Education & Prevention

At Through These Doors, we believe we must join together as community members, partners, students, and leaders to end domestic violence. Our educators and prevention advocates are dedicated to raising awareness about the importance of anti-oppression work and inspiring others to help create a safer community for all. Through These Doors Young Adult Abuse Prevention Program, YAAPP, works with schools and community groups.

Violence Intervention
TTD maintains a Certified Domestic Violence Intervention Program (CDVIP) called 'A Different Choice.' ADC's weekly groups for men who perpetrate domestic violence are facilitated by trained educators using the Duluth Model as its curriculum. TTD's CDVIP is certified by the Maine Department of Corrections.

TTD provides Innovative & Responsive Organization working to End Domestic Violence in Cumberland County Maine.

Through These Doors October events

October is Domestic Violence Action Month. What steps will you take this DVAM? All month long we will be sharing ideas from this campaign on our Instagram and Facebook pages. You can start by participating in one or more of our events going on throughout the month! Take steps to end domestic violence-We can all be a part of the solution.

TAKE STEPS FOR SURVIVORS THIS MONTH BY:

Donating to support survivor safety

Attending a DVAM event

Participating in a community campaign

Community Campaigns

Support our Lavender Cafes

Coffee Shops across Cumberland County have partnered with TTD to raise awareness and funds to support survivors of Domestic violence. When you purchase a "Lavender Latte" at a participating Lavender Cafe, a portion of the proceeds will go directly to supporting survivors of domestic violence in Cumberland County.

Locations:
Portland: Coffee By Design – 1 Diamond St, Portland ME

Cape Elizabeth: C-Salt Gourmet Market – 349 Ocean House Rd, Cape Elizabeth ME

Yarmouth: Clayton's Cafe & Bakery – 447 US Rt 1, Yarmouth ME

Raymond: The Good Life Market – 1297 Roosevelt Trail, Raymond ME

Help TTD furnish our shelter expansion

In a time where others are forced to close, we are excited to announce our shelter expansion project. Help us complete the final phase of a multi-year endeavor by purchasing household essentials from our shelter wish list!

Community Events
2025 Maine Community Bank Maine Marathon

Sunday, October 5th Run for a cause! Are you ready to run, walk, or join a relay to complete the full or half marathon? If so, sign up today and select TTD from the charity bib participants. Don't forget to say hello to Through These Doors volunteers who will be cheering you on!

Time: 7:45am start time | Location: Baxter Blvd, Portland



Registration: <https://mainemarathon.com/>

Health Cares About DV Day

Wednesday, October 8th is the 26th annual Health Cares About Domestic Violence Day. Sponsored by FUTURES Without Violence, the awareness-raising day aims to reach members of the healthcare and advocacy communities to offer education about the critical importance of universal education, address the health impact of abuse and offer warm referrals to local DVRCs. Follow us on social media to learn more and go to our website to request a specialized training for your healthcare practice.

Wear Purple Day
Thursday, October 16th is Wear Purple Day. Join the national movement to help raise awareness about domestic abuse. Wear purple, snap a selfie with your family/friends/co-workers and then tag Through These Doors using #wearpurple.

Portland Yoga Collective Luna Sergenta Women's Circle

October 19th at 6-7:30pm, this empowering workshop hosted by PYC aims to bring women together for community building, intention setting, meditation and creativity. TTD staff will be present before and after to invite participants to write letters of support for survivors in our community. A generous 40% of the proceeds from October's event will go to Through These Doors.

Location: Portland Yoga Collective: 98 Cross St N Ste C, Portland, ME
Sliding scale price \$10, \$15 or \$20 | Register online at portlandyogacollective.com

Through These Doors Community Event
October 23rd from 6:00-8:30, join TTD board members, staff, community partners and friends for a night of review, celebration, and reflection. Casual reception at Rising Tide Brewing Company in Portland with light refreshments. All are welcome, and we encourage you to bring a friend!

We will be celebrating our shelter expansion, what we have accomplished over 2025, and guests will learn about TTD's path forward.

Location: Rising Tide Brewing Company, East Room. 103 Fox Street, Portland ME

Community Campaigns

Purple Light Nights®

Throughout the month of October look for purple lights in your neighborhood! Purple Light Nights is a global campaign in over 32 states and 3 countries with the goal to increase the awareness of domestic violence. Through These Doors is once again partnering with the city of Portland, Cumberland County, local business owners, law enforcement agencies, and community members in making Cumberland County glow purple for October. For more information check out: <http://www.purplelightnights.org/>

Library & Bookstore Campaign

A great way to take action is to raise your own awareness. One way to do that is by reading! There are lots of good books for all different ages about healthy relationships and domestic abuse. TTD is partnering with libraries and local bookstores in Cumberland County again this year. When you visit your local library and bookstore this month look for a DVAM recommended reading list and ask for a Through These Doors DVAM bookmark.

Celebrating our Shelter Expansion

Construction Is Completed!

We are excited to announce that the construction phase of our shelter expansion has been completed! Affectionately named "The Tiny House" TTD has added four beds, one crib, one full bathroom, and one kitchenette to our emergency shelter capacity. Being able to expand in the wake of a housing crisis has been at the top of our priority list for many years, and we are incredibly proud of the hard work that has been done to get us to this point... but we are not ready for folks to move in quite yet, we still need your help! You can help us make this Tiny House a Tiny Home by donating funds to help get this project over the finish line!

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October Special Section: Domestic Violence Awareness Month

With Survivors, Always: DVAM 2025



By Casey Keene, Director of Prevention, National Resource Center on Domestic Violence

When it's too dark to see the road ahead...

When hopelessness and fear are overwhelming...

When everything seems uncertain...

Dear survivors, I'm with you.

When you make hard choices to prioritize your wellbeing...

When you celebrate small but meaningful victories...

When you bravely raise your voice...

Dear survivors, I'm with you.

For Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM) 2025, the Domestic Violence Awareness Project Advisory Group is pleased to introduce a new theme: With Survivors, Always | Con sobrevivientes. Siempre.

This theme allows us to explore what it means to be in partnership with survivors toward safety, support, and solidarity. It is both a love letter and a call to action for those committed to advocating for survivors' needs and rights.

Survivors deserve

safety | Sobrevivientes merecen seguridad

When we advocate for survivors' safety, we must consider all that safety encompasses: physical, emotional, spiritual, and financial. Survivors have a right to live in homes, workplaces, neighborhoods, and institutions that are free of violence.

Survivors deserve support | Sobrevivientes merecen apoyo

Living through and healing from trauma can be a lifelong journey. And new threats to their safety can resurface trauma reactions in profound ways. Survivors are deserving of support and care at all stages of their lives as they navigate both these echoes and emerging new threats.

Survivors deserve solidarity | Sobrevivientes merecen solidaridad

Nobody should have to stand alone in the face of hardship. Community connectedness is critical to effective advocacy. We must continue to show up for survivors, no matter what.

How will you show up for survivors? What will your love letter say?

Join NRCDV in standing #WithSurvivors

for #DVAM2025 and beyond:

#With Survivors Campaign (Throughout October)

NRCDV offers new shareable imagery that conveys our commitment to safety, support, and solidarity with survivors across backgrounds and experiences, rooted in love. Resources include social cards, downloadable coloring pages, and rally signs for adaptation and use in local communities.

#CallforUnity on the National Day of Unity (10/6)

On the annual National Day of Unity, observed on the first Monday of October, NRCDV will host a virtual Call for Unity around the theme for DVAM 2025, With Survivors, Always. The Call for Unity is an intentional pause and moment of recognition and togetherness for advocates and survivors across the country. This year's #CallforUnity invites us to recognize and honor organizations that embody what it means to be #WithSurvivors. Join the call by tagging organizations, both inside and outside the movement, that show up for survivors.

A Day of Unity

From the National Domestic Violence Hotline

First observed in October 1981 as a national "Day of Unity," Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM) is held each October as a way to unite advocates across the nation in their efforts to end domestic violence.

Communities and advocacy organizations across the country connect with the public and one another throughout the month to raise awareness about the signs of abuse and ways to stop it, and to uplift survivor stories and provide additional resources to leaders and policymakers.

February of each year also marks Teen Domestic Violence Awareness Month (TDVAM). It is an annual observation raising awareness about the specific ways that abuse impacts teen dating relationships. Learn more about TDVAM at loveisrespect.org.

Why DVAM?

DVAM is a chance for anyone and everyone to unite in the work to end domestic violence. We invite advocates, loved ones, supporters, and political leaders to join together in

solidarity to listen to and uplift survivors directly. With so many people speaking in a unified voice throughout October, we can raise our collective awareness about domestic violence to end abuse for good.

Another way you can participate in DVAM is by donating. Your gift to The Hotline this DVAM is a gift of hope for all those affected by domestic violence.

Be a Lifeline

2025 DVAM Theme

In partnership with the Domestic Violence Awareness Project (DVAP), we are excited to build on the 2025 DVAM theme, With Survivors, Always. As we work to end domestic violence this DVAM and beyond, we explore what it means to

be in partnership with survivors toward safety, support, and solidarity.

How to get involved

We believe that everyone can make a difference in ending domestic violence, and will work with you to do so. You can use our resources to raise awareness of domestic violence in your community or network. Below are some ways you can join us to raise awareness for survivors and victims of domestic violence this October and beyond.

Don't forget to use #WithSurvivors and #DVAM2025 on social media to show us what you're doing to end domestic violence. Be sure to tag us and follow The Hotline on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and LinkedIn!



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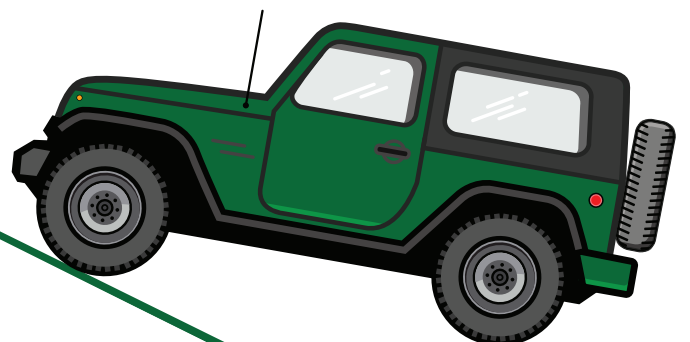
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New laws protect residents of mobile home communities

AUGUSTA, ME – Four new laws sponsored by Senate Democrats to preserve some of the strongest remaining affordable housing options in Maine took effect. These transformational laws, passed by the Legislature and signed by Gov. Mills earlier this year, aim to help residents of mobile home communities purchase the parks they live in via a right of first refusal, tax incentives and a new method of funding the Mobile Home Park Preservation and Assistance Fund.

These laws come as Maine has seen a growing trend of out-of-state private equity firms attempting to buy up mobile home communities. Often, these corporate firms raise lot rents on residents and neglect maintenance.

“Over the past year, the Housing and Economic Development Committee has taken a hard look at how to build more housing in Maine and, just as importantly, how to protect the affordable housing we still have,” said Sen. Chip Curry, Senate Chair of the Legislature’s Housing and Economic Development Committee. “These new laws give residents a fighting chance to stay in their homes and safeguard their communities. They push back on business models that put profits over people, and they show what it looks like when we legislate with urgency, compassion, and impact.”

LD 1145, “An Act to Protect Residents Living in Mobile Home Parks,” introduced by Sen. Tim Nangle, D-Windham, creates a right of first refusal for resident cooperatives to match a third-party offer to purchase the park they live in, providing them with the ability to control their future housing costs while ensuring that sellers receive the full market value of their property.

“Mobile home communities are not com-

modities. They are neighborhoods where families, veterans and seniors have built their lives,” said Sen. Nangle. “Maine can’t solve our housing crisis if we don’t also protect the affordable homes we already have. This law ensures that when these communities go up for sale, residents have the chance to step up and protect their homes, their dignity and their way of life.”

LD 1016, “An Act to Establish the Manufactured Housing Community and Mobile Home Park Preservation and Assistance Fund,” introduced by Sen. Cameron Reny, D-Bristol, creates a per-lot transfer fee on the purchase of mobile home parks, which applies only to purchasing entities with a net worth of more than \$50 million, preserving the ability of local for-profit, non-profit and resident co-ops to buy and sell parks as they have for decades. Revenues from the transfer fee paid by equity firms and other high-end investor entities go toward a permanent Mobile Home Park Preservation and Assistance Fund to support residents at risk of displacement.

LD 554, “An Act to Encourage Resident-owned Communities and Preserve Affordable Housing Through Tax Deductions,” also introduced by Sen. Reny, creates a tax deduction to incentivize the sale or transfer of housing developments, manufactured housing communities, or apartment complexes to resident-owned communities, cooperative affordable housing corporations, or municipal housing authorities. This law allows for an income tax exemption of up to \$750,000 on capital gains from these transfers.

“All Maine people deserve the opportunity to be secure in their housing,” said Sen. Reny. “This year, we’ve been working hard to preserve one of Maine’s

last forms of naturally affordable housing: mobile home and manufactured home communities. My bills, LD 554 and LD 1016, help give residents the leg up they need when trying to purchase the land under their homes and invest in the future security of their community. I’m glad to see these tools become available to Maine residents.”

LD 1768, “An Act to Protect Residents of Mobile Home Parks by Amending the Real Estate Transfer Tax,” introduced by Sen. Donna Bailey, D-Saco, eliminates the real estate transfer tax on sales of mobile home parks when the buyers are the residents themselves.

“This year, my colleagues and I worked hard to maintain and preserve the affordability of mobile home parks,” said Sen. Bailey. “Whether it’s residents of Atlantic Village, Blue Haven or Old Orchard Village, I continue to hear from folks who worry about the sales of their parks or steep increases in their rents. Over the summer, I have been attending meetings in these communities. I also can’t forget a mother who recently wrote to me. She works full-time while raising her two sons, and her family budget is already stretched thin. She is doing all she can. Having experienced something similar, I know these laws matter. I also know that we have more work to do.”

As non-emergency legislation, these new laws took effect on September 24, 2025, 90 days after the First Special Session of the 132nd Legislature adjourned.

LD 1145, the right of first refusal law, was initially proposed as emergency legislation that would take effect immediately upon the governor’s signature, but House Republicans blocked the bill from receiving the necessary two-thirds vote.

Maine Initiatives 2025 Grantee Cohort announced

MAINE – Maine Initiatives is thrilled to announce the Immigrant-Led Organizations (ILO) Fund’s 2025 Grantee Cohort, ten immigrant-led organizations whose work advances immigrant, refugee, and asylum seeker flourishing in Maine, unceded Wabanaki Territory.

The missions of the 2025 ILO Fund Grantee Cohort exemplify the diverse, robust, and highly-skilled immigrant-led ecosystem operating statewide, leading vital efforts across a range of fields including education, gender justice, food access and sovereignty, community building, cultural preservation, health services, healing and movement practices, media production, and youth empowerment.

Early Math and Language Initiative

EMLI creates and supports research-based intervention programs in math and language skills development for children and families in under-resourced communities.

Empowered Immigrant Women Unite

We inspire empowered immigrant and refugee women to take charge of their lives to provide for their families, experience new places and people, and improve their socio-economic living standards. We equip them with the necessary resources, support, and personal and professional development opportunities. The aim is for these women to improve their well-being and provide better care for their families.

Food For All Services

FFA’s mission is to provide food-insecure new immigrants with respect, dignity, and appreciation through culturally relevant programming that offers and celebrates cultural food and access to resources.

Gateway Community Services Maine

Gateway Community Services of Maine (GCSM) seeks to encourage, support and build healthy connections within oneself and others in order to promote vibrancy and wellbeing, along with welcoming communities where all people feel ac-



MAINE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

cepted, valued and have a sense of belonging.

Mano en Mano

Mano en Mano’s mission is to work with and support farmworkers and immigrants to thrive in Maine. We envision a stronger, more inclusive Maine where the contributions of diverse communities are welcomed, access to essential services, education and housing are ensured, and social justice and equity are embraced.

Intercultural Community Center

The Intercultural Community Center (ICC) in Southern Maine supports immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers by providing no-cost education, social, and health services and opportunities. Our goal is to promote a diversity of cultures while equipping individuals with the skills and support they need to thrive in Maine.

Ladder to the Moon Network

Our mission is to educate the public about Africa and immigration and to advocate for the well-being of all immigrants through various multimedia platforms and events.

Maine Afro Yoga Project

Our work is rooted in healing through movement, offering a space where individuals can reconnect with their bodies, minds, and spirits. By weaving together yoga, mindfulness, culturally relevant practices, and the joy of dance, we create pathways for transformation, resilience, and self-discovery, particularly for immigrant communities and people of color in Maine.

New Roots Cooperative Farm

New Roots Cooperative Farm is a worker-owned farm growing fresh, culturally important food for our communities.

We build food sovereignty and economic opportunity for immigrant and refugee farmers in Maine. Our mission is to nourish communities while building a cooperative future.

United Youth Empowerment Services

United Youth Empowerment Services empowers immigrant and refugee youth and their families by providing culturally relevant programs focused on leadership, wellness, and community building. We create safe spaces that foster personal growth, healing, and advocacy. Through recreation, arts, mentorship, and education, we support the next generation of leaders in Lewiston-Auburn.

These organizations were selected by the 2025 ILO Fund Grantmaking Advisory Committee, a 25-person decision making body with aligned lived experience, wisdom, and expertise in the immigrant-led sector. Hundreds of volunteer Readers also supported the participatory process, reading and evaluating organizations’ applications to the 2025 ILO Fund.

This is the second cohort of organizations supported through the Immigrant-Led Organizations Fund’s participatory program, joining 10 other grantees who receive multi-year, unrestricted \$45,000 grants and access to convenings, training, and peer support over the course of their 3-year grant period.

Join us in celebrating and supporting these organizations’ essential and transformational work, building self-determination, cultural preservation, capacity-building, and organizing power for immigrant, refugee, and asylum seeker communities in Maine.

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

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Homes

Continued from page 6

now a State Historic Site, on land his father, Moses, Sr., had deeded to the U.S. government for the defense of Wiscasset from British attack. The house itself is rambling with several kitchens, at least three stairways, countless sitting areas and bedrooms. The property has 200 feet of Sheepscot River Frontage, a sizable pond behind the house, and a handsome and substantial English-style barn containing artifacts reflecting the property's long heritage.

DayBreak (1927), poised majestically on a knoll overlooking the Sheepscot River, is a brick mansion with multiple fireplaces, hardwood floors set on the diagonal throughout the house, and a small suite near the kitchen for household staff, complete with a bell box. A new screened porch and back patio provide a vista across the eight acres of sloping meadow to the river and the remnants of a fading vineyard. Day-Break also comes with its own local lore: the original owners, Philadelphia socialites, were purported to have entertained FDR in their Wiscasset home and they, or someone else, also welcomed Charles Schultz of Peanuts fame. Current owners have traveled extensively and lived abroad; the home is exuberant with their international furnishings.

The attractive and unpretentious Cape-style home at 128 Federal St. (1875/1890; 1930s) is an example of a 19th century home that has been thoughtfully updated by more recent owners for contemporary style and comfort while maintaining the bones of an older dwelling. The most recent renovations, in 1988, were by architect Bill Thompson whose career included a stint as the resident architect of Colonial Williamsburg. The home's front parlor was a draw for the current owner with its windows on three sides, perfect for a sewing studio. The space is currently given over to Asian Accents, a showroom for bold and imaginative Asian-inspired



The Swett-Johnston-Neal House, built in 1805 and located at the edge of Wiscasset Common, will be open to the public for Wiscasset Homes on Tour, October 18, 11am to 4pm. Tickets available online or on day of tour. Visit www.wiscassetcreativealliance.org for tickets and details. (Wiscasset Creative Alliance photo)



The Davis House, built in 1803 and located on Davis Island, Edgecomb, is vast and rambling with Sheepscot River waterfront and an English barn. The home's original owner was instrumental in the construction of nearby Fort Edgecomb, now a State Historic Site. Visit Davis House during Wiscasset Homes on Tour, Saturday, October 18, 11am to 4pm. Details on www.WiscassetCreativeAlliance.org. (Wiscasset Creative Alliance photo)

home goods and clothing that the owner designs and handcrafts. With colorful accessories and thoughtfully chosen art and furnishings, the décor of the home reveals the taste of a well-traveled artist.

The Lee-Payson-Smith House (1792) has the unenviable reputation of being the most haunted house in town. Three distinct ghosts have been noted: an elderly woman, a Penobscot native, and a dog named Guy. Recorded sightings began in the late 1800s. The regal house was built by Judge Silas Lee and is believed to be the first house built on High Street. In 1831, the house was owned by Samuel Emerson Smith, governor of Maine from 1831-1834; the current owner is the sixth generation descendent of Governor Smith. Consider the wealth of stories and furnishings on view for visitors. Another feature of the home, not

visible from the street, is the Italianate Garden in the back with its arbor, central pillow of lawn, and mature screening hedges.

Tickets for Wiscasset Homes on Tour are \$30 each. Visitors are encouraged to purchase tickets online in advance of the tour. Tickets can also be purchased on the day of the tour from 10:30am to 2:30pm, at the parking lot at 36 Water St., Wiscasset, ME, with parking and bathrooms nearby. All tickets will be picked up at this location. Cash, checks, and plastic accepted.

More tour details and ticket purchase can be found on www.WiscassetCreativeAlliance.org. For questions, call 214-232-3699 and please leave a message which will be answered promptly. 'Homes on Tour' is a fundraiser for Wiscasset Creative Alliance to support the Alliance's community programs.

Abby's Dollhouse Live! Coming to southern Maine

LOS ANGELES, CA – DreamWorks Animation, Universal Destinations & Experiences, TEG Life Like Touring, and Terrapin Station Entertainment are delighted to announce a second leg of the North American tour of GABBY'S DOLLHOUSE LIVE! PRESENTED BY WALMART due to popular demand, launching in Macon, GA on January 14, 2026.

The second leg of the live production of DreamWorks Animation's Gabby's Dollhouse will visit more than 40 additional cities including performances at major venues such as National Theatre in Washington D.C., Kings Theatre in Brooklyn, NY, Théâtre St-Denis in Montreal, and Peacock Theater in Los Angeles.

This follows the smashing North American debut of Gabby's Dollhouse Live! earlier this fall, based on the global preschool sensation from DreamWorks Animation, which opened with sold-out shows in Thousand Oaks, Long Beach, and San Francisco. Additional performances were added at The Grove in Anaheim, CA, to close out the first leg of the tour this winter.

Now with more than

150+ shows in North America, this a-MEOW-zing new musical follows Gabby as she uncovers a special acorn that needs the magical touch of a rainbow to grow. But when CatRat causes a color cat-astrophe and breaks the rainbow, Gabby and the Gabby Cats must find the colors again to set things right.

"We're thrilled to partner with TEG Life Like Touring and DreamWorks Animation to bring Gabby's Dollhouse to the stage for the very first time in North America, including so many iconic venues" said Jonathan Shank, CEO, Terrapin Station Entertainment. "The show is completely interactive, the songs are infectious, and the production brings you right into the center of Gabby's cat-tastic universe full of rainbows and sprinkle parties!"

"DreamWorks is so excited to see this tour expanding across North America," said Michael Vollman, EVP, Marketing for DreamWorks Animation. "Gabby's Dollhouse is beloved around the world and we couldn't be happier to see fans enjoying this show all across the country."

Universal Destinations & Experiences, SVP of Global Location Based

Entertainment and Licensing, Gerald Raines stated, "We are delighted to work with TEG Life Like Touring and DreamWorks Animation to bring this exciting show to Gabby's many fans."

TEG Group Chairman Geoff Jones said: "TEG is extremely happy to be bringing this beloved DreamWorks franchise to life on stage. Being granted the rights to develop and tour this new stage show worldwide is an incredible achievement for TEG Life Like Touring, and we are pleased to be partnering with Terrapin Station Entertainment to launch this production in North America. The all-new production will capture the magic of Gabby and her friends live on stage when it tours North America from September 2025."

Gabby's Dollhouse is the most-watched kids series on Netflix and follows the fun adventures of Gabby, who unboxes a brand-new surprise in every episode before jumping into a fantastical animated world full of adorable cat characters that live inside her magical dollhouse. This fall, Gabby sets off on her biggest adventure yet in Gabby's Dollhouse: The Movie, heading to theaters

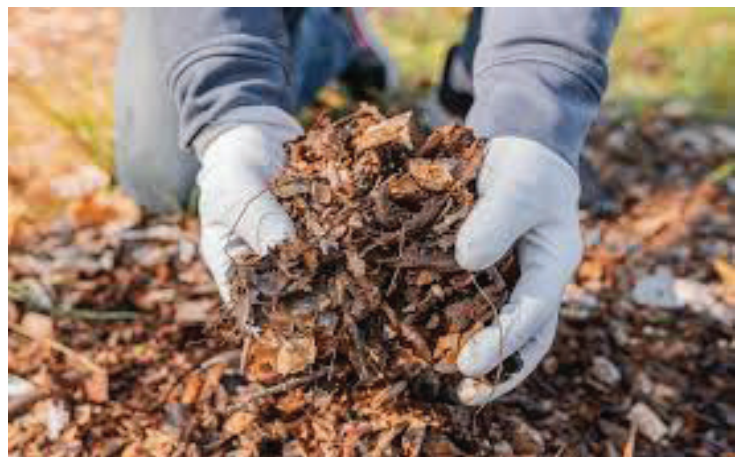
See *Dollhouse*, page 14



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Work Plan

Continued from page 7

Croix Street.

Make pedestrian safety improvements to the on-road sidewalks at the intersection of Eastern Avenue and Russell Street.

Bridge Rehabilitation and Structural Maintenance

Replace the Stetson Brook Bridge on College Street over the Stetson Brook, located 0.20 of a mile north of Old Farm Road.

Replace the Hart's River Road Bridge on River Road over Hart's Brook, located 0.15 of a mile north of Old Farm Road.

Improvement work on Dill Bridge on Route 196 over Dill Brook, located 0.02 of a mile south of Foch Street.

Paint the bridge on Alfred A Plourde Parkway

over Route 196, located 0.15 of a mile south of Route 196.

Highway Paving
Cyclical pavement resurfacing on College Street beginning at Vale Street and extending south 0.32 of a mile to Sabattus Street.

Cyclical pavement resurfacing on Pleasant Street beginning at East Avenue and extending southeast 0.82 of a mile.

Apply ultra-thin bonded wearing course – a pavement preservation technique – to Route 202, beginning 0.05 of a mile north of Northwood Road and extending north 18.94 miles.

Policy, Planning, and Research

Provide planning assistance for the Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments

Provide operating

assistance for Citylink under the Lewiston-Auburn Transit Committee.

Plan for a feasibility study for traffic movement, safety improvements, and economic development opportunities along Canal, Lisbon, Sabattus, and Main Streets in Lewiston.

System Operations
Conduct a pilot project for traffic signal operations in various locations throughout the City.

Conduct a 2-year pilot program operating a bus service between Portland and Lewiston/Auburn.

Transit Service Areas
Provide \$147,000 in capital assistance to the Citylink bus service.

Make improvements to bus stops, including shelters.

View the entire 2025-2026-2027 Three-Year MDOT Work Plan at www.mainedot.gov.

Cecile Plourde joins Northeast Bank

PORTLAND, ME – Northeast Bank (the “Bank”) (NASDAQ: NBN), announced today the hiring of Cecile Plourde as Treasury Management Services Coordinator, part of its Treasury Management Services group.

Plourde joins the bank from Androscoggin Bank, where she served for over 28 years supporting government and municipal banking clients across western, central and southern Maine. In her new role, she will support Northeast



Bank's treasury management clients with account onboarding and customer

service needs alongside the Treasury Management Services sales and service team.

“We are pleased to welcome Cecile to our growing Treasury Management Services team,” said Matthew Colpitts, SVP, Director of Treasury Management Services at Northeast Bank. “Her strong knowledge of the government and municipal banking space will help us deliver best-in-class support to clients in Maine and beyond.”

Upward Bound

Continued from page 7

low-income students who often face barriers to accessing a college education,” they continued. “We have seen the lives of many young people changed by the TRIO program. In fact, some of our own staff members went through TRIO and tell us that they would not have pursued higher education but for the support and opportunities it provided.”

“Rather than terminate funding after the

third year of this five-year grant, we urge you to use all available authorities to work with these programs and allow them to operate with continued funding in full compliance with the current Administration's priorities. Given the importance of these TRIO programs to the students they serve, we are hopeful you will work with them achieve this outcome,” the Delegation concluded.

The Veterans Upward Bound Program at USM currently serves 125

veterans and has a wait-list of additional veterans seeking services. Maine has one of the highest percentages of veterans in the nation. The River Valley Upward Bound Program at UMF serves roughly 60 students in Oxford County and, together with a partner program, supports 139 students across 14 high schools in Maine.

There are six other Upward Bound programs in the university system that have already received their continuation awards.

Letter to the Editor: Our nation needs collective prayer

Can anyone think of any larger and more frequent gatherings of citizens of the United States than when our nation attends all our sporting events in local gymnasiums and large stadiums to hear the singing of our national Anthem? Our Anthem celebrates who we are as Americans and our sacred respect for all those who gave their lives on our battlefields, for our flag, for our veterans and for the great privilege we all have in living under a democratic society.

The Anthem can never be used as a forum for protest for any perceived injustices. It is a time that we as citizens come together united standing by our Pledge of Allegiance that proudly states: “One nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.” I believe we all can justifiably find fault with the way many things are handled in our country and it is incumbent on us as citizens of our democracy to address these injustices if they truly exist by subjecting them to our laws, our courts and the principles of justice available to all of us.

This is what we all seek and it is obtainable not through protest but through petition...prayer petition. I don't believe there is anyone who has a belief in God would deny that prayer is desperately needed by our nation. Abraham Lincoln once

spoke sternly on our nation's need for prayer. “We have forgotten God, we have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to God who made us.”

We all come together so often and in such great numbers for our sporting events that the opportunity for united prayer for all of the injustices in our country that need healing and solutions could be achieved. Prayer is needed for an end to bigotry, hate, violence and all forms of racism. We need prayer for our government to work together in bipartisan solutions for our nation's needs. We need a fair and affordable health-care plan, more and better paying jobs for all our citizens and laws that protect all our people equally and for the respect for life in all its stages. I believe all of our goals for America can be realized if we as a nation become united in our prayers and all our flaws and injustices can be healed.

Our First Amendment gives us the right to disrespectfully sit down during our National Anthem.

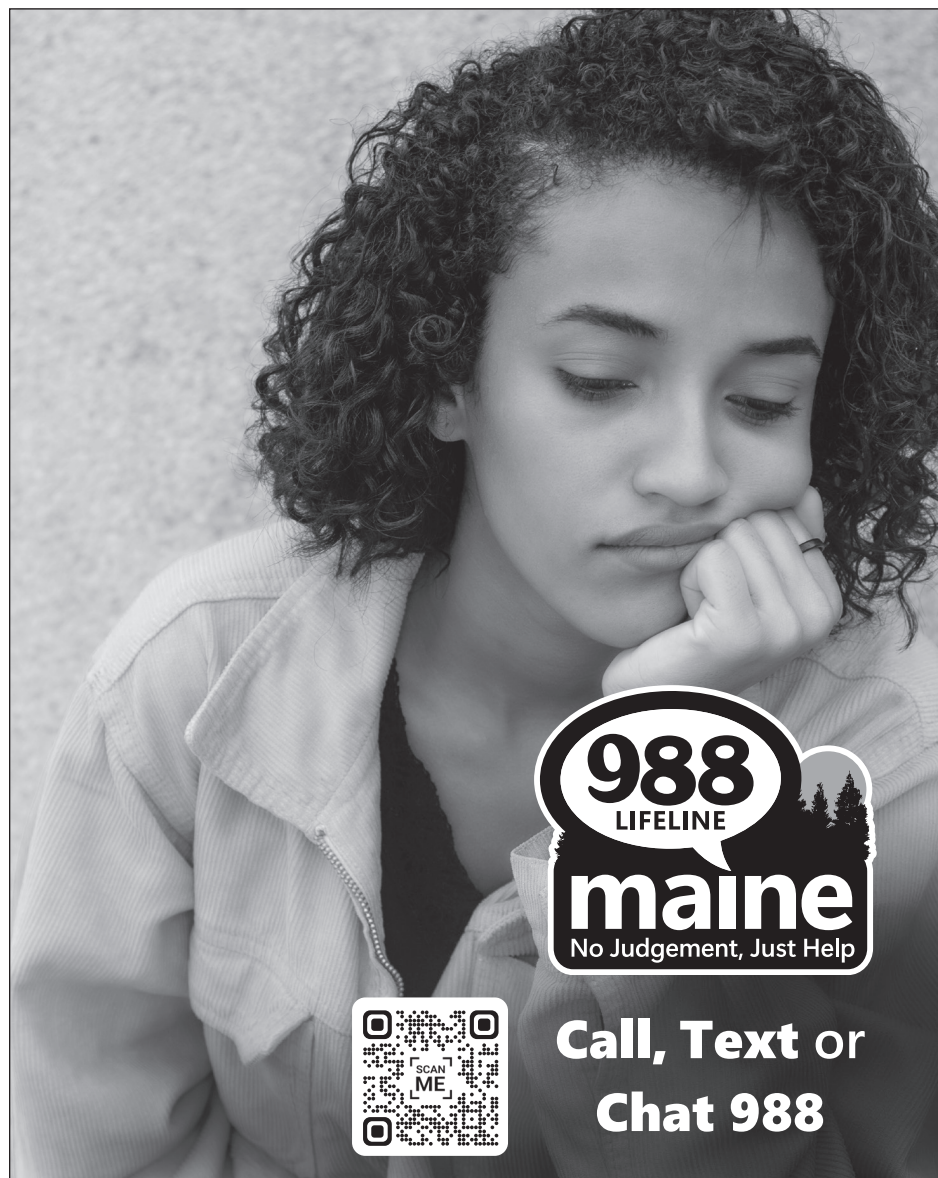
Would the same right be given to anyone who wanted with the utmost respect to pray for our nation during the National Anthem? What would be paramount here is that of true respect, our stance at the Anthem would be to look straight forward with our right hand over our heart and as the Anthem is sung we maintain this stance.

When we are led, we close our eyes and bring our hands together in a prayer posture and we maintain this posture to the end of the Anthem. This would be a united prayer to God to intercede for us as a nation for wisdom, guidance and healing. The prayer is done in silence for our prayer is symbolized by our joined hands.

Just think of the number of sporting events that are held throughout the United States and then, if our imaginations could carry us, what if, when we opened our eyes half the stadium had joined us in prayer.

When I recall our patriotic song “America the Beautiful” the lyrics say it all for the intent of our prayers. “America, America, God shed His grace on thee, and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea. God mend thy every flaw, may God thy gold refine, ‘til all success be nobleness and every gain divine.

Peter Pinette
Woodland, ME.



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Oct 4, 18

GORHAM – Public Works will be accepting brush Saturday, October 4th & Saturday, October 18th at 80 Huston Road from 8AM - 3PM. Residents 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

CANAAN – Maine's Garlic Fest returns this October 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: Monday, October 18th 5pm - 7pm.

Multiflora will be installing a **ONE WEEK ONLY** magical + otherworldly plant-scape in the ephemeral show **GREEN ROOM**. Come throughout the week to witness this transitory display and

Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

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. 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 making Japanese moss-balls, Kokedama, to encourage your own sculptural display of plants. cost: \$50/person, all materials provided, pre-registration required. Working Loose, 49 Main Street, Blue Hill, ME 04614.

Oct 7, 14, 21

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

Oct 11

BLUE HILL – **JUDE BROTHERS, HAMILTON BELK + IS SHE?** **SATURDAY** October 11th Doors @ 6:30 \ Show @

7pm.

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. Working Loose, 49 Main Street, Blue Hill, ME 04614.

Oct 12

AUBURN – About Love: Grief & Loss, 11:30-1pm. First Universalist Church of Auburn, 169 Pleasant St. (enter on Spring St. across from Dairy Joy). Freewill donations accepted. Parking; accessible. FMI 783-0461.

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!

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.

Oct 18

AUBURN – The Maine Franco-American Genealogical Society [MFGS] is pleased to have Le Bon Truc, a trio of multi-instrumentalists and vocalists who play beautiful French folk-dance music, as its guest performers at its fall general membership meeting on October 18th in the Androscoggin Community Room of the Auburn Public Library, 49 Spring St., Auburn.

The music will begin at approximately 11:00 am. Prior to this performance, MFGS will hold a brief business meeting beginning at 10 am that will include Board elections.

Oct 18-Nov 18

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

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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. Working Loose, 49 Main Street, Blue Hill, ME 04614.

Dollhouse

Continued from page 11

September 26, directed by Ryan Crego and starring Laila Lockhart Kraner, Gloria Estefan, and Kristen Wiig.

This new stage production of **GABBY'S DOLLHOUSE LIVE! PRESENTED BY WALMART** brings to life an exciting original story featuring unique puppets, dynamic staging, and songs including “Hey Gabby”, “You Can’t Spell Meow Without Me”, “Sprinkle Party”, and others that will have audiences singing and dancing along, from beginning to end.

GABBY'S DOLLHOUSE LIVE! 2025 - 2026 NORTH AMERICAN TOUR DATES in Maine:

February 21, 2026 – Merrill Auditorium – Portland, ME.

February 22, 2026 – The Cross Insurance Center – Bangor, ME.

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

GORHAM LITTLE LEAGUE

Field Funding Campaign

The Gorham Youth Baseball & Softball Association is making a large capital investment to provide updates and add fields to accommodate practice and game schedules:

- Develop 2 fields at White Rock
- Purchase seasonal fence for Shaw Park
- Repair dugouts and fencing, build storage centers
- Add infield mix and relevel current fields
- Acquire tarps and field maintenance equipment
- Add scoreboards

VISIT: GYBSA.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION, INCLUDING DONATION LEVEL REWARDS

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GYBSA is a non-profit 501(c)(3) tax deductible contribution

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

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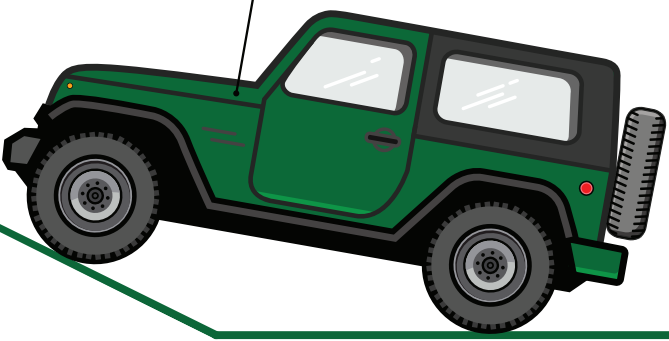

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