

From acrylic painting to Zumba: L-A Adult Ed has opportunities

LEWISTON, ME – The Winter-Spring 2026 brochure of classes for Lewiston Adult Education and Auburn Adult & Community Education will offer pickleball and acrylic painting when it arrives in local mailboxes in January.

New Lewiston classes include French, pickleball and Japanese. Darla Sanford will be back as an instructor for quilting, and Becki Leighton will have a new class, Zumba Toning, in addition to her popular Chair Zumba class.

Auburn will offer new classes, with watercolor, pen & ink drawings, digital photography and a class on mending clothes called “Fix It, Don’t Toss It.” Other offerings include an online ukulele class, CPR and an acrylic painting class taught by Edward Little High School art teacher Steve Amoroso.

The brochure will have a new look with Lewiston and Auburn classes listed together, with each program’s classes using their respec-



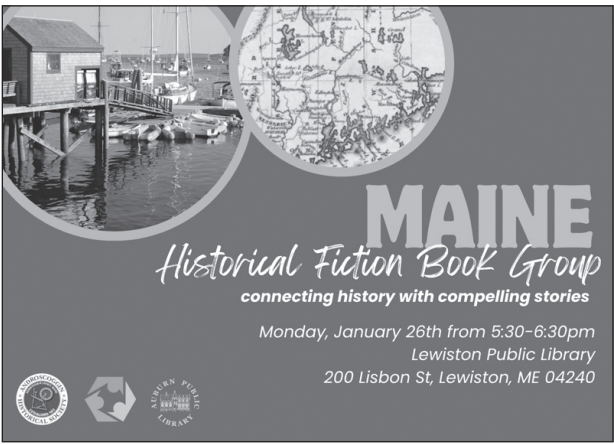
Lewiston Adult Education fitness instructor Becki Leighton appears on the cover of the Winter-Spring 2026 brochure of classes for Lewiston Adult Education and Auburn Adult & Community Education.

tive logo in front of it. For more information or to ask any questions about classes, contact Mike Reagan at mreagan@lewis-tonpublicschools.org

Resolve to read more in 2026: Historical Fiction Book Club

LEWISTON, ME – Join the Androscoggin Historical Society, Auburn Public Library, and Lewiston Public Library as we partner to explore fiction with a historical twist. We will be meeting on the last Monday of each month from 5:30 – 6:30pm to discuss a historical fiction novel. Our next meeting will take place on January 26th @ 5:30pm, at the Lewiston Public Library, located at 200 Lisbon St., Lewiston, ME 04240.

We will be reading *Stories from the Old Squire’s Farm* (chapters 1-17) by C.A. Stephens. Participants will be expected to obtain a copy of the book independently. You may place a hold on Minerva using your library card



or contact either the Auburn Public Library or the Lewiston Public Library for assistance with how to borrow a copy of this month’s selection.

Locations of future gatherings will rotate between the Androscoggin Historical Society, Auburn

Public Library, and Lewiston Public Library. Future readings to be determined by those who come.

Free to attend. No registration required at this time. No food provided, but feel free to bring your own. Recommended for ages 18+.

January Special Section National Human Trafficking Awareness Month pages 9-10

SeniorsPlus announces January classes, support groups

LEWISTON, ME

– SeniorsPlus will offer the following classes and support groups in January. Classes are held in person at its Lewiston, Wilton, or Norway locations; online; or hybrid. Class locations are 8 Falcon Road, Lewiston; 9 Marston St., Norway; and 284 Main St., Suite 100, Wilton. Classes are free, unless noted. Locations are fully accessible. Hearing assistive equipment is available upon request. For more information or to register, call 207-795-4010 or visit seniorsplus.org.

ANDROSCOGGIN COUNTY

Social Dining

Days: Tuesdays
Time: 11:45 a.m.–1 p.m.

Location: Senior-sPlus Lewiston
Cost: Free

Registration is open the week prior to the event. Please call during business hours to register. Note that the menu is subject to change as necessary.

January 6: Mushroom cheddar quiche with sausage links, hashbrowns, stewed tomatoes, blueberries

January 13: Turkey Tetrizzini, Italian veggie blend, pineapple and oranges

January 20: Shepherd’s pie, broccoli, spiced apples

January 27: Salsa chicken, yellow rice, Mexican corn and beans, strawberries and mango

Wowzitude! ‘Arm-chair Travel’

Days: Tuesdays

Time: 2–3 p.m.

Location: Senior-sPlus Lewiston

Wowzitude’s Award-Winning Travel Club, designed for arm-chair travelers, takes you on LIVE, guided virtual walks around the world from the comfort and safety of SeniorsPlus. Interactive, virtual live-streamed walking tours feature expert hosts and trained local guides eager to Zoom in and introduce us to their favorite spots. Destinations are subject to change. Walk-ins welcome.

Tuesday, January 6: Cusco, Peru: Gateway to the Sacred Andes

Tuesday, January 13: Viva México: A Journey Through Color and Culture

Tuesday, January 20: Quito Uncovered: Life on the Equator

Tuesday, January 27: Carved in Ice: Winter Walk at Lake Louise, Canada

Game Day

Dates: Wednesdays, January 7 & 21 (every first and third Wednesday)

Time: 1–3 p.m.

Location: Senior-sPlus Lewiston

Have some popcorn while you play cribbage, canasta, board or card games. Bring your own or play ours.

Book and Puzzle Swap

Date/time: Thursday, January 8, 10 a.m.–noon

Date/time: Thursday, January 22, 1–3 p.m.

Location: Senior-sPlus Lewiston

Connect with others over your love of books and/or puzzles. Bring in

your gently used books or jigsaw puzzles and take home new ones to enjoy.

Blind and Visually Impaired Persons (BaVIP) Group

Date: Friday, January 9 (every second Friday)

Time: 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Facilitator: The Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired

Location: Senior-sPlus Lewiston

The BaVIP Group continues to bring together individuals in the Lewiston/Auburn area who are living with vision loss, as well as family members and loved ones who want to connect, learn, and share experiences. The meetings provide a welcoming space for community connection, peer support, and resource sharing on topics ranging from adaptive technology to everyday living skills.

SeniorsPlus Blood Drive

Date: Thursday, January 15

Time: 10 a.m.–3 p.m.

Location: Senior-sPlus Lewiston

Join us in making a difference! The American Red Cross will be hosting a blood drive in our Education Center. Every donation helps save lives and supports patients in need. Appointments are highly encouraged, but walk-ins are welcome. To schedule your donation, visit RedCrossBlood.org or call 1-800-733-2767, option 1. Your generosity can make a life-changing impact.

Iris Paper Folding

See SeniorsPlus, page 8

Ready to take the next step
in recovery?

The Center for Recovery at St. Mary’s provides accessible, responsive care tailored to your unique journey. Whether it’s your first time reaching out or you’re returning for support, we’re here to help.

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

UMaine Extension 4-H online workshop explores livestock care



Youth join an online session last summer with Extension Professor and Livestock Specialist Colt Knight to learn all about pigs. Photo courtesy University of Maine Cooperative Extension / Sara King.

VIRTUAL – University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H will offer an online club for youth ages 9–18 about the basics of farm animal care on Thursdays, 4–5:15 p.m., January 22–February 12, 2026.

The 4-H Farm Animal Care FUNdamentals workshop series will intro-

duce the basics of caring for livestock. In this workshop, youth will learn how to care for farm animals, what to feed them, how to do regular health checks and more. Participants do not need to have any prior animal experience or currently own livestock. This is a beginner/introductory level program.

The workshop is free; participation is limited to 15. Required registration closes January 9. Register on the event webpage to receive the link and at-home materials.

For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207.581.8206 or sarah.sparks@maine.edu.

AARP Fraud Watch: Fake jobs, real losses

If your New Year’s resolutions include finding a new job, work-from-home opportunities may sound appealing. While many remote positions are legitimate, some aren’t what they appear to be. Criminals often pose as legitimate employers on job boards, social media, or send unsolicited texts, promising easy money, flexible hours, and a quick hiring process.

What they’re real-

ly after is personal information or our money by asking to pay upfront for “training,” purchase expensive equipment, or provide sensitive details—such as your Social Security number—as part of the application.

Be cautious of sudden, unusually high-paying opportunities that require little to no experience. Avoid sharing personal data until you’re certain the job offer is legitimate

and take time to research the company by searching its name along with the words scam, complaint, or fraud. If you see concerns from other job seekers, consider it a clear red flag.

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.

Women In Harmony present I Have a Voice choral program

WOMEN IN HARMONY
A Chorus of Women's Voices

CHORAL CONCERT
Featuring Darlin' Corey

Fri. January 16, 2026, 7:30 p.m. • Sat. January 17, 2026, 3:00 p.m.
South Portland High School • 637 Highland Avenue • South Portland

Tickets: \$15 online @ wihmaine.org • \$20 adults/\$15 students & seniors @ door

Find us on Facebook ASL Interpreted

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

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2020 elections. An insistent line in the lyric says, “I have a voice/ It is loud, it is clear/ It’s stronger than your fear/ It’s believing you belong/It’s calling out the wrong.” In Women in Harmony, we amplify that voice by a factor of 60.

The courage to

claim one’s own power is also part of our concert’s message. Joan Szymko’s Malala lifts up the renowned young Pakistani activist. Its lyrics have her declare, “Their bullet did not stop me. I am Malala. Their bullet gave me power to raise my voice...” Resilient by Rising Appalachia emphasizes the idea that there is power in numbers. “My voice feels tiny, and I’m sure so does yours/ but put us all together make a mighty roar...”

Other songs on the program include Rise Up, a setting by Jake Runestad of some powerful words of Susan B. Anthony; and Eric Whitacre’s Sing Gently.

We also welcome the group Darlin’ Corey as a participating guest in the concert. Collectively, these musicians play fiddle, mandolin, banjo, guitar, bass, and pedal steel guitar.

Please join us for this empowering concert!

Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Rumford Hospital nurse is DAISY Award winner

RUMFORD, ME – Wendy Hebert, RN, who works at Rumford Hospital’s Emergency Department, has won the DAISY Award.

The DAISY Award is an international program that recognizes nurses for their compassionate care and the difference they make in patients’ lives. Patients, their families, visitors, physicians and other team members can nominate a nurse for the award.

Wendy was nominated by a patient who has struggled with ongoing anxiety issues. Part of that patient’s nomination letter is below:

“I always see the nurses who get this award help with physical injury, but not mental health. I have struggled with anxiety for many years. I have been seen many times in the ED for this, and many times have had Wendy as my nurse.

This last time I was brought in, she was there. She was real, she got down to my level and said all the things I needed to hear. I have a teenage son who lost his father at a



young age. He is my life and my world, but Wendy told me I need to go live for me! I was not just put here to raise him but to enjoy this life with him. I knew I needed to get a grip on what was going on. I couldn’t suffer in my head like this every day, all day.

I left the hospital that day with her words on repeat in my head. I can’t

thank her enough for what she did for me that day.”

“We are all so glad to see Wendy get the recognition she deserves,” said Jenifer Madore, MSN, vice president of Nursing and Patient Services at Rumford Hospital. “Creating a welcoming, caring and nonjudgemental environment is one of Central Maine Healthcare’s Service Standards, and Wendy does that every day. This patient’s account is just one example of that.”

Auburn Concert Band invites new members

AUBURN, ME – The Auburn Community Concert Band has announced that rehearsals will resume on Wednesday, January 7th, in preparation for the group’s 2026 summer concert season. This is an ideal opportunity for former high school and college band members to again experience the enjoyment of making music and performing in front of large audiences.

Interested musicians have until January 21st to join the band during this semi-annual “Open Membership” period. Membership is open to all wind instrument players and percussionists who can read music, but requires a commitment to the group’s weekly schedule of Wednesday evening rehearsals and concerts. Band members must have their own instruments and music stands.

This season, the band is hoping to grow its brass sections, by adding musicians who play trumpet, trombone, euphonium or tuba.

Weekly rehearsals take place every Wednesday evening, from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. at the High Street

Congregational Church, located between High and Pleasant Streets, in Auburn. Starting on June 17th, the band will resume its annual weekly Wednesday evening concerts at Festival Plaza in downtown Auburn, weather permitting. A different program of music will be performed each week through mid-August, with songs appealing to audiences both young and old.

According to Band Director Milt Simon, it is not unusual for prospective members to feel a bit reluctant about joining the group. “We understand that, for some, it may have been 20 or more years since they last touched their instrument,” Simon stated. “Most people regain their musical skills relatively quickly. It’s like riding a bicycle. Once you have learned to play, you never forget. You just may have to do some extra practicing.” Simon added that the opportunity to perform in front of audiences numbering 200 to 300 people on a weekly basis is typically appealing to amateur and experienced musicians alike.

This summer will

mark the organization’s 45th anniversary season since being formed by Simon back in 1981.

Currently, the ACCB has 53 members, ranging in age from late-teens to early eighties and collectively representing some 14 central, southern and western Maine towns.

Additional information about the group is posted on the band’s web site: www.auburncommunityband.com.

Interested musicians are asked to notify Director Simon at auburncommunityband@gmail.com prior to attending their first rehearsal.

Humane Society announces “Cold Paws, Warm Heart” raffle winners

LEWISTON, ME – The Greater Androscoggin Humane Society announces the winners of their “Cold Paws, Warm Heart” Annual Raffle. With over \$14,500 in ticket sales the winners were: Anna Rieudeau of Topsham winning \$500 of home heating assistance and a handmade quilt, Ronella Paradis of Lewiston with \$300 of home heating assistance, Walt and Kathy Ladd of Turner with \$200 of home heating assistance and Dorea Fortier with \$100 of home heating assistance. All proceeds from the raffle directly benefit the Humane Society.

The Greater Andro-



scoggin Humane Society provides a safe haven for over 3,000 sick, homeless and abused animals in the greater Androscoggin area per year. The primary support for the shelter comes from fundraising events and donations of concerned citizens.

The Greater Androscoggin Humane Society is located at 55 Strawberry Avenue in Lewiston. If you are interested in learning more about volunteering at the Shelter or adopting an animal call 783-2311 or visit the website at www.SavingPetsInMaine.org. You can also join them on www.facebook.com/GAHumane.

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

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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?
DM for pickup
Drop-Off Locations:
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📍 781 Edes Falls Rd, Harrison, ME
📍 780 Broadway St, South Portland, ME

Follow us on Facebook: Tias Prom Closet Project

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Seniors Not Acting Their Age

An Exceptionally Scenic Hike on Maiden Cliff Mountain



Hikers enjoy the views from Maiden Cliff



Mark Nelson takes a break on the summit of Maiden Cliff Mountain



A team of hikers traverse Millerite Ledges

Wonderful views can be observed on Mount Megunticook, Ragged Mountain, and Bald Rock Mountain in the Camden Hills. However, I consider the trails to and above Maiden Cliff to be the most scenic in the entire mountain range. And, the views on Maiden Cliff Trails are more readily accessible than their counterparts.

When I began contemplating a hike designed as a step up in my knee surgery rehabilitation, the Maiden Cliff Trails came to mind. They offer the option for a relatively short hike that includes some modest climbs and descents coupled with truly exceptional views.

I announced a last minute late-November weekday Maiden Cliff hike with my outdoor club, the Penobscot Paddle & Chowder Society. To my surprise, five Chowderheads were available to join me.

The six of us met at

a trailhead on Route 52 in Camden on a cool, sunny but windy day. Since the Maiden Cliff sector of the Camden Hills is open to hunting, we all wore hunter's orange. Hunting is not a common activity in this area as the terrain is mountainous and the trails receive an abundance of relatively noisy hiking traffic.

We began hiking steadily up the Maiden Cliff Trail in a mixed hardwood and conifer forest. The rocky trail weaves along a tiny brook and over some ledges to a junction for the Scenic Trail on the right.

Leaving the junction, we angled left and climbed steeply up Maiden Cliff Trail until reaching the western shoulder of the prominence where we enjoyed sporadic views of Megunticook Lake. The gradient diminished as we hiked easily past the upper junction of Scenic Trail on the right to Maiden Cliff.

Maiden Cliff is truly

a spectacular location that towers over Megunticook Lake. Views of Bald and Ragged Mountains dominate the western skyline beyond the lake. We lingered for an extended visit appreciating the marvelous vistas partially sheltered from the wind.

Many years ago, a large white cross was erected at the edge of Maiden Cliff in memory of 12-year old Elenora French who tragically fell to her death at the site while on a picnic in 1864. The cross, visible from much of Megunticook Lake and the surrounding area, has become an iconic landmark.

Departing the cliff, we returned to the junction and began a winding moderate ascent on Scenic Trail. After a short distance, two precipitous ledges were reached that required careful scrambling.

After maneuvering over the second ledge, we progressed steeply in gusty winds to a cairn on a rounded peak that appears to be the highpoint. I call this location Maiden Cliff Mountain because to my knowledge it is otherwise unnamed.

The path then leads gradually down through a sparsely wooded sector to impressive cliffs called Millerite Ledges. The phenomenal views from these

ledges encompassing Megunticook Lake, the western Camden Hills, Owls Head, and Penobscot Bay beyond are arguably the finest in the Camden Hills.

The Millerite Ledges are named for a religious group known as Millerites who prophesied the second coming of Jesus on October 22, 1844. Followers of the movement gathered on the ledges to await the event. When it failed to occur, widespread disillusionment followed referred to as the "Great Disappointment." Unprepared for the harsh winter to follow, dejected believers struggled and some required the assistance of their neighbors to survive. The ledges remain an historic site.

The marvelous views continued as we traversed

the lengthy escarpment protected from the wind before descending precipitously over massive rounded ledges to a junction for Ridge Trail on the left. Ridge Trail provides the option for continuing east over Mount Megunticook.

We turned right onto Scenic Trail and descended a sloping ledge until entering a conifer forest on a narrow twisting path. The relatively steep trail required meticulous maneuvering until finally reaching the junction with Maiden Cliff Trail. The remainder of our return went smoothly with memories of the remarkable views fresh in our minds.

During the ascent, my knee had felt quite strong, so I wondered if I should have planned the longer hike over Mount Megunti-

cook instead. Not so after the steep descent. Overall, my choice was a good one and all that I needed.

My book, *Maine Al Fresco: The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine* narrates the best and most scenic mountain hikes in Maine including winter ascents of Mount Katahdin.

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

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Military Vets get year membership to Antique Automobile Club

PRESQUE ISLE, ME – If you are a US military veteran and love old cars, the Antique Automobile Club of America has a great deal for you! A FREE one-year membership.

The Antique Automobile Club of America (AACA) is America's premiere resource for the collectible vehicle community. Since 1935, AACA has had one goal: the preservation and enjoyment of automotive history of all types. From National Shows and Tours to Regional events, AACA is here to bring enthusiasts together through exciting national activities, friendship and the award-winning 100-page full color magazine, *Antique Automobile*.

Membership in AACA is open to all individuals who have a genuine interest in the antique automobile hobby. Ownership of an automobile is not a prerequisite of membership.

AACA recognizes that military veterans have been tested and proven numerous times, and yet have remained devoted and committed to passionate service to our country. AACA understands this passion as it is passionate about vehicles. And, like the military, AACA has stood the test of time.

To honor your military service, AACA is extending a complimentary current year membership for first-time AACA applicants. You don't have to own a vehicle or even know how to turn a wrench! And, you can be involved at any level you wish. As a member, you can join a judging team, do research in the vast national library, or attend a national show or tour.

Members receive the bi-monthly issue of *Antique Automobile* magazine, are eligible to join a region chapter, can exhibit vehicles and compete for national prizes and awards, and receive two hours of free research by the AACA Library & Research Center staff.

So, get behind the wheel of AACA. We know you will enjoy the ride. Don't forget to check out the Maine Region Chapter. To sign up for the free military veteran membership, go to: <https://aaca.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/AACAMilitaryMembershipApplication.pdf>

For more information, contact Craig Green, Maine Region President, at 207.768.1033 or craig@ergins.net.

Maine Trails Program Round One grant awards announced

AUGUSTA – The Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry's Bureau of Parks and Lands (BPL) recently announced the results of the first round of Maine Trails Program (MTP) grants, marking a significant investment in trail access, connectivity, and outdoor recreation throughout the state.

In Round One, \$7.5 million was awarded to 44 projects selected from 108 applications representing municipalities and nonprofit partners from 15 of Maine's 16 counties. Funded projects span the full spectrum of trail use, including motorized, non-motorized, accessible, and multi-use trails, supporting hiking, walking, ATV and snowmobile riding, paddling access, adaptive recreation, and community trail development across Maine.

"Maine's trail systems are a critical part of Maine's outdoor economy. I was proud to sign the bipartisan legislation to create this grant program in 2024 and support the passage of the trails bond by Maine voters that year," said Governor Mills. "These investments will upgrade and enhance public trails for all kinds of outdoor recreation, and importantly, allow more people to enjoy all the Maine outdoors has to offer. I look forward myself to enjoying these trails in the years to come."

"The Maine Trails Program is a once-in-a-generation investment in the places where we live, work, and recreate," said Commissioner Amanda Beal, Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. "These first-round awards reflect the incredible commitment of our communities to building trails that welcome everyone, whether they walk, ride, paddle, ski, or snowmobile. From downtown connectors to backcountry routes and adaptive-access trails, these projects strengthen local economies and promote healthy outdoor activity across Maine."

Created by the Maine Legislature and approved by voters as Question 4 on the November 2024 ballot, and administered by the BPL, the \$30 million Maine Trails bond created the Maine Trails Program, a statewide initiative dedicated to supporting the design, construction, and rehabilitation of trails for outdoor recreation and active transportation. Through 2034, the program will award up to \$7.5 million annually, leveraging at least \$3 million per year in matching public and private contributions.

To ensure broad representation and transparency, the Maine Trails Advisory Committee, comprised of experienced professionals from motorized, non-motorized, and adaptive recreation trail communities, provides guidance and recommendations on eligible projects for funding.

Round One Highlights

- Over \$17 million in requests received
- 108 applications submitted statewide
- 44 projects awarded (41% of requests)
- 100% of available funding awarded — \$7.5 million
- 52% of motorized trail applications funded
- Two land-acquisition projects approved
- 25 new trails constructed
- 14 projects focused on improved accessibility
- 23 primarily hiking/walking (single-use) projects
- Eight primarily snowmobile (single-use) projects
- Five primarily ATV (single-use) projects

Awards distributed across 15 counties

Looking Ahead

The Maine Trails Program consists of four annual grant rounds. Applications for Round Two are anticipated to be due in June 2026. BPL looks forward to building on this momentum by continuing to support projects that expand trail access, improve infrastructure, promote safety and accessibility, increase stewardship, and enhance Maine's outdoor recreation economy.

Applicants can expect additional outreach, guidance, and technical assistance ahead of the next application cycle.

Round One Awardees

The following municipal and nonprofit partners were selected for funding in the first round of Maine Trails Program grants (award amounts included):

- Appalachian Mountain Club – KI-Brownville Rail Trail Restoration (\$250,000)
- City of Augusta – Howard Hills Accessible Trail (\$250,000)
- Town of Bowdoinham – Cathance Meadow Trail Improvements (\$62,820.97)
- City of Brewer – Pier Park and Trail Project (\$250,000)
- Town of Brunswick – Brunswick Landing Perimeter Trail Phase 1 (\$250,000)
- Coastal Mountain Land Trust – Balance Rock ABA Trail (\$184,295)
- Coastal Rivers Conservation Trust – Castner Brook Community Forest Trail (\$138,200)
- Dennysville Snowmobile & ATV Club – Sunrise Trail Bridge Rehabilitation (\$246,600)
- East Branch Sno-Rovers & ATV – Bridge and Trail Repairs (\$119,017.13)
- E-Ville Riders – Long Pond Bridge Replacement (\$99,195.12)
- Freeport Historical Society – Pettengill Farm Preserve Restoration (\$73,500)
- Fort Kent Outdoor Center – Green Bean Nordic Trail Reconfiguration (\$162,155)
- Falmouth Land Trust & Cumberland CI Land Trust – Trail Connectivity Project (\$153,231.45)
- Great Works Regional Land Trust – OBP Universal Access Trail (\$134,122.74)
- High Peaks Alliance – Sandy River Trail Acquisition & Development (\$250,000)
- Island Heritage Trust – Barred Island & Lily Pond Accessibility (\$250,000)
- Inland Woods + Trails – Rumford Community Forest Activation (\$248,000)
- EMCC Katahdin Higher Education Center – Cultural Nature Trail (\$247,500)
- Kokadjo Roach Riders Snowmobile Club – Trail Rehabilitation (\$145,984.52)
- Town of Lakeville – Dill Brook Trail Crossing (\$247,000)

See Trails, page 7

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Arts & Entertainment

Maine Youth Wilderness Leadership Program




An extraordinary wilderness experience in Baxter State Park for Maine high school students

The Maine Youth Wilderness Leadership Program cultivates and inspires the next generation of Maine's environmental leaders. Friends of Baxter State Park has offered this program to high school sophomores and juniors annually since 2009. This free program provides the opportunity to develop leadership skills and experience Maine's wilderness through science, art, literature, storytelling, photography, history, and more.

Program Highlights:
Nine-day backpacking trip in Baxter State Park
Experienced wilderness leaders from Chewonki
Hands-on learning with expert instructors
Maine high school sophomores and juniors are eligible to apply
Competitive application process
No cost to participate – program is free

**Apply at friendsofbaxter.org/mywlp
Deadline: February 8**




FRIENDS OF BAXTER STATE PARK


Resolve to read more with Genre Roulette Romance Book Club

Genre Roulette: Romance Book Club

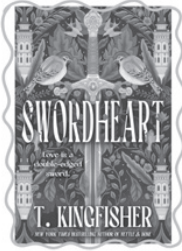
The Genre Roulette Book Club samples genres by focusing on one genre for three months at a time: Join for one season or come to them all!



Jan. 15th, 5:30pm
The Queer Principles
of Kit Webb by Cat Sebastian



Feb. 19th, 5:30pm
Better Than Fiction
by Alexa Martin



Mar. 19th, 5:30pm
Swordheart
by T. Kingfisher

For more information, contact 207-513-3134 or lpclirc@lewistonmaine.gov

Lewiston PUBLIC LIBRARY



MAKER MONDAY

Winter Dates:
Dec. 1st, Jan. 5th, & Feb. 2nd

FIRST MONDAYS
4 - 6:30 PM



Lewiston PUBLIC LIBRARY

LEWISTON, ME – Lewiston Public Library’s Genre Roulette Book Club samples genres by focusing on one genre for three months at a time: join for one season or come to them all! This winter, the book club will be focusing on Romance across three sub-genres. We will meet monthly in the Couture Room from 5:30 to 6:30pm on the following Thursdays: January 15th, February 19th, and March 19th.

The first selection is a historical romance. On January 15th, we’ll meet to discuss *The Queer Principles* of Kit Webb by Cat Sebastian. Lord Holland begins taking lessons in

thievery from Kit Webb in order to reclaim a family heirloom and falls in love along the way.

February will focus on contemporary romance. The group will meet on February 19th to discuss *Better Than Fiction* by Alexa Martin. Book-hater turned book-seller Drew Young meets author Jasper Williams at an event at her store, and they soon find themselves living a romance that is better than fiction.

The Romance Book Club will end with *Romantasy*. On March 19th, we’ll meet to discuss *Swordheart* by T. Kingfisher. Halla accidentally summons Sark-

is, an immortal warrior trapped in a steel sword who is now sworn to protect her.

This book club is recommended for ages 18+. If you need help locating a copy of any of these titles, please contact our Lending Services Department at 513-3134 or visit the lending desk on the library’s first floor.

The Lewiston Public Library is located downtown at 200 Lisbon Street at the corner of Pine Street. More information on this program is available by contacting the Lewiston Public Library at 513-3134 or LPLCirc@lewistonmaine.gov.

Myths and Magic

Family-friendly selections to warm up your winter



Saturday
January 17, 2026
7:00PM • Franco Center, Lewiston

Mozart.....*The Magic Flute* Overture
Sibelius.....*The Swan of Tuonela*
Dun.....*Passacaglia: Secret of Wind and Birds*
Humperdinck.....*Hansel and Gretel* Overture
Dukas.....*The Sorcerer's Apprentice*
Shore.....*Selections from The Lord of the Rings*

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Trails

Continued from page 5

Loon Echo Land Trust – Rolfe Hill Forest Trail (\$142,538.44)

Maine Appalachian Trail Club – Appalachian Trail Improvements (\$116,474)

Maine Coast Heritage Trust – Boot Head Preserve Accessibility Project (\$250,000)

Maine Huts & Trails – Dead River Conservation Corridor Revitalization (\$250,000)

Town of Monmouth – RSU #2 Accessible Trail System (\$202,314)

Moosetown Riders – Groomer Garage (\$121,500)

Northern Forest Canoe Trail – Campsite & ADA Dock Improvements (\$50,020)

Town of Oakland – Madison Branch Rail Trailhead Parking (\$151,024)

Outdoor Sports Institute – Katahdin Area Trails Expansion (\$250,000)

Presumpscot Regional Land Trust – Gorham Community Forest Trail (\$237,990)

Rangeley Lake Snowmobile Club – Park & Ride Facility (\$174,780)

City of Rockland – Benner Hill Trail Development (\$250,000)

Royal River Conservation Trust – Interurban Multi-Use Trail & Water Access (\$78,234.55)

Rome Ruff Riders Snowmobile Club – Trail Drainage & Repairs (\$39,800)

Sinclair ATV Club – Sinclair Trail Renovation (\$90,270)

Town of Searsmont – “A Trail for All” Universal Access Trail (\$127,500)

St. Francis Sno Angels – Groomer Garage Project (\$131,581.23)

South Portland Land Trust – Long Creek Trail Renovation (\$139,397.55)

Twin Pines Snowmobile Club – Logan Pond Bridge and Trail Rehabilitation (\$223,650)

Viles Arboretum – Nature Without Limits Accessible Trail Loop (\$249,439)

Veteran Trail Riders – Huntly Creek Trail & Park & Ride (\$84,598)

City of Waterville – Quarry Road Trails Master

Plan Phase 1 (\$249,046)

Wilhelm Reich Infant Trust – Trailhead Vault Privy (\$24,351.30)

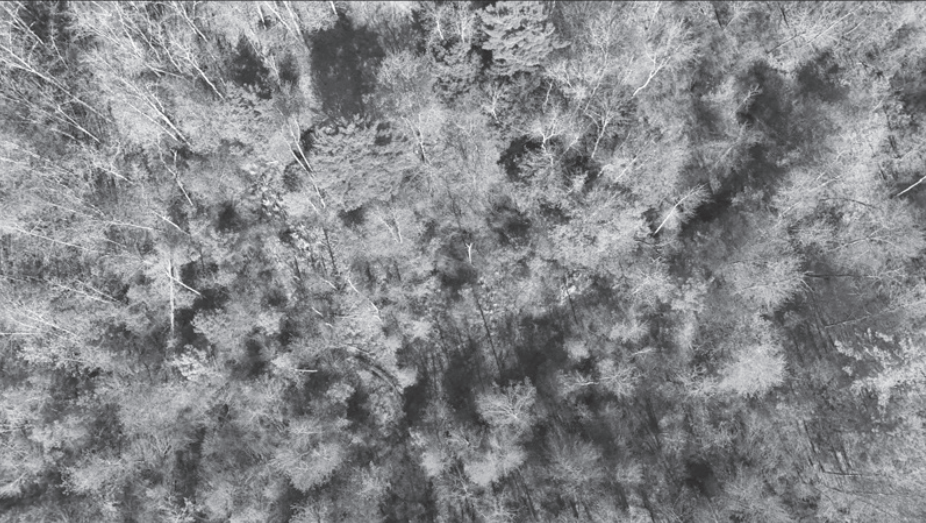
YMCA Camp of Maine – Camp Community Woods Trail Development (\$103,870)

BPL extends its appreciation to all applicants, community partners, the Maine Trails Advisory Committee, municipal leaders, trail clubs, land trusts, and recreation organizations for their efforts in building a trail network that enhances community well-being, outdoor access, and economic vitality throughout the state.

For more information on the Maine Trails Program and future application opportunities, please visit the program webpage or contact the Bureau of Parks and Lands.

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

Gorham Community Forest grant request funded





PRESUMPSCOT

Regional Land Trust

CONSERVE • ENGAGE • ACCESS LOCAL LANDS

GORHAM, ME – The State of Maine announced the results of the first round of Maine Trails Program grants, and Presumpscot Regional Land Trust’s request for \$237,990 for the Gorham Community Forest was fully funded!

The Gorham Community Forest is going to be a transformational project for downtown Gorham. Grant funds will help us improve wildlife conservation and create public access, including the construction of an outdoor classroom, a multi-lingual storywalk, a scenic overlook of Indian Camp Brook, and a multi-use trail for running, biking, and snowshoeing.

The Maine Trails Program was created by the legislature and was passed overwhelmingly by voters in November 2024. If you voted YES on Question 4 last fall, you have helped make this project possible – thank you!

Learn more about the grant and how we’re using funds to improve access for all on Presumpscot Regional Land Trust blog.

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


Kick the Nic in 2026: ALA offers support to help people quit

BANGOR, ME

Currently, 14% of adults in Maine use at least one tobacco or nicotine product such as cigarettes, e-cigarettes or nicotine pouches. Nicotine is extremely addictive, so the American Lung Association is offering free resources and support to help people quit tobacco and nicotine products for good.

Tobacco use remains the leading cause of preventable death and disease in Maine, killing 2,390 people each year. While it’s best to quit as early as possible, quitting tobacco and nicotine products at any age will enhance the length and quality of your life.

“In our state, 14% adults smoke and 16.8% of high school students use a tobacco product. We know that breaking the addiction to nicotine is extremely difficult. For most people, it takes multiple attempts to quit tobacco for good. Each quit attempt brings a per-



The Lung Helpline also offers programs to employers to help their employees quit.

In addition, the Lung Helpline can help assist with information about lung cancer screening if they are eligible, help navigate insurance challenges, and connect people with Lung Health Navigators who specialize in lung cancer, asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and pulmonary fibrosis.


For more information about quitting tobacco, visit the American Lung Association website at Lung.org or call the Lung Helpline at 1-800-LUNGUSA (1-800-586-4872) and press 2. Most health insurance covers medications and counseling to help you quit. If you don’t have insurance, check out your coverage options through Healthcare.gov– open enrollment runs through January 15. For more information, visit Lung.org/openenrollment.


Create a Valentine’s Day Card!

February 2nd – February 14th

Kids & Families on the 3rd Floor

Adults on the 2nd Floor






Lewiston PUBLIC LIBRARY

Dinosaur Workshop

Saturday, January 17th

11AM in Callahan Hall





Registration Required

Call the Children’s Department

513-3133 Or

Email LPLKids@Lewistonmaine.gov



SeniorsPlus

Continued from page 1

Date: Thursday, January 22
Time: 10–11 a.m.
Facilitator: Jessica Riseman
Location: Senior-sPlus Lewiston

Learn this fun and creative paper craft technique that uses layered strips of paper to form a spiral design resembling the iris of a camera. Perfect for handmade cards and decorations, this beginner-friendly class will guide you step by step to create your own beautiful designs.

10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer’s

Date: Wednesday, January 28
Time: 1–2 p.m.
Instructor: Dana Morrell, LCSW
Location: Senior-sPlus Lewiston

Alzheimer’s and other dementias cause memory, thinking, and behavior changes that interfere with daily living. Learn about common warning signs of Alzheimer’s and what symptoms to look for in yourself and others, as well as tips to approach someone who is experiencing changes in their memory, the benefit of early detection and diagnosis, and

more.
Self-Care BINGO with SAPARS
Date: Thursday, January 29
Time: 1–2:30 p.m.
Instructor: Dana Morrell, LCSW
Location: Senior-sPlus Lewiston

Come learn more about what the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Services (SAPARS) has for agency’s resources, support programs, and advocacy offerings. They will guide attendees through what help is available and how to access it confidentially. In addition, they’ll host some fun rounds of self-care bingo to promote wellness and positive coping strategies.

EXERCISE CLASSES
Total Strength and Balance

Days/time: Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays, 10:30–11:15 a.m. (No class January 19)
Instructor: Linn Morin, Certified Trainer
Cost: See below
Location: Senior-sPlus Lewiston

Participants will gain physical and neuro-muscular strength, as well as balance to improve activities of daily living. Lighter weights or soup cans, a

basic bouncing ball, and some tubes are used in this seated exercise class. Water is recommended during the class. Check with your physician prior to any exercise class. To register or for more info, call Linn at 523-9055. Cost is covered by most supplemental Medicare insurances; call Linn for more details.

Chair Yoga In-Person and Zoom

Days/time: Tuesdays, 9–10 a.m. (no class January 6)
Days/time: Fridays, 9–10 a.m. (no class January 2 and 9)
Instructor: Mary Bishop
Cost: \$5 per class. Payments exchanged directly with Mary.
Location: Education Center & Zoom

Must-haves: If on Zoom: computer, laptop, or tablet; sturdy chair on a non-slip surface. If in person, then just yourself.
This class offered both in person and on Zoom is designed to help with ease of movement and breath; finding stability, balance, and strength through yoga poses with variations for every ability. Drop in to see if this class is right for you. Classes are ongoing. Call for access to Zoom link.

Boy Scouts prepare for Christmas tree recycling



AUBURN, ME – Scouts from Troop 121 in Auburn prepare this year’s mailing of tag for their annual Christmas tree recycling program. Pictured from left to right are: Alex Burnham, Jacob Parcell, Cayden Moody, Anthony Seddon, Logan Dumont, Darius Reaves and Jackson Roux.

For the 14th year, the Boy Scout Troop 121 will again pick up Christmas trees in Lewiston and Auburn. While the cities provide locations for free tree disposal, they no longer collect the trees at curbside. For a minimum donation of \$5, the Scouts

will pick up Christmas trees on Saturday, January 10, 2026, and Sunday, January 11, 2026. For safety reasons the trees should not be placed curbside until the morning of January 10th.

Money raised by the program goes directly to troop scouting activities. Troop 121 was created to help give youth with special physical, mental and emotional challenges the opportunity for success in a safe scouting environment that builds character, encourages citizenship, teaches life skills and develops personal fitness.

To make a pick-up request, send a donation by Jan. 8th to Troop 121, United Methodist Church, 439 Park Ave., Auburn, ME 04210. The troop, in turn, will send a tag to place on the tree when it is put curbside. For more information please call 783-0790.

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

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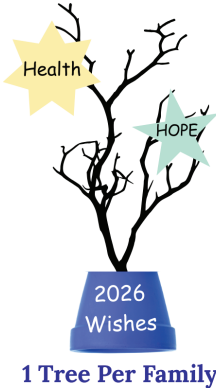
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New Year’s Wish Trees
A keepsake program for children & families
Saturday-January 10th

11AM-12PM
IDEA LAB

Register Here or at LPLonline.org-->>



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Special section: National Human Trafficking Awareness Month

National Slavery & Human Trafficking Prevention Month

January 1, 2026 - January 31, 2026

National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, observed in January, is a dedicated time to raise awareness about the global issue of modern slavery and human trafficking. This month serves as a reminder of the ongoing fight against these grave violations of human rights and emphasizes the importance of prevention, intervention, and support for survivors.

What is National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month 2026?

National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month 2026 is the latest installment of this crucial awareness campaign. It aims to shine a spotlight on the issue of modern slavery and human trafficking, encouraging individuals, organizations, and governments to take action to prevent and combat these crimes. The month provides an opportunity to educate the public about the signs of trafficking, support victims, and work towards eradicating these forms of exploitation.

When is National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month 2026?

National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month takes place throughout January each year. It aligns with International Anti-Human Trafficking Day, which falls on January 11th, to commemorate the efforts made worldwide to combat this issue.

How to Participate in National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month 2026?

Participating in National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month can contribute to the global fight against these crimes. Here are ways you can get involved:



Education and Awareness: Learn about the signs of human trafficking and modern slavery. Share this knowledge with your community to raise awareness.

Support Anti-Trafficking Organizations: Contribute to or volunteer with organizations dedicated to preventing human trafficking and supporting survivors.

Advocate for Policy Change: Advocate for policies and legislation that address human trafficking and provide better support for survivors.

Host Awareness Events: Organize or participate in events, workshops, and seminars focused on human trafficking prevention and survivor support.

Engage on Social Media: Use social media platforms to share information, stories, and resources related to human trafficking prevention.

Support Survivor Services: Donate to or volunteer with organizations that provide assistance, counseling, and resources to survivors of human trafficking.

Report Suspicious Activity: If you suspect human trafficking, report it to

your local authorities or a human trafficking hotline.

History of National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month

National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month was established in the United States through a presidential proclamation in 2010. It aims to honor the legacy of those who have fought against slavery and human trafficking throughout history and to reaffirm the commitment to ending these atrocities.

Relevant Hashtags
When sharing your involvement in National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month in 2026, consider using these relevant hashtags:

#HumanTraffickingAwareness
#EndModernSlavery
#HumanRights
#AntiTrafficking
#PreventHumanTrafficking

Using these hashtags can help you connect with others passionate about combating human trafficking, share important information, and contribute to the global conversation surrounding this critical issue.

Common misconceptions about human trafficking

Contributed by Hope for Justice

Myth: Human trafficking is a crime that only involves foreigners.

Fact: Citizens of all countries are affected by this crime. Most victims of human trafficking in the United States are US citizens.

Myth: It requires foreign or interstate travel, or crossing borders.

Fact: Human trafficking does not require any type of travel; a person can be trafficked on the same street where they have lived for their entire life.

Myth: It is only related to the sex industry.

Fact: While sex trafficking is the predominant type of human trafficking investigated, labor trafficking persists in all parts of the US. Why? Because commercial sex is so much easier to see than labor trafficking. As a result, labor trafficking is much harder to identify, and thus it is investigated/prosecuted less.

Myth: If they get paid, they aren't victims. Or, if they have a car or cell phone, they can't be victims.

Fact: Victimization

came come through force, fraud, coercion, or any pattern or scheme intended to instill fear in someone. A person can seem to have means of escape (money, phone, car, etc...), yet still remain as an unwilling participant because they are being coerced by their controller(s).

Myth: Prosecutions aren't needed.

Fact: Despite the desire of some NGOs to not have their victims participate with law enforcement, this issue will not go away without effective prosecutions. We must make it expensive for the traffickers, otherwise there will be no incentive to stop. Of course we still need effective prevention and protection activities, too. But we cannot forego strong prosecutions.

Myth: Victims self-identify.

Fact: It is exceedingly rare for a victim to contact someone for help while being trafficked, even when given specific opportunities to do so. Fear, shame, dependence upon their trafficker and other types are coercion, or a lack of understanding of

their condition all contribute to this phenomenon.

Myth: There are always origin, transit and destination countries.

Fact: This improperly puts the focus on movement, which isn't required for trafficking to exist. It also causes a tendency to leave out domestic trafficking cases. It allows countries to self-identify as having only one type of trafficking, while ignoring the others. The reality is, all countries are origin, transit and destination countries for human trafficking.

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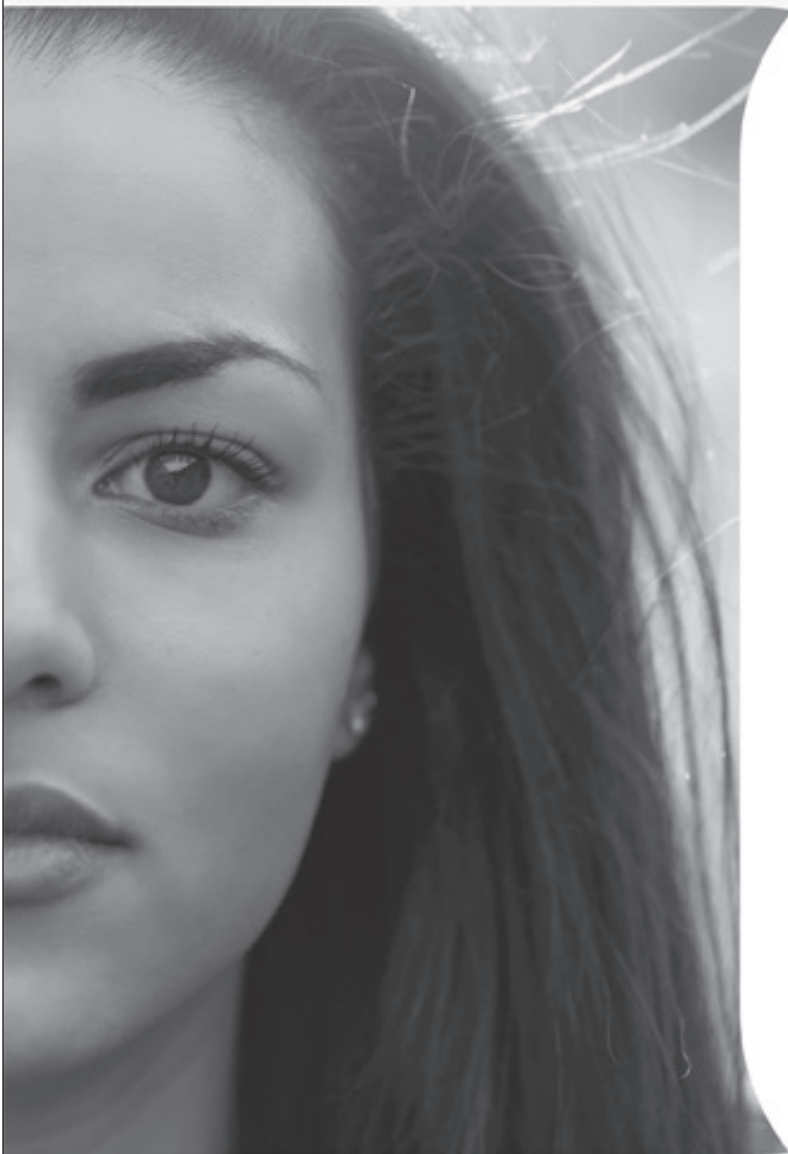
¹ Annual Percentage Rate as of 11/7/2025. Rates subject to change without notice. Not all applicants will qualify for the lowest rate or be approved. Advertised rate is based on risk based & relationship pricing discounts. For more information, visit egcu.org/auto.

Special section: **National Human Trafficking Awareness Month**



SPOT THE SIGNS

OF SEX TRAFFICKING



LOOK FOR 8 KEY INDICATORS

- LIMITED FAMILY/SOCIAL CONTACT
- PHYSICAL OR SEXUAL VIOLENCE
- RESTRICTION OF MOVEMENT
- INTIMIDATION AND THREATS
- ABUSE OF VULNERABILITY
- FEAR AND ANXIETY
- UNDER-AGE
- DECEPTION

TO REPORT A CONCERN, CALL

1-615-356-0946

IF YOU HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE A PERSON
IS IN IMMEDIATE DANGER, CALL 911 FIRST

If you think you may have encountered
a victim of human trafficking, contact
Hope for Justice and let us know as
much information as possible.

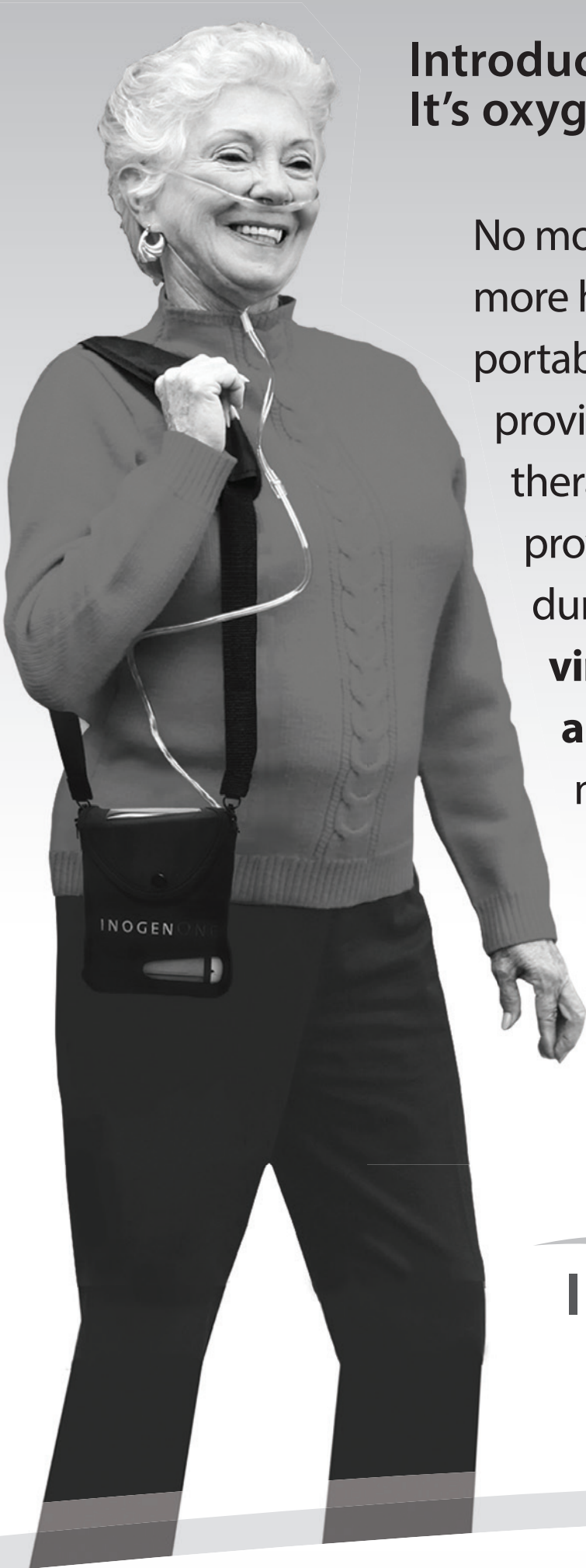
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Jan 5
ONLINE – University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host a webinar on Monday, January 5, 2026, from 6–7:15 p.m. focused on building financial literacy and management skills for commercial horticulture businesses.

Jan 5 & Feb 2
LEWISTON – The Lewiston Public Library’s monthly crafters’ meet up will continue into the winter. Maker Monday meets every first Monday of the month from 4-6:30pm in the Couture Room.

Jan 6
SCARBOROUGH – 5:30pm Death Cafe with Die Well Death Education at Scarborough Public Library

Jan 7
SCARBOROUGH – 10:30am on Zoom, Women’s Roles in the Changing Middle East at Scarborough Public Library

An online program in partnership with the Camden Conference. Join Kathleen Sutherland for a talk about women in the Middle East, civic activism, and state feminism. Sign up here: scarboroughlibrary.libcal.com/event/15600312 or call 883-4723 option 4.

Jan 10
LEWISTON – From 11am-12pm the Lewiston Public Library Children’s Department will be offering New Year’s Wish Trees, a family keepsake program. Families will be able to decorate a tree of wishes for the new year. Extra paper for wishes will be packaged into envelopes for families so they can continue to add to their trees after

Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

the program. Families with children ages 14 and under are welcome to attend. This program will take place in the IDEA LAB on the second floor of the library.

Jan 10
SCARBOROUGH – 1pm Middle Eastern Cooking (and lunch!) with author Sandra Garson at Scarborough Public Library

In partnership with the Camden Conference, join cookbook author and chef Sandra Garson for a talk about the food of the Middle East followed by a catered lunch. Space is limited, registration required. scarboroughlibrary.libcal.com/event/15665982 or call 883-4723 option 4.

Jan 13-15
AUGUSTA – The Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (DACF) has announced the full slate of educational sessions and meetings for the 85th Maine Agricultural Trades Show, taking place January 13–15, 2026, at the Augusta Civic Center.

Jan 15
LEWISTON – Lewiston Public Library’s Genre Roulette Book Club samples genres by focusing on one genre for three months at a time: join for one season or come to them all! This winter, the book club will be focusing on Romance across three sub-genres. We will meet monthly in the Couture Room from 5:30 to 6:30pm on the following Thursdays: January 15th, February 19th, and March 19th.

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along the way.
This book club is recommended for ages 18+. If you need help locating a copy of any of these titles, please contact our Lending Services Department at 513-3134 or visit the lending desk on the library’s first floor.

Jan 16 & 17
SOUTH PORTLAND – Women In Harmony at South Portland High School, 637 Highland Avenue, South Portland on Friday, January 16, 2026 at 7:30pm and Saturday, January 17, 2026 at 3:00pm. This winter, we present a formidable choral program entitled “I Have a Voice.”

Jan 17
LEWISTON – Join us for a Dinosaur Workshop hosted by Mad Science at the Lewiston Public Library on Saturday, January 17th at 11AM in Callahan Hall. In this Dinosaur Workshop kids will examine fossil casts and explore the differences in the teeth of herbivorous and carnivorous dinosaurs. Every paleontologist-in-training will then get to dig in and experience a mini dinosaur excavation and make a cast of a dinosaur tooth to take home. This workshop has 20 spots available for kids and registration is required. To register, call the Children’s Department at 513-3133 or email LPLKids@lewistonmaine.gov. This workshop is free and open to the public.

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.

Jan 22
VIRTUAL -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H will offer an online club for youth ages 9–18 about the basics of farm animal care on Thursdays, 4–5:15 p.m., January 22–February 12, 2026.

Jan 24
LEWISTON – Join us at the Lewiston Public Library for Painting Class: Let It Snow! in the 2nd floor Idea Lab on Saturday, January 24 at 11am. Recommended for children ages 7 – 14 years old. Come learn how to paint a snowy scene with step-by-step instruction by local artist, Nicole Ann. Get creative by painting a winter sunset using acrylic paints on canvas panels. All materials are provided. This program is free, open to the public, and no registration is required.

Jan 26
LEWISTON – Join the Androscoggin Historical Society, Auburn Public Library, and Lewiston Public Library as we partner to explore fiction with a historical twist. We will be meeting on the last Monday of each month from 5:30 – 6:30pm to discuss a historical fiction novel. Our next meeting will take place on January 26th @ 5:30pm, at the Lewiston Public Library, located at 200 Lisbon St., Lewiston, ME 04240. We will be reading *Stories from the Old Squire’s Farm* (chapters 1-17) by C.A. Stephens.

Feb 2-14
LEWISTON – From February 2nd to February 14th, create a Valentine’s Day card at the Lewiston Public Library! Free supplies and crafting space will be available for adults on the 2nd floor and for children on the 3rd floor.

Feb 19
LEWISTON – Lewiston Public Library’s Genre Roulette Book Club samples genres by focusing on one genre for three months at a time: join for one season or come to them all! This winter, the

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book club will be focusing on Romance across three sub-genres. We will meet monthly in the Couture Room from 5:30 to 6:30pm on the following Thursdays: February 19th, and March 19th.

February will focus on contemporary romance. The group will meet on February 19th to discuss *Better Than Fiction* by Alexa Martin. Book-hater turned book-seller Drew Young meets author Jasper Williams at an event at her store, and they soon find themselves living a romance that is better than fiction.

This book club is recommended for ages 18+. If you need help locating a copy of any of these titles, please contact our Lending Services Department at 513-3134 or visit the lending desk on the library’s first floor.

Feb 21
PORTLAND – GABBY’S DOLLHOUSE LIVE! Merrill Auditorium, Portland.

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.

Mar 19
LEWISTON – Lewiston Public Library’s Genre Roulette Book Club samples genres by focusing on one genre for three months

at a time: join for one season or come to them all! This winter, the book club will be focusing on Romance across three sub-genres. We will meet monthly in the Couture Room from 5:30 to 6:30pm.

The Romance Book Club will end with *Romantasy*. On March 19th, we’ll meet to discuss *Swordheart* by T. Kingfisher. Halla accidentally summons Sarkis, an immortal warrior trapped in a steel sword who is now sworn to protect her.

This book club is recommended for ages 18+. If you need help locating a copy of any of these titles, please contact our Lending Services Department at 513-3134 or visit the lending desk on the library’s first floor.

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.



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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 Country. Moab, Arches National Park, Canyonlands National Park, Dead Horse Point State Park, Capitol Reef State Park, Bryce Canyon National Park and Zion National Park all in Utah, last day in Vegas. Included in price is round trip air from Logan International Airport and all Hotel Transfers. Deposit is \$698.00 pp plus \$429.00 if you want travel protection.

May 23-31, 2026 – BILTMORE ESTATE & ASHEVILLE, 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 – SHIPSHAWANA, INDIANA - 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.

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