

# Obituary: Arnold Frederick McLean



Arnold Frederick McLean, born July 19, 1935 in Woodstock, New Brunswick, was called home to be with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, following a time of prayer and cherished hymns. He was the loving husband of Mary (Stevens) McLean, with whom he shared a lifetime of faith and unwavering commitment to family. Together, they celebrated 70 years of marriage this past summer, a testament to enduring love and God's faithfulness through every season of life. Arnold and Mary built their lives on the foundation of Scripture, devoting themselves to raising their children in the knowledge of God's grace and truth.

Their home was a place of prayer, hospitality, and joy — a reflection of the deep faith that guided every decision and every season of life.

Arnold was a proud and loving father to seven children: Daughter, Julie (McLean) Stewart and husband Tim; Son, Carl McLean and wife Donna; Son, Paul McLean; Son, Joel McLean; Daughter, Laurie (McLean) Allen and husband Chris; Son, Philip McLean and wife Amy; Daughter, Sharon (McLean) Sterling and husband Allen. He was also a cherished grandfather and great-grandfather to many, each of whom brought him immense joy and pride. Arnold's legacy lives on

through the generations he nurtured with wisdom, kindness, and a spirited sense of fun.

He was predeceased by his father, Arthur McLean, and mother, Violette (Tompkins) McLean; sisters Norma and Marie; and brothers Willard and Merlin. He is survived by his sister Verna, and brothers Glenn and Harold.

Arnold's life was a testimony to the redeeming power of Christ. He believed in the promise of eternal life through faith in Jesus, and he lived each day with the assurance that his salvation was secure. His favorite verse, "Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'" (John 14:6), shaped his outlook and gave him peace in his final days.

He will be remembered not only for his vibrant personality and unwavering devotion, but for the way he pointed others to the hope found in the gospel. His life was a reflection of God's grace, and his passing is not the end—but the beginning of eternal joy in the presence of the Lord.

A service and reception will be held in celebration of Arnold's life at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 20 at Riverside Drive Baptist Church in Auburn, Maine. In lieu of flowers, donations can be sent to New England Fellowship of Evangelicals, PO Box 599, Rumney, NH 03266.

# Open mic night, performer Tom Clukey at Side Door Coffeehouse

**BRUNSWICK, ME** – The Side Door Coffeehouse is a venue for local musicians and others (professional and amateur) to share their talents, and for residents and visitors of the Midcoast community

to enjoy great entertainment and conversation in a relaxed setting. Organized by a group of volunteers from the Unitarian Universalist Church of Brunswick, the Side Door Coffeehouse operates on the second

Friday of every month except August.

Admission is \$12 for adults and free for children 17 and under.

The Friday, November 14th installment will feature:

See Clukey, page 14

# October Special Section Domestic Violence Awareness Month pages 9-10

## Lewiston's David St. Pierre to nominated as U.S. Marshal

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – U.S. Senator Susan Collins released the following statement on the nomination of David St. Pierre, who served as Chief of Police for the City of Lewiston, to be the U.S. Marshal for the District of Maine. Chief St. Pierre's nomination requires confirmation by the U.S. Senate.

"I strongly support David St. Pierre's nomination to serve as U.S. Marshal for the District of Maine. Chief St. Pierre has dedicated more than three decades to protecting the people of Lewiston and strengthening partnerships across local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. His steady leadership during the most challenging moment in Maine's recent history, the tragic mass shooting of 2023, demonstrated his professionalism, composure, and deep commitment to both public safety and public service.

With his extensive experience and unique skill set, I am confident that Chief St. Pierre will serve the people of Maine admirably as U.S. Marshal."

Chief St. Pierre served with the Lewiston Police Department for more than thirty years and was the city's Chief of Police from 2021 until his retirement from the Department last month. As Chief, he oversaw a department of ninety-nine employees and managed a budget exceeding \$10 million. Over the course of his career, he has held law enforcement positions ranging from patrol officer to State Drug Agent, Detective Sergeant, and Patrol Lieutenant, gaining broad experience in criminal investigations, internal affairs, and interagency coordination.

Chief St. Pierre played a central leadership role in coordinating the hundreds of local, state, and federal

officers who responded to the deadliest shooting in Maine's history in 2023. He also guided the planning and transition to Lewiston's new public safety facility, which brings multiple law enforcement agencies together under one roof to strengthen collaboration towards the shared mission to serve and protect the City of Lewiston.

A 2018 graduate of the 271st Session of the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia, Chief St. Pierre is an active member of the FBI National Academy Associates, the International Association of Chiefs of Police, and the Maine Chiefs of Police Association.

As the senior Republican member of Maine's congressional delegation, Senator Collins continues to advise the Administration as it evaluates candidates for federal positions in Maine.

## Guild Fine Craft Show in Brunswick this weekend

**BRUNSWICK, ME** – Shop Maine Craft proudly presents the return of the Guild Fine Craft Show for its ninth season, taking place October 25 + 26 at the historic Fort Andross Mill in downtown Brunswick.

This juried indoor show features the exceptional work of Guild level members of the Maine Crafts Association, showcasing handcrafted pieces by 40 of Maine's finest craft artists. Visitors are invited to explore a stunning array of fine crafts, meet the artists, and purchase

one-of-a-kind creations.

A cherished Maine tradition, the Guild Fine Craft Shows provide a welcoming marketplace where the public can discover, collect, and learn about the highest quality handmade work. Attendees will find an inspiring selection of ceramics, fiber (decorative + wearable), furniture, glass, jewelry, metal, mixed media, paper, stone, and wood.

Show director, Lizz Brown of Shop Maine Craft said, "The Brunswick Guild Fine Craft Show showcases the enduring

talent, creativity, and dedication of our region's fine craftspeople. We encourage everyone to discover the rich narratives and meticulous craftsmanship that define each artist's contribution."

\$5 Saturday + Sunday admission, and those under 18 may attend free of charge. SAT 10/25 + SUN 10/26, 10am - 4pm. Fort Andross Mill, 14 Maine Street, Brunswick, ME. For more information, please email: Lizz Brown, Show Director at lizz@shopmainecraft.com or visit shopmainecraft.com.

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# Newsmakers, Names & Faces

## \$750K for dairy farms to boost long-term success

**MAINE** – Dairy farmers across the Northeast can now apply for the Dairy Farm Improvement & Modernization Grant through the Northeast Dairy Business Innovation Center (NE-DBIC). With a total of \$750,000 in funding, this grant will support a wide range of projects aimed at improving farm viability, milk quality, worker conditions, economic sustainability, and climate resilience.

Grants will range from \$15,000 to \$100,000 with a 25% in-kind and/or cash match.

This grant will fund projects that help dairy farmers improve their operations for long-term success. Projects that take a systems-level approach and that show collaboration with experts or technical service providers will be most competitive. Projects that only replace old equipment without broader improvements to farm systems are not eligible.

Projects may focus on:

- Feed and nutrition management
- Animal health and comfort



- Milking systems
- Labor efficiency
- Animal management
- New and young farmer engagement
- Farm transition
- Cooperative milk production

Or other areas that benefit dairy operations

Dairy farmers across the Northeast are eligible to apply. Producer associations and technical assistance providers applying on behalf of groups of farmers are also eligible, as are milk buyers/processors focusing on on-farm milk production or transfer.

Grants are available to applicants in all 11 Northeast states served by

NE-DBIC: Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, Maryland, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Applications are open from October 14 to December 4, 2025 at 2pm. Access the full request for applications here: <https://nedairyinnovation.com/grants/farm-improvement-modernization/>

The NE-DBIC's investment and project strategy promotes innovation and resiliency for regional production of dairy products across an 11-state Northeast region. Hosted by the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets, the NE-DBIC is funded through the USDA-AMS.

For more information on NE-DBIC, visit: <https://nedairyinnovation.com/>.

## Appropriations & Tax Committees call for public hearing

**AUGUSTA, ME** – Republican members of the Maine Legislature's Appropriations and Taxation Committees today called for a November public hearing to consider adopting federal tax changes that benefit workers, seniors, and Maine families.

These federal tax reduction measures—contained in the "Working Families Tax Cut Act" passed by Congress and now in effect for 2025—offer the state an opportunity to decide whether to con-

form Maine's tax code to the new federal provisions.

Provisions of primary concern to Republicans include:

Elimination of state taxes on tips

Elimination of state taxes on overtime

Increasing the Maine standard deduction

NEW \$6,000 deduction for seniors

NEW deduction of car loan interest

"Maine has the fourth highest tax burden in the country, and workers, se-

niors and families are finding it increasing hard to live here," said Committee Republicans. "Congressional Republicans and President Trump have provided Maine with an opportunity to make life a little easier for citizens struggling to pay bills. The public should be given a chance to voice their opinions on how eliminating state taxes on overtime and tips, increasing the standard deduction and allowing car loan interest deductions would impact their daily lives."

## Maine Veterans return from Honor Flight

**BANGOR, ME** – U.S. Senator Susan Collins greeted veterans returning to Bangor International Airport as part of the final Honor Flight of the year in Maine. Accompanied by dozens of local residents and Brigadier General Diane Dunn of the Maine National Guard, Senator Collins welcomed veterans at the jet bridge and joined them in a parade through the terminal, where families and supporters gathered to celebrate their return.

"It is deeply moving to welcome home the heroes whose courage and sacrifice have kept our nation free," said Senator Collins. "Thank you to Matthew Mank and all the volunteers with Honor Flight Maine for giving these veterans the experience of a lifetime and for providing the community a chance to express our gratitude to those who served to ensure that they know how much their sacrifice means to Maine and to our nation."



The trip, organized by Honor Flight Maine, brought 79 veterans to Washington, D.C., to visit the memorials built in their honor. Upon their return, the veterans were met with a large, cheering crowd welcoming them home. For many of these

veterans, this warm welcome was their first opportunity to return home alongside fellow service members to the kind of celebration all veterans deserve, but that some did not experience when they returned from their service.

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# Newsmakers, Names & Faces

## St. Mary's Health System welcomes primary care providers

LEWISTON, ME – St. Mary's Health System is pleased to welcome Adam Alter, MD, and Shariam Casiano Vega, MD, to its expanding primary care team. Both physicians bring strong clinical backgrounds and a shared focus on delivering comprehensive, patient-centered care to individuals and families in the Lewiston-Auburn area.

Dr. Alter earned his medical degree magna cum laude from the University of Missouri-Columbia School of Medicine, where he also completed dual bachelor's degrees in Biology and Chemistry. He completed his Internal Medicine residency at Providence Portland Medical Center in Oregon and a fellowship in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine at the Cleveland Clinic. Dr. Alter is board-certified in Internal Medicine, Pulmonary Medicine, and Critical



Care Medicine and previously served as Medical Director of Critical Care Ultrasound at Maine Medical Center and Assistant Professor of Medicine at Tufts University.

Dr. Casiano Vega completed her Family Medicine Residency at Central Maine Medical Center. She earned her Doctor of Medicine from the University of Medicine and Health Sciences in St. Kitts and Nevis and her Bachelor of Science in Industrial Microbiology from the University of Puerto



Rico at Mayagüez. Fluent in English and Spanish, she has professional interests in preventive and integrative medicine and women's health.

St. Mary's primary care practices are part of a full spectrum of health services offered through St. Mary's Health System, including specialty care, behavioral health, rehabilitation, and hospital-based services, all designed to meet the needs of patients at every stage of life.

To learn more, visit [stmarysmaine.com](http://stmarysmaine.com).

## Making your vote count this November

By: Rep. Michel LaJoie, D-Lewiston

Election Day is right around the corner, and Lewiston residents will have a chance to make their voices heard this Nov. 4 on a number of important issues. Regardless of party affiliation, I want to encourage you to exercise your right to vote because your voice truly matters.

Voting is our opportunity to express our values and priorities. Each election presents a chance to choose leaders who align with our vision for the future and weigh in on initiatives that will have ongoing impacts on our lives. Maine has a rich history of strong civic engagement and participation in elections, and this has resulted in important progress on issues like expanding access to health care, increasing state funding for education and improving local infrastructure. Our state is a great example of what a healthy democracy looks like.

While the congressional and gubernatorial elections aren't until next year, our local election is right around the corner and, arguably, has an even more profound impact on our everyday lives. This year, Lewiston residents will be asked to vote on several items, including City Council seats in wards 1, 3, 5 and 7 as well as school

committee seats for wards 2, 4 and 6, and one at-large seat.

Additionally, there will be two citizen initiatives that will appear on the ballot. The first initiative, Question 1, would require Maine voters to show proof of photo ID for both in-person and absentee voting. It would also put new restrictions on absentee voting like prohibiting family members from returning absentee ballots to a drop box and limiting the number of ballot drop boxes that can be in a municipality.

The second initiative, Question 2, would implement an extreme risk protection order law – commonly known as a “red flag” law. These types of laws allow family members to petition a court to temporarily remove the firearms of a loved one if they are deemed a danger to themselves or to others. To learn more about both of these questions, I encourage you to check out the Maine Citizen's Guide to the Referendum Election prepared by the Secretary of State's Office.

If you haven't done so already, there are a couple of different ways you can register to vote and cast your ballot this year. You can register to vote online, by mail or in-person at Lewiston City Hall. You can also register to vote

in-person on Election Day at your local polling place. I recommend that you visit the Maine Secretary of State's website to find information on our local polling places and options for absentee voting.

If you are voting in-person on Nov. 4, polls will open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. If you are voting absentee, the deadline to request your ballot is Thursday, Oct. 30 at 4:00 p.m. To be counted, absentee ballots must be returned to our Town Clerk's Office by 8 p.m. on Nov. 4. If you miss this deadline, you can still vote in-person on Nov. 4.

Beyond casting your own ballot, you can also do your part by talking to friends and family about the importance of voting. Encouraging others to join you in this civic responsibility.

See **Vote**, page 14

## Tonight! Emma's Revolution, Women in Harmony at Auburn UU

AUBURN, ME – California-based, activist singer/songwriting duo Emma's Revolution will perform their “We Are The Power” concert with special guest, Women in Harmony at First Universalist Church of Auburn at 169 Pleasant Street, Auburn ME on Thursday Oct. 23rd 2025 at 7pm. Get recharged, inspired and energized in community, justice and song in their ONLY Maine appearance.

Tickets are \$25 in advance (<https://tinyurl.com/Oct23Auburn>) or \$30 day of show; no one will be

turned away.

As independent artists and queer and non-conforming women, Emma's Revolution has a national presence, sharing the duo's vision of valuing people over profit, choosing compassion over violence, demanding accountability and building a more just and sustainable world.

“In this intense and unprecedented time, when our rights, norms and democracy are on the line,” the duo says, “all of our voices are needed to create the country and the world

we want to live in.”

The show features special guest Women In Harmony, an affirming and inclusive community of women singing for social justice and the joy of making music together.

Music in the spirit of Pete Seeger

The award-winning activist duo of Pat Humphries & Sandy O. is known for fearless, truth-telling lyrics and melodies you can't resist singing. Performances feature the duo's signature soaring

See **Emma's**, page 11

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Fashion News

## Tias Prom Project

Dedicated to providing dresses & confidence to young women

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

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



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

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

**How to Donate?**  
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# Seniors Not Acting Their Age A Northern Maine Whitewater Weekend

Northern Maine was suffering through a serious drought. The rivers and streams were drying up and the lakes unusually low. The whitewater prospects for Labor Day Weekend were grim. Whitewater enthusiasts were waiting for the verdict on whether or not there would be releases on the dam controlled rivers.

Brookfield Renewable owns the dams on the rivers in northern Maine. The axe fell on the Dead River when the much anticipated 5,000 cubic feet per second (CFS) Labor Day Weekend big water release was cancelled. Finally some good news; Brookfield announced the 600 CFS release on the Canada Falls section of the upper Penobscot River would occur on Saturday as scheduled and there would be a 5,000 CFS release on the Kennebec River on Sunday.

Avid paddlers with the Penobscot Paddle & Chowder Society began organizing for an exciting whitewater weekend. My son, Adam, was coordinating the Canada Falls trip and long-time friend, Kyle Duckworth, was leading a Kennebec Gorge outing the following day. Perhaps my last Class IV whitewater opportunity of the year, I decided to paddle with Adam both days. We were going to navigate a two-person inflatable vessel called a shredder.

Canada Falls is located

in a remote area about 20 miles northeast of Jackman. Actually a 3.5-mile section of the South Branch of the Penobscot River, the rapids on Canada Falls are rated Class III/V by the American Whitewater Association.

Eight kayakers, three canoeists, and Adam and I in the shredder, made the long drive to the put-in a short distance below the dam at Canada Falls Lake on a warm sunny day. The excitement was palpable.

We started out with some steep, narrow twisting rapids, a mere taste of what was to come. When angling hard right in a small canyon, a kayaker got pushed against a wall on the left and flipped. He rolled, but flipped again. This time, he swam. Fellow paddlers quickly rescued him and his boat, but his paddle was lost. Fortunately, another kayaker had a spare breakdown paddle.

Soon after, an intimidating falls called The Slide begins. All of the water tumbles precipitously down a steep shallow incline into a gigantic foam pile followed by a host of turbulent breaking waves. Often the scene of unpleasant swims, everyone had successful descents but some kayakers had to roll.

Several difficult rapids followed. We maneuvered around the many obstacles in Cabin Rapid and plunged down Upper Split Decision, Lower Split

Decision and Megahole. Two canoeists capsized and swam at Upper Split Decision, but were quickly reunited with their boats.

At the takeout, paddling the Kennebec Gorge near West Forks the following day was the primary topic of conversation. Most of the group planned to test their skills on the big volume rapids.

The put-in at Harris Dam on the Kennebec was crowded with rafters when ten of us arrived on a sunny, warm Sunday morning. Many of the rafting companies had originally planned to paddle the high water Dead release so the cancellation resulted in about twice the normal number of rafts on the river.

The contrast between the Kennebec Gorge and Canada Falls is remarkable. Canada Falls is a precipitous, low volume stream whereas the gorge is four miles of almost continuous huge waves followed by nine miles of feisty big water rapids.

After descending a steep crowded stairway, we launched immediately below the dam and quickly separated ourselves from the rafts paddling through a comparatively easy rapid called Taster. The kayakers surfed several waves in Taster including an unpredictable roller called Disappearing Wave.

Then the excitement began in earnest. Trashy holes and choppy breaking waves were successfully navigated in Rock Garden before entering a rapid named after the largest wave on the river, Big Mama. The explosive breaker knocked a canoeist over and he swam. Several members of the group assisted him and his boat safely into an eddy.

Demanding rapids named Alley Way, Z-Turn and Magic Falls followed.

Powerful diagonal waves in Magic Falls flipped the canoeist. Adam and I helped him back into his boat.

The rapids gradually diminished in difficulty as we continued to the takeout in West Forks. The whitewater thrills and spills were over for another Labor Day Weekend and what a weekend it was.

My book, Maine Al Fresco: The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine relates many more exciting escapades on the best whitewater rivers in 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](http://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](http://www.ronchase-outdoors.com) or he can be reached at [ronchaseoutdoors@comcast.net](mailto:ronchaseoutdoors@comcast.net).



A canoeist reaches the safety of Cathedral Eddy on the Kennebec Gorge



A kayaker paddles Rock Garden Rapid on the Kennebec Gorge



A kayaker stern squirts at the bottom of The Slide on Canada Falls

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# Operation Christmas Child local drop-off locations opening soon

**MAINE** – Volunteers are preparing to collect Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts during National Collection Week, Nov. 17 – 24. Nearly 5,000 drop-off locations will open across the country in November, and shoebox packers can find their local drop-off locations in Maine.

Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has been collecting and delivering gift-filled shoeboxes to children including many who are suffering from war, poverty, disease and disaster. Operation Christmas Child hopes to reach another 12 million children in 2025 with the hope of Jesus.

Shoebox packing is fun for individuals, families and groups! Find a step-by-step guide on the How to Pack a Shoebox webpage. The project partners with local churches across the globe to deliver these tangible expressions of God’s love to children in need. Participants can donate \$10 per shoebox gift online through “Follow Your Box” and receive a tracking label to discover its destination.

“Samaritan’s Purse works around the world to help people in need, but it’s not about good works— it’s about the Gospel,” said Franklin Graham, president of Samaritan’s Purse. “Please prayerfully consider packing a shoebox this year with Operation Christmas Child. These simple gifts open the door for us to share the true meaning of Christmas.”

Participants can find the nearest drop-off location and hours of operation as they make plans to drop off their shoebox gifts. The online lookup tool is searchable by City or ZIP code. Signs at each location will identify the drop-off.



Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan’s Purse, seeks to demonstrate God’s love in a tangible way to children in need around the world and, together with the local church worldwide, to

share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has collected and delivered more than 232 million gift-filled shoeboxes to children in more than 170 countries and territories.

# October is Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Month

**PORTLAND, ME** – October is Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Month, designed to inform the public about warning signs, risk factors, and what to do in a cardiac emergency. During this month, the American Red Cross encourages everyone to enroll in a CPR and AED course so they can learn how to help save a life when someone goes into cardiac arrest and minutes matter.

Each year, more than 350,000 people experience out-of-hospital cardiac arrest in the U.S. and about 90% of them die. Cardiac arrest occurs when the heart suddenly stops beating normally because of abnormal electrical activity. Every second counts, so it’s important for people to be trained in knowing how to perform CPR and use an AED. Immediate CPR delivered by a bystander can double or even triple a person’s chance of survival. More than 70% of out-of-hospital cardiac arrests happen in the home.

Visit [redcross.org/takeaclass](http://redcross.org/takeaclass) to sign up for online, blended learning or in-person training classes today.

“Sudden cardiac arrest can happen to anyone, anywhere and at any time without warning,” said Stephanie Couturier, regional CEO, American Red Cross. “It’s important to be ready to take action whether that’s calling 911, starting chest compressions or using an AED. Red Cross training can give you the skills and confidence to act in an emergency.”

An AED (automated external defibrillator) is a device that analyzes the heart’s rhythm and, if necessary, advises the rescuer to deliver an electrical shock, known as defibrillation, which can help the heart re-establish an effective rhythm. For each minute that defibrillation is delayed, a person’s chance for survival is reduced by about 10%.

October 16 was World Restart a Heart Day, an international initiative

designed to increase awareness about the importance of knowing what to do in a cardiac emergency and learning Hands-Only CPR. The goal is to save more lives by increasing the rate of bystanders getting involved and giving CPR to someone who needs it.

Last year, more than 6.6 million people turned to the Red Cross for First Aid, CPR and AED and other lifesaving training. Training helps provide the confidence and skills to act when moments matter.

Sometimes people refrain from helping someone who needs CPR because they are afraid that they’ll injure the person or do something wrong. Calling 911 and starting chest compressions is better than doing nothing at all. It can help give the person a better chance of survival.

Download the free Red Cross First Aid app and activate the First Aid Skill for Alexa-enabled devices for instant access to guidance on what to do during an emergency.

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

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# Arts & Entertainment

## Stephen King’s *Misery* at The Public Theatre

LEWISTON, ME – Just in time for Halloween, The Public Theatre, will open its 35th season with a thrilling stage adaptation of Stephen King’s MISERY playing Oct 24-Nov 9.

Stephen King’s best-selling book and Oscar-winning film MISERY is now a spine-chilling Broadway play! Truth is stranger than fiction when a famous romance novelist veers off the road in a winter storm and wakes up incapacitated in the home of his “number one fan”. A heart-pounding life or death game of cat and mouse ensues as unexpected events turn his number one fan into his number one enemy.

Adapted from Stephen King’s famous novel by screenwriter and playwright, William Goldman (The Princess Bride, Magic, Marathon Man). Lewiston’s professional theatre is the perfect location for this production. Since 1993, The Public Theatre’s

home has been the beautifully renovated Ritz Theatre, a former movie-house showing sci-fi and horror films regularly attended by a young local boy named Stephen King.

Morbidly funny and brutally entertaining, “Even if you think you’ve read the book or seen the movie, I’m certain you’ll see things onstage that will surprise you” says Director and Artistic Director, Janet Mitchko. Misery fits right into The Public Theatre’s reputation for providing high-quality entertainment at an affordable price. No ticket is over \$35 and there are even pre-show beer and wine tastings on select Thursday and Saturday nights included in the price of your ticket. Sell-out crowds are expected, so get your tickets today! Public Theatre policy requires you to pay for your entire seat - even though you’ll only be using the edge.

Starring as the well-known number one fan



Annie Wilkes, will be Teri Clark Linden. Teri is a professional actress based in Chicago regularly seen performing at actor Jeff Daniels famous Purple Rose Theatre. Famous novelist Paul Sheldon will be played by New York based actor Torsten Hillhouse. Tosten has previously appeared at The Public Theatre, most recently seen in

Lunenburg by Norm Foster. Our hero Buster the sheriff will be played by local actor Daniel Rennie.

The snow swept farmhouse where the play takes place will be designed by Michael Reidy, dramatic lighting by Stephen Petrilli, scary sound design by Sean McGinley, costumes by Lindsey Miller and Becca Copeland and fight choreography by Angela Bonacasa.

MISERY will be running Oct 24 – Nov 9, Thursday thru Sun. For tickets, season subscriptions and more information about The Public Theatre, Lewiston/Auburn’s professional Theatre, visit [www.thepublictheatre.org](http://www.thepublictheatre.org) or call (207) 782-3200.

## Saint Dominic Academy to host 19th Annual Holiday Festival



AUBURN, ME – Get ready to kick off the holiday season at the Saint Dominic Academy 19th Annual Holiday Festival on November 1st from 9am to 3pm at 121 Gracelawn Road in Auburn.. This family-friendly event is open to the public and will showcase

a wide variety of hand-made goods, unique gifts, local artisan crafts, and delicious treats made by students, parents, and local vendors.

Enjoy a festive atmosphere with many great crafters, raffles, bake sale, a festival of trees and a chance to support your local school and community artists! Whether you’re shopping for holiday gifts or just want to spend a fun afternoon with the family, there’s something for everyone!

Admission is free, and all proceeds go toward supporting school programs and student activities.

Event Details:  
What: Saint Dominic Academy 19th Annual Holiday Festival  
When: November 1st, 2025 9am to 3pm  
Where: Saint Dominic Academy 121 Gracelawn Road Auburn Maine 04210

Admission: Free  
Come out and support our students and local makers!

# STEPHEN KING’S MISERY

A THRILLING PLAY  
BY WILLIAM GOLDMAN

*Public Theatre policy requires you to pay for your entire seat, even though you’ll only be using the edge.*

**Oct 24-Nov 9**

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Thu. WINE Sampling Oct 30  
Sat. BEER Sampling Nov 1

**ThePublicTheatre.org | 782-3200**

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## Heroes: Common & Uncommon

**Saturday • October 25, 2025**  
7:00PM • Franco Center, Lewiston

|                                     |           |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| Fanfare for the Common Man          | Copland   |
| Overture to <i>Vespre Siciliani</i> | Verdi     |
| 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

**More with Midcoast** Members of the Kennebec Valley Youth Symphony Orchestra  
Saturday, Oct. 25 during intermission in the Heritage Hall, Franco Center, Lewiston

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**MIDCOAST SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**  
ROHAN SMITH, MUSIC DIRECTOR



# Maine Construction Career Days draws record-breaking crowd

**WEST BATH, ME** – The National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC) Maine Chapter #276 and the Associated General Contractors (AGC) of Maine proudly announce the resounding success of the 2025 Maine Construction Career Days, held on October 9th at MidCoast Excavation in West Bath. This annual event, designed to inspire and equip the next generation of construction professionals, attracted a record 1,000 registered students from high schools across the state—surpassing previous years attendance. The group also welcomed over 50 construction career-related exhibitors, showcasing the industry’s vast opportunities.

In a vibrant gathering that bridged education and industry, students engaged directly with leading contractors, suppliers, and trade organizations. Exhibitors highlighted hands-on demonstrations, interactive career simulations, and insights into high-demand roles ranging from skilled trades like carpentry and electrical work to emerging fields in sustainable building and project management. The event underscored the construction sector’s critical need for diverse, skilled talent, with Maine’s construction workforce projected to continue to grow over the next decade amid booming infrastructure projects.

“Events like Maine Construction Career Days are essential for sparking interest in careers that offer stability, growth, and real-world impact,” said Nichole Lemeux, President of NAWIC Maine Chapter #276. “We’re thrilled to see



such overwhelming enthusiasm from kids eager to join an industry that’s not just building structures but also can build their future.”

Kelly Flagg, Executive Director of AGC Maine, added, “We are pleased to see such commitment from the industry—from heavy equipment operators to electricians and welders, this year’s event provided unparalleled exposure to the opportunities that are available in construction. The students who joined us left inspired, informed, and ready to step into roles that will shape Maine for generations. We hope they will

choose to take the next step and apply for our Maine Construction Academy Immersion Programs offered across the state. These programs will provide a deeper dive into construction and provide basic certifications to start their careers.”

Hosted by NAWIC Maine and supported by AGC Maine since 2022, the event has evolved into a cornerstone of workforce development in the region. This year’s record turnout reflects a surge in interest fueled by federal investments in infrastructure and a statewide push for vocational training.

# MEMIC announces \$19M policyholder dividend

**PORTLAND, ME** – The MEMIC Group announced today that its Board of Directors has authorized a \$19 million dividend for more than 17,000 Maine policyholders. Since 1998, MEMIC has returned more than \$389 million in dividends to policyholders across all 16 counties in Maine.

Michael Bourque, President and CEO of The MEMIC Group, shared the news at the 2025 MaineBiz 60 Ideas in 60 Minutes event on October 8 in South Portland, Maine.

“Returning dividends to our policyholders demonstrates why a mutual partnership is such an impactful model for workers’ compensation,” said Bourque. “When businesses invest in safety and partner

with MEMIC to prevent injuries, everyone benefits—employees, employers, and the communities we serve.”

Since MEMIC’s founding in 1993, lost-time injuries in Maine have been reduced by approximately 50%. Safer workplaces have led to lower costs for employers. Maine regulators recently approved a significant reduction in advisory costs—an average decrease of 9.6% for 2025. This continues a multi-year trend of declining statewide rates, with advisory costs falling more than 43% over the past four years. These reductions have translated into premium savings for many employers.

“While policyholders and employees help drive our commitment to safety,

MEMIC must also operate as an efficient, disciplined company. Dividends are the reward for a healthy workers’ compensation system that we are especially proud to underwrite,” Bourque said. “Our aim is to continue making our workforce safer and to see the return on investment benefit the Maine economy.”

This annual dividend is calculated based on MEMIC’s financial performance, claims experience, and the collective success of policyholders in maintaining safe workplaces during the 2022 calendar year. The \$19 million distribution represents an 11% return of premiums paid by eligible policyholders that year and will be distributed next month.

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

# Maine Made Crafts

## 2025 ARTS & CRAFT SHOWS

**41st Annual Harvest Festival Arts & Craft Show**  
Augusta Armory– 179 Western Ave., Rt 202  
**October 25 & 26**

**22nd Annual Veterans Weekend Arts & Craft show**  
Augusta Armory– 179 Western Ave., Rt 202  
**November 8 & 9**

**Annual Makers Market Christmas Arts & Crafts Show**  
South Portland High School– 637 Highland Ave.  
**November 15 & 16**

**Santas Coming to Town Arts & Craft Show**  
Westbrook National Guard Armory– 120 Stroudwater St., Westbrook  
**November 22 & 23**

**46th Annual Thanksgiving Weekend Christmas in New England Arts and Craft Show**  
Augusta Civic Center– 76 Community Drive, Augusta  
**November 29 & 30**

**45th Annual Last Minute Arts & Craft Show**  
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# A NEW HOME

Presented by the Isabella J. Gendron Foundation and the Maine Arts Commission

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Ochestrations by Colin Britt.  
Adapted from *Lewiston: A New Home*  
by Michael Rosenthal, Richard Martin, Lynne Geiger

Producer  
*Jennifer Groover*

Director/Music Director  
*Paul G. Caron*

Choreographer  
*Lacey Moyse*

Stage Manager  
*Brandon Chaloux*

**October 30th & November 1st, 6th, 7th, & 8th at 7:30 p.m.**  
**November 2nd & 9th at 3:00 p.m.**

**The Lewiston Middle School Auditorium**  
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For tickets or info call 783-0958 or visit LACLT.com  
Tickets: \$25 adults • \$22 seniors/students • \$17 children  
includes all taxes and fees



# Lisbon Community Federal Credit Union spreads kindness

LISBON, ME – Lisbon Community Federal Credit Union is proud to join credit unions across Maine and the nation in celebrating the first-ever CU Kind Day, a new statewide initiative dedicated to spreading kindness, increasing credit union awareness, and giving back to the communities we serve.

Launched by the Maine Credit Union League and inspired by a program created by Affinity Plus CU in Minnesota, CU Kind Day showcases the cooperative spirit of the credit union movement through acts of kindness and community impact. Participating credit unions will dedicate the day—or days surrounding October 13—to charitable giving, volunteerism, and outreach efforts that uplift their local communities.

Lisbon Community FCU Supports Friends of the Lisbon Library

In the spirit of CU Kind Day, Lisbon Community Credit Union has chosen to support Friends of the Lisbon Library, a local nonprofit that provides vital fundraising and advocacy for the Lisbon Library, which has served the Lisbon community since 1922.

The Lisbon Library began with just 10 books in its collection and now offers more than 35,000 materials for residents of Lisbon and Lisbon Falls. Friends of the Lisbon Library was offi-



(L to R): Kristi Foss, HR & Lisbon Community FCU, Sarah Perkins, President/CEO Lisbon Community FCU, Bill Meakin, Lisbon Library Director, Carol LeClair, Friends of the Lisbon Library, and Angela Shambarger, Friends of the Lisbon Library President.

cially established as a non-profit in 2000 to help renovate the library's basement into a Children's Room and continues to support library programming and materials through ongoing fundraising efforts.

"Our library is such a cornerstone of the community," said Sarah Perkins, President/CEO of Lisbon Community Credit Union. "By helping Friends of the Lisbon Library expand their collection, we're investing in the lifelong learning and creativity of our neighbors — which is exactly what CU Kind Day is all about."

Funds donated through Lisbon Community Credit Union's CU Kind Day initiative will help Friends of the Lisbon Library purchase new books and resources for the community. The impact of this contribution is significant — for example, a family of four who checks out 10 books per month saves roughly \$2,250 annually compared to buying those

books outright.

About CU Kind Day  
CU Kind Day aligns perfectly with the Maine Credit Union League's \$100,000 Ending Hunger Challenge and the global celebration of International Credit Union Day on October 16. It serves as a powerful reminder that when credit unions come together, our collective kindness makes a lasting difference.

Credit unions across Maine are encouraged to celebrate in their own way — from organizing volunteer projects and food drives to making donations to local nonprofits such as Friends of the Lisbon Library, Special Olympics Maine, or Children's Miracle Network hospitals.

"CU Kind Day unites credit unions through the philosophy of People Helping People," said Perkins. "When we each take part in something kind, together we create a movement of compassion and community connection that defines who we are."

# 'A New Home' cast moves rehearsals to LMS



Pictured here at a recent rehearsal are most of the cast and crew members of the CLT musical "A New Home," which will be performed at the Lewiston Middle School Auditorium on October 30, November 1, 6, 7, and 8 at 7:30 p.m. and November 2 and 9 at 3:00 p.m. Tickets are available online at LACLT.com.

LEWISTON, ME – The last several rehearsals of Community Little Theatre's production "A New Home" are being held at the Lewiston Middle School Auditorium, where the performances will start on October 30.

A musical production that tells the rich and complex history of Lewiston, "A New Home" is adapted from "Lewiston: A New Home," which was first performed in September 1995 for the Lewiston Bicentennial. This production brings to life

the stories of Lewiston's Indigenous, Irish, Franco-American, and African immigrant communities, whose contributions have shaped the city's identity and culture.

The show includes new music and lyrics written by the director Dr. Paul G. Caron, who was the composer, lyricist, and musical director for the original production in 1995. The 30 members of the cast will be supported by a 27-piece orchestra.

The seven performances of "A New Home"

will be held on October 30 - November 9 (no performance October 31) at the Lewiston Middle School Auditorium, 75 Central Avenue in Lewiston. For more information or to purchase tickets online, visit LACLT.com.

A New Home is being presented by the Isabella J. Gendron Foundation. Thanks to a grant from the Maine Arts Commission, the November 2 and 8 performances will feature ASL interpretation to ensure accessibility for all audience members.

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**November 1-12**  
Preview October 31

Start your holiday shopping early with this fun and easy online event

Scan the QR code or look for the auction link at **[mainemusicsociety.org](http://mainemusicsociety.org)**



# October Special Section: Domestic Violence Awareness Month

River Valley Walk strives to end domestic violence

Community wears purple to support survivors



Just one week ago, this group of fabulous people met up for the 13th annual River Valley Walk to End Domestic Violence



in Rumford. Thank you to all who came out to join us for our walk from Hosmer Field!



October 16 was Wear Purple Day! In honor of DVAM, we at Safe Voices wear purple on the third Thursday in October to bring awareness to domestic abuse and violence, and show our support for those who have lived through this abuse, as well as those who have lost their lives to it.

## Safe Voices helpline available 24/7

What to expect when you call Safe Voices' 24-hour helpline:

- Helpline calls are confidential.
- Calls are answered by our answering service, who will ask your name, the best number to reach you, and if it is safe to leave a message at that number. They will then dispatch that call to one of our advocates.
- IMPORTANT: Our advocates will call back from a blocked number. This is for their safety and yours. They will introduce

themselves by confirming they are speaking with the person who called and saying "Hi, this is [Name] from Safe Voices. Is now a good time to talk?"

- Every call is different and is shaped by the unique needs and desired outcomes of the caller.

- Anyone who is affected by domestic abuse, sex trafficking, or sexual exploitation and lives in or is connected to Androscoggin, Franklin, or Oxford Counties can use our helpline.

- The Safe Voices

Helpline is here 24 hours a day, every day.

If you are experiencing domestic abuse, sex trafficking, or sexual exploitation, you can call us. If you are supporting a family member, friend, or colleague who is experiencing one of these situations, you can call us. If you aren't sure if what you're experiencing is domestic abuse, sex trafficking, or exploitation, but you need to talk through your concerns, you can call us.

1-800-559-2927.

## DVAM proclamation read at Auburn City Council



Last week, Safe Voices Legal Advocacy Program Manager, Kara Barnies, visited the Auburn City Council meeting for the reading of the city's DVAM proclamation. We were honored to work hand in hand with the City of Auburn to craft a Domestic Violence Awareness Month proclamation once again this year.

## Safe Voices Maple Amber Brew launches tomorrow!

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 Inter-

vention 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:  
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 exploita-

tion, 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](https://safevoices.org/donate).

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October Special Section: Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Frequently asked questions about domestic violence

Contributed by The National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV)

1. What is domestic violence?

Domestic violence is a pattern of coercive, controlling behavior that can include physical abuse, emotional or psychological abuse, sexual abuse or financial abuse (using money and financial tools to exert control). Some abusers are able to exert complete control over a victim's every action without ever using violence or only using subtle threats of violence. All types of abuse are devastating to victims.

Domestic violence is a pervasive, life-threatening crime that affects millions of individuals across the United States. High-profile cases of domestic violence will attract headlines, but thousands of people experience domestic abuse every day, and they come from all walks of life.

In our annual Domestic Violence Counts Report, the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) finds that U.S. domestic violence shelters and programs serve thousands of victims and answer thousands of crisis hotline calls, chats, texts, and emails every day of the year.

Abusive partners make it very difficult for victims to escape relationships. Sadly, many survivors suffer from abuse for decades. It is important for survivors to know that the abuse is not their fault, and that they are not alone. Help is available to those who are experiencing domestic violence..

2. What resources are available for victims?

Survivors have many options, from obtaining a protection order, staying in a shelter, exploring options through support groups, or making an anonymous call to a local domestic violence shelter or national hotline. There is hope for victims, and they are not alone.

There are hundreds of local shelters across the United States that provide safety, counseling, legal help, and other resources for victims and their children.

Information and support are available for victims of abuse and their friends and family:

Hotlines

If you are in immediate danger and feel comfortable involving law enforcement, please call 911.

The U.S. National Domestic Violence Hotline provides confidential and anonymous support 24/7. Reach out by phone (1-800-799-7233), TTY (1-800-787-3224), chat (TheHotline.org), or text (START to 88788).

Loveisrespect provides teens and young adults confidential and anonymous support. Reach out by phone 1-866-331-9474 and TTY 1-866-331-8453.

WomensLaw.org (a project of NNEDV) provides legal information and resources for victims. Reach out by email through the WomensLaw Email Hotline in English and Spanish.

Information

Technology can be used by victims to increase safety and privacy; it can also be misused by perpetrators to harass, abuse, or harm victims. Find information, including resources and toolkits, related to technology safety at TechSafety.org.

Financial abuse is widespread. Learn more about rebuilding from financial abuse from The Moving Ahead Curriculum.

Find state- and territory-specific legal information on WomensLaw.org related to custody, protection orders, divorce, and more.

TIP: Before using online resources, know that your computer or phone may not be safe. Some abusive partners misuse technology to stalk and track a partner's activities on a computer, tablet, or mobile device. (Learn more at TechSafety.org.)

3. Why do victims sometimes return to or stay with abusers?

The question is not "Why doesn't the victim just leave?" The better question is "Why does the abuser choose to abuse?"

The deck is stacked against victims as they navigate safety:

Abusive partners work very hard to keep victims trapped in the relationship. They may try to isolate the victim from friends and family, thereby reducing the people and places where the survivor can go for support.

Through various tactics of financial abuse, abusive partners create financial barriers to safety.

There is a real fear of death or more abuse if they leave, as abusers may perceive this act of independence as a threat to the power and control they've worked to gain, and they may choose to escalate the violence in response.

Through "gaslighting," abusive partners cause victims to feel like they are



They criticize their partner's appearance and make frequent put-downs.

Their words and actions don't match.

It's important to remember that domestic violence is first and foremost a pattern of power and control. Any one of these behaviors may not be indicative of abuse on its own, until it is considered as part of a pattern of behavior.

5. Is it possible for abusers to change?

Yes, but they must first make the choice to change their behavior. It's not easy for an abusive partner to stop choosing abusive behavior, and it requires a serious commitment to change. Once an abuser has had all of the power in a relationship, it's difficult to transition to a healthy relationship where each partner has equal respect and power.

Sometimes an abusive partner stops one form of the abuse – for example, the physical violence – but continues to employ other forms of abuse, such as emotional, sexual, or financial abuse. It is important to remember that domestic violence includes one or more forms of abuse and is a part of an overall pattern of seeking power and control over the victim.

6. Are men victims of domestic violence?

Yes, men can be victims of domestic abuse. Domestic violence is a pervasive, life-threatening crime that affects millions of individuals across the United States.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, more than four in 10 men (44.2% or 52.1 million) in the United States reported contact sexual violence, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner at some point in their lifetime.

Pervasive stereotypes that men are always the abuser and women are always the victim discriminates against survivors who are men and discourages them from coming forward with their stories. Survivors of domestic violence who are men are less likely to seek help or report abuse. Many are unaware of services for men, and there is a common misconception that domestic violence programs only serve women.

When we talk about domestic violence, we're not talking about men versus women or women versus men. We're talking about violence versus peace and control versus respect. Domestic violence affects us all, and all of us must be part of the solution.

7. How does the economy affect domestic violence?

A bad economy does not cause domestic violence – and the only person responsible for abuse is an abuser – but economic stressors can worsen certain aspects of domestic violence. The severity and frequency of abuse can increase when factors associated with a bad economy are present. Job loss, housing foreclosures, debt, and other factors contribute to higher stress levels at home, which can lead some people to choose to channel their frustration into violent, controlling behavior against partners or other family members.

As the abuse gets worse, a weak economy also limits options for survivors to seek safety or escape. Additionally, domestic violence shelters and programs may experience funding cuts right when they need more staff and funding to keep up with the demand for their services. Victims may also have a more difficult time finding a job to become financially independent of abusers.

8. What can I do to help?

Everyone can speak out against domestic violence. Use our 10 Tips to Have an Informed Conversation about Domestic Violence to help guide your conversations with friends, colleagues, and loved ones.

Every person can take individual action to create a supportive community for survivors. Get involved in your community – we've got ideas for creative ways to get involved in our Get Involved Toolkit.

Members of the public can donate to local, state-wide, territorial, or national anti-domestic violence programs or victim assistance programs, like NNEDV.

You can call on your public officials to support life-saving domestic violence services and hold perpetrators accountable.

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# Cancer Care Center goes pink for Breast Cancer Awareness Month

**LEWISTON, ME** – Central Maine Healthcare is joining healthcare systems throughout the nation by recognizing October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month. It’s a time to honor those affected by the disease and reflect on the importance of early detection and prevention.

Every October, the signs at the Cancer Care Center at CMMC are illuminated in pink in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

“At Central Maine Healthcare, we’re proud to support patients through every step of their breast health journey, from screening and diagnosis to treatment and survivorship,” said Sarah Henderson, director of Oncology at Central Maine Healthcare. “Regular mammograms remain one of the most effective tools for early detection, when breast cancer is most treatable. Our care teams at CMMC, Bridgton Hospital and Rumford Hospital are dedicated to providing compassionate, advanced care close to home.”



This month, CMH is encouraging team members and community members alike to take charge of their breast health by scheduling a mammogram and sharing information about early detection. Whether it’s wearing pink, supporting a fundraiser or simply reminding a loved one to get screened, every

action helps spread awareness and save lives. Central Maine Healthcare offers a full spectrum of services to help screen, diagnose and treat breast cancer. Services include prevention, diagnosis, treatment, breast cancer surgery and reconstruction, as well as education.

**Emma’s**  
*Continued from page 3*  
harmonies and lush acoustic instruments, in songs that span folk to jazz and funk to rock. Emma’s Revolution writes songs about critical issues happening in the world, lending their voices to the movements those issues inspire and delivering moving, uplifting performances.

The duo’s songs have been praised by Pete Seeger and covered by Holly Near, featured on NPR’s All Things Considered and Pacifica’s Democracy Now!, and sung around the world.

“The powers that be can control the media but it’s hard to stop a good song...”

Pat’s songs will be sung well into the 22nd century.”

— Pete Seeger (All Things Considered, NPR)

Emma’s Revolution carries on in the spirit of their mentor, Pete Seeger. “Activist musicians inherit a legacy of the indivisibility of truth-telling and soul-stirring,” Pat explains, “We sing stories steeped in the rich legacy of freedom, the triumph of overcoming, the grief of injustice, weaving stories, melodies and harmonies in a rich alchemy of vintage genres and emerging sounds to create an experience full of heart, hope and motivation . . . especially in a time like this.”

Meeting the moment  
Emma’s Revolution has been writing and performing songs to meet this moment in our country, including “You Are Not God”, inspired by the courageous call for mercy by Bishop Mariann Edgar Budde at the Interfaith Service of Prayer for the Nation the day after the 2025 Inauguration. With more than 20,000 views on social media. The duo wrote “We Are the Power” to sing at demonstrations in Washington DC in support of Federal workers suffering after having been purged from their jobs by the cur-

rent administration; they continue to sing the song at concerts and demonstrations across the country. Emma’s Revolution wrote their latest song, “Libre El Pueblo,” to sing at a demonstration outside the San Francisco Federal Bldg in July. The action was part of an ultimately successful campaign to keep a young undocumented man out of the hands of ICE.

A feature documentary, KEEP ON MOVING FORWARD, is being made about Emma’s Revolution, their songs and their work on the frontlines of peace and social justice movements by award-winning independent filmmaker, Tom Weidinger. Tom has been writing, directing and producing documentary films for 35 years. Many of his films have won festival awards and 25 have aired nationally on public television. In 2024, Emma’s Revolution performed a unique concert in celebration of the duo’s 20+ years that was filmed for the documentary and that featured legendary activist performer, Holly Near, and a stellar gathering of justice musicians from across the country.

Staying power  
Not many performing groups make it to a 20-year mark and beyond. Emma’s Revolution credits their staying power to the depth of their friendship and their commitment to justice and the justice-seeking communities they perform for. “Especially in these times—with the threat to our democracy, wars, climate chaos and the continuing effects of the pandemic—we are buoyed and inspired by the activists and communities we work with. Singing is part of what keeps us grounded and connected to one another,” reflects Pat. Sandy continues, “We love that folks seek us and our music out to keep themselves energized in challenging times.”

“Fervent and heartfelt” — The New York

Times  
Latest recordings  
In 2021, the duo released their two latest full-length recordings: Evolution a celebration of their 20th anniversary, featuring best loved songs woven into a seamless sound experience. Early songs include “Swimming to the Other Side”, Pat’s signature song of transcendence and connection which was featured on NPR’s “All Things Considered.” More recent songs include “Our House is on Fire”, an electrifying call-to-action for the climate which was featured by a national nonprofit co-founded by Noel (Paul) Stookey of Peter, Paul & Mary. And, Rooted, also released in 2021, a musical reflection on justice and joy in pandemic times, with the majority of songs written between March 2020 and 2021. Tracks include “From a (Social) Distance”, the duo’s humorous yet touching parody of the Julie Gold song made famous by Bette Midler and “Our People Gonna Rise” written in the wake of the killing of George Floyd. A number of songs from Rooted, released as video singles, have collectively garnered more than 500,000 views on social media and charted in Top 10 and Top 25 Songs on folk radio.

In the spirit of Emma Goldman’s famous attribution, “If I can’t dance, I don’t want to be part of your revolution,” Emma’s Revolution brings their uprising of truth and hope to concerts and peace & justice, human rights, environmental, labor and LGBTQIA+ and women’s rights events across the country. Emma’s Revolution’s touring has included performances in Canada, Scotland, England, Israel/Palestine, Nicaragua, Cuba, Chile and Korea.

Auburn UU is the First Universalist Church of Auburn at 169 Pleasant Street. Parking; accessible. FMI see [www.auburnuu.org](http://www.auburnuu.org) or the church’s Facebook page.

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## AARP Fraud Watch Aspen Institute Fraud Task Force

Fraud today is largely run by sophisticated, large-scale operations led by transnational crime groups, stealing an estimated \$158 billion from Americans in a single year. This is not just a consumer education issue — it’s a national security threat that demands urgent attention.

That’s why AARP has joined the Aspen Institute Financial Security Program’s National Task Force on Fraud and Scam Prevention. Alongside more than 80 organizations — including financial institutions, technology companies, law enforcement, federal agencies and consumer advocates — we helped launch a proposal for the first ever national fraud strategy that lays out a blueprint for stronger, coordinated action to combat fraud.

This strategy marks a shift from fragmented efforts to a coordinated defense and is a critical step forward with clear pathways for government and industry to work together to establish a whole-of-society response to the fraud threat.

AARP is proud to be part of this effort, and we look forward to working with partners and policymakers to improve collaboration, modernize information sharing and reporting, and enhance law enforcement capabilities in the fight against fraud that harm millions of Americans.

Learn how to spot and avoid scams with AARP Fraud Watch Network™. Suspect a scam? Call our free helpline at 877-908-3360 and talk to one of our fraud specialists about what to do next.

## Maine apprenticeship programs continue building talent pipelines

AUGUSTA, ME – Registered apprenticeship is a proven workforce development strategy with a high return on investment - over 90% of apprentices who complete their program are still working with their employer after one year, and apprentice graduates earn an average of \$300,000 more over their lifetime than peers who don’t have the credential. In January 2022, the Maine Department of Labor’s Maine Apprenticeship Program (MAP), through the Governor’s Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan and other federal grants, made \$12.3 million in grant funding available to Maine businesses to expand programs. Through a series of recent grants, totaling over \$6.4 million, the state will be able to build on that success, serving another 2,500 individuals.

“Apprenticeship is a powerful earn-and-learn model for growing the state’s economy and training its workforce for high-wage, in-demand careers,” said Labor Commissioner Laura Fortman. “These funds will enable us to expand apprenticeship and continue to build alternative entry points to skilled professions that deliver lasting value to workers, employers, and Maine’s economy.”

“We could not be happier to have the ability to continue to support apprenticeship within construction, where we know we can have a significant impact on both the individuals entering the workforce and the industry itself,” said Kelly Flagg, Executive Director of AGC Maine. “By strengthening workforce development, AGC Maine aims to create long-term economic opportunities, reduce barriers to employment, and foster skilled labor growth in the region.”

Recent Grants:

In addition to \$420,202 in base formula funding from the U.S. Department of Labor for staffing, the Maine Department of Labor was also awarded a 3-year \$5,000,000 competitive grant to implement the Expanding the Maine Apprenticeship Program (EMAP) initiative, which will enable MAP to further expand its pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs, focusing on the education and infrastructure sectors.

The Maine Apprenticeship Program estimates that 1,970 participants will be served through EMAP. Of these, 570 will enroll in a pre-apprenticeship program and 512 will complete their pre-apprenticeship program. MAP estimates that 1,400 participants will enter a registered apprenticeship program. A portion of these participants will include successful pre-apprentices who choose to enter an apprenticeship upon completion.

The Maine Department of Labor was awarded \$500,000 by the Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) to expand registered apprenticeships and pre-apprenticeships in construction and manufacturing across eight counties in Maine’s Northern Border Region.

This initiative will establish at least 15 new programs and enroll 375 apprentices, strengthening workforce development and connecting residents to high-wage, high-skill careers. Funding will support Apprenticeship Technical Representatives to engage employers, register apprentices, and provide technical assistance, advancing Maine’s economic strategy to grow its labor force.

The Associated General Contractors of Maine (AGC Maine) was awarded \$497,961 by the NBRC to expand its Maine Construction Academy Immersion Program, a certified pre-apprenticeship leading to apprenticeships within commercial construction.

This 20-day paid pre-apprenticeship offers certifications, hands-on construction experience, and job placement support. By strengthening workforce development, AGC Maine aims to create long-term economic opportunities, reduce barriers to employment, and foster skilled labor growth in the region. With the grant funds, the program plans to serve 180 individuals.

In 2019, Maine’s Economic Development Strategy 2020-2029 called for adding 75,000 people to Maine’s talent pool over the next ten years, as more people are expected to retire than enter the state’s labor force in the coming decade. Updated last year, Maine’s Economic Development Strategy 2020-2029: The 2024 Reset promotes Registered Apprenticeship as a key education and career pathway to grow Maine’s workforce.

These apprenticeship initiatives also support Governor Mills’ 2024 signed executive order to increase the representation of women in construction careers. Updates on actions taken can be found here.

About Registered Apprenticeship:

The Maine Apprenticeship Program (MAP) assists employers in setting up structured, yet flexible training programs designed to meet the specific workforce development needs of Maine employers through on-the-job learning and related classroom instruction. Registered apprenticeships require at least 2,000 hours of on-the-job training, and a minimum of 144 hours formal coursework for each year of the apprenticeship.

In 2024, a total of 3,639 apprentices were actively working toward industry-recognized skill certifications, and nearly 500 employers were participating.

Among active apprentices in 2024, 758 were female. Of these, 366 (representing 10.1% of all apprentices, up from 6.9% in 2019) pursued training in non-traditional occupations (NTOs) such as machinist, non-destructive tester, pipefitter, electrician, shipfitter, and welder—fields traditionally dominated by men.

429 apprentices (11.8%) identified as Hispanic or as members of BIPOC communities, a significant increase from 4.2% in 2019. The rising participation of women, Hispanic, and BIPOC individuals in apprenticeship programs reflects the success of ongoing efforts to enhance diversity and expand apprenticeship opportunities.

Benefits for Employers:

- Improved recruiting
- More diverse workforce
- Reduced turnover costs
- Connection to training funds
- Program can be customized to meet employers’ needs
- Higher productivity
- Enhanced existing business practices

Benefits for Apprentices:

- Increased skills
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For more information on registered apprenticeship, visit <https://apprenticeship.maine.gov/>.



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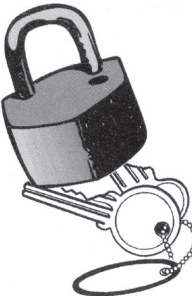
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**Oct 23**  
AUBURN – Thurs., Oct. 23 @7pm, Emma’s Revolution with special guest Women in Harmony. Tix \$25 adv/\$30 at door. FMI auburn.org. First Universalist Church of Auburn at 169 Pleasant Street. Parking; accessible.

**Oct 24**  
GORHAM – Writing a “Legacy Letter”: Sharing Your Values with Loved Ones, October 24, 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm.

**Oct 24**  
LEWISTON – Community members are invited to gather at the bridge near Veterans Memorial Park at 4PM for a visible show of remembrance. “We Remember” signs will be available, along with a sign-making station, candles, and Remembrance Bags. Participants are encouraged to stand together, or to drive by and honk in support, as we begin 24 Hours of Remembrance. Parking is at Lincoln Street Garage, and attendees are asked to stay on sidewalks and check in at the table near the flags for Veterans’ Park.

**Oct 24-Nov 2**  
GORHAM – A Monster Calls based on the novel by Patrick Ness and inspired by an original idea by Siobhan Dowd, Russell Hall, USM Gorham Campus.

**Oct 25**  
BUXTON – Try our delicious Haddock Supper Buffet - Saturday, October 25, 2025 - 5:00 pm at Living Waters Church, Parker Farm Road, Buxton. Suggested donation: \$10 Adult,

# Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

\$5 Child, \$20 Family.  
Please note: We will offer the option of takeout containers for those who do not want to come inside for seating.

**Oct 25**  
WESTBROOK – Saturday, October 25th 2025, 5 to 7pm Spaghetti with homemade sauce, meatballs, tossed salad, Italian bread, dessert, coffee, tea, water. Live Dinner Music provided by Side by Side Trio. \$10 per person, \$25 family of 4, children under 5 eat free.

Prides Corner Community Church 235 Pride Street, Westbrook ME.

**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 Vespri 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”.

**Oct 25-26**  
BRUNSWICK – Guild Fine Craft Show, \$5 Saturday + Sunday admission, and those under 18 may attend free of charge. SAT 10/25 + SUN 10/26, 10am - 4pm. Fort Andross Mill, 14 Maine Street, Brunswick, ME. For more information, visit shop-maineecraft.com.

**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.

**Oct 30-Nov 9**  
LEWISTON – Community Little Theatre Presents the Musical ‘A NEW HOME’ A musical production that tells the rich and complex history of Lewiston. Adapted from “Lewiston: A New Home” that was first performed in September 1995. The seven performances of “A New Home” will be held on October 30 - November 9 at the Lewiston Middle School Auditorium, 75 Central Avenue in Lewiston. For more information or to purchase tickets online, visit LACLT.com.

**Nov 1**  
GORHAM – Public Bean Supper, White Rock Community Clubhouse, 34 Wilson Road, Gorham on Saturday, Nov 1, 4:00-5:30pm. Eat in or take out. Meal includes baked kidney & pea beans, coleslaw, potato salad, macaroni & cheese, biscuits, hot dogs and dessert. \$12adults, \$6 under 12. Follow us on Facebook for updates: facebook.com/whiterock-communityclub.

**Nov 1**  
MINOT – Minot Corner United Methodist Church, Rt. 121 Corner of Minot Avenue and Empire Road, 9 a.m. Until 1 p.m. Homemade Baked Goods, Candy/Fudge Table, Crafts, Old Fashioned Cabot Extra Sharp Cheese, Silent Auction Table with great Christmas Gifts, Home Crafted Items and so much more! Takeout

Lunch Available at 9:00 a.m., Eat-in Lunch 11:00 – 12:30 p.m.

**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!

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

**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.

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**Vote**  
*Continued from page 3*

bility amplifies our collective voice and strengthens our democracy. Remember, every vote counts, and history has shown us that a remarkably small number of votes can decide an election.

As always, if you have questions, concerns or ideas, you can reach me directly at Michel.Lajoie@legislature.maine.gov or call my office at 207-287-1430. Remember to vote!

*Rep. Michel Lajoie, House District 96, represents a portion of Lewiston in the Maine House of Representatives. He serves on the Legislature’s Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee.*

**Clukey**  
*Continued from page 1*

Open Mic signup at 6:45 pm  
Open Mic at 7:00  
Tom Clukey – 8:30-9:30 pm.  
Singer-songwriter and Saco resident, Tom Clukey, is originally from the small town of St. Al-

bans. He was introduced to music at an early age and played in the school band in elementary school through college.

Clukey won a karaoke contest at Spare Time Entertainment in Portland. “I never fancied myself a singer,” but the win sparked a confidence and a new interest in singing, and with the prize money he purchased a guitar.

He started performing in local venues, and then a few years ago decided to take making music more seriously and began writing songs. As the winner of the Wildwood Studio Songwriting Contest, he was awarded \$500 in studio time, and as the winner of The Studio Portland Singer/Songwriter Contest he was awarded a live recording session.

His style is rooted in country and folk, with relatable lyrics that reflect working through the struggles and challenges of everyday life. Among his musical influences are Chris Stapleton, Tyler Childers and John Denver.

## Abby’s Dollhouse Live! Coming to southern Maine

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

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

TEG Group Chairman Geoff Jones said:

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

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

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

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

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

February 21, 2026 – Merrill Auditorium – Portland, ME

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

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## Rep. Cloutier honored as SMAA’s Champion for Older Adults

**BIDDEFORD, ME** – Southern Maine Agency on Aging (SMAA) has named Representative Kristen Cloutier as its 2025 Champion for Older Adults, recognizing her leadership and advocacy on behalf of Maine’s aging population and family caregivers. The award was presented during SMAA’s annual Charting the Future event earlier this month.

Cloutier’s dedication to older Mainers stems from personal experience. Caring for her mother gave her a first-hand understanding of the challenges faced by family caregivers and shaped her legislative priorities. That lived experience has driven her to champion policies that strengthen the support systems older adults and family caregivers rely on, from Respite for ME to Paid Family Medical Leave to the Older Mainers Act.

“SMAA is proud to recognize Representative Cloutier as the 2025 Champion of Older Adults,” said Megan Walton, CEO of SMAA. “Her empathy, vision, and collaborative leadership exemplify how thoughtful advocacy can transform systems—and lives—for older Mainers and the caregivers who



support them.”

Reflecting on the award, Cloutier emphasized both the personal significance of her caregiving journey and the importance of collective action.

“Caregiving has always been a priority for me, stemming from my own experience as a caregiver for my mom,” she said. “It’s the experience that brought me to the legislature and it’s the focus of much of the work I’ve done since I was first elected.”

Cloutier’s approach to policymaking is grounded in collaboration and consensus building. She credits community partners, including local Area Agencies on Aging such as SeniorsPlus, with shaping her perspective and

helping to refine key initiatives. One example is the Respite for ME program, which evolved from a proposed tax credit into a grant program after input from statewide partners to ensure broader access and ease of administration.

“Consensus building has also always been a priority for me, not just because it helps to get policy across the finish line, but because it makes good policy even stronger,” she said. “And good consensus building starts long before you need it. It’s the basis of trusting relationships with my colleagues, partners, and constituents. That trust and those relationships are what allow me to find common ground with folks around the issues that affect us all.”

## 12 Maine leaders complete John T. Gorman Fellowship

**MAINE** – A group of 12 Maine leaders recently completed the John T. Gorman Fellowship, a year-long program strengthening their capacity to drive systems-level change for Maine children and families.

“Maine children and families deserve leaders who can navigate complexity, work across systems, and drive meaningful change,” said Foundation President & CEO Nicole Witherbee. “That’s exactly what the John T. Gorman Fellowship is designed to support. Over the past year, these 12 Fellows have honed the skills needed to drive improved outcomes for children and families on a statewide level. We’re grateful for their work and excited to see the impact they’ll have as part of our growing Fellowship network.”

Since the program’s launch 10 years ago, five cohorts – now totaling 54 leaders from the nonprofit, advocacy, and government sectors – have completed the Fellowship. Trained in whole-family strategies, this fifth cohort of Fellows focused intensively on strengthening the well-being of children and families. While working among different populations, fields, and areas of the state, the latest Fellows aligned their efforts toward a shared goal of all children in Maine being resil-



**John T. Gorman Fellows (left to right) Renee Whitley, Dara Fruchter, Michelle Ferris, Mara Robinov-Moorhead, Marsha Sloan, Mariette Aborn, Matthew Dana II, Alicia Jalbert, Julia Sleeper, Melissa Hackett, Caroline Zimmerman. Jessica Berry not pictured.**

ient and ready to succeed.

Names and affiliations of the Fellows are below.

Mariette Aborn – Special Projects Manager, Child and Family Well-Being, Maine Department of Health and Human Services

Jessica Berry – Special Education Director, St. George MSU and Director, Midcoast Community Collaborative

Matthew Dana II – Working Communities Challenge Director, Sunrise County Economic Council

Michelle Ferris – Chief Operations Officer, Aroostook Mental Health Center

Dara Fruchter – Strategic Initiatives and Special Projects Manager,

Maine Department of Education

Melissa Hackett – Policy Associate, Maine Children’s Alliance and Coordinator, Maine Child Welfare Action Network

Alicia Jalbert – Associate Director of Academic Pathways, Northeastern University’s Roux Institute

Mara Robinov-Moorhead, CEO, Girl Scouts of Maine

Julia Sleeper – Executive Director, Tree Street Youth

Marsha Sloan – Executive Director, Family Futures Downeast

Renee Whitley – Executive Director, Franklin County Children’s Task Force

Caroline Zimmerman – Director, Child and Family Health, Maine Health.



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