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December 4, 2025

Inspiring USM Fall Dance Concert opens December 5th

GORHAM, ME -USM Department of Theatre celebrates the year's end with the USM Fall Dance Concert, featuring new dance works by five choreographers and performed by USM Dance students December 5th-7th at Russell Hall on the USM Gorham Campus.

USM Lecturer in Dance, Jessie Laurita-Spanglet, directs the concert that features new dance works from USM faculty Vanessa Beyland and Maria Tzianabos, guest choreographers Natalie Gotter, Holly Taylor, and Imaginary Island's Kristen Stake & Hannah Kumaski. All works will be performed by USM Dance students.

Laurita-Spanglet says this third edition of the USM Dance Concert promises to be fun, energetic and inspiring. "The choreographers have taken inspiration from themes that range from the six-sided shape and frenzied feeling of snow to the transformative shift that opens at the water's edge when ocean meets land. One choreographer explored through movement what quantum entanglement means for human relationships if we take the principle seriously. Each of the five choreographers created a world that is energetic, imaginative,





Images from a recent rehearsal of Natalie Gotter's "An Impossible Ask" by Sarah Graff Photography.

and completely compel-

As the USM Dance program grows, Laurita-Spanglet was eager for students to work with choreographers from a broad range of disciplines to see what a life in the arts can look like. The choreographers, "...are all local professional artists who work as performers, choreographers, educators, arts administrators, and movement therapists", she says. "I am drawn to the way that each choreographer so beautifully

weaves dance into their personal and professional

She says the concert promises to be fun, energetic, and inspiring, "Each of the five dances is its own world that is strange and beautiful and invites you to lean forward and immerse yourself in its kinetic landscape. There is haunting music, fun sequined costumes, and incredibly heartfelt and inspiring dancing."

The USM Fall Dance Concert

See Dance, page 8

Gorham's Phinney notches 2nd NCAA shutout in Wheaton victory

NORTHFIELD, ME - Junior forward Declan Rhatigan (Holderness, N.H.) netted the only goal of the match to give the No. 8 Wheaton College (Mass.) men's soccer team a 1-0 win over Macalester College in the Sweet Sixteen of the NCAA Division III National Championship Tournament at Rolf Mellby Field on the campus of host St. Olaf College in Northfield,

Minn. The Lyons, who are ranked in the most recent United Soccer Coaches national poll, improve to 17-0-4 and advance to the NCAA Championship Quarterfinals to face No. 4 St. Olaf. The Oles defeated No. 15 Williams College, 2-1, in the earlier match. Macalester's 10-game win streak comes to an end as it finishes its season with a 17-5-0 record.

Wheaton returns to the National Quarterfinals for the first time since 2003 when the Lyons played among the final four teams to vie for the national title.

Rhatigan's marker came in the 24th minute of play and was the only score that Wheaton needed.

Both teams fired just three shots on frame during the match. The Scots owned a 12-5 advantage in total shots, including 7-2 in the second half. Macalester was awarded all eight corner kicks in the match.

Senior midfielder Aidan Doyle (Kingston, Mass.) took a free kick from well outside the box for the Lyons. He served the ball into the goal mouth, where Rhatigan re-directed the ball with a flick off his foot that caught a Scot defender and settled into the back of the left corner of the net with 21:37 left in the opening half. The 1-0 lead stood up as junior keeper Nick Phinney (Gorham, Maine) stopped both shots that he faced to register his second straight 1-0 shutout in the NCAA Tournament and his third blank sheet of the season. The shutout is the 13th of the year for the Blue and

Wheaton looked to double its lead early in the second half when senior midfielder Joey Everett (Danbury, Conn.) sent a lead pass to sophomore forward Gael Vera (Westminster, Mass.), who collected the ball and carried it into the left side of the box, before unleashing a shot to the far post that went wide to keep it a one-goal game.

Macalester's first real threat to score came in the 35th minute of play when senior midfielder Ondieki Maina (Kensington, Calif.) headed a serve off a free kick back to the Lyons' goal, but Phinney was able to extend his hands to pull the ball down out of harm's way. First year midfielder Milan Shah (Chicago, Ill.) also took aim at the Lyons' net but his shot ticketed for the right post was cleared away by sophomore back Austin Hoadley (South Kent, Conn.) with 7:53 remaining in the opening stanza. The Scots threatened again with 23:19 to play in the second half on a corner kick. Senior defender Nick Kent (Minneapolis, Minn.) directed a header on net, but Phinney was right there for the stop to keep the shutout

First year keeper Justin Ratner (Dallas, Texas) recorded two saves on the day for Macalester.

Lakes Region Senior Center invites Gorham seniors to activities

you are looking for a fun senior center with lots of activities daily, come join us at Little Falls Activity

GORHAM, ME – If Center, 40 Acorn Street, Gorham, Maine. We are open from 8:30 to 2 or 3 pm depending on the activ-

Call President Suzanne Tenney at 781-731-4746 for more information

Membership fee is ity. Our calendar is online. now \$25 with many perks.

Gorham Economic Development Corporation seeks volunteers

The Town Council Appointments Committee is seeking citizen volunteers to fill a position on the Gorham Economic Development Corporation.

If you are interested

in applying to serve on the GEDC, or for more information, please visit the Town Clerk's Office. To apply, please complete and submit a Committee Volunteer Application available online. You may also

contact the Town Clerk's Office at 222-1670 or email the Town Clerk Laurie Nordfors at Inordfors@ gorham.me.us.

Applications will be accepted until December

Clothes galore at Gorham's Mission of Hope Clothes Closet

GORHAM, ME -The FREE Clothes Closet at Cressey Road Church (Mission of Hope Clothes Closet) is open to all who need Fellowship, Friendare open on the FIRST and THIRD Saturday of each month from 9 o'clock AM

We focus on clothes and accessories (gloves, scarves, hats, etc.) and

welcome vour donations during our operating hours. Clean clothes in good shape help the most, as they go right out to help people locally or in nearby ship and Clothes. We are communities. An attempt located at 81 Cressey is made to have season Road, Gorham, and we appropriate clothes available to you. After we have displayed them for a time, they are donated to our local second-hand shops.

> In addition to helping folks find clothes, we want to spend time with you!

There are tables to sit, talk and to share a cup of coffee and usually a goodie with volunteers or others. Come see us! You might make a new friend. All are welcome!

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

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Letter to the Editor Supporting our veterans beyond the uniform

As we honored our veterans in November, it's important to recognize that their service doesn't end when they return home. Many face new challenges—whether it's finding employment, modifying their homes for accessibility, or caring for loved ones. AARP is proud to stand with veterans and their families by offering a wide range of free resources tailored to their unique needs.

Veterans seeking work, those needing home modifications due to service-related disabilities, or veterans wishing to learn more about local resources, can find that and much more through the AARP site entirely dedicated to veterans. Local VA offices in Maine are located in Augusta and Portland, and additional local veteran centers can assist further. The Veterans crisis line is 988.

Caregivers-often spouses or family members—can find meaningful resources through AARP's Military Caregiving Guide and Financial Workbook, which help organize care

plans, manage stress, and navigate complex financial decisions. Area Agencies on Aging can also serve as a gateway to many services and supports throughout Maine.

These tools can be a great place to start for veterans and their families. To learn more, visit aarp.org/veterans or contact your local VA center.

Let's continue to serve those who served

Erica Bell-Watkins AARP Maine Executive Council Volunteer Windham

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We want to hear from you! Please submit your letter to the editor by 5pm on Friday for next weeks edition.

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AARP News You Can Use -December 2025

By Joyce Bucciantini, AARP Maine Community Outreach Volunteer

A few weeks ago, a friend was describing his day spent stacking wood at his community's wood bank. He stated, "Even though the weather was still warm, winter's chill would be here soon." His town was ready to ensure the resources were in place to help their fellow Mainers stay warm, secure and connected.

Maine is fortunate to have a network of volunteer-led wood banks. Local wood banks offer resources to those experiencing a heating emergency and strive to build community resiliency and connections through neighbors helping neighbors. Community wood banks are supported by the Maine Wood Banks Network. A list of wood banks, their service areas and contact information can be found on the organization's website: woodbanks.org

Although wood banks offer an important resource, many Maine families depend on oil or electricity to heat their homes. The State of Maine Housing Authority offers energy conservation programs and heating assistance to eligible Mainers through the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) and other emergency programs.





Mainers can apply online through Maine Housing or in person at a local Community Action Agency. People can also call 211 or visit 211maine.org

We all expect (and maybe hope) that there will be plenty of snow during the winter. Many Maine towns are ready to help older residents stay safe during slippery weather through their "sand bucket brigades." Whether delivered by volunteers or by town employees, the sand buckets are another way to make sure older Mainers feel secure when they step out into their front yards.

Getting outside and feeling connected to our

communities is important for all ages. The National Institute on Aging reports that loneliness and social isolation have a negative effect on our health and well-being. Senior centers, your local Area Agency on Aging (visit maine4a.org) and AARP Maine have a myriad of events and volunteer opportunities to combat cabin fever and build community. Libraries offer an amazing array of age-friendly activities. From offering internet accessibility and tech tips to children's story hours and book groups, libraries are a great place to meet others and try something new.

Maine volunteers and state agencies continue to uphold our values of neighbors helping neighbors to stav warm, secure and connected. Spending time with our families and friends while reaching out to those who may need some extra care is a real "Mainer way" to make sure the long winter months stay merry and bright for all of us.

Warmest wishes!

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.

New England Cancer Specialists announces new board president

ME – New England Cancer Specialists (NECS) is pleased to announce a leadership transition within our Board of Directors. Following eight years of dedicated service as Board

WESTBROOK, President, Dr. Chiara Battelli will be stepping aside from her role at the end of the year. Dr. Battelli will remain an active member of the NECS Board and Executive Committee, continuing to help guide

the organization's mission and growth.

Under Dr. Battelli's thoughtful and collaborative leadership, NECS has achieved remarkable milestones. During her presidency, our organization:

Became one of the first oncology practices in the nation to earn ASCO Medical Home Certification, underscoring our commitment to patient-centered, high-quality

Became a founding member of the Oncare Alliance and the Oncology College

Expanded into New Hampshire with the opening of our Portsmouth practice, extending access to exceptional community-based cancer care.

Became the first Affiliate Member of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. a historic partnership that brings world-class expertise and access to clinical

See Cancer, page 10



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Page 3 Thursday, December 4, 2025

Newsmakers, Names & Faces

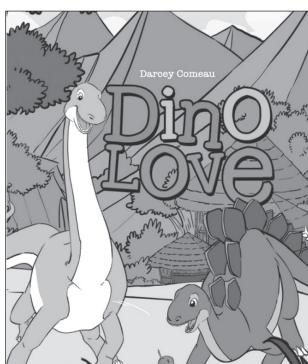
Local educator shares mega lesson through dino tales

THOMASTON,

ME-An educator is teaching children and families a vital lesson on inclusion by reviving Dino-themed bedtime stories she once told her own children. Dino Love follows Nire and Noremac, a Stegosaurus and Brontosaurus, who disobey their elders' admonitions not to play with their Pterodactyl friends. In the end, ignoring the judgments of others by including different dinos in their play saves the day, and all the dinosaurs unite in celebrating new friendship. This book was written to echo stories Darcey Comeau made up for her children when they were younger and struggling to fall asleep. Darcey's career in Special Education gave her lots of material to work with, and the stories really stuck. When her youngest turned 18 and was asked what she wanted to do for her birthday, she responded, "I want to get dinosaur tattoos."

Darcey Comeau has worked in Special Education since 1999. She is currently the Director of Special Education for Vinalhaven School District. This is a unique experience as the school is located on an island 15 miles off the Midcoast region of Maine. Being isolated has its challenges as well as rewards. She takes a ferry to work, has her own "island car," and loves being a part of the humble, quaint Vinalhaven





community. Back on the mainland, Darcey enjoys hiking, kayaking, cooking, baking and spending time with her family including her husband, Michael and

her two grown children, James and Erin, who both now have their own signed copies of the book that they had a huge part in

Let's have a swap!

Bring your washed, gen-

tly used clothing and other

apparel items, FOR KIDS

We'll do a self-sort onto la-

belled tables, and then take

what you like! Bring a bag!

Storm Warriors, Clothing Swap at Scarborough Public Library

SCARBOROUGH.

ME – Join us this week at Scarborough Public Library for some exciting

Storm Warriors of the Maine Coast: Stories of the Life-Saving Station at Biddeford Pool

6:30 PM Thursday, December 4

Join us at Scarborough Public Library for a talk by Richard Parsons, as he talks about his book "Storm Warriors of the Maine Coast: Stories of the Life-Saving Station at Biddeford Pool," the research CLOTHES ONLY, at the and writing process, and day and time of the event. how this book came about. Books will be available for purchase and signing.

KIDS Clothing Swap at Scarborough Public Li-

10am-12pm Friday, December 5

What do you think?

We strongly encourage Letters to the Editor, Op/Eds, columns or any other submissions from our readers.

Agree with us or another columnist? Disagree? Write to us and let us know! Email all submissions, including name, address and phone number, to the editor.

USM Oakhurst Food Pantry PORTLAND, ME

Local music compilation to benefit

- University of Southern Maine (USM) radio station WMPG 90.9 FM has

released a wide-ranging compilation of local music to raise emergency funding and help secure food for the USM's Oakhurst Campus Food Pantry.

The release, Local Motives #1, includes tracks from no fewer than 28 local musicians, including Grammy winner Dave Gutter and indie rock favorites Weakened Friends, as well as a roster of local heavyweights such as Little Oso, One Hundred Thorns, Snake Lips, Brit Martin, Vices Inc., TheWorst, Whitney Walker, Plague

Dad, and Xander Nelson. It will be distributed digitally via Bandcamp, and dropped Nov. 25, 2025. The compilation is available on a pay-what-youcan basis, although there is a suggested donation of

The project comes as the Food Pantry faces an unprecedented crisis: demand has soared while critical funding and supply lines have dried up, coinciding with the most challenging time of year for students.

"The campus food bank is quite literally a lifeline that was already stretched thin," WMPG Development Director Annella Linton said, "and now that we're heading into the holiday season and beyond that, the teeth of the winter, we wanted to do something that could help people get food on the table, and this is what we came up with."

About the Album: Local Motives #1





The compilation features powerful tracks recorded live by various local bands during their appearances on "Local Motives," WMPG's weekly program dedicated to showcasing Southern Maine talent.

Program: Local Motives, every Wednesday evening at 7.30 PM on WMPG 90.9 FM and WMPG.org.

Album Title: Local Motives #1

Release Date: Monday, Dec. 1, 2025

Digital Release on Bandcamp

How the Community Can Help

All proceeds from the album will go directly to the USM Food Pantry to purchase shelf-stable food, microwaveable meals, and snack options to meet the immediate need. WMPG is urging community mem-



bers and music fans to support the effort through three distinct channels:

Purchase the Album: The compilation will be available for purchase/donation via Bandcamp.

Direct Food Donation: The pantry's current need is for shelf-stable food, microwaveable options, and snack options. Donors can send items directly through the Amazon Wish List at https:// www.amazon.com/hz/ wishlist/ls/WJ82E19W-RCF9?ref_=wl_share.

Monetary Donation: Tax-deductible donations can be made directly to the pantry here: https://www. givecampus.com/campaigns/52313/donations/ new?a=8586288

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

Gorham WEEKLY

(207) 558-8488 Info@GorhamWeekly.com

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Deadline

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

Proofs

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

Seniors Not Acting Their Age A Rehab Hike in Great Wass Island Preserve

The origin of the idiom "every cloud has a silver lining" is usually attributed to English Poet John Milton. Whatever the source, the optimistic advice is a viewpoint I subscribe to.

At present, I find it difficult to be cheery and upbeat while recuperating from knee replacement surgery. The daily repetitive regime of physical therapy, rehab walks, and icing with only minimal perceptible progress doesn't lend itself to positive thinking. However, on an objective level, I realize that if I scrupulously follow the rehab protocol, I will probably regain effective use of my knee.

My wife, Nancy, proposed a more immediate silver lining. She suggested taking a short vacation in Washington County where we could complete some scenic coastal rehab hikes. Since we love the spectacular Downeast coastline, her recommendation seemed like a marvelous idea.

After a little research, we found a three-day stretch of good fall weather and several interesting hikes that appeared to be within my recovery limitations. The first was a trail system in Great Wass Island Preserve near Beals.

My only experience with Great Wass Island was sea kayaking around the island with a group of friends about a decade ago. The substantial island extends farther out into the

ocean than any other land mass in eastern Maine. Unknown to us at the time, a significant storm in the central Atlantic was causing sizeable offshore waves. We had a white knuckle paddle rounding the outside of Great Wass. The prospect of a hike seemed like a much more benign adventure.

The waters of the Gulf of Maine and the Bay of Fundy meet, and sometimes collide, near Great Wass Island. The result is a unique oceanic climate that likely explains the rugged coastline and the presence of several rare plants tolerant of extreme conditions. The location may also provide at least a partial explanation for our sea kayak misadventure.

The Nature Conservancy acquired Great Wass Island Preserve in 1978 and has established a 4.5-mile loop trail in the northern part of the island. The hike consists of three named trails: Mud Hole, Shoreline and Little Cape Point. After studying the trail descriptions, we decided that Mud Hole Trail was the best option given my rehab constraints. A partial exploration of the Shoreline Trail, which reputedly had the most spectacular views on the loop, was also a possibility.

To reach the preserve, we drove to Jonesport, crossed the Beals Island Bridge over Moosabec Reach and entered Beals. Once on the island, we followed Bay View Drive

and then Black Duck Cove Road to a parking area on the left

A kiosk at the trailhead provides a large map and some very helpful information. We had printed an online trail map in advance and found it quite useful.

We followed a relatively flat trail with some log bridge work in a predominantly conifer forest for a short distance to a junction for the loop trail. A right turn marks the beginning of Little Cape Point Trail. Angling left onto narrow Mud Hole Trail, we progressed over more log bridges before climbing steeply over a series of twisting ledges to a sparsely wooded plateau.

The fall colors were brilliant as we proceeded northerly on a winding bedrock surface. After some easy hiking, we connected with the shore of a long attenuated cove called Mud Hole where a sign indicated we had traveled .4-mile from the parking area and Shoreline Trail was another .8-mile east.

We followed the rolling trail along the coast of Mud Hole. At one observation point, we could see the end of a peninsula on the opposite shore, an indication that Shoreline Trail was close.

Shortly after, we emerged onto the spectacular open ledges of Shoreline Trail. Unlike my last visit to the island, the seas were perfectly calm.

Shoreline Trail continues on unmarked ledges and huge boulders for 1.1 miles to Little Cape Point. Our trek ended when steep boulder scrambling was required. After lingering to enjoy the marvelous views, we took our time on the return.

More interesting hikes are planned in the coming days.

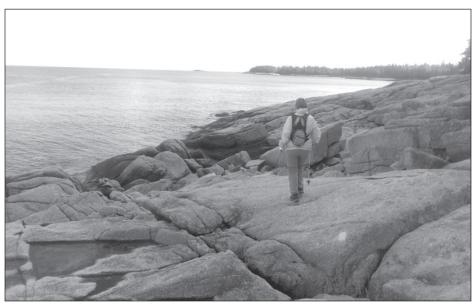
My book, Maine Al

Fresco: The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine narrates treks on the best mountain hikes in Maine and backpacking trips in Baxter State Park and over the Saddleback Mountain Range.

The author of "The Great Mars Hill Bank Robbery" and "Mountains for Mortals – New England," Ron Chase resides in Topsham. His latest book, "The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine" will soon be released by North Country Press. Visit his website at www.ronchaseoutdoors.com or he can be reached at ronchaseoutdoors@comcast.net



The rehab hike ends on Shoreline Trail



A hiker reaches spectacular Shoreline Trail



Brilliant fall colors were found in Great Wass Island Preserve







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Visit Wiscasset Marketfest this weekend for seasonal fun

WISCASSET, ME

- Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest is a shopping extravaganza for gifts and
personal luxuries, but Marketfest is also a destination
for seasonal activities to
enjoy amidst the shopping
hoopla. Have kids? Bring
them along. To get in a holiday frame-of-mind, Marketfest is the place to go.

On Friday, Dec. 5, Marketfest offers off-season, self-guided tours of the Nickels-Sortwell House, a Historic New England property, ornamented beautifully in greens and seasonal splendor. Next door, in the house's barn, is the artisan shop where visitors will find a display of wreaths decorated by local businesses. Be inspired and cast a vote for People's Choice. Enjoy tastings through the day of honey or chocolate or cookies. Both locations are open all weekend.

In the early evening, a Merry and Bright Light Parade of cars, trucks, and other vehicles winds through the Village to announce the season with glowing gusto and to escort Santa to his Village workshop. Candy canes and cocoa, live sheep, food options, and a fire pit for s'mores make the evening warm and toasty.

Saturday, Dec. 6, brings Woodfield Farm's horse-drawn wagon to the Village. Hop on board for a unique way to experience the Village. Use the wagon as a free shuttle to your

next destination or just sit back, enjoy the ride, and wave to the smiling on-

Kids will appreciate the Children's Christmas Sale at the Wiscasset Public Library, a special shopping time just for them. The Friends of the Library assist children as they examine and purchase just right gifts for those they love

On this day, the Heart 'n Soul Quartet roams the Village singing songs of the season while ice artist, Tim Pierce, carves live on the sidewalk leaving an icy, sparkling photo opp. behind.

Ah, the Christmas Cookie Challenge! Watch as judges sample the tasty submissions and critique the crumble and presentation. These foodie pros take their task to heart as they confer and determine best in show. Once the winner has been congratulated, lucky onlookers get to purchase a few for their own taste testing, with proceeds supporting Feed Our Scholars.

The town's Christmas Tree Lighting caps the day. As the sun sets, a chorus of school children sings songs of the season on the Common and invites a visit from Santa.

Sunday, Dec. 7, is the final day of Marketfest with one last chance to climb aboard the horsedrawn wagon for free rides around the Village. The historic Nickels Sortwell House, in its seasonal finery, is open for tours, for a modest fee, for one last day. The barn, transformed into an artisan gift shop, hosts a display of decorated wreaths and invites spectators, for the last time, to vote for their People's Choice.

Participating Village shops have been offering a free raffle for dining all weekend, with no purchase necessary, to win a \$100 gift certificate to a local restaurant. Today is the last chance to win.

The details for these and more Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest activities can be found on www.WiscassetHolidayMarketfest. com.

The sponsors who make Marketfest possible are Lead Sponsor Ames True Value Supply; Major Sponsors Carriage House Gardens, First Federal Savings, First National Bank, J. Edward Knight Insurance, Midcoast Federal Credit Union, Red's Eats, Rock Paper Scissors, Sherri Dunbar/Tim Dunham Realty, Water Street Kitchen & Bar, and Wiscasset Ford; with additional support from AEkeir Brewing, Bradbury Art & Antiques, Fiction Bookshop, M.W. Sewall, Red Bull Antiques, Sprague's Lobster, and The Bird Gallery.

Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest is a partnership between Wiscasset Creative Alliance and Wiscasset Area Chamber of Commerce



Shoppers in the Holiday Gift Shop, located in the Nickels-Sortwell House barn on Federal St., take a look at the display of wreath, decorated by local businesses, before casting a ballot for their People's Choice. Wreaths will be on display during Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest, Dec. 5-7, and then given to local long-term care facilities. (Lucia Droby photo)



In 2024, Christmas Cookie Challenge judges, (I to r) Lily Burt, Daphne Cromwell, and Shane McCarthy confer before announcing the winning cookie. In 2025, home bakers will be competing on Saturday, Dec. 6, during Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest, and hosted by AEkeir Taproom, 111 Main St. (Bob Bond photo)

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

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OFFER VALID ONLY AT OUR 89 UNION ST. AUBURN, ME LOCATION Page 6 Thursday. December 4. 2025



Ring in the season with Casco Bay Wind Symphony in Gorham



GORHAM, ME – The Casco Bay Wind Symphony invites you to their upcoming concerts! This year we are doing 2 perfor-

mances!

Ring in the holiday season with friends and family at the Casco Bay Wind Symphony's annual "Sounds of the Season" concerts. Popular with audiences of all ages, this concert includes traditional holiday favorites, movie soundtrack highlights, a carol sing-a-long, and much more. Matt LeBerge will join us on stage again to perform "The Night Before Christmas" and "The Grinch Redux." Reserve your tickets now, and join us for this popular, family-friendly holiday tradition.

Casco Bay Wind

Symphony "Sounds of the Season" A Musical Holiday Celebration With Dr. William Kinne, Musical Director on Saturday, December 6, 2025 7:00 to 9:00 PM AND Sunday, December 7, 2025 2:00 to 4:00 PM at McCormack Performing Arts Center Gorham High School 41 Morrill Ave. Gorham, Maine 04038

Tickets:

Adults - \$15 in Advance, \$20 at the door

Seniors (65 +) - Pay what you can

Students / Kids - Free Tickets can be purchased at the door, or on our website - cascobaywindsymphony.org

Upcoming performances:

Spring Concert: Wind Sunday, May 3, 2026 at

2 PM at the McCormack Performing Arts Center at Gorham High School

Music in Our Schools Concert: Monday, March 23, 2026 at Massabesic High School at 7 PM

RB Hall Day - Saturday June 27 at the Westbrook Community Center

Patriotic Concert: Thursday July 2, 2026 at 7 PM Sanford High School

Patriotic Concert: Saturday, July 4, 2026 on the Eastern Promenade in Portland before Fireworks

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

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Gorham Arts Alliance celebrates the season with Holiday Fair

GORHAM, On December 6th, the Gorham Arts Alliance is having a Holiday Fair at 34 School Street in Gorham from 9:00 until 2:00. The Fair will have Arts and Crafts, a Silent Auction, White Elephant sale and Bake Sale. All the proceeds will benefit the newly formed Gorham Seniors Co-op, a group created by Lisa Becker, for senior citizens in Gorham and neighboring towns to feel supported, engaged and not alone. Its mission: to inspire, empower and educate seniors within a welcoming, creative and supportive community so they may overcome isolation and loneliness. Lisa Becker passed away on



August 19, 2025. A memorial fund was established in her name with proceeds supporting the efforts of the Gorham Senior's Co-

op. To donate

or learn more about us please visit:

gorhamarts.org/se-

Volunteer opportunity with North Gorham Public Library

GORHAM, ME – We at North Gorham Public Library are looking for a dedicated volunteer with experience in fundraising and grant writing to help us strengthen and

expand our services to the North Gorham and Standish communities.

If you have that experience and are interested or would like more information, please contact:

Diane Atwood, Library Director

Email: northgorhampl@gmail.com Text: 207-415-1315

Text: 207-415-1315 Thank you! Thursday, December 4, 2025

Bissell Brothers celebrates 8 years, \$111K in donations

- Maine's acclaimed craft brewery, Bissell Brothers, is proud to launch its eighth annual Four Weeks of Giving initiative, a month-long program dedicated to supporting Mainebased nonprofits during the holiday season. Since the program began in 2017, Bissell Brothers has donated \$111,000 to community organizations across the state, raised entirely through 100% of their draft beer sales on select Sundays each December.

What started as a simple idea – blending community initiative with the camaraderie of the holidays – has grown into a meaningful annual tradition for the brewery. Each year, Bissell Brothers selects four mission-driven organizations serving communities across Maine. The nonprofits chosen vary from year to year and aim to represent a broad range of causes statewide. On their designated Sunday, each organization is invited to table in the Bissell Brothers' taproom, giving guests the opportunity to learn more about their work, raise extra funds, and build awareness. Additionally, monetary donations will be accepted throughout the duration of this year's Four Weeks of Giving. Every draft beer purchased on each Sunday helps their goal towards a bigger donation.

This year's Four Weeks of Giving lineup features four organizations serving wildlife, community empowerment, youth outdoor access, and food security:

Week 1 / Sunday Nov. 30: Skybird Wildlife Center

Week 2 / Sunday Dec. 7: Presente! Maine

Week 3 / Sunday Dec. 14: Teens to Trails

Week 4 / Sun. Dec 21: Wayside Food Programs

To further support Wayside, and in response to recent funding cuts affecting food aid programs, Bissell Brothers held an internal food drive and fundraising effort from November 6-19, collecting a pallet's worth of donations.

The Four Weeks of Giving program reflects a long-standing belief at Bissell Brothers that local businesses should play an active role in giving back to the communities that support them. The initiative has become a cornerstone of the brewery's December calendar, rallying taproom guests, staff, and partner organizations around a shared goal of year-end support.

"Four Weeks of Giving started as a way for us to show appreciation for the community that allows us to do what we do," said Hester Bissell, Stewardship Coordinator and Co-Owner of Bissell Brothers. "Eight years later, it's grown into one of the most meaningful parts of our year. We're honored to uplift these organizations and help support

the essential work they do across Maine, especially during the holiday season."

Join Bissell Brothers in giving back this holiday

Gather For Good Every draft pour enjoyed at Bissell Brothers on Sundays between Nov. 24 and Dec. 21 directly contributes to the four featured nonprofits.

Support Local Non-Profits Learn more from each organization as they table in the taproom on their highlighted Sunday.

Keep the Momentum Going Monetary donations for the effort will remain active throughout the month every day of the week, extending opportunities to give.

Guests are invited to participate throughout the month at the brewery's taproom on Thompson's Point in Portland, Maine.

QUICK FACTS:

Four Weeks of Giving launched in 2017

\$111,000 donated to Maine nonprofits since the program's inception

100% of Sunday draft sales (plus any additional monetary donations) are tallied each week to be split evenly amongst each organization

Additional internal food drive for Wayside gathered a pallet's worth of donations

2025 Beneficiaries: Skybird Wildlife Center, Presente! Maine, Teens to Trails, and Wayside Food Programs

We want to hear from you!

Please submit your letter to the editor by 5pm on Friday for next

weeks edition.



Contractors honor safety performance, award recipients



FREEPORT, ME

The Associated General Contractors of Maine (AGC Maine) hosted its annual Safety Awards on Wednesday, November 19th at the Hilton Garden Inn in Freeport, bringing together more than 150 contractors, industry professionals, and safety leaders to celebrate the construction industry's exceptional commitment to safety during the 2024

The event recognized Maine contractors who earned National AGC Safety Awards (NASA) for maintaining exemplary safety records. Established in 1991, the NASA program allows AGC members nationwide to benchmark their safety performance and honors firms with industry-leading safety results based on company size and construction type.

AGC Maine was also honored, receiving a National AGC Chapter Safety Award from AGC of America in the 126–250 general contractor members category. The Chapter Safety Award recognizes AGC Chapters with strong mem-

ber participation and outstanding collective safety performance.

This year's Safety Awards program featured keynote speaker Kevin Cannon, CSP, ARM, Senior Director of Safety, Health, and Risk Management at the Associated General Contractors of America. With 27 years of experience in safety and health, including 19 years in construction, Cannon provided attendees with a comprehensive overview of regulatory/deregulatory activity and ongoing initiatives impacting the industry.

During his 16-year tenure at AGC of America, Cannon has served as the organization's primary liaison on federal safety and health regulations, offering expert guidance on regulatory issues affecting the construction industry. His portfolio has recently expanded to include oversight of broader risk management challenges such as liability, insurance, and enterprise-level risk exposure. Cannon has also served on the Advisory Committee on Construction Safety and Health (ACCSH) from 2011 to 2025 and received the Distinguished Service to Safety Award (DSSA) - the National Safety Council's highest honor - in 2025.

"We are incredibly proud to recognize the contractors who have demonstrated exemplary safety performance over the past year. Their dedication to protecting their teams, strengthening safety culture, and setting the standard for excellence in our industry is truly commendable. At AGC Maine, safety is foundational to everything we do - from training and advocacy to collaboration with state and federal partners. We congratulate this year's National AGC Safety Award recipients and reaffirm our commitment to supporting a safer, stronger construction industry for all," said Kelly Flagg, Executive Director of AGC Maine.

AGC Maine extends its appreciation to all participating members and partners who contributed to another successful year of promoting safety leadership across the state's construction sector.



MaineHealth announces \$1.6M landmark gift

PORTLAND, ME -MaineHealth's Center for Health Improvement today announced a groundbreaking \$1.6 million donation from Maine entrepreneur and impact activist David Evans Shaw to launch the SHAW Challenge, a comprehensive four-year initiative designed to transform how Maine communities address the youth mental health crisis.

As part of a larger effort to support youth mental health, Shaw provided additional funding to the Hearts of Pine Foundation to expand after-school wellness programming, building upon Hearts' existing soccer impact programming, as well as support to the University of New England for its Shaw Innovation Fellows Program that will create new pathways for student innovators to contribute solutions to the youth mental health crisis.

The SHAW Challenge represents a bold departure from traditional crisis-response models, instead applying proven public health strategies to build mental wellness, resilience and supportive school environments across seven Maine school districts serving thousands of students.

"Maine's children are our most precious resource, and they're facing a mental health crisis that requires immediate, coordinated action," said David Evans Shaw, found-

er of Black Point Group, IDEXX Laboratories and other successful organizations. "By investing in evidence-based programs through MaineHealth, grassroots community work through Hearts of Pine and empowering the next generation of innovators through the Shaw Innovation Fellows Program, we're building a comprehensive approach that strengthens mental health awareness, resilience and wellbeing for every young person in our schools."

Across the nation and here in Maine-youth mental health has reached crisis levels. One in three Maine youth report feelings of persistent sadness or hopelessness, and one in five have seriously considered suicide. Youth mental health emerged as the top priority in the most recent Community Health Needs Assessment, that is used by hospital organizations to guide their investments in community well-being.

While many programs exist—such as mental health skill-building curricula and school-based counseling-schools have consistently expressed the need for a coordinated 'one-stop shop' that organizes and integrates these efforts. The SHAW Challenge answers that call.

"The SHAW Challenge represents a turning point in how we respond to this crisis," said Dr. Dora Anne Mills, Chief Health Improvement Officer at MaineHealth. "We're taking a public health approach—not just reacting to crises, but proactively building resilience and skills, strengthening connections and improving mental wellbeing for all young people."

Launching in January, the initiative will pursue five core goals using proven public health strategies across seven participating school districts:

Foundational Understanding: Facilitated conversations orienting youth and families to mental wellness

Social Infrastructure: Peer-led social connectivity, emotional health promotion and suicide prevention through the Sources of Strength program

Protective Factors: Implementation of a School Cellphone Policy, with resources from the American Academy of Pediatrics

Skills for Mental Health: Curricula to enhance wellbeing skills

Capacity to Respond: Training in Mental Health First Aid to address mental health and substance use challenges

Preliminary participating school districts include:

Wiscasset School Department (Lincoln County) RSU 20 - Searsport Public Schools (Waldo

County) Brunswick School Department (Cumberland County)

MSAD 17 - Oxford Hills School District (Oxford County)

RSU 73 - Spruce Mountain Regional School District (Franklin County)

Sanford School Department (York County)

Biddeford School Department (York County)

These schools were chosen based on Maine-Health's capacity to serve them. However, the desire is to expand this program beyond this pilot phase to other school districts that want to participate.

The initiative's strength lies in its collaborative approach, bringing together healthcare expertise, community engagement, student innovation and education leadership.

Hearts of Pine Foundation will expand its after-school soccer programming in elementary and/ or middle schools within participating districts, creating safe, engaging spaces where young people can build connections and develop emotional, social and leadership skills through joyful, collaborative play.

"These after-school programs recognize the power that soccer has to be a tool for emotional, social, and communal development in the lives of Maine's youth," said Gabe Hoffman-Johnson, Founder of Portland Hearts of Pine and the Hearts of Pine Foundation. "We've already seen the incredible results of these programs with Rosati in Lewiston and the Soccer

Project here in Portland. To be working alongside David Shaw, MaineHealth and schools across Maine, we're thrilled to expand the ways in which we use this game for good."

The University of New England's Shaw Innovation Fellows Program will offer internships with the SHAW Challenge, enabling student innovators to apply their creativity and skills to real-world mental health challenges.

"Innovation is at the heart of UNE's mission to improve lives and communities," said James Herbert, Ph.D., President of the University of New England. "The Shaw Innovation Fellows will bring fresh perspectives and entrepreneurial thinking to this critical challenge, while gaining invaluable experience in applying their education to solve problems that matter deeply to Maine families."

School leaders welcome the comprehensive. coordinated approach.

"The mental health and well-being of our students is of the utmost importance.," said Jeremy Ray, superintendent of Biddeford School Department. "The SHAW Challenge provides our schools with invaluable resources, training, and community support to address these critical issues head-on. By fostering collaborative partnerships, we can create nurturing environments where all students have

the opportunity to thrive academically, socially and emotionally. This initiative is precisely the kind of comprehensive approach our education system values to support our students."

Beyond the seven initial districts, the SHAW Challenge will convene a statewide Shaw Youth Public Mental Health Council in December, bringing together partners from across Maine-including NAMI Maine, state agencies, Maine Youth Thriving and others-to learn from one another, communicate about this emerging field and coordinate efforts to maximize impact.

Best Source for Arts, Music and Theater!

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Your

Dance

Continued from page 1

Directed by Jessie Laurita-Spanglet December 5-7, 2025

Russell Hall, USM Gorham Campus

Performances

Friday, December 5, 7pm - All tickets Pay-What-You-Can

Saturday, December 6, 7pm

Sunday, December 7,

Tickets Tickets available through PortTIX, the official ticketing agent of the USM Department of Theatre. To purchase tickets online, visit PortTIX at: https://porttix.com/whatson/usm-fall-dance-concert/

Call (207)842-0800 In person at 400 Congress St., Suite A, Portland,

General Admission: \$18

Senior 65+: \$12 USM Faculty/Staff/

Alumni: \$14 USM Students &

Non-USM Students: \$8 Group rate: \$8/person - for schools and commu-

nity groups

For more information on USM's Department of Theatre events and programs, see our website.

Those needing special accommodations to participate fully in this program, contact Janice Gardner at (207)780-5289 or janice.gardner@maine.

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(Gardiner, ME)

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Kirby Ferraro (central FL)

Dani Haskell (Presque Isle, ME)

Alyssa Irving (Alton Bay, NH) Michaela LaCrosse

> Abby Nolette Christina Pagurko

(Whitefield, ME)

Sara Prentice Sydney Riley (Waldoboro, ME)

Maria Jose Orellana Rosales

Hannah

Sapienza (Methuen, MA) Katherine Scott

(Gray, ME) Ellen Stiles (Derry,

Savana Swan (Portland, ME)





Thursday, December 4, 2025 Page 9

Make it 'A Handmade Christmas' at Marketfest, Dec. 5-7

WISCASSET, ME With the help of local creative makers, Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest shoppers can add that special handcrafted touch to their holiday celebrations. Workshops throughout Marketfest weekend, Dec. 5-7, will guide participants in the fine crafts of basket making, paper arts, and repurposing lobster rope from the sea.

Local crafter Cindy Cayton offers a workshop in how to make professional-looking gift bows to complete gift presentations on Friday, Dec. 5, from 1 to 3pm. Students should expect to make at least six bows, and Cindy provides all the needed materials. Registering in advance is requested by sending an email to mindfulgardensmaine@gmail.com. A fee of \$20 is payable at the workshop located at 62 Middle St. just a block out of Wiscasset Village.

On Saturday, Dec. 6, basketmaker Maré LeMay instructs students in the making of her signature Solstice Stars, from 10am to noon. The completed Stars work well for hanging in windows, from mantels, or on trees, and make excellent tree toppers. Students are asked to register in advance by emailing to mindfulgardensmaine@ gmail.com. A fee of \$20 includes materials and is payable at the workshop at 62 Middle St., Wiscasset.

Crafter Cindy Cayton returns on Saturday afternoon, from 1 to 3pm, with a Card-Making Workshop. Students will learn to make holiday cards to take home along with the know-how

to make cards for any purpose. Please register in advance at mindfulgardensmaine@gmail.com. A \$20 fee includes materials and is payable at the workshop located at 62 Middle St., Wiscasset.

Also on Saturday, Panacea is hosting a workshop making Upcycled Lobster Rope Garlands with Kerin O'Keefe of Cape Porpoise Trading Co., from 3 to 6pm. Students will be instructed in how to craft a colorful garland from fishing rope salvaged from the sea. Registration is \$40 and participants can sign up for a time slot on the day of the workshop by stopping in at Panacea, 100 Main St. in Wiscasset Village.

On Sunday morning, Dec. 7, from 9am to noon, basketmaker Maré LeMay invites students to a Garlic Basket Workshop, an airy style of basket for storing heads of garlic. The workshop is limited to 10 students and advance registration is required at mindfulgardensmaine@gmail. com. A \$25 fee includes materials and is payable at the workshop located at 62 Middle St., Wiscasset.

Paper artist Joelle Webber offers the final workshop of the weekend, a Holiday Ornaments Drop-in Workshop, from noon to 3pm. Using Joelle's handmade decorative papers and a kit of materials, students are invited to drop-in for about 15 minutes to complete a lovely ornament for tree or home. This is a kid friendly workshop. The kits are \$10, payable at the workshop. Additional kids for \$10 ea. are available to take home. No advance registration needed, just drop-in. The workshop is hosted by Ley Lines at 64 Main St. in Wiscasset

And for another blast of inspiration, Marketfest shoppers are invited to the wonderland of creations by local artisans in the Holiday Gift Shop in the barn behind the historic Nickels-Sortwell House at the corner of Main and Federal Sts., open 10am to 4pm each Marketfest day. Wreaths decorated by local businesses will be on dis-

In addition to excellent shopping and makeit-yourself workshops, Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest offers free or lowcost activities throughout the weekend. The sponsors who make this possible are Lead Sponsor Ames True Value Supply; Major Sponsors are Carriage House Gardens, First Federal Savings & Loan, First National Bank, J. Edward Knight Insurance, Midcoast Federal Credit Union, Red's Eats, Rock Paper Scissors, Sherri Dunbar/Tim Dunham Realty, Water Street Kitchen & Bar, and Wiscasset Ford; with additional support from AEkeir Brewing, Bradbury Art & Antiques, Fiction Bookshop, M.W. Sewall, Red Bull Antiques, Sprague's Lobster, and The Bird Gallery.

For Marketfest details, visit the Calendar on www.WiscassetHoliday-Marketfest.com. Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest is a partnership between Wiscasset Creative Alliance and Wiscasset Area Cham-

EPA completes reviews at Maine Superfund sites

MAINE - U.S. En-Protection vironmental Agency (EPA) has fulfilled its statutory obligation and completed required comprehensive site cleanup reviews, known as "fiveyear reviews," for five Superfund sites on the National Priorities List across Maine during the 2025 Fiscal Year.

As required by law, EPA conducts reviews at Superfund sites after cleanup remedies have been implemented every five years. This comprehensive review of previous work helps ensure that EPA continues to evaluate the performance of cleanup efforts and determines whether any further action to protect human health or the environment is required.

The five-year review each of these sites, which are available on EPA's website, concluded that the remedies continue to effectively protect human health and the environment and made recommendations for follow up actions where needed.

Completed Maine Five Year Reviews in Fiscal Year 2025:

Brunswick Naval Air Station, Brunswick, Maine Eastland Woolen Mill, Corinna, Maine

Loring Air Force Base, Limestone, Maine

Pinette's Salvage Yard, Washburn, Maine

Municipal Saco Landfill, Saco, Maine

Background

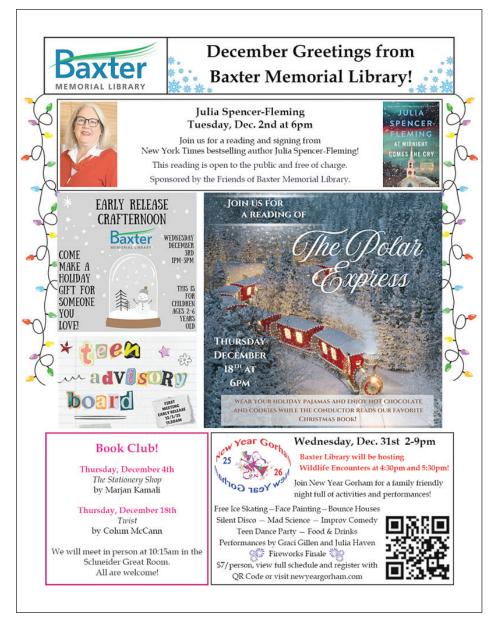
The Superfund program, a federal program established by Congress in 1980, investigates and cleans up the most complex, uncontrolled, or abandoned hazardous

waste sites in the country and endeavors to facilitate activities to return them to productive use.

There are many phases of the Superfund cleanup process including considering future use and redevelopment at sites and conducting post cleanup monitoring of sites.

Throughout the process of designing and constructing a cleanup at a hazardous waste site, EPA's primary goal is to protect human health and the environment, the agency's core mission. At many sites, EPA continues to ensure it remains true to EPA's core mission, by requiring cleanup reviews every five years. It is important for EPA to regularly check on these sites to ensure the cleanup remedy is working properly. These reviews

See EPA, page 14



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



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Pre-apprenticeship construction programs launch statewide

AUGUSTA, ME – The Maine Community College System (MCCS) and The Associated General Contractors of Maine (AGC Maine) are partnering to launch a four-week, hands-on construction training program across the state to prepare Maine adults for meaningful careers in the construction

The Maine Construction Academy Immersion Programs, managed by AGC Maine and funded by MCCS's Harold Alfond Center for the Advancement of Maine's Workforce, will launch next year at five community colleges. A certified pre-apprenticeship program, students receive hands-on training, industry-recognized credentials, and direct connections to employers. Graduates will be qualified to enter high-value registered apprenticeships or pursue certificate or degree programs to advance along career pathways within Maine's growing construction industry.

The Maine Construction Academy Immersion Programs will launch at:

Central Maine Community College (CMCC) in Auburn, on March 3, 2026

Northern Maine Community College (NMCC) in Presque Isle, on March 16, 2026

Kennebec Valley Community College (KVCC) in Fairfield, on May 11, 2026

Eastern Maine Community College (EMCC) in Bangor, on May 13, 2026

Washington County Community College (WCCC) in Calais, on May 18, 2026

Funding from the Alfond Center comes from private philanthropic support and Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan funding. The program will be offered at no cost to trainees.

"We are proud to partner with AGC Maine to offer such a streamlined, low-barrier program that not only fast-tracks the





number of skilled workers into Maine's construction industry, it creates a way for graduates to move seamlessly into apprenticeships or ongoing training to launch their construction careers. Partnerships like this between employers and the Harold Alfond Center for the Advancement of Maine's Workforce are critical to scaling opportunities and strengthening Maine's talent pipeline," said MCCS Chief Workforce Development Officer Dan Belyea.

This strategic partnership is a result of a Construction statewide Industry Workforce Partnership launched in March 2025 by the Alfond Center that includes over 50 stakeholders from the construction industry, trade associations, union, education, and workforce development systems. The group collaborates to develop workforce training strategies to effectively and efficiently strengthen the skilled construction and trades workforce. (10/12/25 press release). The launch of the Maine Construction Academy **Immersion Program across** five community colleges is just one of the strategies developed to address workforce shortages in Maine's construction industry. Other programs under development include new short-term training programs in carpentry, heavy equipment operation, and HVAC skills. For more information on construction and trades programs at the community colleges, visit this page: Construction Career Train-

"This partnership represents an exciting

step forward for Maine's construction industry and development workforce efforts," said Kelly Flagg, Executive Director AGC Maine. "The Maine Construction Academy Immersion Program gives participants a real-world introduction to the trades while connecting them directly to employers ready to hire. Together with the Maine Community College System and The Harold Alfond Center for the Advancement of Maine's Workforce, we're opening doors to rewarding, high-demand careers and helping to build the skilled workforce our state needs."

Joan Dolan, Director of Apprenticeship & Strategic Partnerships at the Maine Department of Labor, shared her support for the initiative:

"The Maine Department of Labor is proud to support the Maine Construction Academy as a certified pre-apprenticeship program that opens doors to meaningful careers in the skilled trades. Through this partnership with the Associated General Contractors of Maine, the Harold Alfond Center for the Advancement of Maine's Workforce, and the Maine Community College System, we are building stronger pathways into registered apprenticeship—and a stronger future for Maine's workforce."

The Maine Construction Academy Immersion Program reflects a shared commitment among AGC Maine, MCCS, and the Alfond Center to strengthen Maine's workforce pipeline, expand access to quality training, and support the next generation of construction professionals.

MAA leads effort to clean up Mount Desert Island

GARDINER, ME -

The Maine Aquaculture Association (MAA) recently partnered with members of the aquaculture, fishing and conservation communities, state regulators, and local businesses and residents in a collaborative effort to clean up abandoned aquaculture gear in the Mount Desert Narrows of Blue Hill Bay.

The cleanup took place between Sept. 9 and 17, 2025. The aquaculture equipment, which included rings, nets, floats and moorings, was located in Great Cove near Bartlett Narrows and Harwood Island.

In use since the 1990s, the aquaculture equipment was most recently used for mussel farming. However, the gear hadn't been used in years, and there were concerns about it being a navigational hazard and an eyesore.

Once the lease expired, MAA received permission from the Maine Department of Marine Resources (DMR) to coordinate an effort to clean up, repurpose, recycle or dispose of the dilapidated gear.

"A cleanup like this isn't normally our responsibility, but we made a special exception for this site that fell into disrepair due to a series of unfortunate events," said MAA Community Engagement Coordinator Katherine Lipp. "There were some holdups with the original contractor hired to do the job, and, as an industry, we believe that when these systems fail, we need



The Ocean Bay made one of several trips from Bartlett Narrows to Bass Harbor with a full load of debris.

to work together to solve the problem."

Cooke USA, which farms Atlantic salmon in Downeast Maine and has the infrastructure, equipment, personnel and expertise needed for such a project, offered to take the lead on extracting the gear from Great Cove. (The gear was not owned by Cooke USA.)

The cleanup took eight days to complete. For Cooke USA, the effort involved 10 employees of New DHC, whose vessels service Cooke USA's Maine Atlantic salmon aquaculture operations, and was led by New DHC Production Manager Frank Lank. New DHC's 72-foot barge Ocean Bay traveled from its home port of Eastport, providing a "workspace" for the crew. A 24foot skiff was also brought in to assist with the cleanup.

The cleanup also involved Bass Harbor Marine, Acadia Roll-Offs, B&A Trucking, local fishermen, the Town of Mount Desert and Maine Coast Heritage Trust.

In total, the crew removed seven 70-meter plastic rings, using chainsaws to disassemble 3,220 feet of pipe into manageable pieces that were donated to

an individual who's repurposing the plastic. The crew also hauled off a total of 240 yards of debris. Cooke USA's in-house diving team, which is certified to work with high-tension, heavy objects, play a key role in the removal of 12 granite blocks used as anchors on the seafloor.

Working from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m., the crew put in a total of nearly 750 hours of work. The cleanup cost approximately \$26,735, including labor, fuel, and recycling and disposal costs. Cooke USA absorbed 100 percent of the costs.

productive "Being contributors to Maine's working waterfront and good stewards of the environment means stepping up and offering our services and expertise in a time of need, including cleaning up aquaculture gear that isn't ours," said Lank. "I'd like to thank the Maine Aquaculture Association for its leadership and for coordinating the effort. I'd especially like to thank our dedicated employees who helped remove all this gear from Great Cove. They deserve a lot of credit for their hard work, professionalism and commitment to safety on the water."

Cancer

 $Continued\ from\ page\ 2$

trials closer to home for our patients in Maine and New Hampshire.

Established new Survivorship, Radiation Therapy programs

Launched the Center for Breast Health, enhancing the continuum of care for patients.

Formed key partnerships with Central Maine Healthcare and Northern Light Mercy Hospital, providing their communities with NECS-led medical oncology services.

Named one of Maine's Best Places to Work for the past three consecutive years.

Dr. Battelli has a strong history of engaging with the community and helping to guide cancer-focused non-profits. She was a founding member of the Cancer Safety Net Foundation and currently serves on the board of the Snell Foundation.

"It has been a tremendous honor to serve as Board President and to witness the strength, compassion, and innovation that define this organization," said Dr. Battelli. "What makes NECS so special is the collaboration between our physicians, staff, and community partners—all united by a shared commitment to deliver the best possible care for our patients. I am incredibly proud of how far we've come and excited for what lies ahead."

Dr. Battelli's vision and steady leadership have helped guide NECS through a period of extraordinary growth and transformation—including our move to Rock Row, which represents a new era of collaboration, innovation, and patient-centered care — and we want to take this opportunity to thank her for her tireless commitment to improving the lives of those with cancer.

As we look to the future, NECS is proud to announce that Dr. Devon Evans will succeed Dr. Battelli as the new President of the Board of Directors. Dr. Evans, a Medical Oncologist and Hematologist, has been with NECS since

2007 and has served on the Executive Committee for many years. He also serves on the boards of the Maine Cancer Foundation and The New England Oncology Foundation, bringing both regional perspective and deep understanding of the opportunities ahead for our organization.

"I'm deeply grateful for Dr. Battelli's leadership and the legacy of excellence she established," said Dr. Evans. "NECS is a unique and inspiring organization—we are independent, innovative, mission-driven, and always focused on what's best for our patients. I'm honored to help lead our continued growth as we expand access to high-quality cancer care across Maine and New Hampshire."

Dr. Evans will assume the role of Board President effective January 1, 2026. With his leadership, NECS will continue to advance its mission as a physician-led, community-based cancer care provider dedicated to improving the lives of patients across Maine and New Hampshire.



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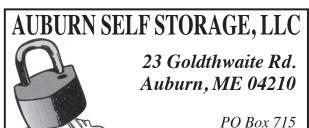
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Dec 4

SCARBOROUGH Storm Warriors of the Maine Coast: Stories of the Life-Saving Station at Biddeford Pool 6:30 PM

Join us at Scarborough Public Library for a talk by Richard Parsons, as he talks about his book "Storm Warriors of the Maine Coast: Stories of the Life-Saving Station at Biddeford Pool," the research and writing process, and how this book came about. Books will be available for purchase and signing.

Dec 5

SCARBOROUGH KIDS Clothing Swap at Scarborough Public Library 10am-12pm Friday, December 5

Let's have a swap! Bring your washed, gently used clothing and other apparel items, FOR KIDS CLOTHES ONLY, at the day and time of the event. We'll do a self-sort onto labelled tables, and then take what you like! Bring a bag!

Dec 5 WISCASSET - The Wis-

Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

casset community is invited to welcome Santa to the Village when a Merry and Bright Light Parade drops the rotund fellow off at his workshop, 7 Lincoln St., on Friday, December 5, around 5:45pm.

Dec 6

GORHAM - Gorham Arts Alliance is having a Holiday Fair at 34 School Street in Gorham from 9:00 until 2:00. The Fair will have Arts and Crafts, a Silent Auction, White Elephant sale and Bake Sale. All the proceeds will benefit the newly formed Gorham Seniors Co-op, a group created by Lisa Becker, for senior citizens in Gorham and neighboring towns to feel supported, engaged and not alone. Its mission: to inspire, empower and educate seniors within a welcoming, creative and supportive community so they may overcome isolation and loneliness. Lisa Becker passed away on August 19, 2025. A memorial fund was established in her name with proceeds supporting the efforts of the Gorham Senior's Coop. To donate or learn more about us please visit: gorhamarts.org/seniorcoop.

Dec 6 & 7 GORHAM -Cas-

co Bay Wind Symphony "Sounds of the Season" A Musical Holiday Celebration With Dr. William Kinne, Musical Director on Saturday, December 6, 2025 7:00 to 9:00 PM AND Sunday, December 7, 2025 2:00 to 4:00 PM at McCormack Performing Arts Center Gorham High School 41 Morrill Ave. Gorham, Maine 04038

Dec 11

NEW GLOUCESTER -Free artist event at Unity Environmental University. Each event highlights a Maine-based artist with a pop-up exhibition, lecture, and catered reception. Our forthcoming event: Dean McCrillis: Reading Sign: Expanding on observations through process on December 11th at 5:00 pm, 70 Farm View Dr, New Gloucester, ME 04260.

Dec 12, 13

BATH - Twisted Christmas: A Nice & Naughty Evening of Entertainment Friday December 12th and Saturday December 13th at 8:00 p.m. Longreach Kitchen & Catering 387 Whiskeag Road, Bath. \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. Tickets available online at StudioTheatreofBath.com/ twistedchristmas

Dec 13

LEWISTON - Join us at

the Lewiston Public Library for our next fundraising event to support the Children's Department renovation, Chill Yoga Fest on Saturday, December 13th with classes going on from 9:30AM – 1:30PM in Callahan Hall.

There will be four 45-minute classes- All Levels Hatha, Chair Yoga, Stretching, Breathing & Meditation, and Children's Yoga! \$40 full pass, or \$18 per individual class. See LPL's website to purchase tickets

Dec 13 & 14

AUGUSTA – The Augusta Symphony Orchestra invites you to celebrate the magic of the holidays with two performances at South Parish Church, 9 Church Street in Augusta. Join us on Saturday, December 13 at 7:00 p.m. or Sunday, December 14 at 3:00 p.m. for a festive program filled with timeless classics and holiday favorites.

Dec 15

LISBON FALLS -The Knights of Columbus Council 10019 will be sponsoring an American Red Cross Blood Drive at the parish hall of Holy Trinity Church on 67 Frost Hill Avenue Lisbon Falls on Monday December 15th from 1:00 PM until 5: PM To make an appointment please call 1-800-733-2767, or visit RedCross-Blood.org: HTC Come to give from Dec. 8th to the 18th and receive a \$15 Am-

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azon Gift Card by email. Jan 22

NEW GLOUCESTER -Free artist event at Unity Environmental University. Each event highlights a Maine-based artist with a pop-up exhibition, lecture, and catered reception. Matt Russ: Moments of Clarity at 5:00 pm, 70 Farm View Dr, New Gloucester, ME 04260.

Feb 26

NEW GLOUCESTER -Free artist event at Unity Environmental University. Each event highlights a Maine-based artist with a pop-up exhibition, lecture, and catered reception. Ian Trask: Art from the Waste Stream at 5:00 pm, 70 Farm View Dr, New Gloucester, ME 04260.

Ap 9

NEW GLOUCESTER -Free artist event at Unity Environmental University. Each event highlights a Maine-based artist with a pop-up exhibition, lecture, and catered reception. Ben Potter: Pollen and Gatorade: Materials and Connotations in the Landscape, at 5:00 pm, 70 Farm View Dr, New Gloucester, ME 04260.

May 28

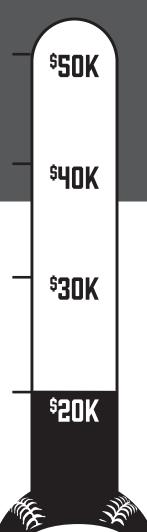
NEW GLOUCESTER -Free artist event at Unity Environmental University. Each event highlights a Maine-based artist with a pop-up exhibition, lecture, and catered reception. Edwige Charlot: Artist talk, at 5:00 pm, 70 Farm View Dr, New Gloucester, ME 04260.

EPA

Continued from page 9

identify issues (if any) that may affect the protectiveness of the completed remedy and, if necessary, recommend action(s) necessary to address them.

For more information about EPA's Superfund program, visit www.epa. gov/superfund



GORHAM LITTLE LEAGUE Field Funding Campaign

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

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

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



DONATE TODAY!

VISIT: tinyurl.com/GYBSA-DONATE or MAIL TO: GYBSA, PO Box 176, Gorham, ME 04038

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

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Classified Ads

CAMPER FOR SALE

Keystone campfire edition travel trailer. New June 2018. 29.8 feet. Less than 500 miles on it. 12 foot slide out, large refrigerator, leather couch. Two gray water tanks, large closets, over \$9000 extras. AC/furnace. Paid \$34,000 new. Must sell. Asking \$21,000. 207–310–0212.

Keystone Sprinter 5th Wheel. 2018, 31 feet, 2 super slides, large refrigerator, like new-hardly used. Full winter cover, super glide included. Asking \$25,500 - please call 207-754-2165

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All-in-one Dell printer and fax machine. \$495. Call 783-8327.

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LIVE & CODE IN MAINE

Maine cybersecurity startup seeks local software engineer

Defendify is looking for a senior full stack engineer to join full-time. Small team/ big results. Fun + flexible + always interesting. Come build our award-winning, all-in-one cybersecurity platform. Position information and to apply: www.defendify.com/careers.

CLASSIFIED ADS \$25 PER WEEK

LOOKING TO DOWNSIZE?

This may be for you. Small Guest House To Rent. 1 1/2 blocks from Bates College, 300 FT from a neighborhood park and playground. Fully furnished or not if you have your own furniture. Off street parking and private. All utilities included. \$1400 per month. Tele 207-376-5492.

REAL ESTATE WANTED

Seeking house, cottage, bungalo, two or three family property, we have sufficient ability to purchace quickly, no commisions. 207-749-1718 or mainebuyers@gmail.com

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CAN MAKE IT FIT Sewing, mending: Shirts, pants, coats, nightgowns, curtains. Most anything that needs fixing. Buttons, T-shirts \$10 for machine sewn, \$20 for hand sewn. Call 929-1038

SENIOR TRIPS

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

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

May 23-31, 2026 - BILT-MORE ESTATE & ASHE-VILLE, N.C. - This trip includes 9 days and 8 nights lodging, 8 breakfasts and 6 dinners. You

will have a full day at the Biltmore Estate and experience the Biltmore House and Gardens. You will also visit the Antler Village and Winery. You will have a guided tour of Asheville and the magnificent St. Lawrence Basilica. We will experience a drive on the Blue Ridge Parkway (America's Most visited park unit). We also visit the Thomas Wolfe Memorial State Historic Site. These are the highlights of the trip and there is so much more that we will see. On our way home we stop at the Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University. Price for this trip is \$1,245.00 per person double occupancy. A \$75.00 deposit per person is due upon signing up. The trip includes the bus driver tip and all tour gratuities. Add \$349.00 for single occupancy. Final payment is due 3/16/26.

OCTOBER 18-23, 2026 – SHIPSHEWANA, INDI-ANA - This trip includes 6 days and 5 nights lodging, 3 breakfasts and 3 dinners. You will have a full day guided tour of Indiana's Amish Country with a tour of an Amish Homestead and an Authentic Amish Dinner. We will experience Cook's Bi-

son Ranch with a scenic Wagon Tour of their majestic ranch while seeing the bison up-close and even feeding them. We will spend time shopping and having lunch at Shipshewana Trading Place which is constantly ranked one of the top five Flea Markets in the Country. We will see the show "Loves Comes Softly" at the Blue Gate Theater. Price for this trip is \$865.00 per person double occupancy. A \$75.00 deposit is due upon signing up. Trip includes bus driver tip and all tour gratuities. Add \$305.00 for single occupancy. Final payment is due 8/11/26.

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

CLASSIFIED ADS \$25 PER WEEK

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

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