

The old & new in CLT's 'A New Home'

LEWISTON, ME – Several cast, crew, and orchestra members for the upcoming musical “A New Home” who also participated in “Lewiston: A New Home,” first performed in 1995 as part of the Lewiston bicentennial celebration, gathered recently at a rehearsal of “A New Home,” which is adapted from the 1995 production.

“A New Home,” which is the opening production of Community Little Theatre’s 86th season, recounts through music and song the fascinating history of Lewiston, bringing to life the stories of Lewiston’s Indigenous, Franco-American, Irish, and African immigrant communities. Featuring a cast of 30 and an orchestra of 26, the show includes new music and lyrics written by the director Paul G. Caron, who was the composer, lyricist, and musical director for “Lewiston: A New Home.”

The seven performances of “A New Home”



Justin Morin and Janelle Raven, at center, who are playing the lead roles in the upcoming CLT musical “A New Home,” are joined here by fellow production members who were also part of the 1995 musical “Lewiston: A New Home,” from which the current show is adapted. From left in front are Roger Philippon, who is playing the same two roles he had in 1995; Morin and Raven; director Paul Caron, who was the lyricist and composer for the 1995 show; and Bruce Theriault, trombonist. In back are Mike Truchon, trumpeter; Paul Lemay, who is playing the same role he had in 1995; and drummer Mark Fredericks. “A New Home” will run October 30 to November 9 at the Lewiston Middle School Auditorium. More information at LACLT.com.

will be held on October 30 - November 9 at the Lewiston Middle School Auditorium. This production is being presented by the Isabella J. Gendron Foundation. Thanks to a grant from the Maine Arts Com-

mission, the November 2 and 8 performances will feature ASL interpretation to ensure accessibility for all audience members. For more information or to purchase tickets online, visit LACLT.com.

Retired educators meet in October for scholarship auction

LEWISTON, ME – The Androscoggin Retired Educators’ Association will meet at 10:00 on Wednesday October 8th at Montello Heights, 55 College St., Lewiston, Maine. Coffee will be available at 9:45 so come early and socialize with friends. The cost of the luncheon meal is \$14. Checks should be made out to AREA.

This is our annual scholarship auction. AREA offers a \$1000 scholarship to two students who are planning to enter the teaching profession. Come early for coffee and pastries. Bring your checkbook or piggy bank. Auction items are donated by members and consist of food items

(cookies, brownies, fudge, homemade breads, etc.), books, puzzles, seasonal items such as pumpkins, gourds, and many others.

Androscoggin Retired Educators’ Association meets five times per year: September, October, November, March, and April. Dues are \$10 per year for educators, \$6 per year for non-educator spouses. Due are payable in September. For new members: with your registration please include address, email, phone, birthdate and the major educational school district or school where you were located.

You need not have taught in Androscoggin

County, or even in the state of Maine. All educators are welcome: teachers, assistant teachers, ed techs, librarians, principals, guidance counselors, secretaries, anyone who has worked with children.

Send reservations to Gina Fuller, 36 Elliott Ave, Lewiston, Maine 04240.

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

Celebrating the life of Rachel Morin: Updated dates and times

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

our sweet Rachel peacefully left us, just as she would have wanted.

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

Visitation is Wednesday October 8 from 4 - 7

PM at Fortin’s Funeral Home in Auburn

Funeral mass is Thursday October 9 at 11 AM at St Philip’s Church in Auburn

Interment at St Peter’s Cemetery immediately following the mass.

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

About Love: Grief & Loss panel rescheduled to Oct. 12

AUBURN, ME – The First Universalist Church of Auburn presents “About Love: Grief & Loss,” on Oct. 12 from 11:30-1pm, exploring the role of faith and community in dealing with personal loss. The panel talk features church members who have lost a loved one.

The Adult Religious Education group, chaired by Charles I. Nero, is presenting a year of programming on the theme “The Power of Love,” to explore the Unitarian Universalist

Association’s new covenant.

“Love is the power that holds us together,” the covenant proclaims, “and it is at the center of our shared values. We are accountable to one another for doing the work of living our shared values through the spiritual discipline of love.” Nero conceived the “About Love” series to explore that accountability.

Nero teamed up with Toby Haber-Giasson, director of the church’s award-winning UU The-

ater group, to create a framework for the talk. The duo also collaborated on “About Love: Esther’s Story,” lifting up the role the church played in the life of a beloved member.

Freewill donations to the church will be accepted in lieu of an admission fee.

First Universalist Church of Auburn is located at 169 Pleasant St. (entrance on Spring St. across from Dairy Joy). Accessible; parking available. FMI, call 783-0461 or contact office@auburnuu.org.

Join 2025 Walk to End Alzheimer’s in Lewiston

LEWISTON, ME – The Alzheimer’s Association, Maine Chapter is inviting residents from Lewiston and surrounding communities to take part in the Walk to End Alzheimer’s - Lakes & Mountains on October 4, 2025, at Sismard Payne Park in Lewiston.

This year’s Walk has set a goal to raise \$54,000

to support the Alzheimer’s Association’s mission of advancing critical care, support, and research efforts. The Walk to End Alzheimer’s - Lakes & Mountains is one of seven Walks taking place across Maine in September and October, uniting communities statewide in the fight to end this devastating disease.

“This is a pivotal moment in the fight against Alzheimer’s. There are now treatments that can change the course of the disease,” said Drew Wyman, Executive Director of the Alzheimer’s Association, Maine Chapter. “We hope that everyone in our community can join us by starting a team to help the Alzheimer’s Association raise awareness and funds

for families facing the disease today, take more steps toward treatments and finally ending this disease.”

On Walk day, participants honor those affected by Alzheimer’s with the poignant Promise Garden ceremony — a mission-focused experience that signifies our solidarity in the fight against the disease. During the ceremony, walkers will carry flowers of various colors, each color representing their personal connection to the disease.

Today, more than 7 million Americans are living with Alzheimer’s disease, a leading cause of death in the United States. Nearly 12 million family members and friends raise awareness and funds

See Alzheimer’s, page 14

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News-makers, 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

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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.

Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Sen. Collins visits Bath Area Food Bank



BATH, ME – U.S. Senator Susan Collins visited the Bath Area Food Bank (BAFB) to meet with staff and volunteers and to hear about the challenges of their work and thank them for their service to the local community. BAFB Executive Director Kimberly Gates and Mary Small, a volunteer at the food bank, led Senator Collins on a tour of the facility.

“The staff and volunteers at the Bath Area Food Bank work tirelessly to provide hot meals and groceries to individuals and families in need throughout the greater Bath area,” said Senator Collins. “I am thankful to have had the opportunity to see their operations firsthand and to express my appreciation to

Hannah Milliken joins Fontaine Family Team

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

Hannah grew up in Greene, Maine, where she currently resides today. After graduating from Leavitt High School, she went on to attend the University of Maine at Farmington, where she is currently working toward a Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration.

An accomplished student-athlete, Hannah competes on both the UMF soccer and track teams, showcasing her commitment, discipline, and teamwork—qualities that also guide her approach to real estate.

Real estate runs in the family for Hannah. Her father works at Bath Iron Works (BIW) and is also an agent with Fontaine Family – The Real Estate Leader®, while her mother is a teacher at Leavitt. Inspired by her family’s hard work and community values, Hannah is eager to help clients achieve their real estate goals.

Hannah will be working with both buyers and sellers, serving clients across the region



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

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

Blood drive to honor victims of Oct. 25, 2023 tragedy

LEWISTON, ME – Central Maine Healthcare, in conjunction with the American Red Cross, will hold its second annual Commemorative Blood Drive on Oct. 4 from 9 a.m.–2 p.m.

It will take place at 12 High Street on the Central Maine Medical Center (CMMC) campus in Conference Rooms A, B, C on the lower level.

The blood drive was established to honor lives that were affected by the October 25, 2023 tragedy in Lewiston.

“Following a tragedy, we often find ourselves asking what we can do to help,” said Amanda Bellefleur, committee chair for the blood drive. “Donating blood is something almost all of us can do. It’s a safe and simple

The FLUKES benefit concert for St. Elizabeth’s Essentials Pantry

PORTLAND, ME – The FLUKES, an ensemble of enthusiastic ukulele musicians along with singer/songwriter Eileen Rose, and special guest The Grateful Hearts present a family friendly concert to benefit St. Elizabeth’s Essentials Pantry, a low-barrier pantry serving non-food essentials to all those in need, including new Mainers and Mainers whose families have been here for generations.

November 15, 4:00pm - 5:30pm
Trinity Episcopal Church Forest Ave. Portland
Suggested Donation \$10, children under 12 free.

\$1.1M for Auburn/Lewiston airport improvements

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Susan Collins, Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, announced that eleven Maine airports will receive a total of \$4,201,355 to support important infrastructure improvements. This funding comes from the Federal Aviation Administration’s (FAA) Fiscal Year 2025 Airport Infrastructure Grants (AIG) program, made possible by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). Senator Collins was one of 10 senators who negotiated the IIJA, which provided \$15 billion for airport improvements nationwide.

“Maine’s airports are vital pieces of our state’s transportation network that promote job creation and economic development. Throughout our state, airports play a critical role not only in carrying residents and visitors, but also in facilitating medical services

See airport, page 11

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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.crcowm.org, find them on Facebook, or for more information, call 890-0329.

AARP News You Can Use – October 2025

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.facebook.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 Merrymeeting 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.ronchase-outdoors.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

MCP announces cast of Ken Ludwig’s “The Game’s Afoot”

MONMOUTH, ME – The Monmouth Community Players, alongside Marquis Season Sponsor Great Falls Federal Credit Union and Season Sponsors Winthrop Area Federal Credit Union and Readfield Insurance Agency, wish to announce the cast of their upcoming production of Ken Ludwig’s “The Game’s Afoot.” The play, under the direction of Jonny Bolduc, will run November 7-16, 2025 at historic Cumston Hall in Monmouth. Other production staff include Bryanne MacMillan as Assistant Director, Tim MacLeod as Producer, Pascal Ford as Stage Manager and Katy Albert as Costumer.

Breathtaking mystery and high hilarity in equal parts, this play tells the story of Broadway star William Gillette, who has invited his fellow cast-members to his Connecticut castle for a weekend of revelry. But when



Front row - Jessica Cirello, Ginger Smith, Jaclyn O’Hara and Danny Gay; Back row - Josh Oakes, Hannah Hanson, Birdie Gay and Charles Burden

one of the guests is stabbed to death, the festivities in this isolated house of tricks and mirrors quickly turn dangerous. Then it’s up to Gillette himself, who just happens to think he’s Sherlock Holmes, to track down the killer before the next victim appears.

The cast of “The Game’s Afoot” includes: Charles Burden and Jaclyn O’Hara of Auburn; Hannah Hanson of Lewiston; Ginger Smith of Winthrop; Josh Oakes of Richmond; Danny Gay and Birdie Gay of North Monmouth; and Jessica Cirello of Lewis-

ton.

Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$17 for students and seniors. For groups of 10 or more, please contact the box office for group ticket pricing. Showtimes are 7:30 pm on November 7th, 8th and 14th, and 2pm on November 9th, 15th and 16th. On November 15th, the production of the show will additionally provide ASL interpretation of the performance. Thanks to support from the Friends of Cumston Hall, beer and wine will be available at the evening performances

See MCP, page 14

Le Bon Truc to perform at MFGS General Meeting

MAINE – 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.

Light refreshments will be available. Admission to both the meeting and the performance is free and open to the public.

Le Bon Truc, a lively trio, will present folk dance music – such as bourrées, branles, mazurkas, and schottisches - from different regions of France. They will share descriptions of the accompanying dances and relate how they have adapted the music from



Le Bon Truc

traditional instruments to the ones they play, and how their performances are influenced by other musical styles. Amusing anecdotes about how they’ve come to play this music for over ten years may also be included!

Gary Chapin plays a variety of diatonic accordions, Barb Truex plays Appalachian dulcimer, tenor guitar and banjo-ukulele, and Steve Gruverman plays clarinet, bass clarinet, flute and soprano sax. You don’t want to miss this talented trio!

Le Bon Truc also performs on a regular basis at The Oasis of Music, the weekly free concert at Trin-

ity Commons in Lewiston.

There will be time for a question-and-answer session at the end of the performance.

MFGS is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization whose purpose is to promote the study of Franco-American genealogy and genealogical research in the state of Maine.

For more information about MFGS visit www.mfgen.org

For more information about the meeting, contact Connie Hitchcock, at ca-hitchco@aol.com.

For parking information at the Auburn Public Library, visit www.auburn-publiclibrary.org.

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Symphony No. 3, “Eroica”	Beethoven
I Have a Dream	Hoiby

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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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 affordable 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

See **Upward Bound**, page 12

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October Special Section: Domestic Violence Awareness Month

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Safe Voices’ annual vigils honor and remember those we have lost as a result of domestic abuse and violence, celebrate those who have survived, and recognize and offer hope to those still experiencing abuse.

Safe Voices is the domestic abuse and sex trafficking resource center serving Androscoggin, Franklin, and Oxford Counties. Last year alone, they served 2,744 unique survivors in the tri-county area. Safe Voices does this work through their 24-hour Helpline, in-person legal and civil advocacy, child protection services liaising, education and advocacy at local schools and organizations, a Certified Domestic Violence Intervention Program for

offenders, and the operation of three pet-friendly shelter facilities for survivors.

Safe Voices has seen a 54% increase in the need for their services over the last five years.

EVENTS:

Mon., Oct. 6, 4pm-5pm | DVAM Memorial Vigil (Lewiston)

Wed., Oct. 8, 5pm | 13th Annual River Valley Walk to End Domestic Violence (Hosmer Field, Rumford)

Wed., Oct. 15, 2pm-3pm | Open Concept: How Pet-Friendly Sheltering Expands Beyond Your Walls (Webinar)

Thurs., Oct. 23, all day | Wear Purple Day (Everywhere!)

Fri., Oct. 24, 5pm | Safe Voices Maple Amber

Brew Launch with Olive Pit Brewing (Lisbon)

If you or someone you know is experiencing domestic abuse, sex trafficking, or sexual exploitation, please call the Safe Voices 24-hour Helpline for free, confidential advocacy, at 1-800-559-2927.

How can you take part in DVAM?

SAVE the Safe Voices Helpline in your phone so you have it on hand whenever someone you encounter may need it.

ATTEND one of the Safe Voices DVAM events this month.

GIVE a gift to Safe Voices at safevoices.org/donate

WEAR purple on the national Wear Purple Day for DV awareness on Oct. 23

NSB continues longtime support of Auburn’s Amazing Safe Voices

AUBURN, ME – Lin Dehetre, Market Manager VP at Norway Savings Bank’s Auburn branch, proudly presented representatives from Safe Voices in Auburn with a donation of \$5,000 during a recent check presentation (pictured), part of a multi-year commitment by the bank towards an organization responding to calls for help with care and compassion.

Safe Voices is the only shelter and support services organization for victims of domestic violence, sex trafficking, and exploitation in Androscoggin, Franklin, and Oxford counties. For survivors of domestic abuse and violence, asking for that help is only the beginning.

“She just held my hand while I told her everything” is how one domestic abuse survivor described her initial meeting with a Safe Voices advocate. The survivor and the advocate then worked together to find resources that would help her start over and take back control. It’s a story that has played out countless times.

The organization provides one-on-one safety planning, support groups, information and referrals, court advocacy, shelter, education, professional training, and so much more. In addition to its three community-based offices in the tri-county area, Safe Voices operates three shelter facilities: two shelters for survivors of domestic abuse and one confidential safe house



for survivors of sex-trafficking. The organization’s safe house is the only one of its kind in Maine. Safe Voices supports over 2,200 survivors annually, no matter their gender identity, and is driven by the simple yet vital truth that all people deserve to be treated with dignity.

It’s an organization that NSB has been proud to donate over \$65,000 to in the last decade.

“Safe Voices creates deep and lasting opportunities for survivors and is dedicated to setting our communities on a path to their full potential,” said Dan Walsh, President and CEO of Norway Savings. “It’s a privilege to give this support to an organization that is giving hope to survivors and inspiring meaningful social change in our world.”

Developing and maintaining a strong safety net for those seeking support, assistance, and a life free from violence and abuse is a mission that has also inspired nine Norway Savings Bank team members to contrib-

ute hundreds of volunteer hours at the organization.

“Being a board member has been one of the most rewarding experiences knowing that we are making a difference to help end domestic violence and create social awareness in our communities,” said Dehetre, who has served on the Safe Voices Board of Directors for 14 years. “Safe Voices is committed to empowering survivors, embracing the opportunity to freely offer help, and ending the cycle of violence while promoting prevention and peace. It is so powerful.”

Beyond the crucial individual help and advocacy given, Safe Voices works to educate the community about the seriousness and prevalence of abuse.

If you need help, Safe Voices operates a 24/7 helpline that is free, confidential, and anonymous at 1-800-559-2927.

For more information about Safe Voices, including ways in which you can offer support, visit www.safevoices.org.

Safe Voices holding Domestic Violence Awareness Month Vigil

LEWISTON, ME - Safe Voices will host their annual memorial vigil in honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month on Monday, Oct. 6 at 4 p.m. in Dufresne Plaza on Lisbon Street. The vigil is held annually to honor those who have lost their lives to domestic abuse and violence, offer hope to those still facing abuse, and support those who have survived.

The candlelit vigil will include guest speakers from the community, survivor stories, and a remembrance ceremony. All are invited to attend and show their support.

Each year, about half

of all Maine homicides are linked to domestic violence. Domestic Violence Awareness Month and events like the memorial vigil are opportunities to recognize domestic abuse and violence as community issues, representing danger not just to those who live through abuse but to the community at large. Safe Voices invites friends and neighbors to join together to show that the effort to end abuse must also be a community one. For a full listing of the agency’s DVAM events, please visit bit.ly/SV-DVAM.

Safe Voices is the domestic abuse and sex

trafficking resource center serving Androscoggin, Franklin, and Oxford Counties. Last year, the agency worked with over 2,700 unique survivors in these counties to help them safety plan, access shelter, work with civil and legal advocates, and work through emergent crises as well as the ongoing, long-term effects of domestic abuse and sex trafficking. The agency has been doing this work in Maine since 1977. Those experiencing or impacted by domestic abuse and needing to reach out should call the agency’s 24-hour helpline at 1-800-559-2927.

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

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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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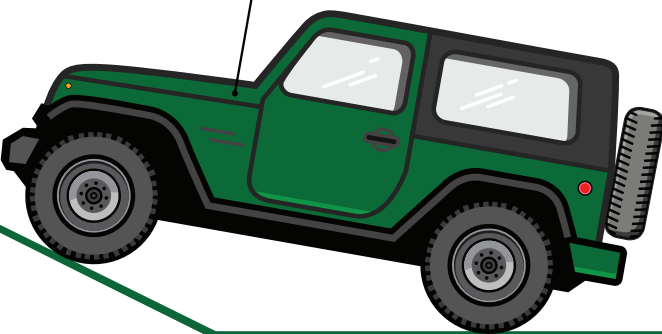
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New laws protect residents of mobile home communities

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 commodities. 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 accepted, valued and have a sense of belonging.



MAINE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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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UMaine Extension offers plant-based cooking workshop

LISBON FALLS, ME – University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host a Vegetarian and Vegan Cooking Workshop on Thursday, October 23, 2025, from 5–7 p.m. at the Androscoggin/Sagadahoc Cooperative Extension office, 24 Main Street, Lisbon Falls.

The hands-on workshop is designed for individuals interested in learning the basics of vegetarian and vegan diets. Participants will explore the use of tofu and tempeh in cooking, as well as plant-based nutrition practices. The session will include cooking demonstrations and shared preparation activities. Space is limited to

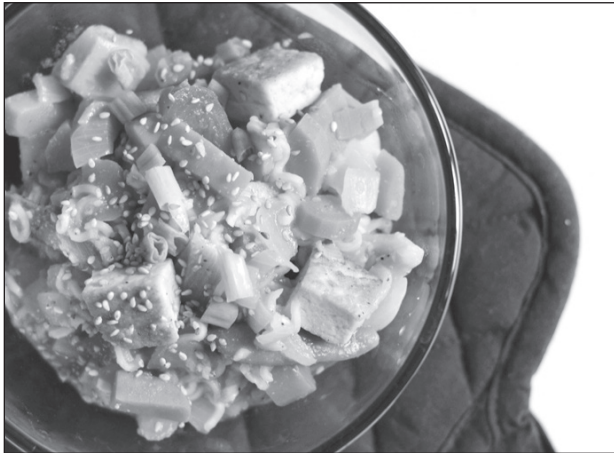


Photo of a ramen noodle skillet dish is courtesy of University of Maine Cooperative Extension / Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program Mainely Dish.

Airport

Continued from page 3

for those in rural communities during emergencies when seconds count,” said Senator Collins. “These significant investments will allow airports across Maine to make much-needed improvements to their infrastructure, improving the safety and efficiency of their operations, while enhancing passengers’ overall experience.”

Specifically, the funding has been allocated as follows:

Auburn/Lewiston Municipal Airport (LEW) – \$1,163,000 to support multiple improvements including construction of a new 11,800 square foot hangar for aircraft storage, a new general aviation apron, and a 900-foot hangar taxilane to improve airfield access and bring the airport in alignment with current aviation standards.

Eastern Slope Regional Airport (IZG) – \$416,385 to update the airport’s master plan, which

will guide future development.

Pittsfield Municipal Airport (2B7) – \$268,294 to acquire a snowplow attachment and reseal 4,003 feet of runway pavement to extend its service life.

Dewitt Field/Old Town Municipal Airport (OLD) – \$245,044 to reimburse the airport for construction of a portion of a new 9,000 square foot hangar completed in 2020 that is helping the airport generate additional revenue.

Sugarloaf Regional Airport (B21) – \$237,500 to design rehabilitation plans for 2,797 feet of runway to extend its service life.

Augusta State Airport (AUG) – \$213,750 to reconstruct airfield markings that have reached the end of their useful lives, improving safety for pilots and ground crews.

Princeton Municipal Airport (PNN) – \$183,350 to design a new 4,225 square foot hangar that will support airport self-sufficiency through increased

aviation activity.

Stephen A. Bean Municipal Airport (8B0) – \$150,000 to reconstruct 3,444 square yards of existing terminal apron to extend its service life and construct new 750-foot taxilanes to improve airfield access.

Northern Aroostook Regional Airport (FVE) – \$118,720 to acquire snow removal equipment, including a snow blower and plow blade, to improve winter operations.

Presque Isle International Airport (PQI) – \$115,615 to acquire and install upgraded security equipment in accordance with federal regulations.

Lincoln Regional Airport (LRG) – \$89,697 to acquire 0.7 acres of land, including an on-property building, for future development.

Since joining the Appropriations Committee in 2009, Senator Collins has helped to secure more than \$1 billion in competitive transportation grants for the State of Maine.

‘A New Home’ cast brings ASL to the stage

AUBURN, ME – Roxanne Baker, at right, an educator and activist in the Maine deaf community, is pictured here teaching American Sign Language (ASL) to cast members of the upcoming Community Little Theatre production of “A New Home.”

The entire cast of thirty is learning ASL interpretation for “One More Goodbye,” one of the musical numbers in the show. Written by Paul G. Caron, the show’s director and composer, the song is a moving tribute to the 18 lives that were lost in the tragic mass shooting that occurred in Lewiston on October 25, 2023. Four of the victims were members of the local deaf community.



Roxanne Baker, far right, an educator and leader in the Maine deaf community, is pictured here teaching American Sign Language to several cast members of CLT’s upcoming musical “A New Home.” From left are ASL interpreter Olive Paternoster, and cast members Glenn Atkins, Karianna Merrill, and Ashleigh St. Pierre. ‘A New Home’ opens October 30. All performances will be held at the Lewiston Middle School Auditorium.

Indigenous, Irish, Franco-American, and African immigrant communities, whose contributions have shaped the city’s identity and culture. It celebrates shared memories, honors cultural diversity, and reflects on the triumphs and tragedies that define this community.

For more information about “A New Home” or to purchase tickets, please visit laclt.com/a-new-home. The show will open October 30 and run through November 9. All performances will be held at the Lewiston Middle School Auditorium on 75 Central

Avenue in Lewiston.

Thanks to the support from the Maine Arts Commission, two of the performances of ‘A New Home’ (November 2 and 8) will also feature full ASL interpretation to ensure accessibility for all audience members.

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

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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

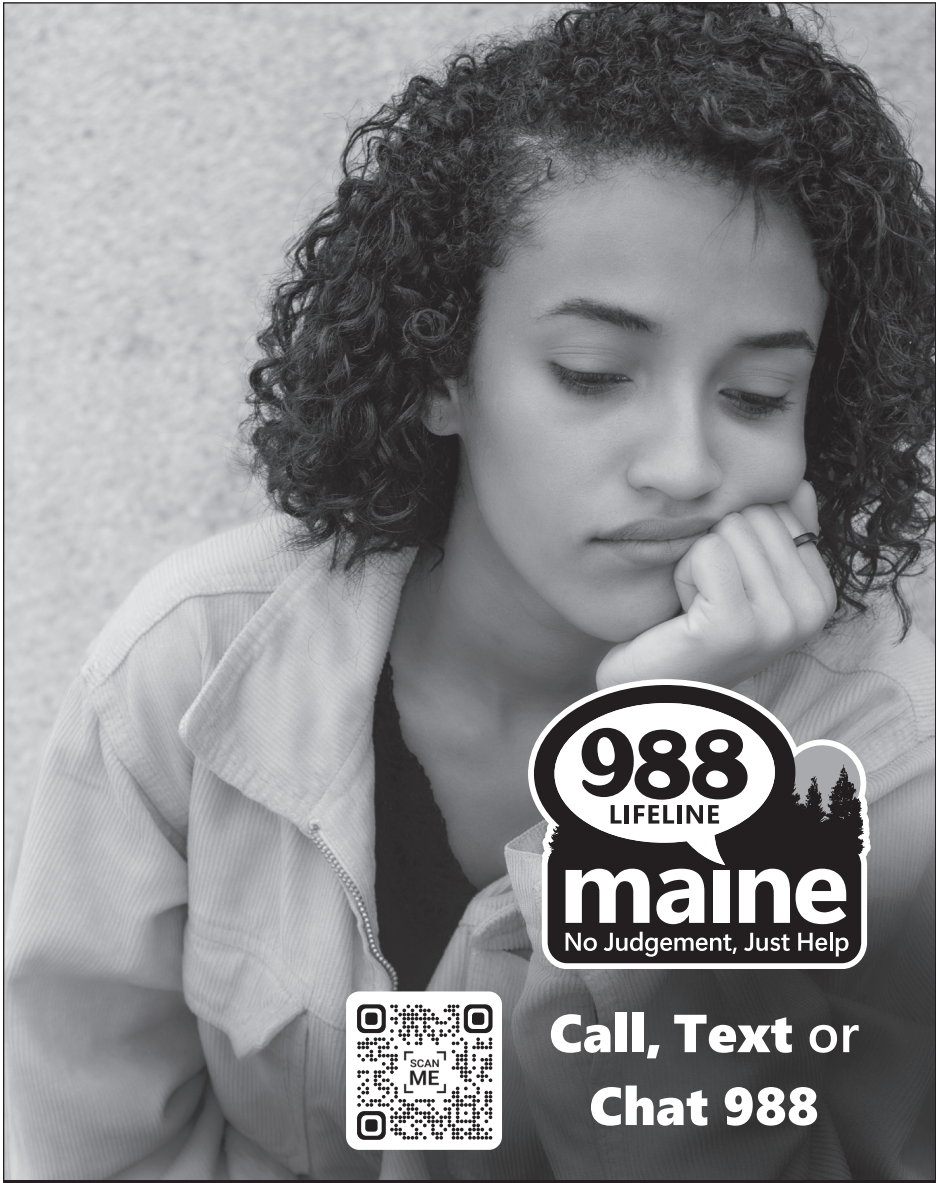
veterans and has a waitlist of additional veterans seeking services. Maine has one of the highest percentages of veterans in the nation. The River Valley Upward Bound Program at UMF serves roughly 60 students in Oxford County and, together with a partner program, supports 139 students across 14 high 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 then 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 respectfully 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 + other-worldly plant-scape in the ephemeral show GREEN ROOM. Come throughout the week to witness

Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

this transitory display and watch the installation wilt and evolve over the week! Multiflora is a floral atelier of Meg Farrell, dedicated to crafting one-of-a kind arrangements and botanical sculptures using foraged and locally grown flowers. 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.

versity 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.

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

Oct 21
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life-long angler, and L.L. Bean casting instructor for 20 years, Sue Daignault will address the October gathering of the Merry-meeting 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.

Oct 25, 26
MAINE – The Mid-coast Symphony Orchestra presents “Heroes: Common and Uncommon” Rohan Smith, Conductor.

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

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

Aaron Copland: Fanfare for the Common Man; Giuseppe Verdi: Overture to Vespro Siciliani; Lee Hoiby: I have a Dream (featuring Philip Lima, baritone soloist); Spiritual Medley (featuring Philip Lima, baritone soloist); Ludwig van Beethoven: Symphony No. 3, “Eroica”.

Through Oct 26
WEST GARDINER – The Center for Maine Craft is pleased to announce the opening of A New Chapter, a compelling two-artist

exhibition featuring prints and original mixed media artwork by Larry Clifford and handcrafted furniture by Brian Haddock of Rural Modern Furniture. The show runs from September 2 through October 26, 2025.

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

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

The FLUKES, an ensemble of enthusiastic ukulele musicians along with singer/songwriter Eileen Rose, and special guest The Grateful Hearts present a family friendly concert to benefit St. Elizabeth’s Essentials Pantry, a low-barrier pantry serving non-food essentials to all those in need, including new Mainers and Mainers whose families have been here for generations.

MCP
Continued from page 6
of “The Game’s Afoot”. For more information, or to reserve tickets for this show, please visit www.monmouthcommunity-players.org, or call 207-370-9566.

Ken Ludwig’s “The Game’s Afoot” is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.

Alzheimer’s
Continued from page 1

tionwide provide unpaid care to people living with Alzheimer’s and other dementias. In Maine alone, more than 29,600 people are living with Alzheimer’s and 66,000 caregivers provide their support.

To register and receive the latest updates on this year’s Lakes & Mountains Walk to End Alzheimer’s, visit alz.org/maine/walk.



Finding a fulfilling career with flexibility and room to grow

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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



SECOND FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF BRIDGEWICK
ONE MIDDLE STREET
OPEN MIC SHOWUP - 6:45 PM
OPEN MIC STARTUP - 7:00 PM
FEATURED PERFORMER - 8:30
ADMISSION - \$12
17 and UNDER - FREE



Carolyn Currie



Carolyn’s music has been described as “haunting,” her “luminous voice” carrying listeners to a place of reflection and emotional intensity. She has shared the stage with greats like Jonathan Edwards, Tom Rush, Lucy Kaplansky, Cheryl Wheeler and Richard Shindell, and has captivated audiences throughout the US playing festivals such as Seattle’s Bumbershoot and Folk Life Festivals, California’s High Sierra Music Festival and the Kennebec Folk Festival.

Friday, October 10
Feature set preceded by Open Mic

The Side Door Coffeehouse has been a fundraiser for the Unitarian Universalist Church of Brunswick since 1993. It is volunteer run.

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

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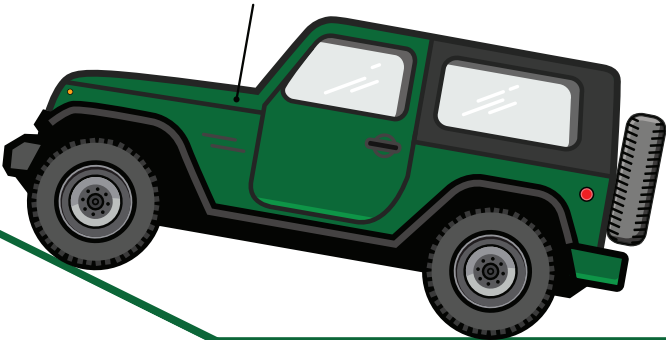
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