

THE QUODDY TIDES

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FISHING FOR ELVERS at night with a dip net on the Little River in Perry is Erik S. Francis of Sipayik. The season has been slow this year because of the colder winter, and the price has been low. See article on page 2 on the elver fishery. (Edward French photo)

Gaming expansion for tribes debated

by Edward French

Following the launching of sports-betting partnerships between the tribes in Maine and digital sports entertainment companies in November 2023, a bill to permit the tribes also to be licensed to operate Internet gaming is being considered by the legislature. A similar measure was turned down in the legislature last year.

During a March 31 legislative hearing on LD 1164 by the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee, Chief Pos Bassett of the Passamaquoddy Tribe at Sipayik offered his support for “legalizing an activity that’s already illegally occurring across the state of Maine.” Noting that anyone can now download a number of apps on

Continued on page 21

Federal cuts leading to reduced food shipments to area pantries

by Lura Jackson

The food pantries of Washington County are preparing for a reduction in the amount of produce from Good Shepherd Food Bank’s deliveries as a result of cuts to the Local Food Purchase Assistance Cooperative Agreement Program (LFPA) and The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), with some pantries expecting a drop of 50% or more in their shipments beginning in April.

“We’ll only receive about half of the free food we received last year,” says Ken Warner of the Machias Food Pantry. Last year, Good Shepherd provided 80 tons of produce to the pantry, meaning this year it will be approximately 40 tons less. “That’s painful. We would be able to overcome

the loss of the cans and the dried goods, but it’s the proteins that we will be missing.” Warner estimates that the cuts will reduce the pantry’s meat shipments by approximately five tons, with the overall monetary loss of the cuts around \$100,000.

Even prior to the cuts, the pantry was contending with a client increase of approximately 50% over the previous year as a result of accumulating cost of living expenses. Around 700 people now visit the pantry each week.

The LFPA, which began in 2021 as a program to buy produce from farmers and distribute it to food banks, was cut by \$500 million in March. Of that amount,

Continued on page 22

Businesses in Calais feeling effect of tariffs

by Lura Jackson

The imposition of new tariffs on both sides of the border, paired with strained relations between the U.S. and Canada, are causing a slowdown for Calais businesses, some of which have seen their international sales decline by more than half. The situation is a complicated one for many business owners who feel caught in national politics.

“The majority of our [Canadian] customers have stopped shopping over here,” says Heather Henry Tenan, owner of C&E Feeds Community Market and Package Hub. “Canadian traffic is down by at least 50%,” she says, adding that by package processing sales it’s closer to 80%.

The package processing numbers are stark. C&E has a client list of over 9,000 customers across the Maritimes who cross the border to pick up packages to avoid higher duties and shipping fees. Between January and March in 2024, 5,996 packages were handled. This year, during the same timeframe, 896 packages were handled.

“COVID was much worse, but the huge difference is, under the Biden administra-

Continued on page 22

Lobster industries brace for potential trade war impacts

by Lura Jackson

The Maine and New Brunswick lobster industries are facing potential financial losses as a result of an escalating global trade war and declining consumer confidence. The possible impacts of the twin threats were discussed during a webinar organized by the Island Institute on April 3. The lobster industry has thus far avoided tariffs from either the U.S. or Canada, with the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement protecting shellfish from a U.S. import tariff and Canada excluding lobster from the retaliatory tariff package announced on March 4.

“That doesn’t mean we’re out of the woods or that we won’t see new tariffs in the future,” said Eric Miller, president of the Rideau Potomac Strategy Group in Washington, D.C. He cautioned that companies should expect retaliatory tariffs from markets in Europe and Asia as the

Continued on page 2

All-terrain vehicle proposals stir debate

ATVs on roads bill opposed

by Edward French

Proposed legislation to allow ATVs to be driven on public roads received strong pushback from state government officials and other residents during a March 27 hearing by the legislature’s Transportation Committee. The bill is sponsored by Senator Marianne Moore of Calais, who said she was asked by several ATV clubs to introduce the measure, as they seek to expand available trail systems and gain access to gas stations, restaurants and motels in towns.

She noted as an example that ATV riders are not able to get from the trail in Perry to downtown Eastport without access to state roads, although they are allowed to ride up to 500 yards

Continued on page 24

Calais trail extension backed

by Edward French

More than 30 people offered testimony in support of legislation directing the Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT) to extend the Down East Sunrise Trail from Pembroke into Calais. The 12.2-mile extension on the existing rail line would pass through the Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge, where ATVs are not currently allowed, and some concerns were expressed about possible issues that should be addressed. The hearing on the bill by the legislature’s Transportation Committee was held on April 4, with a work session scheduled for April 10.

Testifying on behalf of the City of Calais, interim City Man-

Continued on page 25

Inside *The Tides*

Page

Lubec school budget eyed . . .	12
Springtime Guide	18-19
Arts and entertainment . . .	26-28
Campobello tariff exemption .	30
Canadian federal election candidates state positions .	30



A MODEL of THE HERRING CARRIER William Underwood was recently scratch built by Russell Bowmaster of St. George. Built in 1941 at the Simms Brothers Boat Yard in Massachusetts, the vessel was 70 feet long, carried 80,000 pounds and had sails in its early days. The Underwood family packed a variety of seafood products, including clam, fish and quahog chowder, fish cakes and sardines, at plants in Jonesport and Bass Harbor. Owning seven carriers, the Underwoods delivered herring to their own plants and others in Lubec. Today the company still makes canned deviled ham, which has on its cans their logo of Poseidon holding his trident. The William Underwood is now a private yacht.

LOBSTER INDUSTRY BRACES (from page 1)

trade war escalates, meaning new overseas markets for products such as lobster pâté could be impacted.

Even as U.S. and Canadian tariffs remain at bay, China announced a 25% tariff on Canadian seafood on March 8. China is Canada’s biggest export market for live lobster, some of which originates in Maine. Some perspective about the impact can be gleaned from 2018, when President Trump’s tariff policy prompted China to put a 25% tariff on lobster imports from the U.S. That led to a 50% decrease in U.S. lobster exports to China the following year and an ensuing doubling of Canada’s exports of live lobster to China in 2019. As of 2025, lobster is one of Canada’s largest exports to China, with \$51.4 million in exports in January 2025 alone.

“It’s hard to say where this will end, but it is safe to say that these tariffs are likely to be in place for a long time to come and the old world of low-cost trade and low-cost shipping is going away,” Miller said, adding, “No matter what happens, people are going to be spending a lot more time doing compliance paperwork and showing where their goods came from.”

The ability to trade freely and easily is significant to the high-volume, low-margin lobster industry, which Luke Holden of Luke’s Lobster in Portland describes as “completely commingled” between the U.S. and Canada. Maine lacks sufficient processing facilities for the 90 million

pounds of lobster it harvests each year, Holden explained.

To help handle the supply, approximately half the catch is sent to Canada. Of that amount, Holden approximates that “at least 75% of it comes back to the U.S., where the majority of the market is,” while the rest of the processed meat is exported to other markets.

One way or another, the uncertainty in the global trade market and tariffs on virtually all secondary goods involved in the industry will result in increased costs. Figuring out how to handle those higher costs is a challenge, Holden said. There are generally three ways to do so – with the company either absorbing the costs, pushing back on the supplier, or passing them onto consumers “who already thought the world was too expensive.”

Beyond the actual increase of the costs involved, there’s another important factor at play – consumer confidence. It will be largely the consumers who decide what they are willing to pay for lobsters, which Holden acknowledged are not a necessity. “At the end of the day, lobster is a luxury item, and people are only willing to pay for that when they’ve got confidence in the economy.” Because of that, he said, “Lack of confidence is our biggest concern.”

Holden closed with a message of hopeful persistence, channeling the Island Institute’s core message. “It’s an incredibly resilient industry. We’ve worked through harder hurdles in my opinion.”

Elver fishing season starting off slowly

by Edward French

Elver fishermen have been greeted with low catches and low prices so far this season, which opened on March 22. This year’s fishery is “definitely slow,” says Passamaquoddy fisherman Erik S. Francis of Sipayik, who attributes the limited runs of the glass eels to the colder winter weather this year. In addition, the price “started horribly,” at \$300 a pound, but has been moving up steadily, at over \$670 now. During some past years, elver fishermen have received nearly \$3,000 a pound.

Many Passamaquoddy fishermen harvest elvers in southern and mid-coast regions, since there’s a limited time before the tribal quota is caught each year. As of April 3, a total of 533 elver fishing licenses were issued by the Passamaquoddy Tribe, with 294 at Indian Township and 233 at Sipayik. As of April 9, tribally licensed fishermen had caught 558.5 pounds out of their 1,101-pound quota this year. Fishermen licensed through the Maine Department of Marine Resources (DMR) had caught 90 pounds out of their 7,566-pound quota.

In some years there’s been little chance for Passamaquoddy fishermen to catch elvers locally before the quota is caught, since the elvers come into the rivers Downeast a little later than in southern Maine, in part because the difference in water temperatures.

The Passamaquoddy have adopted a derby-style fishery, with each tribal member limited to no more than five pounds. That individual limit aims to help ensure that all tribal members have a chance to fish. While the tribal quota has been caught in less than a week during some seasons, this year Francis believes the season for tribal fishermen may last to mid-April or longer.

Of the fishery, Francis says, “A lot of tribal members rely on it heavily. There’s a good cultural connection between the fishery and the people.” He notes that the tribe has been connected with the eel for thousands of years, harvesting both adults and baby eels, and the fish has long been considered sacred. The elver harvest also

allows tribal members to fish with their children and elders. “There’s a family aspect,” Francis says. “It’s passed down through the generations. We teach our kids how to do what our grandparents taught us to do.”

Conservation project started

To help with the eel population, Passamaquoddy Chief Pos Bassett of Sipayik last year authorized a conservation project through the issuance of ceremonial licenses. Three tribal members, Francis, Adam Newell and Frank Miliano, were awarded licenses to capture and release elvers in order to move them around dams that blocked their passage up river. Francis notes that all of the elvers remained within their river of origin. During the elver harvest season last spring, Francis transported 234 pounds of elvers, with Newell and Miliano each moving seven pounds, and Francis estimates that perhaps a quarter of a million elvers were carried up above the dams. The project was done on nine or 10 rivers throughout the state and will be repeated this spring. A plan to move adult eels around dams in the fall did not occur.

According to Francis, the Maine DMR was notified about the project and is supportive of the effort, although the state agency has not authorized such efforts by non-tribal fishermen.

Maine is the only state with a significant fishery for elvers, which are usually shipped to Asia, raised to maturity and sold to restaurants. The Atlantic State Marine Fisheries Commission maintains that the eel population is depleted, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has received proposals to list eels as endangered but has decided not to. Scientists agree that data about the eel population and life-cycle is lacking.

As for the sustainability of the fishery, Francis says, “I think we need to do more research on the eels.” He adds, “I believe they’re not as endangered as they’re saying. We need more studies up and down the coast to see if they’re endangered. There’s still a lot that’s unknown.”

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DIGGING CLAMS in Half Moon Cove, Eastport, on an early spring day. (Edward French photo)

Port of Eastport

Eastport & Lubec

VESSELS ENTERING

March 26–April 8, 2025

Name of vessel	Last Port of Call	Number of Trips
Atlantic Bay	Blacks Harbour	4
Ocean Provider I	Blacks Harbour	6

Shipping activities:

Eastport & Bayside

Bayside

The *Flintstone* arrived at the Port of Bayside on March 28 and loaded 11,633 metric tonnes of aggregate rock before sailing for a windmill farm off Martha’s Vineyard, Mass., on March 29.

The *Yellowstone* arrived on April 4 and loaded 14,160 metric tonnes of aggregate rock before sailing on April 6.

Eastport

There have been no ships at the Port of Eastport since February 22.

Weather Report

Taken in Eastport (E) and by Ed Mekelburg of Robbinston (R).

Date	Temperature				Precipitation		Snow		Water		Peak	
	Max		Min		E	R	E	R	Temp.	E	Gust	R
	E	R	E	R								
Mar. 25	41	39	32	30	0.79	0.04	2.1	trace	38	18		13
26	44	48	32	29	0.07	0.05	0	0.2	38	17		13
27	43	43	33	29	0.41	0.24	0.7	1.4	38	20		21
28	45	48	32	26	trace	trace	0	trace	38	23		29
29	39	39	27	25	trace	0	trace	0	38	17		20
30	35	37	29	22	0	0.18	0	0.2	38	12		16
31	50	49	32	32	0.36	0.73	0.3	0	38	30		24
April 1	48	46	39	29	0.59	0.43	0	trace	38	25		34
2	37	39	26	23	0.14	0	0	0	38	22		25
3	42	43	33	30	0	0.43	0	0.1	38	30		29
4	53	55	42	36	0.34	0	trace	0	38	22		30
5	45	44	34	29	0	0.04	0	0	39	24		22
6	49	50	36	35	0.33	0.5	0	0	39	32		18
7	47	45	35	30	0.11	0	0	0	39	14		13

Sunrise & Sunset

EASTPORT, MAINE

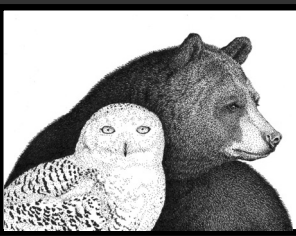
Lat. 44 55' N. Long. 67 01'W.
Eastern (U.S.) time
for Atlantic time, please add one hour.

Date	Rise	Set
April 12	5:50	7:09
13	5:48	7:10
14	5:46	7:12
15	5:44	7:13
16	5:43	7:14
17	5:41	7:15
18	5:39	7:17
19	5:37	7:18
20	5:36	7:19
21	5:34	7:20
22	5:36	7:22
23	5:31	7:23
24	5:29	7:24
25	5:27	7:25
25	5:26	7:27

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Tide Table

Tide Table in Atlantic (Canadian) time. For U.S. time, please subtract one hour.

Date	H/W	ht.	L/W	ht.	Date	H/W	ht.	L/W	ht.
SAT. April 12	12:14 am	24.6	6:28 am	4.3	SUN. April 20	5:20 am	23.3	11:43 am	5.9
	12:35 pm	24.6	6:44 pm	4.6		5:58 pm	22.1	--	--
SUN. April 13	12:48 am	24.9	7:02 am	3.9	MON. April 21	6:20 am	23.1	12:07 am	7.5
	1:09 pm	24.3	7:16 pm	4.9		6:59 pm	22.1	12:43 pm	6.2
MON. April 14	1:21 am	24.9	7:35 am	3.9	TUES. April 22	7:23 am	23.3	1:11 am	7.2
	1:42 pm	24.3	7:49 pm	5.2		8:00 pm	22.6	1:46 pm	5.6
TUES. April 15	1:53 am	24.9	8:09 am	4.3	WED. April 23	8:25 am	24.1	2:14 am	6.2
	2:16 pm	24.1	8:22 pm	5.6		8:58 pm	24.1	2:45 pm	4.9
WED. April 16	2:27 am	24.9	8:44 am	4.3	THUR. April 24	9:23 am	24.6	3:13 am	5.2
	2:52 pm	23.6	8:58 pm	5.9		9:51 pm	25.3	3:41 pm	3.9
THUR. April 17	3:04 am	24.6	9:22 am	4.9	FRI. April 25	10:17 am	25.6	4:08 am	3.6
	3:30 pm	23.1	9:36 pm	6.2		10:41 pm	26.6	4:32 pm	3.1
FRI. April 18	3:43 am	24.1	10:03 am	5.2	SAT. April 26	11:08 am	26.6	4:59 am	2.3
	4:13 pm	22.6	10:20 pm	6.9		11:29 pm	27.9	5:21 pm	
SAT. April 19	4:29 am	23.6	10:50 am	5.6	SUN. April 27	11:58 am	27.2	5:49 am	1.1
	5:02 pm	22.3	11:10 pm	7.2		--	--	6:10 pm	1.6

SMOKE

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QUODDY OPINION

Cuts to affect seniors

The impacts of cuts being made by the current U.S. administration will soon begin to resonate among people living throughout the country, including this area. The latest disruption, slated to begin on April 14, will particularly affect seniors, especially those living in rural parts of the country, as the federal administration has decided to no longer allow Americans to apply for Social Security benefits or change their direct deposit information over the phone, according to an article published by the news website Axios. Currently, more than 4 in 10 retirees apply for benefits by phone. Now they will be required to go online or travel to a Social Security Administration (SSA) field office.

For those living Downeast, that will mean traveling to the nearest office in Bangor, if they have to apply or make changes in person. There are many people of retirement age living in this area, and now they will need to take a day off and drive a long distance, if they are able to and have access to a vehicle. And they will need to be patient. Cutting off phone service is expected to drive many more people to backlogged field offices, the Axios article notes, and people will first need to make an appointment by phone, “where service is already constrained by long hold and callback times.”

Edward French

While the SSA website can be used to apply for retirement benefits, at present one cannot apply for Social Security survivors’ benefits online. And the agency’s website is now crashing more often because of technology updates, so even more patience will be required.

In addition, a number of SSA field offices are expected to be closed and at least 7,000 workers to be cut, according to a report by American Public Media’s “Marketplace” radio program. With the loss of thousands of staff, wait times and processing times will become longer. Even trying to resolve innocent discrepancies or misunderstandings about income or earnings may take a long period of time, with initial decisions and appeals taking well over a year. Some people may still be patient, but it’s expected that others may become so discouraged that they may never apply for benefits like Supplemental Security Income (SSI) that provide monthly payments to people with disabilities and older adults who have little or no income or resources.

If you think your patience may wear thin, you can still act, though, to try to reverse these changes. Call or email your representatives in Congress and tell them they should seek to protect phone access to the Social Security Administration.

Edward French

MAILBOAT REX IV

IMMIGRANTS ARE US

To the editor:

With spring upon us and everything pushing us the next five months to “make it,” national politics may seem low priority. Unless you are a veteran, using SNAP, on Social Security, Medicaid or Medicare, building a house or a business, need a truck or to feed a family – things are much “the usual” around here. The fate of “immigrants” in America may just seem like “somebody else’s problem.”

But what is happening to “them” is something Mainers in Washington County need to care about, because unless you are a living descendant of the Passamaquoddy from the Wabanaki, you too are an immigrant. Every non-First Nation person in America came to America as “stranger in need” on some ship, fleeing persecution, to start over, indentured or enslaved. From “away,” we needed help to survive. We all feel it the same.

My white skin tells of the Irish, German, French and Basque people who found their way here. My people endured poverty and hatred to live here. Your people did too. When I eat a potato or weed my garden, I am that dirt. Most of us here are “the least of these” Christ described. We were warned, “I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not,” and “Inasmuch as ye did it to one of the least of these, ye did it to me.” (See Matthew 25:43 and 45.) The road to our doom, it seems, is paved by cruel harm to the vulnerable and doing nothing about it.

So what’s happening illegally to the rights and free speech of legal immigrants, to immigrants awaiting hearings, to foreign exchange students on scholarships, to naturalized Americans just starting families needs to alarm us all. Not caring “for them,” doing nothing to safeguard their rights and lives, we will lose ours when cruelty by dictator seeks new victims - like us: the poor, weak, elderly people.

Downeast shows me all life works best

together. The fisheries, the forests, our kiddos, people near and far, the ground, wildlife, beauty and the weather bind us as one. We need to care about our immigrant neighbors like people who know which way our national winds need to blow. We need to protect their rights like they are our own.

Leslie Mulligan
Machias

POLITICAL POWER PLAY

To the editor:

The executive order issued on March 25 is an outrageous attempt to suppress voting in the U.S. It effectively imposes an expensive (\$130) poll tax on anyone who does not hold a current U.S. passport. It appears that this is a solution to a problem not very well characterized: what exactly is the documented incidence of non-citizens voting in any election? Absent the definitive proof of substantial voter fraud, I sincerely hope the judicial system will immediately terminate this obscene political power play.

Thomas Adelman
Pembroke

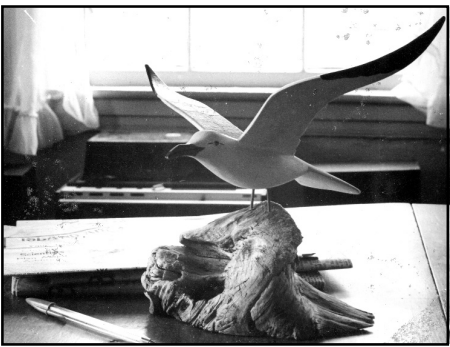
WAX CYLINDER PRESENTATION

To the editor:

This letter is to inform your readers of the incredible upcoming learning opportunity being held in Baileyville on Sunday, April 27, at 2 p.m. at the Community Connections Center, 163 Main Street. This history lesson will be given by Dwayne Tomah of the Passamaquoddy Tribe. He will be presenting the fascinating story of the wax cylinders, which are now housed in the Library of Congress and hold the first ever recordings of Native language and music on Thomas Edison’s phonograph. This event is free and open to the public. For more information email Heid Hicks <hhicks@mcd.org>.

Hope to see many of our community out to support this presentation!

Heidi Hicks
Community Connections
Center
Baileyville



Across Your Editor’s Desk

INSPIRING POET REMEMBERED

Tom Sexton, the former poet laureate of Alaska and a former Eastport resident, who passed away in March, is remembered in a feature article by Chris Bieri that was published in the *Anchorage Daily News* on March 22. Sexton was a professor at the University of Alaska Anchorage for nearly 25 years and inspired many young writers. “You turn over a rock and somebody took a class from Tom Sexton,” a former student and writer, Mike Burwell, states in the article. “It’s unbelievable, his overall influence on writers in Alaska.” He is remembered by former students as a kind, calm and generous teacher. He was a founding editor of the *Alaska Quarterly Review* and was the spark for the launching of another Alaska-based literary journal, *Cirque*. He brought notable writers to the state to give public readings, and he had a number of rural properties that served as writing retreats.

Sexton published more than 12 books of poetry during his time in Alaska. Along with his Alaska poems of place, he wrote about his years in Lowell, Mass., where he grew up, and about Eastport, where he lived for quite a few years. The article notes that he studied the Chinese poets, who were wanderers, and Sexton was a well-known walker, carrying on that ancient lineage to today’s culture.

THE IRVINGS AND SAINT JOHN

The impact of the Irving family’s business empire on the port city of Saint John is examined in an April 1 article by Ian Austen in *The New York Times*. The empire began in the 1920s when K.C. Irving ran a general store and gas station that sold Ford Model Ts, and he then took over failing bus and truck companies and expanded to paper, ships and lumber after World War II. The family businesses are now worth an estimated \$14.5 billion Canadian dollars, and it’s estimated that one out of every 10 people in New Brunswick works for an Irving company. However, the province ranks at or near the bottom in Canada for family income.

The company was able to get concessions and tax breaks from the government, and the relatively low taxes on many Irving-owned businesses have made it difficult to support needed social services, the article states. The company’s oil refinery and factories have brought pollution to Saint John, and there’s been little scrutiny of health issues caused by Irving-owned businesses. Most people in the city are unwilling to publicly criticize the Irvings, the article states.

STILL SPICY

Raye’s Mustard of Eastport is featured in the latest issue of *AAA Explorer*, a publication of the American Automobile Association. The business was founded in 1900 by J. Wesley Raye to provide mustard for the local sardine factories, and mustard seeds are still cold-pressed on the original grindstones, making Raye’s the last traditional mustard mill operating in the country. The mill’s gift shop now offers a wide range of mustard flavors, as it is now used as a condiment. The company plans to launch a needed restoration project, possibly with a museum, on August 2, National Mustard Day.

THE QUODDY TIDES

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Tel.: (207) 853-4806

E-mail: qtides@midmaine.com
or qtides@myfairpoint.net

Website: www.quoddytides.com

Address: 123 Water St., P.O. Box 213,
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Editor & Publisher — Edward French

Assistant Publisher — Lora Whelan

Managing Editor — Lura Jackson

Circulation Manager — Kara Mitchell

Advertising Representative — Sue Moore

Copy Editor — Dawn Guiltner

Accounting — Dee Flagg

Photographer — Don Dunbar

Book Reviewers — RJ Heller

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Delivery — Steve Moore

Contributing Artist — Jerome Andrews

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New England Press Association

Whirlpool

April’s showers – of rain and snow –
bring the promise of May flowers.

Pussywillow season is beginning. Keep
your eyes peeled for patches of them
growing on the side of the road. Grass is
greening in sheltered areas, and daffodils
and other perennials are poking up.

“It’s spring fever. That is what the name
of it is. And when you’ve got it, you want
– oh, you don’t quite know what it is you
do want, but if just fairly makes your heart
ache, you want it so!” – Mark Twain

Fiddleheads are a Maine spring delicacy.
The tightly coiled heads of the oyster
fern are sold in stores for a brief unpredictable
period of availability. People
fiercely guard the locations of their favorite
fiddlehead picking spots.

Tact is the act of making a point without
making an enemy.

Don’t you wish there were a knob on
the TV to turn up the intelligence? There’s
one marked “Brightness,” but it doesn’t
work. – Gallagher (comedian).

The Cove

REAL

All through the night the rain had

slammed

Against the house. At least it hadn’t been
snow.

Everything was wet through.

“Spring,” I said.

“Mud season,” said he.

If you know Lem you know he likes

To keep it “real.”

Ron Cuddy

Calais

Thought for a fortnight

Full lasting is the song, though he, the
singer, passes.

from “The Thrush in February”

George Meredith

MAILBOAT REX IV

WHY WE ARE ON THE BRIDGE

To the editor:

A bunch of old women on the bridge. I hear voices around town mocking the old ladies protesting on the bridge in Cherryfield. We are there because we are old. We have been around for a long time, and we have seen so much.

I remember the photograph of a very young Canadian soldier dressed in his military uniform on my grandmother's nightstand. I remember her sad story of the day soldiers showed up on her mother's doorstep and said, "His majesty the king regrets to inform you ...". She kept her little brother's photo on her nightstand until she died at the age of 98. So no, I do not condone the disrespect that is now bestowed on our allies who fought beside us and died to stop the spread of fascism.

I remember my grandfather's story on how he was left for dead on the battlefields of Europe and how a nurse in the morgue saw a white sheet move. "This one is alive!" So again, I do not condone the disrespect and disdain shown to John McCain and our military. ([Concerning] the ones who did get caught or maimed: "No one wants to see that!" said Trump in disgust.)

I remember watching my little sister die of AIDS, so no, I do not condone cutting medical research grants. There are cures out there waiting to be discovered. The well insured are taken care of; the uninsured die way too soon.

I remembering burying two young nephews, a niece and a sister from fentanyl overdoses. Young vibrant beautiful lives lost way too soon. So yes, I find it very offensive that this administration uses drugs as an excuse for their tariff policies. I believe that it would be more beneficial to stop the blaming and talk about the millions of guns that are going into Mexico from the U.S. that has allowed these cartels to become all powerful.

I remember watching my husband bravely endure and survive four years of brutal chemo treatments. So no, I do not condone cutting money from the CDC and universities for research grants. He is alive and well today because of all this new research.

I remembering watching my father's house get flooded and his dismay at the damage to all his stuff. He was, after all, a Depression baby who saved everything. So no, I do not condone cuts to FEMA.

I remember immigrants at work, working harder (for little money) than anyone else making six-figure salaries, always with a smile on their faces and never a negative word about anyone. Much unlike the racist and cruel remarks made by those who considered themselves better. This country was built on immigrant labor. I do believe our immigration system could be better, but I do not condone this disgusting degradation of immigrants.

I remember the stories of the Nazis burning books (much like pulling books off the shelves in our libraries) and snatching people off the streets, which is really happening here right now! I remember stories of the cultural revolution in China.

I never saw my mother laugh so hard as when she saw her first drag show.

I remember the suppression of free speech in Russia and how dissent was rewarded with a one-way ticket to the gulag (or El Salvador). I remember how Trump's best buddy Putin poisoned people who displeased him. He is not your friend.

I remember the fear I felt when I became single in middle age. DEI helped me secure a well-paying job in my company that was composed of all men. I thrived because I was given the opportunity. DEI is not there to favor minorities and women, it is there so that the more qualified person is chosen over a white male in a white male patriarchal society. I

worked in that male-dominated system for 40 years, and it was always a struggle. I do not like bullies.

This is why we are on the bridge.

Sue Hennessy
Ed Labore Jr.
Cherryfield

SPEAK OUT AGAINST 47TH PRESIDENT'S ACTIONS

To the editor:

The party and its leader who are the supposed proponents of free speech are having their agents weed out, arrest and begin deportation efforts of outspoken, legally in our country individuals. There have been several arrests in recent weeks of students, teachers, etc. who do not fit Trump's blueprint of "acceptable allowed individuals."

There was the abduction by Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents of Mahmoud Khalil, a legal permanent resident who was clearly detained because of his pro-Palestinian activism at Columbia University, as his crying, eight-months pregnant wife looked on, recording it. He was eventually transported to a jail in LA, where he remains. His lawyers are fighting for his release, hopefully in time to witness his child's birth.

The arrests of law-abiding individuals at border checkpoints because of the contents of their phones being checked has many of us worried. If anti-Trump comments are the criteria needed for deportation, many of us better leave our phones home when traveling across our border.

There is the further demonization of the press by 47 through his continued name-calling and personal attacks against any reporter who dares speak truth to him or ask for a truthful answer from him. He has limited who gets to interview or ask questions of him at every event.

And while 47 and his agents squelch those who dare and speak out against him, many are warning that it feels more and more like countries we have long fought against and label undemocratic.

It might behoove us to think hard about what it all means for our freedoms and ideals as a country. Where is this all heading? How many of those freedoms will we watch being taken away? How many "others" will we let pay the price? Let us be forewarned by Pastor Martin Niemöller: "First they came for the Communists, and I did not speak out because I was not a Communist. Then they came for the Socialists, and I did not speak out because I was not a Socialist. Then they came for the trade unionists, and I did not speak out because I was not a trade unionist. Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out because I was not a Jew. Then they came for me, and there was no one left to speak out for me."

He wrote this after coming to realize that Nazi control of the churches was a step in controlling everything. He did not speak out until it personally affected him!

"Golden years," no. Scary times, yes.
Tonya Troiani
Meddybemps

SUPPORT FOR AOS BUDGET

To the editor:

The editorial opinion of *The Quoddy Tides* is clearly skeptical of the need for AOS staff to receive raises. That is OK, as everyone is allowed to have an opinion. What is not OK, however, is using the platform of the newspaper editorial opinion to sow seeds of doubt about the intentions of the AOS staff in maintaining transparency. The statement made by an AOS staff member that people "are literally paying more in gas to drive to the meeting and vote [the budget] down than what they're going to pay in taxes" was not made to discourage attending budget meetings, it was made to illustrate how ridiculously low the tax increase will be.

The information about where and when the AOS board and town school committee meetings are held is readily available to the public for those who seek it out. The agendas are announced one week in advance. You may call or visit the office to find out. They have a very large bulletin board right inside with every upcoming meeting agenda and current job postings. You can visit their Facebook page. You can also ask to be put on an email list for each meeting you'd like to know about.

I attended the meeting where the AOS board voted to approve the second draft budget. I can count on almost two hands the amount of people in attendance. Not one person asked questions or raised objections, including two Eastport residents who have very publicly made their stance against the budget clear.

I don't think \$855,000 to pay and support a staff of seven to do the work required in operating the AOS is outrageous. It seems like people don't have a clue about the work they do, and at this point some opposition is clearly for personal, petty reasons. I'd also like to add that teachers and ed techs who are dissatisfied with the amount of compensation they receive need to take that up with their individual school committees. AOS office staff do not decide teacher compensation; school committees and unions and ultimately voters decide. I think teachers and school staff should be paid as much as possible, which is why I attend my school's committee meetings, when possible, to advocate for higher pay.

My final point is an unpopular opinion, but here goes: The price to pay for each of our towns to keep local control over our schools and have an AOS to cost-share resources required by law is the price. Those costs will forever continue to increase. If that feels unsustainable, then maybe we, as a greater community, need to start having hard conversations about what the future of educating our kids is going to look like. School consolidation is a dirty word around here, but if we avoid the conversation until more schools close, then we will be too late to deal with this in a way that does what's best for all the kids. And that's really what this is all about, isn't it?

Laura Brown
Pembroke

(Editor's note: Because the letter writer misrepresents what was stated in the March 28 "Quoddy Opinion," we note that the opinion stated that the AOS staff member may not have intended to discourage taxpayers from attending the budget meeting but that his statement could be interpreted that way. The opinion was not skeptical of the need for raises but pointed out how much the raises have been in recent years. As for transparency in announcing public meetings, the opinion noted that citizen participation should be welcome and public notification should be widespread, beyond Facebook and a bulletin board inside the AOS office.)

DEMOCRATIC INGRATITUDE

To the editor:

From his several enterprises, a naturalized American citizen recently provided Starlink satellite communication services to first-responders and victims after the Carolina hurricanes (after FEMA's efforts were inept), rescued stranded American astronauts from the International Space Station (after the Biden administration left them stranded for nearly nine months), successfully developed and marketed several quality electric vehicles, is uncovering hundreds of billions of dollars in U.S. federal government waste and fraud and is creating a "human operating

system" that'll restore mobility to paraplegics.

Instead of demonstrating an iota of gratitude, many hyperbolic and angry Maine Democrats are publicly calling him a Nazi (see recent letters to the editor, "Mailbox Rex IV," from highly-partisan local Democrats), with many Democrats nationwide taking their protest past name-calling, escalating it to senseless violence, e.g., burning and damaging Tesla vehicles and dealerships and, in a few cases, assaulting owners of Tesla vehicles. The above reference should inform rational Maine voters

with all that we need to know about the irrationality of members of the present-day Democratic Party. As I see it, in their messaging about their future vision for America and Maine the present-day Democrats offer hate, hyperbole and fear.

Dale Ferriere
Lubec

REMEMBERING MYRON CURTIS

To the editor:

Thank you for your memory article about Myron Curtis [March 14, *The Quoddy Tides*]. The best any of us can hope for is to leave a legacy of respect. None was more respected in the horse world in Washington County than Myron. His name was always at the top of the list!

I believe your first mentor shapes your relationship with horses for the rest of your life. His words to me as he passed me the reins were, "Be kind to my horse!" That was July 1955 on a side hill on Route 1 beside the Dennys River with an old schoolhouse at the top. The flea-bitten mare, named Dolly, was hitched to a hay rake. The first thing that happened was we hit a hornets' nest causing Dolly to run away with me, throwing me off the hay rake! Luckily, we caught Dolly, took her to the river, put mud on her stings, went to the woods to cut a sapling to repair the broken shaft and collected some bailing twine to repair the harness – then they picked me up and put me back on the seat of the hay rake. Best thing they ever did! Was I afraid? You bet! But it was pretty damn exciting!

Rest in peace, Myron. Thanks for the leg up and the memories!

Bob Giles
Morriston, Fla.

KEEPING ARTS TRADITION ALIVE

To the editor:

Thanks to *The Quoddy Tides* and Lura Jackson for the wonderful article on the area's music collaboration. I've been delighted to see LAMPS and MBCC plus the Cobscook Institute, Lubec Community Outreach Center and others working together and building a thriving musical community.

Education is not just about how to make a living. It's also about how to live. I have been constantly grateful for having grown up surrounded by the arts and so happy to see our Lubec school and others keeping the tradition alive. SummerKeys and the then CCLC's music were major factors in my moving here and starting Cobscook Bay Music. Some of my favorite memories are of the joy expressed by the kids and teachers at the school when my guest performers volunteered to do a concert for them. Reading your article caused me to re-read the beautiful "thank you" letter from the Whiting school that hangs in my office. It was in response to folk singer Debra Cowan's visit. Debra was a teacher, too, and established a great rapport with the kids. I hope the article will encourage folks to contribute to LAMPS and the other organizations that are doing so much for our community.

Fred Pierce
Lubec

More opinions
– page 6

MAILBOAT REX IV

DO YOUR RESEARCH

To the editor:

Mr. Ferriere’s letter in the March 28 issue of *The Quoddy Tides* reminded me of my youth when I thought I had all the answers, even to questions that were yet to be asked. Then along came life, which taught me how little I knew and how much there was to learn. What appeared black and white at the time turned out to be much more gray. One thing I know for a fact – nothing good comes out of something that is built on lies, hate, deceit and division.

In my quest for truth and knowledge I learned not to just parrot someone, but to do the research. The MAGA crowd doesn’t seem to have learned this lesson.

An example of the misinformation that keeps spewing out of the White House is that Canada is charging a high tariff on U.S. dairy products exported to Canada. The reality is the current trade agreement between the U.S. and Canada, which Trump negotiated and signed, sets out a quota for U.S. dairy products that can enter Canada tariff free. Only when that quota is exceeded does the tariff apply. As near as I can find out, that quota has never even been filled, let alone exceeded.

Why is it OK for the U.S. to prioritize/protect its workers and businesses, but Republicans consider it unfair for other countries to do the same? What happened to the win/win principle of negotiation? What type of person lacks the integrity to honor their agreements? What type of people worship a bully and also have the audacity to call themselves Christian?

Wayne Sabine
Tilley, N.B.

ACT NOW TO KEEP HISTORY FROM REPEATING ITSELF

To the editor:

After WWI, Democratic President Woodrow Wilson was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for developing the League of Nations. Succeeding President Wilson, President Harding, a Republican, was a leader in what became known as the

“America First” movement. America First refused to support the League of Nations, even though its purpose was to maintain world peace. Without U.S. support for the League of Nations, it failed. The result was World War II.

“America First” is the exact same language Vice President Vance and President Trump are using today. In the recent and infamous “Signalgate” chat, our vice president directly stated, “I just hate bailing Europe out again.” (Clue, Mr. Vice President: The Houthi rebels we attacked are in the Middle East. This attack was to help oil prices stay low. That’s kind of in our interest.)

President Trump and Vice President Vance are not supportive of the United Nations. Note, since the creation of the United Nations, there have been no world wars. Since the creation of NATO, there had been no major continental wars in Europe until Vladimir Putin invaded Ukraine. This was in violation a 1994 treaty known as the Trilateral in which both the United States and Russia guaranteed Ukraine’s political and geographical sovereignty.

In the 1920s, Republicans controlled all three branches of our government. They passed tariffs. The Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act of 1930, signed into law by Republican President Herbert Hoover, aimed to protect American businesses and farmers from foreign competition by raising tariffs on imported goods. The result was the Great Depression.

As the United States now heads toward a tariff-caused recession, with many economists fearing it could turn into a depression, “we the people” must ask ourselves: Why do we want to repeat a terrible era in history?

The answer is most of us don’t want to repeat history. We don’t want a depression or WWII. Since the 1980s, many schools spend little time teaching history. It’s understandable our citizens are not familiar with what happened in the past. It might be too late to stop a recession, but we can stop future wars by supporting the United Nations, NATO and living up

to our 1994 commitment regarding Ukraine. Act now and vote accordingly in 2026. Only you can prevent history from repeating itself.

Keith Newman
Addison

FASCIST WAR ON INTELLECTUALS

To the editor:

Soon-to-be-former Yale Professor Jason Stanley, who wrote *Erasing History: How Fascists Rewrite the Past to Control the Future*, has been in the news lately (e.g., NPR, April 1), pointing out how the Trump administration’s withholding university funds is part of an “attack on intellectuals” that is common to fascist states. Former Secretary of Labor Robert Reich had expressed similar concerns when he said that targeting independent sources of information and withholding money from universities are part of the authoritarian’s playbook.

Stanley said he’s moving his family to Canada because he has black-Jewish children – understandable given the Trump administration’s ongoing, white-supremacist erasure of national-historical references to (women and) people of color and the elimination of federal DEI programs. He wants to leave before the U.S. starts “pulling people’s passports” (*Mediaite*, March 31) but seemed most alarmed by how the Trump administration is “setting up” Jews when it cites “increased antisemitism” on college campuses as “an excuse for taking down democracy” and targeting intellectuals in the name of Jews. Secretary Reich had, similarly, called Trump’s focus on campus antisemitism “a pretext,” and even the ADL has now “reversed its support for Trump’s student deportations” (*The Forward*, April 3).

The ancient Hebrew higher-ups, who erased and rewrote the past so cunningly that Israel controls much of what happens in the Middle East to this day, also controlled their own flock so obsessively that parts of the Old Testament read like a primer on authoritarianism (and racial supremacy). How sadly ironic that their modern-day counterparts – who routinely target, attack, set up and try to silence Israel’s critics with their knee-jerk, “anti-semitic!” epithets – might soon be hoisted on their own petard. That can happen to fascists, too. Are you listening, Donnie?

Melodie Greene
Calais

ZOOMING PUBLIC MEETINGS IS NOT ILLEGAL

To the editor:

At March’s Eastport City Council meeting, the council adopted a Remote Participation Policy enabling them to cease live-streaming public meetings at their discretion. Not one audience member spoke in support of the policy, and despite hearing concerns from nearly a dozen residents, the council’s vote was unanimous. Zoom can now be discontinued at any time they wish.

Every resident who addressed the council urged them to protect Zoom access to meetings. Residents noted that Zoom increases public access for parents, working people, elders and the disabled – particularly during winter when illness, weather and dangerous road conditions prevent people from driving.

City Manager Brian Schuth claimed many times that the policy was necessary, because he believes it is illegal to live-stream public meetings without such a policy in place. That is false.

MRS Title 1, Chapter 13. Public Records and Proceedings states that “any person attending a public proceeding has the right to make written, taped or filmed records of the proceedings, or to live broadcast them.” Moreover, Maine’s Freedom of Access Act requires all municipalities to create such a recording, stating “a record of each public proceeding must be made, and must be open to public inspection.”

Do not allow our local government to quietly strip away our rights to open meetings! Live-streaming of city meetings should not be contingent on the whims of council! Express your objection to this exclusionary policy by writing to <citymanager@eastport-me.gov> and <Council@eastport-me.gov>.

Birdy Velveteen
Eastport

USE YOUR VOTE AND VOICE

To the editor:

Many Republican members of Congress are decent people who sought elective office to represent the wishes of their constituents. However, under the Trump administration they face the difficult choice to either honor their sworn commitment to uphold our constitutional laws or pledge their allegiance to Donald Trump. Failure to support the president’s dictates can result in swift repercussions. They will be faced with a well-financed primary election opponent who is totally dedicated to Trump. They may also endure vicious personal attacks. We have seen judges who ruled against the president’s wishes threatened with impeachment. Their addresses and phone numbers appear on right-wing social media, making them easy targets for any Trump addict who may wish to show their fealty to him trusting in being pardoned for any crime they may inflict.

With few exceptions, Congress and the courts seem unwilling to challenge this authoritarian administration. Those of us who are desperate to preserve our constitutional laws have one weapon to aid us – our vote. Lincoln said, most eloquently, “of the people, for the people and by the people.” He was taking about the true strength of America, each individual citizen doing his best to preserve our values. We can run for office ourselves or support those who pledge to uphold the law and oppose all who threaten our cherished way of life.

Ron Jarvella
Belfast

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Backyard Gardener

Ditching the shovel and spade

by Jo Tilley

If you’ve heard of the no-till or no-dig gardening method, then you can thank gardener and writer Ruth Stout. She was born in 1884 and died in 1980 and was a wonderfully eccentric woman who spent most of her adult life in Connecticut working on and writing about her garden, throwing kitchen scraps willy-nilly instead of in compost containers and planting rows and rows of seeds and seedlings in deeply mulched areas.

Stout called it “no-work” gardening, which isn’t exactly correct, since tending to at least eight inches of mulch over a wide area every year is a certain amount work in itself. However, what she was getting at was to leave the earth below your layers of mulch undisturbed. No spading, digging, forking and turning over for Stout. Many of us use her ideas by placing thick layers of newspaper and cardboard, with tape and glue removed, directly on top of mown or unmown lawn and grasses and then piling high with manure from organic sources, seaweed, grass clippings, leaves, old hay and straw and half-finished compost. This is ideally done in the fall to give it time to settle and decompose a bit before planting in the spring.

Spoiled hay and straw were Stout’s mulch of choice. Many of us don’t have access to such things or don’t have access to a source that is guaranteed free of pesticides and herbicides. Since many of these chemicals have long lives, they aren’t something most of us would want as residues in our gardens. Wood chips can make for a good mulch, but be sure that they aren’t coming from trees that have been sprayed as well. Wood chips can deplete the soil of nitrogen as they break down, and this is where Stout’s annual use of cottonseed meal is of benefit. It was her only exterior input for fertilizer, applied at the rate of five pounds per 100 square feet. It provides slow-release nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium, while also improving soil structure and water retention.

On our back quarter, we started our vegetable garden with a bit of digging and gave up on that idea quickly. At the time, we didn’t know about Stout, but many of the same ideas have been circulating for a while. The sod was covered, and we built mounds to even out the sloping lawn. Every year for about six years we added copious amounts of organic cow manure in the fall from a farmer who delivered it in a dump truck. Our neighbors were good sports. Now we add our own semi-finished compost in the spring and seaweed and leaves in the fall. We may give Stout’s cottonseed meal a try.

Throwing compost scraps out and about on the garden sounds like a recipe for rodents and raccoons in our neck of the woods. Neither have much in the way of predators where we live, and we do our best with our compost bins to keep them from becoming the local holy grail of food scraps. So far, we have been successful. However, a neighbor attempted a much looser compost bin method for a while, and that succeeded in providing tasty treats for our four-footed friends. Once the compost bin was removed, they went away, thank goodness. However, Stout’s method might work if you have ducks, cats and dogs that roam around your garden area keeping rodents, crows and other interested parties at bay. We quite like crows but don’t want them deciding that our garden is theirs.

So what does Stout recommend once we’ve built our alluringly deep mounds of mulch? She suggests that, when it’s planting time, pull back the mulch for the plantings of seeds and seedlings, allow for sunlight and water and gradually move the mulch back as the plants grow. Her method does not deter all weed seeds either. In our opinion, there is nothing that will completely deter weed seeds, unless we go the way of chemicals, which would deter all sorts of other things as well and result in some black marks on our record in the heavens.

There’s much to unpack with Stout, and much depends on your garden’s conditions. Our garden is a bit cold. Eight or more inches of mulch can mean that the planting conditions are colder than normal down an inch or two. Delayed planting in our region is not an option. We need as much of the shorter growing season as we can get. Slugs could also be a problem. Beer bait traps are useful, but rainy weather will mean some constant beer baiting upkeep.

Perhaps creating raised and contained beds of mulch would help with keeping slugs away while warming things up, since raised beds that are four feet or less in width will tend to warm up faster than flat ground. If the two methods are combined, it might be that the warmer and the cooler conditions cancel each other out. We’re sure someone out there has already tried this and has discussed it online on one gardening thread or another with plenty of delicious anecdotes and questions and answers to keep us busy reading for many hours.

There’s much to use from Stout’s ideas and to modify according to your own tastes, garden conditions, available resources and more. But most gardeners will say without hesitation that ditching the shovel and spade sounds like a marvelous idea to garden by.

What's Cookin'

SALMON IN THE GRASS by Sue Moore

Here we are, Eastporters and those beyond the island. It is spring, but as we all know Mother Nature can be a fickle character. Too warm for a hearty stick-to-your-ribs meal and too chilly for a lighter fare. How about a compromise with a fun name? Salmon in the Grass is what we call it when we cook our salmon filets in a creamy, melty spinach concoction. Husband Steve loves anything salmon, and I found a great price on a big ole slab at the R&M IGA here on the island. This is an easy week-night cook or a date-night dish that can be elevated with additional seafood or vegetable ingredients or a delectable side-dish accompaniment. It serves four, so, to make more, double or even triple the recipe ingredients. Let’s begin.

4 large salmon filets
1 cup heavy cream
3/4 cup fresh shredded Parmesan cheese
2 Tbsp olive oil
Pat butter
To taste: salt, pepper, garlic powder
Optional seasonings: creole spice, crushed or ground red pepper
2 Tbsp chopped garlic
2 large bags fresh spinach
3/4 cup chicken or vegetable broth
Zest of one small lemon
Hearty squeeze of lemon juice
Fresh chopped parsley

Salt and pepper both sides of each salmon filet. In a large skillet heat the olive oil and pat of butter over medium to medium-high heat and add the salmon filets. Cook the filets for five minutes per side or until cooked through. Remove filets from the skillet and set aside to rest while making the spinach.

Using the same skillet add the garlic and additional seasonings to taste, sautéing for two minutes or until the garlic is fragrant. Add broth and heavy cream and reduce the heat to low-medium, stirring gently and bringing the mixture to a simmer. Add the Parmesan cheese, folding it into the sauce until the mixture thickens. Add the spinach a few handfuls at a time; it seems like an awful lot but as it wilts it will shrink down. Introduce the lemon zest

and continue to cook until all the spinach has wilted.

Gently place the salmon filets in the spinach mixture and add the lemon juice. Spoon the spinach and sauce over the salmon on low heat for just a brief moment or two to warm the filets back up but not enough to overcook them. Just before removing the skillet from the heat, garnish the filets with fresh parsley.

Plate atop a pillowy portion of lemon orzo or rice pilaf or aside a beautiful tagliatelle or pappardelle pasta nest with a garlic butter drizzle. To spice up your spinach concoction add in a red chili pepper or two, or to slightly fire up the flavor profile add a sliced poblano pepper at the time you sauté the garlic. Protein substitutions could be chicken or tofu. Lift the dish to elegant status by adding in some scallops, lobster and/or shrimp and a splash of white wine.

To round out the recipe, vegetable addition possibilities are boundless. Try adding some mushrooms, onions, asparagus, cherry tomatoes, roasted red peppers, artichokes, pheasant – the whole garden could join in. If you dislike spinach, kale could be a good substitute; just remember it takes longer to cook to the wilted state, so cut the leaves smaller and make sure to wash them well before sautéing. If heavy cream is too rich for you, there is always the option of using either half-and-half or coconut cream.

A delightful dessert to follow is a homemade batch of lemon cookies, quick and easy by putting a box of lemon cake mix into a bowl and adding two eggs, 1/3 cup of vegetable oil, 1 teaspoon lemon extract and mix well to combine. Place spoonfuls of the cookie mix onto a greased baking sheet and place into a preheated 375° oven and bake until the bottoms of the cookies are light golden brown, approximately 7 to 12 minutes, depending on your oven strength. Remove the cookies from the oven and allow to cool and then dust lightly with powdered sugar, or to be a little naughtier spread your favorite frosting on the cookies; how much frosting you use is between you and your scale, so I say frost those babies heartily! Enjoy!



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Energy committee sets Earth Day event

by Lura Jackson

The efficient use of energy will be the focus of an Earth Day event at the Eastport Welcome Center on Tuesday, April 22, from 12 to 2 p.m. The event, organized by the Energy Committee, will feature multiple concise presentations on energy and money-saving methods and highlight the work the committee has been doing in bringing a microgrid to the island.

Along with sharing some of the programs available to Eastport residents, such as Window Dressers, energy audits and Efficiency Maine rebates, the goal is to do a “show and tell” on ways to save electricity, says Jeanne Peacock of the Energy Committee. Among the items on display

will be a fully electric Chevrolet Silverado truck from Versant Power and a Chevrolet Blazer from the Pratt dealership in Calais. Other presentations will include weather emergency preparedness and industry updates from Versant.

The event will begin with a light lunch followed by the presentations and exhibits. Prior to the event, the public is invited to a site visit from 10 to 10:15 a.m. at StudioWorks at 48 Water Street, where Hugh French of the Tides Institute & Museum of Art will present on the building’s wood pellet boiler, and from 10 to 11 a.m. at 99 Toll Bridge Road where Bob Peacock will share his hybrid water heater and innovative overhead rail delivery system for 40-pound pellet bags.

Book published on 19th century architect

The Tides Institute & Museum of Art (TIMA) has just published a 24-page book on the life and work of early-19th-century Eastport architect Daniel Low. Titled *Daniel Low: Eastport’s Ingenious Architect*, the book was written by Earle Shettleworth Jr., Maine state historian and retired director of the Maine Historic Preservation Commission. The illustrated book was designed by Andrew Steeves of the Press of the Varying Hare of Black River Lake, N.S., and printed by Penmor Lithographers of Lewiston.

Born in Boston in 1779, Low moved to Bath and worked for one of Bath’s leading architect-builders, Martin Cushing, and worked on the construction of Bath’s North Meetinghouse. Low moved to Eastport in 1818 and began designing and constructing public buildings and homes. His buildings include the 1819 First Congregational Church (Unitarian) on Shackford Street, the 1820 First Baptist Church on High Street, the 1828 Central Congregational Church on Middle Street, the 1831 Trescott Hall that housed Eastport Academy on Boynton Street and the 1821 Bucknam and Livermore homes on Key Street. Only the Central Congregational Church

and Bucknam and Livermore homes have survived.

Several of his buildings in Eastport were based on design plans of the noted British-American architect Asher Benjamin, and Low had at least seven building design books as part of his personal library. These design books are now part of the collections of Historic Deerfield in Massachusetts. Two of the design plans of Asher Benjamin that Low utilized in his design of the Unitarian and Central Congregational church buildings in Eastport are reproduced in the book.



THE FRONT FACADE of the Central Congregational Church building, which was designed by early 19th century Eastport architect-builder Daniel Low in 1828. (Thaddeus Holownia photo) 1

What is particularly impressive about the design of Low’s Central Congregational Church building is its roof truss system. In 2017, Arron Sturgis of Preservation Timber Framing (PTF) in Berwick wrote: “In 30 years of investigating New England’s historic churches, PTF has never encountered a better truss system than that of Eastport’s Central Church. The roof system combines the traditional strength of a king post-prince-post truss and principal rafter-principal purlin roof with innovative typing geometry that prevents the pitfalls of rafter slippage experienced by other churches we have investigated.”

Shettleworth says, “His legacy is found in the Central Congregational Church, a major example of Federal style ecclesiastical architecture in Maine.” TIMA plans to restore and repurpose the building so that it can continue to have a vital role in the community.

Copies of the book are available through TIMA for \$20 plus shipping.

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EASTPORT

COMMUNITY DINNER

A community baked bean dinner will be held at the Shead High School gymnasium on Tuesday, May 6, from 5 to 8 p.m. The community is welcome to this free night of dinner and fun.

CRAFT CIRCLE

A craft circle is held every Saturday at Peavey Memorial Library from 1 to 3 p.m.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

On Thursday, May 15, Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten registration will be held at the Eastport Elementary School. Please call 207-853-6252 to schedule an appointment.

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS

The Knights of Pythias Anchor Lodge No. 41 will be meeting on Fridays, April 11 and 25, at the Eastport Youth Center. Doors will be unlocked by 7 p.m.

SENIOR CENTER

The Eastport Senior Center has a busy schedule planned, with all invited to join the activities.

There will be two events on Monday,



JULIE LEPPIN (right) of Eastport received the *Salt of the Earth* award, honoring selfless service to others, from Madeline Murphy, president of the Greater Eastport Ecumenical Churches Association board, during the Soup and Sermon luncheon held at the North Perry United Methodist Church on April 7. Leppin, a member of St. Joseph’s Church, gives of her time in numerous ways, particularly as a member of the Daughters of Isabella.

Church to observe Paschal Triduum

Christ Episcopal Church in Eastport will celebrate the Paschal or Easter Triduum this Holy Week with three services and special events.

The Paschal Triduum services include Maundy Thursday on April 17 beginning at 5:30 p.m. with the Agape Feast. Foot washing and stripping of the altar follow in the sanctuary with the Gethsemane Watch until midnight during which participants may stay and pray.

On Good Friday, April 18, Stations of the Cross will be prayed beginning at 4:45 p.m. with the liturgy at 5:30 p.m.

The Great Vigil of Easter will be held on Saturday, April 19, beginning outside the church at 7:15 p.m. with an open fire, songs and the story of salvation. The Resurrection Service follows in the sanctuary with John Newell returning to play the 1875 Kilgen organ. The evening ends with a “midnight” brunch beginning at about 8:15 p.m.

There will be no Easter Sunday service at Christ Church this year, as Father John Lein also serves St. Aidan’s Episcopal Church in Machias, where Eucharist will be held at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, April 20. St. Anne’s Episcopal Church in Calais will hold their Easter Sunday service at 10 a.m. All are welcome.

Tel. 853-4806

April 14. From 10 to 11 a.m., Rachel Williams with the National Digital Equity Center will lead a free class called “Keeping your Online Accounts Safe.” From 2 to 4 p.m., Alison Caldwell-Beers from the Tides Institute will lead a performative poetry reading, with a collaborative poem to be created. The cost is \$5.

Pat Scott is going to teach the fine skill of painting a barn quilt on Wednesday, April 16, at 1 p.m. Reservations are needed, and the cost is \$25 for supplies.

Ongoing events include: Mondays – Mahjong, 1 to 2 p.m., except for Tides and Tea weeks; Tuesdays and Thursdays – exercise class, 10 to 11 a.m., \$2 cost; Wednesdays – lunch, 12 p.m., \$7 cost; first Wednesday of the month – Bob Willson from the Eastern Area Agency on Aging will be available to help with Medicare needs, next meeting is May 7 at 1 p.m.; fourth Thursday of the month – Trivia Night, 6:30 p.m., \$3 cost; Sundays beginning April 27 - Laughter Yoga, 1 p.m.

On Wednesday, April 16, from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., Natalie Brown from Shead High School will bring a group of students who are part of the Washington County Youth Leadership Challenge and the will hold conversations with anyone who would like to attend about senior needs during a storm emergency.

CORNERSTONE CHURCH

Cornerstone Church will hold a Good Friday service at 5 p.m. on April 18. On Easter Sunday, April 20, a free pancake breakfast will be held at 8 a.m. Sunday school is at 9:45 a.m., and the service begins at 11 a.m.

ST. JOSEPH’S CHURCH

Mass at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church will be held on Easter Sunday, April 20, at 12:30 p.m.

CHRIST CHURCH

A Morning Prayer service with Liturgy of the Palms will be held on Sunday of the Passion, April 13, at 9:30 a.m. The full Paschal Triduum will be celebrated in Eastport this Holy Week, including Maundy Thursday, April 17, beginning at 5:30 p.m.; Good Friday, with Stations of the Cross at 4:45 p.m. and Liturgy at 5:30 p.m.; and the Great Vigil of Easter on April 19 at 7:15 p.m., followed by a brunch celebration. Father John Lein will conduct Easter Sunday service at St. Aidan’s Episcopal Church in Machias at 9:30 a.m. on April 20. All are welcome at all services.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Members of the congregation will be participating in the April 18 ecumenical Good Friday worship service. The service is at 12 noon and will be held at the Blakey United Methodist Church.

The annual congregational meeting will be scheduled for May at a date to be announced.

The next issue of
The Quoddy Tides will be
published Friday, April 25.

Sudoku Answers

4	9	1	5	2	6	8	3	7
7	8	2	9	3	4	1	6	5
6	3	5	7	8	1	4	9	2
9	7	8	2	4	3	5	1	6
3	1	6	8	5	7	2	4	9
2	5	4	6	1	9	7	8	3
1	6	7	4	9	2	3	5	8
8	2	3	1	6	5	9	7	4
5	4	9	3	7	8	6	2	1



THE PEAVEY MEMORIAL LIBRARY’S rehabilitation project was recently recognized with an Honor Award by Maine Preservation.

Award recognizes library rehabilitation

The Peavey Memorial Library in Eastport is among six rehabilitation projects that were recognized with honor awards by Maine Preservation during a ceremony at the Johnson Hall Opera House in Gardiner on March 26. The awards program celebrates the efforts of Mainers advocating for important places in their communities, the activation of underused spaces, the long haulers who steward historic buildings across the state and the businesses that serve as cornerstones of downtowns.

The restoration of Eastport’s Peavey Memorial Library is a reflection of the city’s values and an affirmation of its significance as a gathering space for residents, visitors and researchers alike.

The current library building opened its doors on October 1, 1894, and represented the culmination of a building campaign following a devastating fire that decimated Eastport’s commercial core along Water Street in 1886. Frank Peavey, who made his fortune in the grain industry in Minneapolis, provided the funds for building the library in honor of his father, Albert, on the condition that residents would stock it with their own books. Peavey commissioned Rotch and Tilden, a Boston architectural firm, whose other works in Maine were lavish summer homes in Bar Harbor. The \$10,000 project resulted in the Romanesque revival-style structure overlooking the bay.

The library has been a community hub offering musical programs, holiday celebrations, tax preparation assistance, gardening workshops and arts and crafts for all ages. The building sees over 8,000 visits a year. Its services are carried out by the staff, a board of directors and a corps

of volunteers.

Years of saltwater-laden winds from across Passamaquoddy Bay put this landmark in jeopardy as the condition of the red brick reached a crisis point. In 2018, Bucksport-based Knox Masonry detailed the extent of the damage, prompting a look at the building’s repair needs.

The library leadership turned to Ellen Angel at Artifex Architect & Engineers, a previous resident of Eastport and the architect responsible for the children’s wing addition. Artifex assessed the building and developed a plan with engineering support from Dr. David Lee Gress and Thornton Tomassetti. Their findings resulted in closure of the iconic arched entry, which was structurally compromised. The report also attributed the addition of insulation to the building as the leading culprit in trapping moisture within the brick walls.

The first order of business was to shore up the arched entry. Over the course of four years, the Peavey Memorial Library got the attention it deserved: the cupola was rehabilitated by Jonesboro-based The Steeple People; the slate roof, copper flashing and gutters completed by Bangor’s Roof Systems of Maine; and the severely deteriorated masonry restored by Knox Masonry. Inside, minor plaster repairs and a coat of paint reversed the damage.

Local fundraising efforts garnered over \$200,000 for the library and were bolstered by an array of grants, including the REVitalizeME program and the National Park Service’s Historic Preservation Fund. Repairs were also supported by grants from The 1772 Foundation in partnership with Maine Preservation and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

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RECEIVING the most valuable player award at the Special Olympics basketball games at Bates College on March 22 was Andrew Jones (second from right), while his team won the bronze medal. He is the son of Jonnie Morrison and the grandson of Jon and Ruth Morrison of Eastport. He is shown with Amber and Dajai Follis, Liliana and Jonnie Morrison.

Second AOS budget narrowly rejected

by Lura Jackson

The second proposed budget for the AOS 77 school administrative district failed to receive sufficient public support during a vote on March 27 at Pembroke Elementary School. After the first of two articles – the special education budget – received a vote of 63-55 against, voting on the larger system administration article did not proceed. A previous version of the budget had been rejected by residents of the nine towns in the AOS on February 26 by a vote of 77 to 29. The second proposal for the \$855,000 budget was only \$1,126 less than the first one.

During the March 27 budget vote, several questions were voiced by the assembled crowd regarding the special education budget, with Skip Colson of Alexander moderating the meeting under state protocol. Of particular focus was the 100% family plan coverage for health insurance, with it being pointed out that it was not equal across the system.

“We voted for it for the special ed director because she does not have an administrative assistant, unlike every other special ed director in the state, and that saves us a colossal amount of money,” said AOS board Chair Krista Vining-Means. The special ed director’s proposed salary for FY 2025-26 is \$94,500, up by 7.39%, with \$34,500 in health insurance. “We could not pay a secretary \$34,500 plus benefits.”

Vining-Means raised the question of how much teachers in the Perry school system are receiving for raises, to which members of the audience commented that the vote was not about teacher salaries but administrative salaries.

Asked why the second proposed budget for the special education department was higher than the first one, which failed to pass, AOS 77 Business Manager Chad Allen responded that \$500 had been removed from the travel budget but insurance premiums caused the budget to increase.

When questions continued about previous raises for the special education director, Vining-Means said that the public should attend AOS joint school board meetings to discuss these issues and that, any time there’s an agenda item about budget, salaries will be discussed.

Prior to the vote, Ted Carter of Alexander shared the reasons he supported the proposed budget. “I feel that with the special ed director and what’s happening in Washington, we don’t know what’s going to happen. Having an experienced person in there is important. I want someone in there we can trust.” Special Education Director Elizabeth Cushing has served for 14 years, manages 16 schools and works with approximately 200 students.

“This is a monetary discussion, not a personal discussion,” commented Bob Wheeler of Perry.

Following the budget’s narrow failure, the AOS joint school board decided to reconvene to determine how to proceed. A date was later set for Tuesday, April 15, at 5:30 p.m. at the Pembroke Elementary School for the next meeting, which will include holding an executive session to discuss employment matters, considering a third draft of the budget and setting the date for another budget vote by the residents of the nine towns in the AOS.

Shed seeks community team members

by Lura Jackson

Shed High School is reaching out to area residents with an appeal to be a part of a new community advisory team. The team will foster student development by helping to break down educational barriers, along with providing new learning opportunities over the current and coming school year.

“Its scope is as diverse and generative as our community is,” says Community School Coordinator Sam Pottle, explaining that the team could seek to arrange or provide “artist or craft demonstrations, field trips, student volunteer opportuni-

ties, career and college exploration and after-school programming.”

Top priorities for the team include tackling the school’s chronic absenteeism, Pottle says, along with working to address associated issues that might stop students from coming to school. “Making sure students and families have their material needs met and that the school is a hub of opportunity is the goal.” Another priority is bringing services like dental cleanings or mental health services to students.

Recognizing that students are facing multiple challenges in the current socioeconomic environment, Pottle asserts that forming the team is an effort to gather the “brain power” of the community. “When people work together, capacity is multiplied and a resilient network of options begins to form.”

There are currently six Community Schools in Maine, with the federal program providing funds for schools to address issues that extend beyond the classroom – such as hunger, illness and personal safety – and engage students with real-world learning opportunities in their communities.

The Shed Community Advisory Team will run approximately through June 2026, concluding at the end of the next school year. To be a part of it, contact Pottle at <spottle@shed.org> or call 853-6254 extension 5027 and leave a message.

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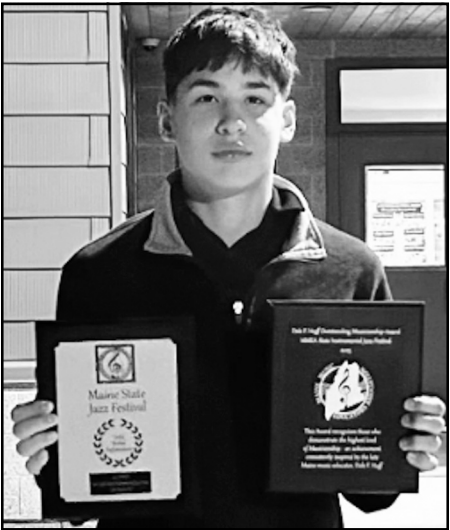
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Student wins top marks at jazz festival

Once again, Shead High School student Ellis Zipperer-Sanchez came away with top marks at the Maine State Jazz Festival. The competition, sponsored by the Maine Music Educators Association, was held on March 13 and 14 at Lakes Region High School in Naples.



ELLIS ZIPPERER-SANCHEZ won both a gold medal and the Dale Hugg Award for outstanding musicianship at the Maine State Jazz Festival.

Zipperer-Sanchez is the only student ever to attend the festival as a soloist. This year he completed what his father, Eastport schools music teacher Robert

Sanchez, termed “a musical hat-trick,” as he has won both the gold medal and the Dale Huff Award for outstanding musicianship three years in a row.

Robert Sanchez notes, “Solo jazz guitar takes a lot of skill and dedication and a real love for the music of jazz. You need to be able to play the melody and at the same time add in the bass, rhythms and harmonies. You then need to improvise, creating art on the spot and in front of a live audience.”

For his festival performance, Zipperer-Sanchez played two songs arranged by himself and his father, “The Girl from Ipanema” by Antonio Carlos Jobim and “Night in Tunisia” by Dizzy Gillespie. His other two songs were ones he alone arranged: “In a Sentimental Mood” by Duke Ellington and “Donna Lee” by Charlie Parker.

Asked about his festival experiences in Maine as he prepares to transfer to Interlochen Arts Academy in Michigan for the rest of his high school career, Zipperer-Sanchez says, “I had a lot of fun at jazz competitions over the past three years. I’ve made countless talented friends from all over the state and built my reputation as a musician, connecting with teachers and professionals from various backgrounds. Even though I performed as a solo act, I never felt alone, thanks to our wonderful community that has backed and supported me throughout the years.”

Council adopts motor vehicle ordinance

by Catherine J.S. Lee

At the meeting of the Eastport City Council on Wednesday, April 9, after two comments during the public hearing, one for and one against, councillors voted 4–1 to approve the proposed City of Eastport Motor Vehicle Ordinance. Councillors Billy Boone, Colleen Dana-Cummings, David Morang and Rhonda Stevens voted in favor, with the dissenting vote cast by A.J. Seeley.

The ordinance was proposed because “the increasing use of public roadways for recreational purposes” has led to “safety, parking and law enforcement issues” within the city. Regulating the types of vehicles that use the city’s public ways, ensuring safe operation and ensuring public access are the purposes of the ordinance.

Maine statute specifies that only motor vehicles registered by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles may operate on the public ways. Off-highway vehicles (OHVs) such as ATVs and UTVs, also called “side by sides,” are not registerable and may not operate on the public ways. The ordinance lists exceptions, including OHVs operated by municipal authorities such as the police department in the conduct of official business or in a declared emergency, and for limited special events such as parades.

According to Maine law, golf carts may not operate on public ways except those labeled “golf cart access route,” of which there are none in Eastport. On an access route, a golf cart would need to be registered with Eastport’s city clerk.

Civil penalties of up to \$100 per day will be incurred for each violation of the ordinance, and each day a violation occurs will be treated as a separate occurrence. Any vehicle operated in violation of the ordinance by a minor under age 18 may be impounded and released only to the minor’s parent or guardian upon payment of the cost of impoundment.

Stevens suggested fines should increase with repeat offenses. Boone suggested \$100 for a first offense, \$200 for a second and \$300 for a third. The council passed the ordinance as written, with the understanding that it can be amended later.

In other business, appointments included Reid Kozloski as shellfish warden, Loring Small as deputy shellfish warden at no

cost to the city, and Bradley Andrews to the parks and recreation committee. Colleen Conrad’s resignation as shellfish warden and Heron Weston’s resignation from the housing committee were accepted. Also accepted was a change of status for Pat Christopher from full-time member of the recycling committee to ad-hoc member.

Events approved for the 2025 holiday season were a March of the Reindogs and Caroling Parade Buoy on November 29, the Festival of Lights and Dragners Parade on December 6, Eastport is Home for the Holidays on December 13, and a Gingerbread House Bake-off on December 20.

The council approved letters of support for two grants, one for the Tides Institute & Museum of Art, which is working with U.S. Senator Angus King, and one for the Eastport Arts Center, which is working with U.S. Senator Susan Collins.

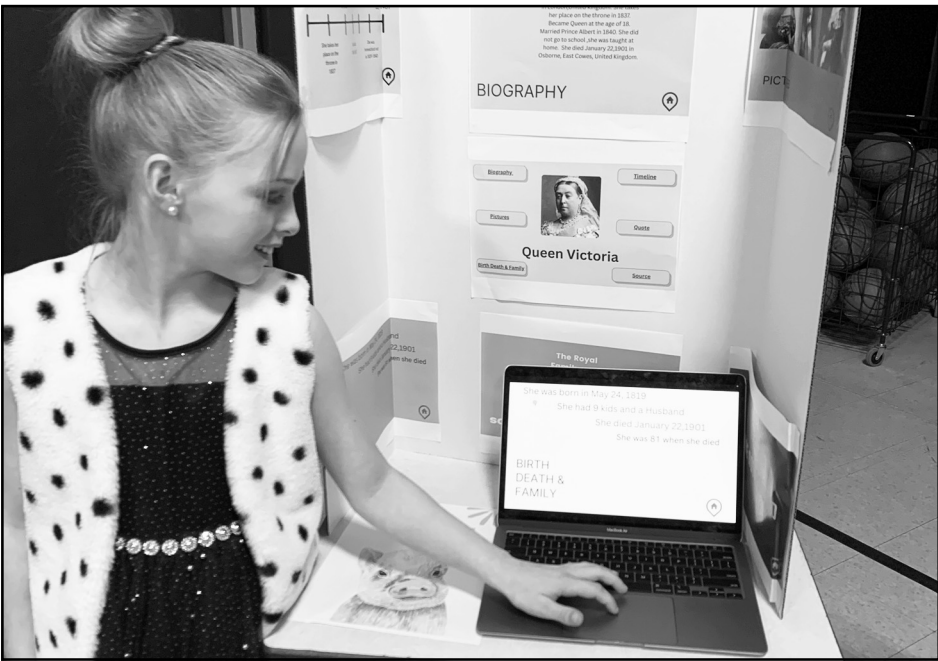
New construction has caused a situation where there is no room for new address numbers for 911, and there will be a number changes in some areas.

Committee liaisons reported numerous activities. Parks and rec has scheduled a cleanup day for May 3 and is also determining where all public-access beaches in the city are located. They are applying for a Kentucky Fried Chicken grant of \$10,000 for outdoor activities.

The harbor committee generated \$13,000 for the city through docking fees for out-of-town scallop boats. A new crane will be located on the fish pier so that cruise ships will not interfere with the fishermen using the crane.

The council unanimously renewed victualer licenses for Breakwater Breeze, the Happy Crab, Horn Run Brewing, the Kilby House, the Milliken House, the Old Sow Grill, Ye Ole’ Hookers, Phoenix Fine Wines, Rosie’s Hot Dog Stand, Sebastian’s Wood-Fire Pizza and the WaCo Diner. Public hearings were scheduled for the May 14 council meeting, including a new liquor license application and renewal victualer license for Look’s Lobster, a renewal liquor license application for the Eastport Arts Center and a new liquor license application for the Eastport Salmon & Seafood Festival.

A public hearing was also scheduled for May 14 for the sale of properties at 10 Evans Street and 35-37 Key Street.



SPEAKING on the life of Queen Victoria is Peyton Sullivan of the fifth grade at Eastport Elementary School during a school presentation event on April 3. Sullivan, who chose Queen Victoria in part because “I like how she dressed,” included the queen’s biographical details and pictures in her digital presentation and made an accompanying poster board for extra credit. (Lura Jackson photo)

Eastport students share presentations

by Lura Jackson

The students of Eastport Elementary School’s grades 3 through 8 gave presentations about topics of their choosing during an event held in the gym on April 3. The presentations were in both physical and digital form, with some students providing props such as flashcard games and coloring pages for attendees to engage with.

“I think it’s important for them to get to present something they are proud of and have pride in,” says social studies teacher Kayla Kelley. The event is an opportunity for students to share their interests and gain experience in public speaking, as well as for the public to learn about what students are engaging with, Kelley says. “I think it’s so important for the community to see what the students in our school are doing!”


“I had to really think about what I was going to do,” said Jackson York, who is in the seventh grade. Once he determined what parts he wanted to include in his digital presentation on rottweilers – inspired by his own dog, Outlaw – he researched sources to find out details such as the breed’s origin and drew from his

own life experience to make the final product. It was the first time he’d made a presentation of this type, he said.

Experiencing the highs and lows of technology are part of the lesson, as Clarissa Burse of the fifth grade learned. While making her project on Princess Diana, whom she chose because she thought “she was cool” and “I felt bad for her situation,” her project disappeared and she had to restart it.

Working with technology was fully familiar to some students, including fifth grader Jameson Haynes, who made a digital presentation about Abraham Lincoln that included animated and interactive elements. It was the first time he’d used that particular program, but he had experience with coding, he said. “You can make a very similar product by coding with Scratch.”

Sharing their presentations with others was a gratifying experience for some of the students, including Peyton Sullivan of the fifth grade, who did her presentation on Queen Victoria. “I feel like this is a good way to show people who haven’t discovered her yet.”



PUBLIC WELCOME!

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Tuesday, April 22

12 to 2 p.m.

Eastport Port Authority Welcome Center

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Exhibits – Sipayik Resilience Committee, Eastport Energy Committee, Recycling Plastic
All Electric Blazer and Silverado on display by Rosie’s Hotdog Stand

Morning Site Visits: 10–10:15 a.m. – Hugh French at Studio Works:
Gravity Fed Pellet Furnace
11–11:45 a.m. – Bob Peacock’s house, 99 Toll Bridge Road:
Overhead Railway for 40# Pellet Bags

Lunch Served at 12 noon

Sponsored by City of Eastport’s Energy Committee.



NEARLY 150 PEOPLE crowded onto LubeC's Flatiron Corner on April 5, as part of a larger movement that reportedly drew more than a half million nationwide in protest of many of the initiatives of the Trump administration, with similar assemblies in all 50 states. The gathering was peaceful, and most passersby expressed agreement with the sentiments expressed, all under the "Hands Off" slogan. (J.D. Rule photo)

Library to host seed exchange, local play

Upcoming events at the LubeC Memorial Library include the following.

The library's featured Artist of the Month is Daniel Reynolds. "Oil and Ink," an exhibit of his paintings, will be on display through April.

LubeC Seed Library, a free seed exchange program, opens for its third season at the LubeC Memorial Library on Saturday, April 12, from 12 noon to 2 p.m. The public is invited for an afternoon of gardening fun as the library celebrates spring and Mother Earth. The library will be offering some new varieties to try in the garden. Refreshments will be served, and gardening, planting tips and tricks will be shared.

To commemorate Earth Day local talent will be performing Chuck Kniffen's play *It Ain't Gonna Rain No More* on Monday, April 21, at 3 p.m. at the library. The production stars the famed Beach Trash Puppets, created by Kniffen, and live music.

From Stump to Ship, a 1930 logging film, will be shown at the library on Saturday, April 26, at 2:30 p.m. Filmed by Alfred Ames, owner of the Machias Lumber Company, the film was shot over the winter of 1930. It features scenes of forest logging using hand tools and horses and the spring log drive as loggers break up jams on icy rivers and move them from forest to mill.

LUBEC

SENIORS SING-ALONG

LCOC, together with Roosevelt Campobello International Park, will host a senior sing-along with Landen Murray at 12:30 p.m. on Friday, April 11, at 44 South Street. There will be coffee, treats and music.

FAMILIES FIRST WORKSHOP

On Friday, April 11, from 4:30 to 6 p.m., LCOC will hold a Families First parent workshop and discussion. There will be beach-themed activities and fun for children age five and older. Families not enrolled in the after-school program are welcome but are asked to register by calling LCOC at 733-5262. The workshop will be held at 44 South Street.

FOOD PANTRY

The LCOC Food Pantry will be open on Saturday, April 12, from 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. at 44 South Street.

EASTER EGG HUNT

Sunset Point Campground will be holding its annual Easter egg hunt on Saturday, April 12, at 11 a.m. Hot dogs and juice will be available after the egg hunt.

CHESS TOURNAMENT

A three-round chess tournament will be held on Sunday, April 13, from 1 to 5:30 p.m. at the LubeC Memorial Library.

VINYL NIGHT

LAMPS will hold Vinyl Night from 5 to 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 17, at 6 School Street. All are welcome.

BAKED BEAN SUPPER

The West LubeC Methodist Church will hold a baked bean supper at 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 19, at the church. The cost is \$12 for adults and \$5 for children under 12.

by Susan Reilly
Tel. 733-2840

LCOC STONE SOUP POTLUCK

LCOC will hold a Stone Soup and Salad Potluck on Saturday, April 19, from 1 to 3 p.m. at 44 South Street. There will be activities and a showing of the film *Join or Die* about civic engagement in the U.S. Local organizations are welcome to host information tables. Please call 733-5262 for information.

MARATHON MEETINGS

The Bay of Fundy International Marathon Planning Committee will hold two information sharing meetings for the community. The first will be held Tuesday, April 22, from 6 to 7 p.m. (AT) at the Campobello school. Another meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 29, from 5 to 6 p.m. (ET) at the LubeC Memorial Library.



THE LUBEC WOMAN'S CLUB (LWC) was pleased to present Kate Goggin a scholarship to assist with her studies in special education. Goggin has been serving as a teaching assistant at the LubeC Elementary School for a number of years.

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Lubec residents air concerns about school budget to board

by J.D. Rule

Budgetary concerns dominated the Lubec school board meeting and second budget workshop on April 3. But by the time the four-hour meeting concluded, little had been resolved.

The third draft of the 2025-26 fiscal year budget was presented for review, but the only change from the second draft was a reduction by \$10,000 in projected fuel costs, a move that left AOS 77 Business Manager Chad Allen “feeling nervous,” as fuel costs cannot be predicted. Board Chair Wanda Reed observed, “If we don’t do different we’ll end up like the AOS budget. It can’t keep going up each year.”

The third budget draft reflects a 22.9% increase over the 2024–25 fiscal year, with a total approaching \$3 million, at \$2,813,312. This is an increase of 61% over the 2019–2020 budget. Budget increases included the addition of six high school students who are tuitioned and costs for special education, along with a reduction in state subsidies. Additionally, the future of federal subsidies remains unclear.

Many suggestions were made during the workshop, but when it became obvious that cutting back in small increments would not yield a significant reduction the conversation shifted towards larger cuts, leading board member Richard Huntley to point out that some promises made 16 years ago, at the time of the closure of the high school, may need to be revisited. AOS 77 Superintendent MaryEllen Day stated that neither Machias Memorial High School nor Washington Academy was willing to accept all of Lubec’s high schoolers, with WA pointing out that they didn’t want students who felt “forced” to attend. Shead High School in Eastport remains a possibility.

Stephanie Page, a school committee member at the time of the high school closure, pointed out that it was noted at that time that any belt tightening would be at the expense of the elementary school, as the Lubec board would have no influence over the communities hosting the high schools. Lubec Select Board member Daniel Daley, speaking from the audience, asked if there was any consideration about moving towards a regional elementary school, which prompted Huntley to observe that such a move would “require a lot of heavy lifting.” It has been pointed out by others that if such a change could be brought about, it would result in cost savings while improving educational op-

portunities, but also it would include a reduction of the town’s home rule.

Reed stated, “A lot of our budget goes toward the LCOC building,” but she was unable to provide specifics. When she stated that the LCOC had “misappropriated funds,” Sue Doyle, speaking from the audience, said, “Wanda, you and I are both nurses. We both know you cannot say things like that without having facts. You don’t have any facts,” prompting others in the audience to point out that making that accusation did “a disservice” to the LCOC.

The budget discussion was set aside momentarily for the regular school committee meeting. At this point the meeting room was nearly full of participants; only 13 remained. Maintenance concerns took center stage, with more expenses discussed.

First on the agenda involved putting out a bid request to provide an additional 400 amp service to the elementary wing to power the recently acquired – but not yet functional – heat pump appliances in the classrooms. Reed asked Huntley, “Is this the last thing needed for the heat pumps?” to which Huntley replied in the affirmative. The board approved the bid placement by a 5-0 vote; at this time there is no information about what the additional cost may be.

The meeting returned to the subject of reducing the budget, with various proposals suggested, leading to a general agreement that keeping the increase below the 20% mark is important. No proposals were made about reducing the staff count beyond not filling the position held by a departing teacher, but the topic came up several times. Day noted that, under the terms of the union contract, the incumbent in any reduced position must be notified by May 15, otherwise they are entitled to an additional 90 days of pay. Additionally, she said, “If any position is to be cut, it will not be on the basis of performance. It will only be in accordance with the union contract.”

Huntley stated that the promises made 16 years ago “can only be changed at the town’s annual business meeting.” Long-time teacher Anna Street commented, “Back when the high school was closed we heard people say ‘I want the Lubec Elementary School to be the best it can be.’ I’m not hearing that now.”

Near the end of the meeting, Day asked, “What is the goal? We need a goal.” The committee agreed to create an ad-hoc committee to make recommendations regarding cost cutting, to be presented at the next meeting. The final make-up of this group is still undetermined; however, it cannot include a quorum of the board. Reed and Huntley will be included, as will Day and a representative of the union.

The next workshop will be held May 1. Because of scheduling issues, the next following meeting will be May 29, with the referendum set for June 12.

Huntley, looking around the room, observed, “I had hoped to see a lot more people here. When we have the referendum, I’m going to ask, ‘Where were all you when we needed you?’” At 8:34 p.m. the board went into executive session.



PROVIDING MUCH-NEEDED DENTAL SERVICES to the greater Machias community is the New York University Dentistry Global Outreach team during the first area clinic the school has held since 2019. Services were provided during the week of April 6, with Friday, April 11, the last day for walk-in service at the Lee Pellon Center. Both children and adults have received free care, including dental exams, fillings, root canals and extractions as part of the program, which aims to resume its annual schedule.

Shellfish committee hears of confusion

by J.D. Rule

The opening of the April 7 meeting of the Lubec Shellfish Conservation Committee was dominated by questions about which flats are open and which are closed. This was following the March 26 public hearing resulting in a select board vote that set the calendar, conducted as required by the Shellfish Conservation Ordinance. The meeting, which was well attended, heard many complaints about the lack of clarity, apparently caused by improper recording and posting procedures, including confusion about using the town website versus the town Facebook page. Committee Chair Michael Scrivani stated that he would follow up with the town office to correct the matter.

Scrivani updated the committee and the attendees regarding the Maine Coast Heritage Trust (MCHT) interest in the Federal Harbor project. He observed that MCHT had gifted the proposed parking area, plus \$10,000, to the town 11 years ago but there had been no progress. Part of the issue stems from the geography of the area; the parking area is separated from

the shore by a steep cliff with unstable soil. Site evaluation has concluded that stabilizing a path down would be very expensive.

MCHT representatives have asked for a public meeting at the site, hoping to attract the attention of both the shellfish community and recreational boaters. Clammer interest in access would be important at low-water conditions, while boaters would be more involved at high tide. The date has not been determined; however, the clambers present were unanimous that Federal Harbor is not of particular interest.

The group also discussed upcoming conservation projects. A resource survey will be held April 13 at Mowry Beach; due to tidal schedules the event will begin at 6 a.m. A green crab mitigation project is set for June 1 at Seaview, starting at 9 a.m. Scrivani quipped that “green crabs are more effective than Viagra,” leading Danny Fitzsimmons to observe that earlier attempts at Seaview have paid off. “We’re still getting payback for what we did at Seaview.”

Board told about dangerous properties

by J.D. Rule

Code Enforcement Officer Alex Henry updated the Lubec Select Board, during their April 9 meeting, on his work in evaluating a list of dangerous properties throughout the town. He reported that several of the listed properties are currently under repair and are expected to be occupied shortly; several more were deemed beyond repair. Following the board’s guidance, Henry will be issuing letters to the owners of those buildings where corrective action has not been performed. The discussion included various legal procedures whereby the town can perform a “teardown” at the expense of the property owner.

A number of residents, Henry reported, had called to ask for prompt cleanup following the recent fire on Pleasant Street, where asbestos is understood to be present. The Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has been contacted, and Henry was advised that the asbestos issue requires inspection by a qualified specialist and that no action can be taken before an abatement plan is created and followed. There was no information provided as to how long this process may take or cost, but the DEP stated that the yellow barricade tape must remain in

place and that entry onto the burn site would be dangerous. It was noted that the building had been sheathed in asbestos shingles.

It was also noted by the DEP that neither the state nor the town has an ordinance in place that would require the property owner to undertake the cleanup process, which must begin with the asbestos abatement.

A representative for the Downeast Coastal Conservancy discussed the proposed gift of a small parcel of land near Washington Street. The land in question is too small to be buildable and is a wetland where drainage improvement has been suggested by the town’s Public Works Department. It has a tax value of \$22 per year. Following discussion, the board accepted the property by a 3-0 vote, with members Carol Dennison and Mark Kelly not present.

Shellfish committee Chair Michael Scrivani updated the board on discussions with Maine Coast Heritage Trust regarding the proposed work at the Federal Harbor parking area. MCHT, said Scrivani, will propose a date for a planned on-site meeting at the location where the parking area might be constructed. This date will be announced when finalized; all interested parties are invited. The proposed parking area is located alongside Straight Bay Road, approximately four miles north of County Road.

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PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT LUBEC MEMORIAL LIBRARY CORPORATION Annual Meeting

The Lubec Memorial Library will hold its annual corporation meeting on Monday, April 14, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. at the library. Everyone who is interested in the betterment and perpetuation of the Lubec Memorial Library is invited, whether resident or non-resident. At the LML annual corporation meeting, the president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and members of the board of trustees will be elected. This will be a hybrid meeting, with participation in-person and on Zoom. For more information or to get the Zoom link, please e-mail contact@lubeclibrary.org or phone 733-2491.

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UMM reopens renovated gymnasium

The University of Maine at Machias (UMM) celebrated the completion of the long-awaited renovation of Reynolds Gymnasium, as students, regional and state leaders and guests took part in a ribbon-cutting ceremony and facility dedications on April 4. The renovations include a new, NCAA-compliant hardwood floor, modernized bleachers with computerized mechanisms, upgraded scoreboards, a new sound system and various other enhancements.

The project replaced the gym flooring and bleachers. The gym, the Murdock Fitness and Aquatics Center and other facilities are used by many groups and individuals. Machias Memorial High School, Washington Academy and Machias Valley Christian School use the gym, which also serves as a venue for Special Olympics practices, AAU basketball events, craft fairs, benefit tournaments and career resource fairs.

Megan Walsh, UMaine Machias' dean and campus director, said, "This project represents more than just a new floor and bleachers – it represents a revitalized space for our students, faculty, staff and the wider Downeast community. We are excited to provide a modern, well-appointed facility to support student clubs and organizations and Reynolds and Murdock Center members, as well as the many K–12 student groups we host throughout the year. The Reynolds Gym is one of our campus's most beloved spaces."

Joan Ferrini-Mundy, president of the University of Maine, said, "The University of Maine at Machias is more than just a place of learning. It is a place of belonging. It's a place where people come together to grow, to challenge themselves and to support one another. This gym is a reflection of that spirit. It is a space where our students will push themselves to new heights."

Nicole Case, principal of Machias Memorial High School, said, "Machias Memorial High School students have been eagerly waiting for the UMM gym to reopen. For youth in our community, the Reynolds Center plays a central role in their lives, providing an opportunity for physical and social well-being."

The total cost of the Reynolds Gym project was \$729,000. The renovations were made possible through a general obligation bond approved by Maine's legislature and voters in 2018. In addition, UMM professors emeriti Richard and Elsie Larson generously donated to the Reynolds Center Improvement Fund. As

part of the ceremonies, Ferrini-Mundy announced that a conference room in the Reynolds Center has been named in honor of the Larsons, who were present for the event.

Ferrini-Mundy says, "[The Larsons] have shown incredible generosity and dedication to this university and the town. Their support made this remodel possible, and their commitment to strengthening both our campus and our community will be felt for years to come. The Richard and Elsie Larson Conference Room will serve as a place for collaboration, learning and connection, just as Richard and Elsie have inspired throughout their careers."

Richard Larson said, "We are unbelievably impressed with what is happening on campus, because so many people are working together. The Reynolds Center Gym is so much more than a basketball court. It is important for the UMM students and the community because of things like the graduations, craft shows, music events and community gatherings. We couldn't be happier with the new floor, the acoustics, the air handlers, the lighting and the public address system. If it hadn't been for the University of Maine, this never would have come about for UMM."

The Reynolds Center is named after Frederic A. Reynolds, who served as president of UMM from 1981 to 1992. Originally named the Health and Physical Education Building, it was renamed in his honor following his retirement. The building is also home to the UMM bachelor of arts program in outdoor recreation and leadership, which will continue to utilize the renovated gym for student classes and activities.

Citizenship talk to be held at library

On Friday, April 18, at 6 p.m., former University of Maine at Machias history professor Dr. Kay Kimball will facilitate a discussion of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship at Porter Memorial Library in Machias. Anyone who wants a better grasp of what it means to be a citizen is encouraged to attend. Admission to this event is free. Seating is limited, so please call ahead to reserve a spot. Email <librarian@porter.lib.me.us> or call 207-255-3933 for more information.

Democrats to host town hall meeting

A town hall with former Maine Senate President Troy Jackson will be held on Saturday, April 26, at the East Machias Municipal Building from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Jackson is a former logger and Aroostook County politician who served as Senate president from 2018 to 2024. A steadfast advocate for labor and hardworking Mainers, he has championed expanded family healthcare and stood against government bullies. Please arrive early; check-in begins at 9:15 a.m. Refreshments will be provided. The event is hosted by the Washington County Democratic Committee.



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ABOUT 250 PEOPLE took part in a demonstration in Machias on April 5 that was part of the nationwide "Hands Off" protest. (William Love photo)

'Hands Off' demonstration draws crowd

About 250 people took part in a "Hands Off!" demonstration on April 5 in Machias. The peaceful demonstration was organized by Indivisible Washington County, an activist group composed of residents, visitors and students.

Organizers reported that demonstrators were there to demand an end to the billionaire takeover of the country, which they maintain is destroying the economy and social services, endangering national security, compromising private information and engaging in an illegal power grab that violates the constitution.

Nationwide on April 5 Americans showed up at over 1,300 rally sites. There were more than 20 rallies in Maine, three of them in Washington County. In addition

to the 250 people in Machias, there were about 150 attendees in Lubec and 135 in Cherryfield.

At the Machias rally, people carried American flags and signs. Messages included: "No More Tax Cuts for the Rich," "Stop the Coup," "Hands Off Our Future - Axe the Oligarchy" and "Hey Congress! Do your Job."

Participants said they were genuinely worried that Trump and Musk and many Republicans in Congress were making these cuts so they could give tax breaks to their billionaire associates.

Organizers, though, were hopeful, believing that what the billionaires don't understand is that in America people have the power.

Police make several drug-related arrests

The Machias Police Department recently released reports on a number of incidents that resulted in arrests on drug-related charges.

On March 13 the police department executed a search warrant at 504 Kennebec Road in Roque Bluffs. As a result of the investigation, fentanyl, methamphetamine and crack cocaine were seized. Arrested and charged were: Justin Anthony, 53, from Roque Bluffs for violation of conditional release; Courtney Stephen, 36, from the Bronx, N.Y., for unlawful possession of illegal drugs; Jeffrey Conley, 53, from Roque Bluffs for unlawful possession of illegally drugs; and Nicholas Merchant, 35, from Lubec for unlawful possession of illegal drugs and violation of conditional release. The Washington County Sheriff's Office assisted the Machias police.

On February 12 the Machias Police Department executed a search warrant at a local motel as a result of an ongoing investigation into illegal drug activity. Seized in the warrant were crack cocaine

and prescription pills. The occupants of the room were not present when the police executed the warrant. Arrest warrants were issued for Mallory Johnson, 38, from Machias and Nakia Albee, 26, from Milbridge, charging both with possession of illegal drugs and violation of conditional release. Johnson has since turned herself in. Albee is still at large with an active arrest warrant.

On February 12 the Machias police conducted a traffic stop on Main Street in Machias. As a result of the stop, Charles Cunningham, 57, from Machias was charged with unlawful possession of illegal drugs – crack cocaine.

On February 7 the Machias police executed a search warrant at 504 Kennebec Road in Roque Bluffs. Justin Anthony, 52, was arrested and charged with two counts of felony drug possession and one count of possession of a firearm by a prohibited person. As a result of the warrant, several grams of suspected fentanyl and crack cocaine were seized along with two firearms.



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PASTOR RONALD WINDHORST discusses the history of an original 1611 King James Bible on display at the Lincoln Memorial Library in Dennysville. It is known as a “Great ‘She’ Bible” for a typographical variation in the Book of Ruth.

WHITING

MILL POND DAM PROJECT

Work started on the Whiting Mill Pond dam project on April 7 with the clearing of trees at the site by a crew from Maine Coast Heritage Trust (MCHT).

Town voters approved \$600,000 several years ago for the project and also received \$2.9 million from NOAA and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in a Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) grant through the efforts of U.S. Senator Susan Collins and the Whiting Select Board. This project has been supported by the Downeast Salmon Federation (DSF), Maine Coast Heritage Trust (MCHT) and Sunrise County Economic Council.

When the project first went out to bid, all bids were rejected. The project was revised and then rebid as two separate projects – one for fish passage and one for earth stabilization. Bids were received and both projects had proposals from one New Hampshire firm. The project engineer negotiated the two bids to reduce costs while maintaining the integrity of the project. This final negotiation will move project costs to within the amount of funding available. This issue will be on the agenda for the April 14 select board meeting. Some permits are still needed for the project.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

It was like old times at the Whiting Community Building on Saturday, April

by Mary Alice Look
Tel. 733-2826

5, for the supper and ice cream social but with many new faces, all of which were happily noted. Approximately 50 long-time residents and newcomers joined in the occasion to enjoy the food and home-made ice cream. Everyone introduced themselves, including where they had lived previously and what brought them to this part of Maine. Many found connections they would not have otherwise known, making it very enjoyable.

The event was sponsored by the Whiting Historical Society and the America 250 volunteers in town as a kick-off to the town’s anniversary year of 2025. Members have ideas as to other upcoming events that the society hopes will be enjoyed as well. If residents have an idea for such an event, please let the society know.

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Students will visit the New York University dental clinic in Machias on Friday, April 11.

Students will have art displayed at the Eastport Arts Center and take a tour on Tuesday, April 15. Machias Memorial High School is having a step-up day for eighth graders on Tuesday, April 15. School has an early release on Friday, April 18, and vacation from April 21 to 25.

Island Readers and Writers will bring author Casey W. Robinson to visit Whiting Village School on May 6.

DENNYSVILLE

ATV CLUB

The club reminds people that the trails are closed until the OK is given for them to be used and that they should obey the signs. The latest information is available on the club’s Facebook page.

A free, online ATV safety course will be held on Saturday, April 26, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The club will be serving lunch to participants.

The next meeting of the club will be on Thursday, April 17, with supper at 5:30 p.m. and meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the clubhouse on Milwaukee Road.

The next public breakfast at the clubhouse will be on Saturday, April 19, from 7 to 9 a.m.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Dennys River Historical Society is gathering materials on the life of General Benjamin Lincoln, founder of the communities of Dennysville, Pembroke and Perry, for a presentation at the Lincoln Memorial Library on Tuesday evening, April 29, at 6:30 p.m. Anyone with objects or information to share is asked to contact society President Ronald Windhorst at 726-3905.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Attendees of “Song Sunday” on March 30 requested their favorite hymns for all to sing and enjoyed lunch and fellowship in the parish hall. The next “Song Sunday” will be on June 29.

Fifty people attended the public breakfast on April 5. Breakfasts are served on the first Saturday of each month, with the next breakfast set for Saturday, May 3.

A public supper on Saturday, April 19, at 5 p.m. in the parish hall will feature spaghetti. The cost is \$12 for adults, and children eat for free. Take-outs will be available, and patrons who are seated will be served first. The next supper on May 17 will feature a baked bean menu.

Donations for the steeple fund may be sent to Linda Seeley, treasurer, 570 South Edmunds Road, Edmunds, ME 04628.

EDMUNDS SCHOOL

The honor roll for Trimester II for students in grades 5-8 is as follows: Honors:

by Mary McFadden, Tel. 726-4676
<mmcfadden@roadrunner.com>

Grade 5 – Kendall Archer, Reed Trynor; Grade 6 – Lauryn Cox, Ira Danielson; Grade 7 – Macie Baker; Grade 8 – Ruth Bell, Wesley Jones.

Cabin Fever Week and the pep rally for the Edmunds Jets were enjoyed by students. Students went on a field trip to Penobscot Theater in Bangor to see *Matinicus*, *A Lighthouse Play* by Jenny Connell Davis.

Important upcoming dates are: Mondays, April 14 and 28, playgroup, K-4, 2 to 3:30 p.m.; Wednesday, April 16, Island Readers and Writers visit with Kim Ridley; Friday, April 18, Easter/spring bonnet parade in gym at 7:50 a.m.; Monday, April 21, through Friday, April 25, spring vacation; April 28 through May 6, school library book fair, 9 to 10 a.m.; May 1, Math Literacy Night, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.; May 2 and May 15, no school; May 6, bird festival field trip, grades 5-8; May 19, wildlife encounters visit.

On May 20 starting at 8 a.m., registration for children in PreK and Kindergarten will take place. Call the school office at 726-4478 to make an appointment.

Thanks go to Spencer Mawhar for stepping up to coach the boys Jets basketball team and to Morgan Seeley-Williams and Ashley Cox, who were coaches of the girls Jets team for the second year. Athletes Kaleigha Poor and Ruth Bell were recognized at the last home game of the season.

LINCOLN LIBRARY

Fourteen students from the Pembroke school, including children from Dennysville, in first through fourth grades attended Storytime at the Lincoln Memorial Public Library on April 1. Students enjoyed hearing about Laura Ingalls Wilder’s childhood in the book, *A Little Prairie House*, and made two-dimensional log houses using popsicle sticks. On April 8 the students from the Edmunds school participated in the same lesson.

On April 15, the Pembroke school students will enjoy the book *It’s Mine* by Leo Lionni and create a colored paper linking chain to replace the snowflake decorations in the library. Due to the schools’ spring break, there will be no Storytime on April 22.

Dennysville residents hold town meeting

by Mary McFadden

Twenty citizens, along with town officials, attended the Dennysville annual town meeting on March 31. The meeting was moderated by Howard McFadden.

Eileen Campbell was elected as a selectperson for a three-year term, and William Attick was elected to the school board for a three-year term. Kat Tolatovicz was elected town clerk, treasurer and tax collector for a one-year term.

Residents voted to raise and/or appropriate \$50,000 for general government, \$18,000 for solid waste disposal, \$16,000 for the Dennys River Volunteer Fire Department, \$5,600 for streetlights, \$2,000 for the red phone system and \$105,000 for year-round maintenance of town roads, with \$80,000 from excise tax, \$14,500 from the state’s Local Road Assistance Program and \$10,500 from property taxes.

Article 10 took \$2,000 from tree growth funds for membership in the Maine Municipal Association and the Washington County Council of Governments, and Article 11 took \$2,000 from tree growth and \$2,000 from Dennysville Housing for heating oil and maintenance for the Lincoln Memorial Library.

Insurance got \$6,000 from property taxes under Article 12, Social Security and Medicare taxes got \$1,800 from property tax and Dennysville Housing under Article 13 and property taxes will fund \$6,500 for mowing and maintaining the Dennysville Cemetery. Article 15 raised \$600 for animal control, and Article 16 raised \$10,000

for the operation of the town office.

Article 17 raised \$700 for general assistance, Article 18 raised \$1,000 from property taxes for the 4th of July Parade and Article 19 authorized the town to make the second repayment on the loan taken out to rebuild and repave The Lane.

There was general discussion about the way in which town categories of funds are listed in the town report and the need for an auditors’ report to be included in the town report, which has been missing for a few years.

The idea of changing the date for the annual town meeting from the end of March to later on in the year was brought up. Changing the date would enable the town officers to more easily find an auditor to audit the town books and would also make it possible to vote on the school budget along with the municipal budget, thus negating the need for a second special town meeting.

Bob Mercer was given a round of applause and thanks for being Dennysville’s treasurer/tax collector for the past few years. He has been an invaluable asset to the town, and he will be available to substitute in those capacities when needed.

A special town meeting will be called when the school budget is available. There are openings on the Dennysville Planning Board and the Dennysville Cemetery Committee. Interested persons are asked to contact any selectperson or planning board or cemetery committee member whose names are listed in the town report.



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EASTER EGG HUNT

Maritime Munchkins will hold a free Easter egg hunt for children under 12 on Saturday, April 19, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., with an Easter basket raffle.

LEASE OF FORMER SCHOOL

At the March 27 selectmen’s meeting, Heather Doughty of Maritime Munchkins requested a reduction in the price of the lease at the former elementary school. Kara Doliber spoke on her behalf and presented rates for other leases. It was agreed to speak with the town lawyer and check into rates at other places.

At an April 3 special meeting, it was decided to reduce the lease rate for the building if and when the new lease is signed. The original lease was for three months and the new lease, if signed, will be for one year. Other items discussed pertaining to the building were the water system, telephone, playground, lawn mowing, snow plowing, fuel leak, security system, fire extinguishers and signs. The gym and kitchen will be available for rent at a fee of \$50 a day from Maritime Munchkins. The gym will be available for town meetings, and the Herbie Clark Field will remain open to be used by the public.

SELECTMEN’S MEETING

At the March 27 meeting, the selectmen voted to hire Tony Bennett as the town assessor, as Doug Guy resigned effective March 31.

Animal Control Officer Larry Colarusso reported an incident when he was called to a home where three dogs were on the owner’s property. The town lawyer will be contacted about the matter. Road Commissioner Colarusso reported that he is putting together a plan for summer road maintenance and compiling a list of street signs that are missing.

Jeff Orchard addressed the change in policy for items taken to the Marion Transfer Station that are under 100 pounds. If the items taken there are under 100 pounds, the person is charged a minimum of \$7 per delivery.

Selectmen’s meetings are held on the second and fourth Mondays of the month at the town hall at 7 p.m. The next meeting will be on Monday, April 14.

ICE OUT

The ice started to open in Pennamaquan Lake and Round Pond the last couple of weeks in March, with water showing around the edges and holes in several places on the surface. The last few days of March saw the ice move to one shore. The ice finally disappeared on April 1 at Round Pond and the next day at Pennamaquan Lake.

BAPTIST CHURCH

All children are welcome at Sunday school each Sunday at 10 a.m. for songs, a Bible story, crafts and snacks. Morning worship service is held at 11 a.m.

Everybody is welcome to attend Bible Study each Thursday evening at 6:30 p.m. at the church led by Sonia Seeley. *Messiah in the Feasts of Israel* by Sam Nadler is used for the study. An Easter breakfast is planned at the church on Easter Sunday before Sunday school.

FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT

At the April 1 meeting, it was decided to have a work session on May 4 to take care of items that need attention at the station. It was announced that the department has received a grant for Hazmat training. Three members of the department are now taking Firefighter I and II classes.

Members hold monthly business meetings the first Tuesday of each month and training on the third Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m.

CVF&R AUXILIARY

Auxiliary members are grateful to ev-

by Eileen Clark
Tel. 454-8825

everyone who helped raise money through craft fairs, raffles and donations in 2024. Members are looking forward to helping raise funds for CVF&RD. If anyone has craft ideas or others suggestions for fund-raisers, please contact Eileen Clark or any member of the auxiliary.

SCHOOL BOARD

Regular school board meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month at the town hall at 6:30 p.m.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Eileen Clark and Sandra Sawyer, editors of “The Loon II” newsletter, would appreciate memories and photos of Charlotte to be used in publications.

Dues are now due and should be sent or given to Treasurer Eileen Clark. Dues are \$10 for a single membership and \$15 for a joint membership and cover the year from January through December. It is hoped that all members will renew their dues and new members are always welcome to join. Treasurer Clark has received several membership dues with notes expressing their enjoyment of each newsletter that is received.

Business meetings are held at the genealogy library at the town hall at 7 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month. The next meeting will be on April 16. Everyone is welcome.

AROUND AND ABOUT

The community was sad to hear of the passing of Dr. Wendell Calder in Florida on March 25. He was a pastor in Charlotte from May 1959 to March 1962. He and his wife Joan and daughter Lori were the first family to live in the church parsonage that was built in 1961. When he left Charlotte, he became a pastor at Woodland Baptist Church for several years.

Heartfelt sympathy is extended to the family of Barbara Gower, who passed on April 4. Gower grew up in Charlotte and was the daughter of Jean and Lewis Gower.

Janet, Rob and Felicia Moholland traveled to Orono on March 29 to attend the Special Olympics basketball games at the University of Maine. Anita and Steven Clark of Hermon joined them there to see their nephew Bobby Moholland and to watch the Beckett Bombers from the Frank N. Beckett Center in Calais. The team won second in the games, and each team member received a silver medal.

Welcome home is extended to Jane Enman, who has been in Arizona with friends for a vacation.



THE BASKETBALL TEAM from the Frank N. Beckett Center in Calais came in second place at Special Olympics basketball tournament at the University of Maine in Orono on March 29. (Janet Moholland photo)

Retired teachers association set to meet

The Washington County Retired Teachers Association is set to resume its monthly meetings on Thursday, April 17, at 11 a.m. at Washington Academy in East Machias. The association welcomes all retired school personnel to come join this meeting. Dues are \$5 per year, and the association earmarks its bank account to

support area schools. The association also works to make continuing efforts to protect, preserve and enhance retirement benefits in Augusta.

Various speakers from the community provide an educational component to meetings. Participants are invited to share ideas for the year. Lunch will be available.

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Outdoor Skills Camp

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Canoe Camp


July 7th - 12th : Rising Grades 7-9th. On this 6-day 5-night canoe trip, participants will explore the Downeast Lakes and camp at some of the most scenic, remote campsites in eastern Maine.

Youth Sailing Camps Intro & Intermediate

July 21st - 25th (Intro), July 28th - Aug 1st (Intro), Aug 4th - 8th (Intermediate): Ages 9-17. The is a beginner class for children to have positive early learning experiences on the water and while sailing. Intermediate students who have participated in a sailing training program before will build upon the introductory skills learned previously and build confidence.

Watershed Ecology Camp

July 21st - 27th : It will be a day camp focused on learning science techniques monitor the physical and biological health of watersheds, offered in partnership with Downeast Salmon Federation for Middle School - Grade 10. It's a day camp that will conclude with a two-night wilderness canoe trip.



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by Genevieve Lemire
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AMERICAN LEGION SUPPER

On Saturday April 12, at 5 p.m. American Legion Cobscook Post 59 will hold a baked bean supper. The price is \$10 per person or free for children under 12.

The legion hosts weekly Wednesday morning coffee and donuts from 8 to 10 a.m.

Monday night Bingo continues weekly. The doors open at 5 p.m. with an early bird game at 6 p.m.

FOURTH OF JULY COMMITTEE

The 4th of July Committee is grateful to the community and the volunteers who participated in the dinner and raffle on March 29. Over 100 people attended the dinner, with dishes made by community members. In addition, there were over 100 raffle items. The committee also sold over 50 T-shirts and sweatshirts. The committee is grateful for all of the contributions from the businesses and community members. T-shirts and sweatshirts are available at the Pembroke Town Office during regular business hours.

PEMBROKE LIBRARY

The Pembroke Library will host an

event on Wednesday, April 16, at 6 p.m. presenting “That Old Gospel Ship,” with singing led by Stephen Sanfilippo on the banjo and guitar.

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The rain and melting snow flooded the basement of the Pembroke church, with the water getting up to the furnaces and water heater. The water is finally gone, but work needs to be done to make it safe to meet at the church. Consequently, Sunday’s service was a choice between North Perry or Eastport. Also, the final Soup and Sermon scheduled for Pembroke was at the North Perry church. Pembroke cooks still prepared the soup.

District Superintendent Pick McKinley attended a three-church potluck at the North Perry church on April 5. He also presided over the Sunday services at North Perry and Eastport. Plans are still being made for an Easter sunrise service at 6:30 a.m. at the Eastport breakwater for the three area Methodist churches and anyone else wishing to attend.

The Pembroke UMC Bible study meets on Thursday mornings at 10 a.m. Regular church services are at 10:15 a.m.

School’s electric bus initiative recognized

Sipayik Elementary School has been nationally recognized for pioneering the implementation of electric school buses in rural tribal communities. The initiative, which has electrified the school bus fleet at Sipayik Elementary School, was featured in a national publication.

The article, titled “How a Rural, Tribal School Electrified Their School Bus Fleet,” showcases how Maine Indian Education (MIE) has merged environmental stewardship with cultural preservation. Sipayik Elementary now operates two electric school buses, providing transportation for approximately 120 students.

“We’re not just changing our transportation system – we’re living our values, protecting our environment, serving our community and preparing our students for the future,” says Dr. Reza Namin, superintendent of MIE in the feature. “This initiative represents a perfect harmony between our traditional responsibilities as environmental stewards and our modern role as educational innovators.”

The electric bus initiative incorporates Passamaquoddy cultural elements, including replacing the standard pedestrian warning sounds with an elder-recorded

Passamaquoddy travel song. This approach to cultural integration has turned the buses into mobile cultural preservation tools while eliminating approximately 25 tons of greenhouse gas emissions annually per bus.

The transition aligns with MIE’s commitment to addressing health disparities within the community. Dr. Namin noted the higher rates of respiratory conditions among Passamaquoddy community members, reflecting national studies showing Native American children experience asthma at higher rates than non-Native children. The initiative is projected to save 80% in energy costs and 60% in maintenance costs compared to diesel buses. These savings will be reinvested into educational programs. Dr. Namin, along with Sipayik Elementary Principal Dan Morang and Technology Coordinator Dana Mitchell, offered advice for other schools considering similar transitions.

The recognition of Maine Indian Education’s electric bus initiative serves as a model for how rural and tribal school districts across the country can implement sustainable transportation solutions while honoring cultural traditions.

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GAMING EXPANSION (from page 1)

their smartphones to illegally gamble online, he stated, “Instead of the state of Maine generating tax revenue from this activity, these companies that are located offshore operate a lot like the state’s casinos.” Allowing the tribes to obtain a license and operate Internet gaming would provide revenue for the state and tribal governments.

Chief Bassett pointed out that the elderly center, wastewater treatment plant and a number of homes and sacred places at Sipayik are at severe risk of flooding because of rising sea levels. The cost just to relocate the wastewater plant is over \$50 million. While sports wagering “has done well” for the tribe, Internet gaming like roulette, blackjack and poker would help the tribe address infrastructure needs and also grow existing businesses.

Passamaquoddy Chief William Nicholas of Motahkomikuk also testified in support, stating, “Like Maine’s two casinos, Maine’s illegal Internet gaming operators are simply siphoning money out of the state, just through different customers who play games on apps instead of casinos.” Based on information from the American Gaming Association, the state may be losing \$37 million in tax revenue each year from the illegal online gaming market in the state. The proposed bill would have Internet gaming operators distribute 16% of gross receipts to the state.

The Passamaquoddy Tribe has partnered with DraftKings Inc., a digital sports entertainment company based in Boston, for its sports-betting operation, which had earned nearly \$30 million for the tribe from November 2023 through December 2024, with gross wagering receipts being more than five times the gross revenue generated by Caesars Sportsbook Maine, which has partnered with the Penobscot Nation, the Houlton Band of Maliseets and the Mi’kmaq Nation.

DraftKings offered support for gaming expansion in Maine proposed by the bill, with Matt Scalf, the government affairs manager, stating that online gaming “appeals to a different demographic than traditional casino patrons, as many persons likely to engage in online gaming are already doing so through the expansive options in the illegal market.” He also cited figures from the American Gaming Association, which estimates that as much as \$338 billion a year may be illegally wagered online.

However, another sports wagering operator, Fanduel, opposed the legislation, with Michael Ventre, senior manager of state government relations, noting that the bill would mirror Maine’s existing online

sports betting framework that has limited the market to just two operators, DraftKings and Caesars, with DraftKings having nearly 90% of the state’s market share. He said that the state’s current “sports betting marketplace is suffering, and we are concerned that, unless amended, the iGaming marketplace would follow suit.”

The two casinos in the state also opposed the measure. Chris Jackson of the lobby firm Mitchell Tardy Jackson, representing Hollywood Casino, Hotel and Raceway in Bangor, stated that the bill would “constitute the largest single expansion of gaming in our state’s history, without approval from the voters, and threaten facilities in Bangor and Oxford” and thus the cascade of monies that are generated by the two casinos and flow to a number of specified state programs, including the state government’s general fund and a gambling addiction prevention and treatment fund. Internet gaming would take money out of the state while creating few jobs, while “likely costing jobs by taking customers away from our two commercial casinos,” he said, noting that they provide thousands of direct and indirect jobs in the state.

The Maine Medical Association (MMA) was among the groups opposing the bill because of concerns over gambling addiction. Speaking on behalf of the MMA, Patty Hymanson of York told the committee that, since Michigan legalized online casino games and sports betting in 2021, the number of calls to the gambling addiction hotline have tripled, with two-thirds of the calls from men. “My sons talk about how easy it is to have a phone with an app always around and how friends have been compelled to use the app too much. My son said, ‘There are so many things that are bad in excess. Gambling is one of them.’”

Milton Champion, executive director of the Gambling Control Unit with the Maine Department of Public Safety, also testified against the measure and expressed concern about the possible harm to problem gamblers. However, Steve Silver, chair of the Maine Gambling Control Board, while opposing the bill, said the state should consider legalizing Internet gaming. But he felt any qualified operator should be able to obtain an iGaming license. “Cutting out Oxford and Hollywood casinos entirely from offering iGaming is ill-advised in my opinion and creates a monopoly that is harmful to consumers and Maine workers employed by Oxford and Hollywood casinos.”

The committee held a work session on the bill on April 7.



THE IMPROVATEERS at Sipayik Elementary School include (left to right) Ara Hilderbrand, Ever Gabriel, Ava Paul, Seren Calder and Davin Barnes.

Sipayik students design, build a CubeSat

The “Cavemen Lawyers,” a team of middle school students at Sipayik Elementary School, submitted their slide deck for the University of Southern Maine (USM) CubeSat design competition in March. Inspired by the increase in out-of-control fires across the country and their own research indicating that there are more than 600 wildfires across Maine in a given year, the group is trying to create a miniature satellite that is preemptive in nature.

The four seventh graders and one sixth grade students opted to design a CubeSat that might pick up factors that could lead to wildfires. The slide deck presented to the USM judges was titled “FlameSat,” and the students hope it will identify factors using a thermal camera, regular camera, temperature/humidity/air quality sensors, atmospheric pressure/barometric altitude and GPS/altitude sensors.

On March 18 the teams who would move forward in the competition were notified. Sipayik was competing for one of the six open spots against 13 other teams across the state. The “Cavemen” were thrilled to learn that they did indeed pass on to the build portion of the competition.

Former Sipayik Elementary School student Camren Mumme has returned to assist and lend his expertise in the building and coding of the CubeSat. Currently the

students are awaiting the sensors to be delivered, and they have until mid-May to get the satellite designed, built and coded.

Ten students from Sipayik Elementary attended the Engineering Expo at the University of Maine on March 8. The exhibits featured engineering firms, schools, government agencies and societies. Most exhibits had either demonstrations or experiments, such as building catapults and testing a boat in a wave pool. The students felt more inclined to explore a career in engineering after attending the expo.

The Improvateers from Sipayik Elementary attended the Destination Imagination competition in Meredith, N.H., on March 15. This year’s competition had teams selecting two locations from a specified genre and 10 different modes of transportation. Their scenario would be a character traveling but a detour is thrown in their way. While the team won the improv aspect of the competition, they came in second overall. On April 1 the team received an invitation to the Globals in Kansas City in May.

On March 18 the sixth grade visited the newly renovated Challenger Center to run a simulated moon mission. The students navigated the spaceship to the safe location where a lava tube might support a colony.

PLEASANT POINT

SWEAT LODGE CEREMONY

A Sweat Lodge and Lowampi Ceremony, a sacred three-day gathering of purification, prayer, unity and healing, will be held Thursday, April 17, through Saturday, April 19, at the Sipayik Nation Ground. The sweat lodge start times will be as follows: Thursday, April 17, and Friday, April 18, fire starts at 2 p.m., go in around 5 p.m.; Saturday, April 19, sweat lodge begins at 11 a.m., go in around 2 p.m. Evening gatherings will be a potluck social on Saturday at 6 p.m. at the tribal office cafeteria and an 8 p.m. Lowampi Ceremony at the Woluhke Center. The ceremony will be conducted by Lakota Medicine Man Henry Quick Bear from South Dakota. Please contact Adam Newell at

207-214-6412 for more information.

EASTER BASKETS

The eighth grade is raffling off two Easter baskets with the ticket drawings to be held on Friday, April 18. Please see an eighth grader or parent to purchase tickets. All proceeds will benefit the school’s eighth grade class trip.

SPRING CLEANUP

Public Works will be picking up spring cleanup items from Monday, April 21, to Wednesday, April 30, only.

SPRING MARKET

The Wabanaki Spring Market will be held on Saturday, April 26, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Wabanaki Culture Center, Calais.

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SATURDAY EVENING

St. Joseph Church, 51 Washington St., Eastport – 4 p.m.
Pleasant Point, start date and location to be announced later.

SUNDAY MORNING

Immaculate Conception Church, 31 Calais Ave., Calais – 8:30 a.m.
St. James Church, 60 Summit St., Baileyville – 10:30 a.m.

Check the parish website for daily Mass and confession schedule:

www.sktparish.org

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Saturday and Sunday, April 26 and 27

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FOOD SHIPMENTS (from page 1)

\$1.25 million would have gone to Good Shepherd, with a projected loss of 300 tons of produce to Maine’s food pantries, according to a statement from the agency. TEFAP began in 1981 and similarly buys and distributes produce from regional farmers. Half of its federal funding – \$500 million – has been paused, with no indication if it will be resumed. In Maine, that equates to a loss of 125 tons a month in produce for the hungry, with some pantries advised to prepare for a drop of 65% in their shipments starting in April.

It’s possible that the situation could change in the future, but Nancy Lewis, who also manages the Machias Food Pantry, isn’t optimistic that relief will come soon. “Nobody knows how long this will last. We’ve been told to prepare through June, but no one knows what will happen after June, either.”

In the meantime, the Machias pantry is limiting its clients to the nine towns within its region – Bucks Harbor, Cutler, East Machias, Jonesboro, Machias, Machiasport, Marshfield, Northfield, Roque Bluffs, Wesley and Whitneyville – although Lewis is quick to say that no one who comes to the pantry hungry will be turned away. “Everyone who comes to us will get a bag of food, but if they aren’t from our area, we will direct them to pantries closer to their home.”

In Lubec, the pantry offered by Lubec Community Outreach Center (LCOC) assists 150 area households. Director Jennifer Bristol is expecting that the cuts will cost the pantry approximately \$7,000 a year, and they are currently determining fundraising methods to make up for the loss. “The LCOC purchases the majority of food for our pantry using grants and fundraising,” Bristol says. “As always, we will do as much as we can, the best that we can and for as long as we can.”

The Labor of Love Food Pantry in Eastport assists approximately 115 households

each month and will similarly be impacted by the cuts, says Madeline Murphy, president of the Greater Eastport Area Churches Association. While the shipment at the start of the month was normal, she says she and manager Lindy McLellan will know more when the next shipment comes. “[That] will be our first opportunity to collect hard data for ourselves.”

Murphy and McLellan are among the pantry managers actively attending meetings organized by Good Shepherd and Healthy Acadia to “find out what can do as partners in Maine” and learn “more about what we can expect going forward,” Murphy says. “For now, we have been receiving generous donations of canned and boxed goods from our local churches in Eastport, Perry, Pembroke and Dennysville.”

The Machias pantry has also seen the local community step up, with a recent donation of a ton of potatoes, Warner says. “That is such a staple. In the midst of all this, someone comes through with a donation of one ton of something we desperately need.” He adds, “We’re forever hopeful that things will be fine because our neighbors help each other.”

Donations will be a critical component for food pantries to function, Warner says, adding, “People looking to help the pantry out should know that their dollar to us will buy more than they can buy at the store. If a person planned to give \$5 to \$10 worth of food to us, and they gave us the money instead, we could do more with it.” As an example, Warner says that ground meat that costs \$4 at the store can be purchased by the pantry for \$2.75.

How to make donations to any of the local food pantries can be found online.

“We don’t want people to panic,” Warner says. “We’re not closing tomorrow. We don’t plan to reduce days of service. We may have fewer items to offer, but we’ll still have items.”

Robbinston voters pass warrant articles

by Edward French

Robbinston residents approved all 32 warrant articles and elected a new town clerk and treasurer during the annual town meeting and town election on March 31. All candidates for town offices were unopposed.

Winnie Johnson was elected as the town clerk, replacing Vanessa Geel, who did not seek reelection. Cathy Footer, who had retired as treasurer and tax collector, was elected to be treasurer again. Keri Barnard, who was treasurer and tax collector this past year, sought only the tax collector position. Others who were elected are all incumbents. They are: Tom Moholland, first selectman; Jonathan Stanhope, second selectman; Kevin Murray, third selectmen; Dan Corbett, school board member; Earle Stanhope Jr., road

commissioner.

During the town meeting, residents approved increases for the fire department, from \$51,000 in 2024 to \$55,000 this year; for the town officers, from \$20,000 last year to \$22,000; for legal counsel and general administration, from \$5,000 to \$7,000; and for emergency medical service, from \$11,500 in 2024 to \$12,000 this year.

From the Armstrong Fund, residents approved appropriating \$400 for Down East Health Services’ WIC program; \$500 for the Eastern Area Agency on Aging; and \$1,877 for Downeast Community Partners.

Also, \$2,500 was appropriated for the Robbinston Historical Society. Other articles also appropriated the same amounts as last year.

BUSINESSES FEEL EFFECTS (from page 1)

tion, there was money to help small businesses,” Tenan says, explaining that there were grants, payroll programs and small business loans that could be applied for to manage the financial stress. As President Trump has eliminated those relief programs, businesses will either “sink or swim” as a result.

At Calais IGA, co-owner Bob Craft is tracking a 20% decrease in overall sales since the tariff war began in February with President Trump’s declaration of a 25% tariff on Canadian goods and an ensuing response from Prime Minister Trudeau. “We are still getting some Canadian shoppers, but certainly not like we are used to.” During the pandemic, when sales were down 35%, the IGA received federal support during the first round of funding relief. “We definitely needed it during COVID,” Craft says.

For Tradewinds Shop ‘n Save, it’s not quite clear so far what the impact of the tariffs is, says manager Carla McLellan. “I’m sure it will be different than COVID when we had no Canadian customers,” she says. “We will have to wait and see what a difference it makes, if any.”

Overall, border crossings are down 20% in Calais, with U.S. Customs and Border Protection tracking 44,008 people in personal vehicles in February of this year, compared with 55,445 last year. That figure is expected to drop even further, with Canada issuing a travel warning on April 4 that Canadians crossing into the U.S. should expect their electronic devices searched.

Some businesses were not willing to comment about the tariffs, based on multiple instances of negative feedback on social media and in person after making appeals to Canadian customers, illustrating the high emotions involved. When the Sunrise County Farmers Market announced on Facebook it would not be opening this year as a result of increased costs – in part from tariffs – it had to remove the original post after comments became incendiary.

border – and I want them all to eat pizza,” says Tim Crowe, owner of Jo’s Diner on Main Street, just above the Ferry Point bridge. “People are navigating this successfully, but it’s difficult.”

Beyond the financial burden, the relationship between the two countries has been stressed by President Trump’s rhetoric about Canada becoming the 51st state, says Eric Miller, president of the Rideau Potomac Strategy Group in Washington, D.C., during a webinar on tariffs on April 3. The tariffs and rhetoric have prompted an “elbows up” response from Canada, including booing the American anthem during hockey games – though that mentality isn’t universal. “Me, personally, I would never boo anyone’s anthem,” said St. Stephen Mayor Allan MacEachern in a previous interview with *The Quoddy Tides*, noting that he wants the national leaders involved to “sit down and work this out.”

The effects of the tariffs aren’t limited to cross-border travel, either, with Americans appearing to be hesitant to travel or schedule plans for this summer due to ongoing financial uncertainty. At Eastland Motel in Lubec, March reservations are down 50% and summer reservations are down 60%, says owner Tenan, despite Canadian customers being about 10% of their business. While Tenan knows she and husband Glen can mostly handle the operation, she says, “We are worried about the number of employees we will be able to hire there this summer.”

Recognizing that “most people don’t want to talk about it,” Tenan says she “sure as [heck] wants people to know what is happening” to Maine’s border communities. “They can keep their head in the sand as long as they want, but eventually they will suffocate. And we will too without everyone’s support.”

Farmers market will not open this year

The Sunrise County Farmers Market will not be opening in Calais this year. According to a posting on its Facebook site, the decision was made in part because of the recent implementation of new tariffs, coupled with disruptions in cross-border traffic from St. Stephen, which have created significant challenges for small businesses and small farming operations.

The post states, “With a substantial increase in the cost of the required insurance rider for hosting the market and after careful consideration, we determined that the financial burden would prevent participating farmers from recouping their expenses – a risk we cannot in good conscience ask them to take.”

The organization remains committed to supporting the local agricultural community and will continue exploring sustainable ways to bring fresh, local goods in the future.

ROBBINSTON

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

The Sewall Memorial Congregational Church will host an Easter egg hunt for children 12 and under on Saturday, April 12, at 10 a.m.

The church will hold a Palm Sunday service Sunday, April 13, at 4 p.m. An Easter Sunday sunrise service will be at 7 a.m. with a brunch afterwards. The community is welcome.

Calais police issue report for March

The Calais Police Department report for March includes the following charges.

On March 4 a 38-year-old female from Gouldsboro was arrested for reckless conduct and for operating a vehicle with a suspended license.

On March 19 a 47-year-old female from Calais was summonsed for theft.

On March 19 a 20-year-old female from Ellsworth was summonsed for theft.

On March 19 a juvenile female from Hancock was summonsed for theft.

On March 19 a juvenile female from Ellsworth was summonsed for theft.

Shriners to hold children’s clinics

Two pediatric screening clinics by Shriners Hospitals for Children are being held in Washington County on Saturday, April 19, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. One is being held at Down East Community Hospital’s pediatrics office at the Robertson Building in Machias, and the second is being held at the St. Croix Masonic Hall at 10 Calais Avenue, Calais.

Children up to age 18 are eligible for care at Shriners Hospitals for Children, regardless of the families’ ability to pay. Shriners Hospitals for Children provide care for orthopaedic conditions, burns, spinal cord injuries and cleft lip and palate. For more information about Shriners Hospitals for Children, call 800-237-5055 (U.S.) or 800-361-7256 (Canada).

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Calais schools announce spring events

by Wayne Tripp

During the Calais School Committee meeting on April 9, student representative Leilani Welsh updated the committee on upcoming student activities. The Jobs for Maine’s Graduates members are holding a Spring Festival on Saturday and Sunday, April 12 and 13, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. daily. In addition to activities there will also be raffles for baskets and baked goods. The National Honor Society will be holding their Easter egg hunt on April 19 at the Calais Elementary School.

The school board approved the retirement of Martha Apkarian from the elementary school at the end of the school year and Gloria Calder at the end of the 2025-26 school year. The board accepted the resignation of Daniel Benner from the Alternative School at the end of this school year. At the request of Superintendent Mary Anne Spearin a budget workshop was scheduled for April 30 at 5 p.m.

Stanley Sluzenski, director of the St. Croix Regional Technical Center, informed the board that criminal justice student Jaida Jamieson was selected as the Career and Technical Education Student of the Year for SCRTC. According to Sluzenski, “She exemplifies the best qualities of career and technical education. She is an all-around great student in CTE and academics and is in a variety of clubs, sports and activities at both SCRTC and Calais High School with several leadership positions.”

Elementary school Principal Sue Carter updated the board on upcoming commu-

nity activities, including the Community Cleanup Day in cooperation with Walmart on April 15 at the waterfront. The elementary school is also preparing for Autism Spirit week later this month. High school Principal Dean Preston requested a meeting with Spearin and, if possible, members of the board to review several policies with recommendations based on experience over the past several months. Assistant Principal Ben Collins noted his recent participation in the Athletics Directors Spring Conference, where he learned some new strategies for improving the athletics program.

Superintendent Spearin and members of the board with representatives of the Calais City Council prior to the meeting and reviewed the current budget, including a great deal of concern and uncertainty over the status of federal funding for education and school lunches. According to the Maine Education Department, they are also uncertain what will happen, if previously approved funding will continue to flow and if reimbursements will be paid. The liaison committee expressed their concerns over the potential impact on the budget and requested that Spearin keep them informed. The committee also discussed a number of potentially significant maintenance and repair issues, including replacing the floor in the high school gym and roof repairs at both the elementary and middle/high school. Spearin advised them that they are investigating options for bringing basic repairs and maintenance in house.



STUDENTS at Sipayik Elementary School work on coding a race car robot with Beaver Works staff.

Students travel to MIT for STEM programs

During the week of March 24, 32 middle school students and 12 staff from Indian Island School, Indian Township School and Sipayik Elementary School traveled to Massachusetts Institute of Technology for a program hosted by Beaver Works Summer Institute at MIT. They participated in two and a half days of workshops, demonstrations and an opportunity expo.

Workshops included a focus on wearable technology, self-driving cars, climate change and water quality and Seeing the Unseen. Students also participated in tours and demonstrations at MIT spaces like the Hobby Shop, the Edgerton Center’s Milk Drop Shop, D-Lab, the Breakerspace and the Center for Bits and Atoms.

Joel Grimm, manager of Beaver Works at MIT Lincoln Laboratory, and Nancy Dalrymple, the Native American and Indigenous Association advisor, began en-

gaging with Maine Indian Education last November to discuss the possibilities for a student trip. Soon after the conversations began, scientists, engineers and other academics from across New England signed on to support this program sponsored by MIT Beaver Works. Beaver Works received grant support from Jameel World Education Lab (J-WEL) to engage Indigenous youth in STEM programming to increase their exposure to and interest in potential career opportunities.

Maine Indian Education’s leadership expressed, “Joel and Nancy have advocated for and supported programming for our students for a number of years, with much of it occurring locally until this year. These opportunities for engagement are an invaluable gift that has planted more seeds for future experiences than we can imagine.”

Spooner named WCCC student of year

Washington County Community College (WCCC) is proud to announce that Kolaiah Spooner, a student in the criminal justice conservation law program, has been named the 2025 Student of the Year.

Spooner chose WCCC because of its location, her dual Canadian and United States citizenship and the college’s criminal justice conservation law program, which includes outdoor leadership trips and wilderness first aid training. She enjoys contributing to the campus trail system and serving as a role model, encouraging her brother and other students to attend WCCC.

Wayde Carter, program instructor for criminal justice conservation law at WCCC, states, “Kolaiah is a top student in the criminal justice program with a career

3.96 GPA. She is a natural leader and is always willing to help in and outside the classroom. Her ability to see others who are struggling and offer help to them is impressive. She represents the program very well.”

Spooner participated as a student leader during a trip to Rhode Island for the New England Division of the International Association of Identification (NEDIAI) conference for two consecutive years, demonstrating outstanding planning skills and professionalism. Her leadership was noted and praised by professionals in the field. Additionally, she has been a leader in the construction and planning of walking trails behind the college. During her summer internship at the Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge her supervisor commended her work ethic and leadership abilities.

Spooner has contributed to the campus as a TRIO participant and grant recipient, Phi Theta Kappa member, Seed Upon the Grass participant, fishing derby participant, EXPLORE participant and volunteer at her church’s youth group. As a TRIO tutor, her welcoming nature, organizational skills and enthusiasm significantly enhance her peers’ learning experiences.

As a first-generation college student and dual citizen, Spooner overcame substantial financial barriers and navigated the complexities of transitioning to college life after two gap years post-high school graduation, a rare feat accomplished by less than 1% of her peers. Spooner remarks, “How amazing it is that I can make a living protecting my favorite things, people and nature! All while working in the great outdoors!” She plans to attend Park Ranger School this summer.

President Susan Mingo states, “Kolaiah’s outstanding achievement and commitment to excellence reflect the highest standards of scholarship. She is an inspiration to her peers and the entire WCCC community.”

Spooner will be recognized on April 23 with an in-person ceremony at Maple Hill Farm in Hallowell beginning at 10:30 a.m. followed by a tea at the Blaine House.

Council approves extension of bond

by Wayne Tripp

The Calais City Council rapidly moved through their agenda during the March 27 meeting, adjourning 15 minutes after opening the meeting. Following a public hearing with no members of the public in attendance, the council approved the general obligation bond extension ordinance to support Downeast Broadband Utility by unanimous vote. The council also approved the updated City of Calais Emergency Action Plan with minor changes.

The council voted to schedule the city’s annual spring free dump days for May 3 and 4 and to approve a proclamation of a citywide yard sale day. The property committee plans to meet on Thursday, April 24, at 5 p.m. to discuss a possible ordinance to limit commercial fish farming in the coastal waters of Calais.



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CALAIS TRAIL EXTENSION (from page 1)

ager Jim Porter stated that converting the existing railroad track to a multi-use trail would “provide a much-needed positive economic impact on Calais and the surrounding towns.” He stated, “For walkers, bikers or hikers traversing the multi-use trail, it would be a spectacular way to finish the U.S. portion with a scenic trek through the beautiful Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge, at the same time attaining the goal of the East Coast Greenway, which is to continue the path off-road whenever possible. ATV riders and snowmobilers will gain much-needed access to gasoline, supplies, restaurants and overnight accommodations while enjoying two of the many attributes our region has to offer: breath-taking scenery and the shared joy of outdoor recreation.”

If the rail line is converted to a multi-use trail, the MDOT would retain the right to terminate the corridor's use for recreational purposes and return it to rail use. If the rail segment were restored, it could help the Port of Eastport connect with the Woodland Pulp mill for pulp exports, but there are numerous cost prohibitions that stand in the way of bringing back the line, with an estimated cost of \$51.5 million to restore rail and also the cost of constructing a transload facility in Perry. In addition, a significant increase in wood fiber shipments through the port would be needed.

Benefits of converting the rail line to a trail were pointed out by numerous people, not only residents of this area but also trail enthusiasts from other parts of the state. Denise Barker, the economic development director for Calais and Baileyville, testified, "The expansion of this trail would provide tremendous benefits to our community. It would create new recreational opportunities for families, outdoor enthusiasts and tourists, boosting local businesses and encouraging economic growth."

Noting that he had ridden on the Down East Sunrise Trail, Ronald O'Brien of Calais stated that he was "amazed at the traffic and people patronizing the businesses along the trail as I rode all the way to Ellsworth and back. However, once back to Ayers Junction, I thought to myself how the economic climate in the eastern part of Washington County is left out of this amazing opportunity."

Butters of the rail bed also offered support, with David Bibber of Charlotte stating, "I am more than willing to give up a few seconds of the peace and solitude I find at my camp to see others ride by while enjoying the same beauty and tran-

quility of Downeast Maine that I am privileged to see on a regular basis. I think it is also important to point out that many senior citizens who have lost some of their mobility and are prohibited from hiking through the woods have now taken advantage of owning a side by side."

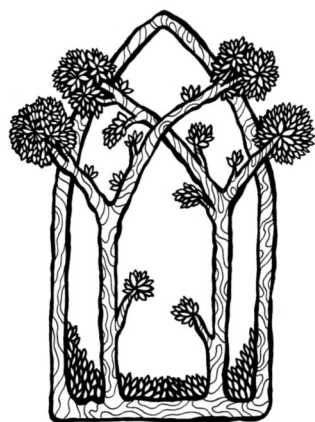
Testifying on behalf of the Friends of Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge, Eric Mauricette offered support for the measure, as long as the trail conversion is done with collaborative planning, adherence to environmental laws, including the National Environmental Policy Act, and active engagement of all stakeholders of the refuge. The Friends group does have concerns about impacts on wetlands and wildlife habitat; the possible introduction of invasive species; the disruption of bird watching and hunting by high-decibel ATV noise; the possibility that ATVs would leave the rail corridor and enter the refuge's federally-protected wild lands; and trail maintenance and ATV safety issues. The group urged that a biological assessment, a hydrological study and a noise and air quality impact study be conducted to evaluate potential impacts. The process should involve public scoping meetings and the preparation of an environmental impact statement.

The Calais Branch Rail Use Advisory Council (RUAC), a group that was formed in March 2024, recommended the conversion of the track to a trail, but it was noted that environmental impact assessments would likely be required at the federal level.

Opposition to converting the rail line to a trail was expressed by Lucas Leighton of Newport, who submitted testimony stating that it would damage the wildlife refuge and questioning how much business the Down East Sunrise Trail is generating. "Trail groups are struggling to maintain the section of the Calais branch they already hold, due to declining membership and donations, along with aging volunteers. Why is the state building more trails for these groups, when they cannot even maintain the section(s) of the Calais branch they already have?"

According to the RUAC's recommendation, trail usage could be as much as 23,500 people a year, or 3,100 during peak months. They would include ATV riders, snowmobilers, equestrians and pedestrians. Converting the rail line to a trail would cost \$13.9 million for a gravel or stone dust trail or \$18.1 million for a paved trail, according to estimates in the report.

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FRIDAY – APRIL 11

SENIOR SING-ALONG with Landen Murray, Lubec Community Outreach Center, 44 South Street, 12:30 p.m.

WOODCOCK WALK, Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge, Baring, 7 p.m.

PERFORMANCE, Machias Arts Council, *Steel Magnolias*, Milbridge Theatre, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY – APRIL 12

EASTER EGG HUNT, Campobello Island, Herring Cove Provincial Park beach, 10 a.m.

EASTER EGG HUNT, Sunset Point Campground, Lubec, 11 a.m.

ASTRONOMY TALK with Charlie Sawyer, Porter Memorial Library, Machias, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

LUBEC SEED LIBRARY OPENS, free seed exchange program, Lubec Memorial Library, 12 to 2 p.m.

WEEKLY CRAFT CIRCLE, Saturdays, Peavey Memorial Library, 1 to 3 p.m.

RECEPTION for student art exhibition, Washington Street Gallery, Eastport Arts Center, 2 to 3:30 p.m.

PERFORMANCE, Machias Arts Council, *Steel Magnolias*, Milbridge Theatre, 3 p.m.

BAKED BEAN SUPPER, American Legion Post 59, Pembroke, 5 p.m.

PERFORMANCE, Elm City String Quartet, Wesley United Church, St. Andrews, 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY – APRIL 13

SUNDAY AFTERNOON PROGRAMS, Catherine J.S. Lee, reading from her new book, *A Place to Land*, Eastport Arts Center, 3 p.m.

PERFORMANCE, Machias Arts Council, *Steel Magnolias*, Milbridge Theatre, 3 p.m.

MONDAY – APRIL 14

PERFORMATIVE POETRY READING with Alison Caldwell-Beers, Eastport Senior Center, 2 to 4 p.m.

TUESDAY – APRIL 15

EARTH DAY CLEANUP, Calais waterfront walkway, 1 to 5 p.m.

WEDNESDAY – APRIL 16

CHANTEY SING, “That Old Gospel Ship,” Pembroke Library, 6 p.m.

FILM SCREENING, *Any Other Way: The Jackie Shane Story*, W.C. O’Neill Arena theatre, St. Andrews, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY – APRIL 17

PRESENTATION, Cutting the Cord, space limited, reserve spot by calling 207-231-8406, Eastport Welcome Center, 3 to 4 p.m. or 6 to 7 p.m.

FRIDAY – APRIL 18

TALK, discussion of rights and responsibilities of citizenship, Porter Memorial Library, Machias, 6 p.m.

SATURDAY – APRIL 19

PUBLIC BREAKFAST, Dennysville Snowmobile/ATV clubhouse, 7 to 9 a.m.

NATURE WALK, Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge, Baring, 9 to 11:30 a.m.

PEDIATRIC SCREENING CLINIC by Shriners Hospitals for Children, Down East Community Hospital’s pediatrics office, Robertson Building, Machias, and St. Croix Masonic Hall, 10 Calais Avenue, Calais, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

EASTER EGG HUNT, Anchorage Provincial Park, Grand Manan, 10 a.m.

EASTER EGG HUNT, children under age 12, Maritime Munchkins, Charlotte, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

STONE SOUP POTLUCK, Lubec Community Outreach Center, 44 South Street, 1 to 3 p.m.

DOWNEAST JAZZ JAM, guest jammers welcome, Old Sow Grill, Eastport, 4 to 6 p.m.

SPAGHETTI SUPPER, Dennysville Congregational Church parish hall, 5 p.m.

BAKED BEAN SUPPER, West Lubec Methodist Church, 5 p.m.

OPEN MIC NIGHT, Eastport Arts Center, all ages, sign-ups at 5:30, show runs 6 to 8 p.m.

SUNDAY – APRIL 20

EASTER.

MONDAY – APRIL 21

PUBLIC DRESS REHEARSAL, local talent performs Chuck Kniffen’s play, *It Ain’t Gonna Rain No More*, Lubec Memorial Library, 3 p.m.

TUESDAY – APRIL 22

EARTH DAY.

EVENT, Energy Committee on the efficient use of energy, Eastport Welcome Center, 12 to 2 p.m.

75TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION, Washington County Soil and Water Conservation District, Hillgrove Community Hall, Whitneyville, 2 p.m.

PLAY, local talent performs Chuck Kniffen’s play, *It Ain’t Gonna Rain No More*, East Machias Cultural Arts Center in First Congregational Church, 3 p.m.

THURSDAY – APRIL 24

INTERACTIVE MINI-CONCERT, “Four Hands on Deck! A Piano Voyage” with Michael Coonrod and Danny Holt, Eastport Arts Center, 1 to 2:30 p.m.

FRIDAY – APRIL 25

WOODCOCK WALK, Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge, Baring, 7 p.m.

AMPHIBIAN WALK, Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge, Baring, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY – APRIL 26

EVENT, The Late for Lunch River Race, Pleasant River Fish and Game Conservation Association clubhouse, Columbia, registration begins at 9:30 a.m.

ZENTANGLE, Mindful Drawing Practice with Ann Cannizzaro, register in advance, Eastport Arts Center, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

TOWN HALL MEETING, former Maine Senate President Troy Jackson, East Machias Municipal Building, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

ANNUAL SMELT FRY, Wreaths Across America gymnasium, Columbia Falls, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

FILM SCREENING, *From Stump to Ship*, 1930s logging film, Lubec Memorial Library, 2:30 p.m.

SUNDAY – APRIL 27

SUNDAY AFTERNOON PROGRAMS, Jane Crosen, on her new Coastwise edition of *Colby’s 1881 Atlas of Washington County*, Eastport Arts Center, 3 p.m.

FILM SCREENING, *We Live in Time*, W.C. O’Neill Arena theatre, St. Andrews, 7 p.m.

Center to host puppets in Earth Day play

The Turtle Dance Co-op will present in Lubec and East Machias *Ain’t Gonna Rain No More*, an Earth Day play for all ages featuring the Sea Junk Revue Puppets made by Chuck Kniffen, a Lubec-based artist. The play features folk music and is an estimated 20 minute performance.

All are welcome to the public dress rehearsal on Monday, April 21, at 3 p.m. at the Lubec Memorial Library. On Earth Day, Tuesday, April 22, the play will be performed at 3 p.m. at the East Machias Cultural Arts Center in the First Congregational Church. Both days will offer an afternoon of community theatre, music

and entertainment. All donations made will be used to tune the piano for future performances at the East Machias Cultural Arts Center.

Other events can be held at the cultural arts center by linking with the center at <www.eastmachiasculturalartscenter.org>. Events can be added to the calendar after approval.

The center runs on donations and volunteers, and events are typically pay-what-you-can with no one turned away for lack of funds. Please review the website and send an email via “contact us” with questions or suggestions for future events.

Eastport Arts Center to hold piano class

The Eastport Arts Center’s latest musical learning opportunity will be a piano workshop with concert pianist Danny Holt. The series of three sessions will offer a learning experience tailored to the participants, from early intermediate students to advanced.

Topics will include technique, sight-reading, score study and interpretation. Students will delve into the nuances of articulation and dynamics and explore the world of musical expression. A part of each session will include lecture and demonstration; students will be invited to play

for the group and their performances used as a springboard for discussion.

Sessions will take place on Saturdays, May 3, 10 and 17, from 2 to 4 p.m.

Students age 18 and up and high school students are invited. Participants should have had some piano study and some experience reading music.

Workshop fee is \$150 per student for the three sessions. Space is limited, and registration is required via the EAC site or by email to <workshops@eastportartscenter.org>. Registration deadline is Friday, April 25.



STEEL MAGNOLIAS, a play presented by the Machias Arts Council Theatre, was well received at the University of Maine at Machias’ Performing Arts Center and at the Eastport Arts Center. Performances continue at the Milbridge Theatre on April 11-13. The 1987 script by Robert Harling is a heartwarming and humorous story about the strength and resilience of a group of women. Information and tickets for the show may be found at the arts council’s website. (Cindy Jollotta photo)

Interactive piano concert scheduled

Students and their families and community members are invited to visit the Eastport Arts Center on Thursday, April 24, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. for “Four Hands on Deck! A Piano Voyage,” an interactive mini-concert with Michael Coonrod and Danny Holt.

Coonrod is visiting from Michigan, where he recently retired from teaching at Interlochen Arts Academy. Music lovers will enjoy the event, which will include discussion of the piano and how it works, music for solo piano and “four hand” piano duo, stories from the performers’ decades of music-making and chances for students to participate.

The event is designed for youth ages eight and up; family members and community members are welcome. A \$5/person admission will be used to help sustain programs like these; no one will be turned away for lack of funds. Tickets are available in advance via the EAC site, or RSVP by email to <workshops@eastportartscenter.org>.

Sunday series hosts author, mapmaker

The Eastport Arts Center’s annual winter Sunday series continues with author Catherine J.S. Lee on April 13 at 3 p.m. Lee will read from her book, *A Place to Land: More Stories from the Coast of Maine*. A question-and-answer session will follow, and books will be available for purchase.

After an Easter break, on April 27 at 3 p.m. Jane Crosen will give a slide presentation on her Coastwise edition of *Colby’s 1881 Atlas of Washington County*. Keeping Colby’s historic maps in print in a more user-friendly format, Crosen’s new edition groups them geographically, accompanied by 40 period photos capturing Washington County’s towns as they existed during the age of sail. Crosen will share her journey of sleuthing photos and the stories behind them, including historic images of Eastport and Lubec.

Sunday series programs are offered by donation, with no one turned away for lack of funds. Proceeds will be shared between the presenters and the EAC.

Library set to host gospel chantey sing

Many old hymns and gospel songs use the imagery of the sea. There are even biblical chanteys about Noah’s Ark. In hymns, the ship on its perilous voyage across the stormy sea of life struggles to reach the heavenly shore, as sailors turn from sin to be anchored in love divine.

Participants can hear and join in on these songs, most with easily learned choruses, on Wednesday, April 16, starting at 6 p.m. when the Pembroke Library presents “That Old Gospel Ship.” The singing will be led Stephen Sanfilippo with banjo and guitar. Please note that this is a non-denominational secular, community event.

Admission is by donation to the Pembroke Library.

StoryWalk features *The Little Red Hen*

This April, Porter Memorial Library’s StoryWalk will feature *The Little Red Hen*, written by Diane Muldrow and illustrated by J.P. Miller. In this tale, a hen finds some wheat seeds and asks her animal friends for help, but they refuse. She then plants the seeds, harvests the wheat and bakes the bread, all by herself, and ultimately refuses to share any with her friends.

StoryWalk is a literacy-boosting initiative that displays children’s illustrated books page by page along community walking routes. This outdoor reading experience combines physical activity with a love of books, encouraging families to explore and read together. At the end, visitors will also find a healthy recipe inspired by the book’s themes, encouraging cooking and enjoying meals at home.

The April book selection is sponsored by the Ustruck family. To support the StoryWalk at Porter Memorial Library contact Shannon Cherry at <shannon.cherry@healthyacadia.org> or 207-255-3741.

Open mic welcomes all ages to perform

The Eastport Arts Center’s next Open Mic will be held Saturday, April 19. Performers are limited to 10 minutes of stage time. Sign-ups will be taken starting at 5:30 p.m., and the show will run from 6 to 8 p.m. Attendees are asked to bring a donation of a non-perishable food item to support the food pantry.

The event has been sponsored by A Boatload of Books, opening May 1. EAC strives to keep admission free for Open Mics; donations are accepted. EAC concessions will be available with proceeds going towards similar events. To sponsor an event please email <publicity@eastportartscenter.org>.

A limited number of slots for performers with special needs may be reserved for sign up in advance, first come, first served, by email to <publicity@eastportartscenter.org>. Please put “Open Mic” in the subject line.

We Live in Time film to be screened

The St. Andrews Film Society will screen *We Live in Time* on Sunday, April 27, at 7 p.m. at the W.C. O’Neill Arena theatre. This moving romance directed by John Crowley follows 10 years in the developing relationship of a young couple who meet in an unusual way. Their experiences are presented in a fascinating way that carries viewers back and forth through time, making this an extraordinary film-watching adventure.

All are welcome. The suggested donation is \$5, or \$4 for members.



A SURE SIGN OF SPRING. A lamb named Alex was among those born at Shofar Farms in Perry on March 31. (Sarah Guiltner photo)

FROM THE BOOKSHELF

A Place to Land: More Stories from the Coast of Maine

By Catherine J.S. Lee. Sea Smoke Press, 2025 softcover, \$17.95.

Review by RJ Heller

To belong is essential. With friends, family, even our foes, we seek to belong, to be useful while having purpose. To be needed by those known and unknown living in a place that accepts us while nourishing who we are is essential. These are just some of the thoughts that came to mind while reading this exceptional collection of new stories from *A Place to Land: More Stories from the Coast of Maine* by Catherine J.S. Lee of Eastport.

This is Lee’s second short story collection, and it certainly does not disappoint. Following up her award-winning debut *Island Secrets: Stories from the Coast of Maine*, Lee continues her story-telling prowess with more adventures in the fictional place she calls way Downeast. The 15 stories cover a wide arc of experience while all are connected by “place.” The characters – young and old, friends and strangers, artists, immigrants, seekers and fugitives – all coalesce by way of finding their place both geographically and individually. Their story to a great extent is our story as we all navigate life day-after-day seeking answers and finding purpose.

In the title story, “A Place to Land,” Benedict Breaux, a lawyer and amateur photographer, is flying from west to east on a journey across the U.S. photographing waterfalls when he lands in Maine. Benedict is also seeking solitude from the distressing thought of having to take up the mantle of his father’s business upon his return. He begins to gain clarity when he meets Syd Duncan, his daughter Pru and her wife Andi. In one turn after the other a chance landing for Benedict becomes the calm he seeks and the answer for the entire family in a place that will nourish their dreams.

A man seeking a new start is what the story “The Green Moth” serves up. The diner, started by two sisters 40-some years ago in the town of Dudley, saw a community change, and then it closed. With the arrival of a pickup truck with Texas plates the diner and the community it serves will

soon be challenged. Luis Ruiz is trying to begin again after a tragic accident took the life of his wife and daughter. He meets Lenny Milliken and his sister Sophie who live across the road. They welcome him and immediately lend a hand to help him get settled and reopen The Green Moth. But all the residents are not as accommodating. Drugs, unemployment and jealousy will challenge the situation, leading the town, Luis, Lenny, Sophie and the place they call home to decide their fate.

In the last story, “When You Go,” three remaining bandmates seek and find the fourth member who departed the group three years ago seeking refuge in the seclusion that is Maine. “Gideon Bancroft had thought his new home in Maine would be quiet, so quiet that the day he signed the papers on the 1904 lake house overlooking the exact point where Lake Wapatquan drained into the Wapatquan River, he’d had a momentary panic: Was he doing the right thing in escaping civilization? Or was he going to turn into one of those ragged old hermits who went crazy from the lack of sound as well as the lack of human interaction?”

As it turns out Gideon Bancroft does not go crazy. With his bandmates, Earl, Malcolm and Cato, discovering his whereabouts, the Sugar Mountain String Band is once again reunited. But what to do? A festival, why not? With all in agreement, Gideon then learns something he did not see coming. Meryldeane Hood, the group’s singer and the woman he still loves, is dying. Gideon now seeks solace from the past and the present as he navigates his emotions. His bandmates, too, touched by the place, begin to rethink their future while the festival fast approaches. Amidst the preparations Gideon learns that Meryldeane has made plans to attend but is taken ill upon arrival. He again faces his emotions and loss but is buoyed in

the moment by both his friends, the community, Meryldeane’s devotion and the place that welcomed them all.

Imagine entering that old diner of your youth. Sitting at the long, worn-out old formica counter, on a stool perhaps where your grandfather sat years ago, where your friend or a complete stranger sat just hours ago. You place your order. It then begins. A long line of people both familiar and unfamiliar seated to your right and left chatter about the day, the weather, the life of that day they each experienced, and you are there having a piece of pie listening to all of it unfold.

That is this book, and the stories it holds resonate and remind us about those places that seem to seek us rather than the other way around. Once found these places grow as we do, allowing us to belong for a moment in the moment, all of it lifted up and gift-wrapped by the lives of others while they, too, find their place, find their sense of belonging on the coast of Maine. I thoroughly enjoyed this masterful collection of superb storytelling.

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Sudoku

by Myles Mellor
and Susan Flanagan

Tides Sudoku

The Quoddy Tides is alternating crossword and sudoku puzzles each issue. Each sudoku puzzle consists of a 9x9 grid that has been subdivided into nine smaller grids of 3x3 squares.

To solve the puzzle, each row, column and box must contain each of the numbers 1 to 9. Puzzles come in three grades: easy, medium and difficult.

Level: Medium.

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	1	6				2	4	
2				1	9	7		
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Answers on page 9

Local food pantries list hours

The food pantries that are open on the same day every week are only listed on that first date.

SATURDAY – APRIL 12

LUBEC COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY, second Saturdays, 44 South Street, 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon.

MONDAY – APRIL 14

ST. ANN’S FOOD PANTRY, 853-2600, Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, former transition house, Pleasant Point, 12:30 to 4:30 p.m.

MACHIAS AREA FOOD PANTRY, 259-6044, Mondays, 43 Kennebec Road, Machias, 1 to 6 p.m.

CALAIS FOOD PANTRY, Mondays, 513 Main Street, 3 to 5 p.m.

TUESDAY – APRIL 15

GRAND MANAN FOOD BANK, 662-3323, Tuesdays, Pentecostal Assembly, 1 to 3 p.m.

WEDNESDAY – APRIL 16

ST. ANN’S FOOD PANTRY, 853-2600, Wednesdays,, Pleasant Point, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

MACHIAS AREA FOOD PANTRY,

259-6044, Wednesdays, 43 Kennebec Road, Machias, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

DEER ISLAND SAFETY NET FOOD BANK, Wednesdays, 1 to 2 p.m.

THURSDAY – APRIL 17

CALAIS FOOD PANTRY, Thursdays, 513 Main Street, 10 a.m. to noon.

CAMPOBELLO FOOD BANK, Thursdays, 7 Bunker Hill Cross Road, 6 to 8 p.m.

FRIDAY – APRIL 18

CAMPOBELLO FOOD BANK, Fridays, 7 Bunker Hill Cross Road, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

CALAIS FOOD PANTRY, Fridays, 513 Main Street, 1 to 3 p.m.

GRAND MANAN FOOD BANK, Fridays, Pentecostal Assembly, 1 to 3 p.m.

GARRAPY FOOD PANTRY, 853-0812, Fridays, Labor of Love Nutrition Center, Eastport, regular food distribution, 2 to 5:30 p.m.

THURSDAY – APRIL 24

WOODLAND COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY, first and fourth Thursdays, 55 Broadway, 9 to 11 a.m.

UMM art exhibit features student’s work

Kameron Landry, a senior at The University of Maine at Machias, will open his undergraduate art exhibition, “Produce 111,” in the Powers Hall art gallery on Wednesday, April 16, at 6 p.m.

Landry is a multidisciplinary artist within the Creative Arts and Professional Studies Division, and his journey is one of exploration and refinement as he immerses himself in the world of book design while nurturing his talents in painting, photography, print-making, paper-making and drawing.

“Learning to be a true artist requires total freedom of expression,” says Landry. All of Landry’s skills and experiences have been poured into his upcoming show, “Produce 111,” read as one, one one. “The number 111 is a symbol of opportunity, luck and achievement. Angel numbers, like 111, represent more than just a sign that a guardian angel is watching over us; they encourage us to stay present and aware,” says Landry.

“By paying attention to these signs, I

Astronomy talk set at Machias library

Attendees can boost their understanding of the night sky and whet their appetite for more when Porter Memorial Library in Machias hosts members of Downeast Amateur Astronomers for a talk about astronomy. “Learn About Astronomy” with Charlie Sawyer, Sophia Julian-na Davis and friends will take place from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, April 12, at 92 Court Street. Admission to the event is free, and families are encouraged to attend. Expect to learn about comets, neutron stars and more. There will be an open time for questions from the audience.

Sunbury Shores sets sea-themed exhibit

Sunbury Shores Arts and Ecology Centre in St. Andrews announces its spring opening hours of Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The show, “Yonder is the Sea,” opened on April 4 and features the paintings of mother-daughter artists Jennifer Wiebe and Lena Beckley. Wiebe is a senior faculty member at New Brunswick College of Craft and Design in Fredericton. Beckley is an artist and biologist and a scientist for the Cape Cod National Seashore.

In addition, the Twombly, Cadieux and Pappas “Fantastical Transformations” show is up until April 26.

EAC to host show of student artwork

The Eastport Arts Center’s 11th annual student art exhibition will be on view through May 11 in the center’s first floor Washington Street Gallery. A reception will be held on Saturday, April 12, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Light refreshments and children’s treat bags will be available.

The show features artwork of K-12 students from Calais Junior/Senior High School, Eastport Elementary, Indian Township Elementary, Lubec Elementary, Pembroke Elementary, Rose M. Gaffney Elementary, Shead High School, Sipayik Elementary, Washington Academy, Whiting Village School, Woodland High School and homeschooled students. Also on display are students’ entries for the Rhubarb Festival poster contest.

Washington Street Gallery is open during EAC events or by appointment.

Arts center plans drawing session

The Eastport Arts Center is pleased to present Zentangle: A Mindful Drawing Practice with Ann Cannizzaro on Saturday, April 26, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Zentangle is known for promoting concentration and creativity while serving as a form of meditation. Attendees will learn techniques such as “tangles,” “tiles” and “strings” while creating small drawings. Each workshop will offer new techniques for those who have participated in previous study; it will also be appropriate for beginners.

The workshop is for ages 12 and up. Space is limited and registration, by email to <workshops@eastport artscenter.org> or below, is requested. A \$20 fee covers materials to be used in class; additional materials will be available for purchase.



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Basketball tournament fundraiser held

by Craig Cushing

The weekend of April 5, the graduating class of 2026 held a fundraiser at Shead High School, putting on a basketball tournament for junior high boys and girls. There were six teams, with girls and boys from Eastport (EES), Sipayik (SES) and Perry (PES).

In game one, girls EES vs. SES, the Eastport Panthers took the win with a 1-0 record. In game two for the girls, SES vs. PES, Perry fought hard and took the win.

In game three, and the final game for the girls, the two winners from the previous two girls games played, EES vs. PES.

This game was intense, with both teams with one win and no losses, but the Perry girls team pushed through and won the game.

In game one for the boys, EES vs. SES, EES defeated SES and got a 1-0 record. In game two, boys SES vs. PES, the Sipayik boys got their first win. Then in the championship game, EES vs. SES, both teams were ready to fight for the win. The EES boys, though, ended up pulling through and winning.

Both the girls champions, Perry, and the boys champions, Eastport, went undefeated with two wins and no losses.



THE EASTPORT PANTHER BOYS TEAM won a junior high basketball tournament held the weekend of April 5.

Area game wardens receive recognition

At the Maine Warden Service’s 145th anniversary awards banquet on March 21 in Augusta, special recognition was given to game wardens for exceptional performance during 2024.

Achievements that were recognized at the event included incidents where lives were saved. Other awards highlighted the conservation of Maine’s fish and wildlife resources in ways deserving of special recognition.

Among those receiving exemplary ser-

vice awards were Game Warden Sergeant Josh Beal and Game Warden Joe McBrine of the Machias section for apprehending a moose poacher who illegally killed a moose out of season.

An exemplary service award also was presented to Game Warden Matthew Tengan of the Cherryfield district for his work during the year, including the fall hunting season when he caught two night hunters with six illegally killed deer that resulted in 19 summonses.

Youth sailing program awarded funding

Cobscook Institute has been awarded a grant of \$5,607 from the Bonnell Cove Foundation in support of youth sailing programming this summer. The grant will help expand access to the institute’s sailing programs that aim to help participants build confidence on the water, learn the basics of sailing and foster a connection to marine environments.

The Bonnell Cove Foundation supports not-for-profit organizations that are dedicated to safety at sea and preserving the marine environment. Their investment in Cobscook Institute reflects a shared commitment to these values.

“We’re deeply grateful to the Bonnell

Cove Foundation for this generous support,” says Damon Weston, lead sailing instructor at Cobscook Institute. “This funding allows us to continue offering hands-on, meaningful sailing experiences to local youth – many of whom are getting their first opportunity to explore and learn on the ocean.”

Cobscook’s sailing programs are also supported by the Passamaquoddy Yacht Club.

Details about sailing camps this summer can be found at the website <www.cobscookinstitute.org>.

Smelt fry, fisheries celebration slated

The Downeast Salmon Federation (DSF) will host its 22nd annual Smelt Fry and Fisheries Celebration on Saturday, April 26, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Wreaths Across America gym, 8 Point St., and the Pleasant River Hatchery, 187 Main St., in Columbia Falls.

Plates are available for \$15 and will include smelt caught right outside the hatchery, mashed potatoes, coleslaw, roll and blueberry shortcake with ice cream. The cost for veterans and seniors is \$10/plate. The cost for families is \$30 and includes choice of hot dogs.

Activities will include fly-casting and fly-tying demonstrations; children’s activities, including a touch tank; hatchery tours and information tables. There will also be a 50/50 raffle, smoked alewives at the DSF mobile smokehouse and a beer tent on the river.



LEXY CRONKITE of Perry was the first female finisher of the inaugural Boyden Lake Half Marathon in Perry on Sunday, April 6. (Clark Duff photo)

Benefit marathon aids disabled veterans

The rain did not dampen the enthusiasm of the runners, walkers, ruckers or volunteers at the first annual Boyden Lake Half Marathon in Perry on Sunday, April 6. About 120 people gathered at Pottle Tree Farm or placed themselves along a course that went 13.1 miles around Boyden Lake. Some participants walked 2.5 miles or 5 miles, while others ran the full half marathon – all to support and raise money for disabled veterans.

The race was dedicated to Brian Manza, a Vietnam veteran from Baileyville who died prematurely in 2008 from complications of Agent Orange. He was very involved with the passing of the Agent Orange Act of 1991, which brought much needed help and benefits to similarly affected veterans. As a youthful runner he was the 1967 State of Maine cross-country champion.

The event raised over \$4,000 to benefit three organizations that help disabled veterans – House In The Woods, the Travis Mills Foundation in Maine and the inter-

national Achilles Freedom Team.

The race winners were: men’s half marathon – Robert Ashby, a former Eastporter; women’s half marathon - Lexy Cronkite, Perry; relay team - Hunter Roberts, Coburn Morris and Leo Whitmore; ruck - William Comey, who walked the 13.1 miles carrying a 35-pound backpack; 5-mile walk – Elaine McGlaughlin; 2.5-mile walk – Jane Manza.

Boyden Lake Half Marathon organizers are grateful to First National Bank, a gold sponsor, along with other major sponsors: Kenneth Williams, Hall Trucking and Construction, Vanessa and Darren Mathews, Shofar Farms, Sue’s Cobscook Café, Hannaford of Machias, Pottle Tree Farm, Bold Coast Runners and the towns of Perry and Robbinston.

Appreciation is also extended to Downeast EMS for being on scene in case of an emergency.

Please set your calendar for April 5, 2026, for the second Boyden Lake Half Marathon.

Orange River camp registration opens

This summer, Maine Coast Heritage Trust (MCHT) is once again partnering with Maine Outdoor School (MOS) to host Watershed Camp along the Orange River in Whiting for youth ages 10-13.

Watershed Camp is centered around the discovery of the local Orange River watershed. Through activities such as canoeing, hiking, hands-on exploration, active nature games and mindful journaling, campers will be introduced to their local watershed. They will also receive a first-hand introduction to the field of conservation and stewardship while growing confidence recreating outdoors.

Camp will be held daily, Tuesday through Friday, from August 12-15 and will be led by Registered Maine Guide

Hazel Stark, a co-founder of Maine Outdoor School and a MCHT staff member. This program is free, but there are limited spots and advance registration is required. Registration will be a lottery to give all families a chance at a spot in the camp. Registration for the lottery opens on April 1, and participants will be notified after June 15 if they have been selected.


To register please visit the website <www.mcht.org/event/watershed-camp-2025/>. Reach out to Cathy Lookabaugh with questions at <clookabaugh@mcht.org>.

SAY YOU SAW IT
IN THE QUODDY TIDES

Wildlife refuge set to host nature walk

A spring nature walk will be held at the Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge in Baring on Saturday, April 19, from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Participants are invited to join Maine master naturalists looking for signs of spring in the streams, ponds and forests. The group will meet in the upper parking lot by the bathrooms. Binoculars will be provided, and participants are urged to dress warmly and wear footwear appropriate for mud. The event will be cancelled in the event of rain.

For more information, contact Bill Kolodnicki at 207-904-7023, or check the Facebook pages of the Moosehorn Wildlife Refuge or Friends of Moosehorn for information and wildlife sightings. The walk is sponsored by Friends of Moosehorn and Fundy Audubon.



Bay of Fundy International Marathon is Sunday, June 22, 2025!

Are you interested in volunteering on race weekend? We have many opportunities. Have you already committed but not done the paperwork?

Please enter your name and contact information by scanning the QR code. It’s a 2-minute form that will put you in our database so we can be in touch!

If you have additional volunteer questions contact our volunteer coordinator at volunteercoordinator@bayoffundymarathon.com (or text Maria McMorro at 207-271-7564 if you don’t use email)

Candidates in federal election state positions on issues

by Derwin Gowan

Four candidates are running to serve as the Member of Parliament for the new Saint John-St. Croix electoral district in the Canadian federal election on April 28. They are New Democratic Party candidate Andrew Hill, Green Party candidate Gerald Irish, Liberal candidate Karen Ludwig, Libertarian candidate Keith Tays and Conservative Party candidate John Williamson, the incumbent. They responded to questions concerning their views on the issues, with Gerald Irish of Saint John not responding in time.

Andrew Hill

When former soldier Andrew Hill asked if the New Democrats had a candidate for Saint John-St. Croix in the federal election, the party asked if he might be interested. Hill, who grew up in Nova Scotia, was medically discharged in 2022 after almost 18 years in the Canadian Army. He now lives with his family at Charters Settlement near the provincial capital of Fredericton.

Campobello granted tariff exemption

by Lura Jackson

Campobello Island, which is unique in its sole land connection being a bridge to the U.S. despite it being part of Canada, has received exemption status from Canadian tariffs. The announcement was made on April 8 by Minister of Finance François-Philippe Champagne as a means of providing relief from the 25% tariff charge for the island, which has limited access to provisions and amenities.

Pennfield man dies following accident

A 27-year-old man from Pennfield has died following a single-vehicle crash in St. George. On March 29 at approximately 3:12 a.m., members of the St. George RCMP detachment responded to a report of an accident on Highway 1. The driver and sole occupant of the vehicle, Devin Leavitt, died at the scene.

The crash is believed to have occurred when the vehicle, which was travelling in the wrong direction of travel, hit the guard rail, rolled across the highway on to the other side and landed in the ditch.

Members of the St. George and Pennfield Fire Department and Ambulance New Brunswick attended the scene.

On fisheries, Hill calls for a “balance” on issues such as marine protected areas and herring quotas, to protect stocks and habitat without destroying the industry.

He identifies the price of housing and healthcare, especially the shortage of medical doctors, as issues in this election. He would remove barriers making it difficult for doctors licensed in one province to practice in another. He would allow trades people licensed in one province to work across the country, especially to build more housing. “We have a lot of resources, we have lot of good employees, a lot of good, trained workers, but getting them to work, that’s a problem,” he says.

Hill says Canada should exceed NATO’s target of spending 2% of GDP on defence. He says Canada should rely less on the United States, also that Canada should continue to support Ukraine in its fight against Russia.

He supports generous employment insurance provisions to support victims of President Donald Trump’s trade war, and he supports rent control measures.

“I’m happy to hear the federal government was willing to grant us this exemption,” says Campobello Mayor Harvey Matthews. “Hopefully it eases the minds of people that need to get certain necessities in the U.S.,” he continues, recognizing that some items can’t be purchased on island. “If you can’t get it here, at least you won’t be charged more.”

The island of approximately 1,000 residents lacks access to groceries outside of what is available at general stores, along with gas, tools, paint, car parts and home repair equipment. Residents had to choose between shopping in the U.S. and paying the tariff or driving to St. Stephen or Saint John and back, trips that consume a significant amount of time.

Getting an exemption for the island has been the front-and-center effort of several people, Matthews says, extending his thanks in particular to the Campobello Island Council, MLA Kathy Bockus, Member of Parliament John Williamson, Brian Cook with Synergi and New Brunswick Premier Susan Holt.

While the tariffs are a welcome relief to island residents, many continue to assert the need for a year-round ferry from the island for direct access to the Canadian mainland.

Karen Ludwig

Karen Ludwig says she did not plan to run in the general election. The St. Andrews resident, who served one term in Parliament from 2015-2019, says Liberal supporters approached her, and she agreed to run under new party leader Mark Carney. She feels that Carney is the best person to lead the country with U.S. President Donald Trump imposing tariffs and talking of annexation. Ludwig served on Parliament’s standing committee on international trade and feels that her academic and business background in international trade gives her something to offer.

She praises Carney for heading to Europe to talk trade within a week of taking office last month. “I think that took leadership, and that’s the leadership we need. If Mr. Carney was not the leader of the party, I would not be running,” she says.

Rather than across-the-board counter tariffs as proposed by Conservative leader Pierre Poilievre, Ludwig supports the Liberal plan to target tariffs at products from specific “red states,” hoping that economic pain will prompt U.S. voters to speak to their elected representatives.

Ludwig favours targeted tax cuts and programs, arguing that across-the-board tax cuts benefit mainly wealthy people. The Canada Child Benefit, higher Old Age Security payments, pharmacare and dental care help more people than does raising the Tax Free Savings Account limit, she says. Ludwig says that support for people with mental health and addiction issues would help solve the crisis of homelessness. She supports Carney’s plan for a massive house-building program.

Keith Tays

Keith Tays is making another run for public office, this time as Libertarian candidate in Saint John-St. Croix in the federal election. Last year, the construction worker from St. George ran as Libertarian candidate in Fundy-The Isles-Saint John Lorneville in New Brunswick’s provincial election.

Libertarians and other “third-party” candidates often get squeezed out from the main contest between Liberal and Conservative contenders. This year, it might be even more difficult with people worried about “splitting the vote” by supporting third-party candidates while Canadians find themselves caught in a trade war with the United States.

Tays got only 88 votes in last year’s provincial election. He could not be

reached for an interview on the federal campaign, but Libertarians believe in low taxes and keeping government out of people’s lives.

“Taxation is theft, all government engagement with individuals must be voluntary, people should be free to live without mandates, fees, fines, paperwork and government agents in their way,” Tays says in a statement posted online last year in connection with the provincial campaign. “Most federal decisions and regulation should instead be provincial decisions for New Brunswickers to decide for themselves. Most provincial decisions and regulation in New Brunswick should actually be left up to individual municipalities and communities to decide for themselves. And most municipal decisions and regulation in New Brunswick should be – you guessed it – left up to the individuals and families to decide for themselves,” the statement reads.

John Williamson

Proposed marine protected areas and lower herring quotas threaten Bay of Fundy fishing communities, John Williamson argues. He says voters raise these issues as he campaigns for support in the Fundy Isles in the general election. Williamson, who lives in St. Andrews, is seeking his fourth term as Conservative Member of Parliament for the renamed and reconfigured Saint John-St. Croix federal riding.

Williamson says both traditional fishery and aquaculture industries have closed ranks against the federal Liberal government’s proposed marine protected areas. “They know another Liberal government will mean marine protected areas coming to our area, which will greatly reduce where fishing vessels can go,” he says. Williamson says that cutting the Bay of Fundy herring quota led to layoffs at Connors Bros. sardine packers at Blacks Harbour.

He contends that Conservative leader Pierre Poilievre, rather than current Liberal Prime Minister Mark Carney, can best lead Canada’s response to tariffs and talk of annexation from U.S. President Trump. The Conservatives are also campaigning on high prices of housing, energy and other necessities that they blame on the Liberals.

Williamson argues that cutting taxes would allow people to build homes, and he says the Liberals would reimpose the carbon tax. He supports tighter rules for bail conditions as a measure to lower crime rates. The Conservatives propose counselling and rehabilitation rather than “harm reduction” measures including safe injection to fight drug addiction. He argues that lower taxes would put home ownership within reach of many Canadians.

Four arrested for invasion of home

Four men, ages 22, 62, 29 and 19, have all been arrested following a home invasion in Oak Bay. On April 8 at approximately 8:15 p.m., members of the St. Stephen RCMP detachment responded to a report that five individuals had forcefully gained entry to the residence while the homeowners were present. One individual was armed with a weapon and assaulted one of the homeowners, who suffered minor injuries. The suspects fled the scene with undisclosed medications.

A short time later, two RCMP officers were returning from a community meeting when they came across the fleeing suspects. The officers immediately initiated an arrest. The four men, all from Charlotte County, were arrested. Police are still searching for a fifth individual in connection with the incident. They believe that this was a targeted incident and there is no risk to public safety.

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For details, cost and registration contact
Paula Bergeron at paula.goodogma@gmail.com or 603-933-0191

Council told about food bank, food truck

by Arlene Benham

Grand Manan’s village council heard two presentations at their April 7 meeting. For Action Ministries, secretary and food bank co-director Michelle Kropiniski gave an update. She thanked the village for their support with the Thrifty’s charity shop expansion and bottle deposit donations. Action Ministries’ initiatives have included financial help for medical emergencies and power bills; children’s sports, camp, school supplies and shoes; Christmas food boxes; graduate bursaries; a free tax clinic; and the food bank, which now has a garden.

Kropiniski summarized the food bank’s 2024 income and expenses. Support comes from Thrifty’s, Food Depot Alimentaire, the Harbour Lights program, a food recovery program and donations. She showed a chart of the increasing demand. In 2019, they served 283 households; in 2022, 213 households; and in 2024, 539 households. At Christmas, 120 households received food boxes with turkey dinners. They average 48 visits a month from about 115 people, approximately 50 of whom are children.

Councillor Philman Green described the statistics as “scary” and “humbling,” and Kropiniski said “the trend is slowly creeping up” with new clients every month. Food bank supplies are supposed to be 40% of clients’ consumption with about 10-14 days of food, but Kropiniski said they will allow top-ups.

They regularly seek grants and do fund-raising. They would like to “broaden” their partnership with the village, and Kropiniski stated, “Food purchases are not just an expense but an investment in community stability and resilience.”

Mayor Bonnie Morse acknowledged “the incredible service” the ministry provides. She noted the village is currently “a little hamstrung” for large donations, but the council will consider adding funding in next year’s budget. “I just can’t imagine not having this service in the community,” she said.

Jordan Phillips and Tyler Greene presented their plan to operate a food truck and requested to park at the community centre. They intend to open from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. They estimate that the village’s daily food-truck fee would amount to \$9,000 annually. They also want to support local producers and businesses and have partnered with a “green initiative” biofuel company to recycle their cooking oil.

Greene plans to serve a variety of meals with a possibility of catering. Their plan includes an eventual brick-and-mortar location. They are currently finishing in-

Police arrest three after seizing drugs

A 47-year-old man from Grand Manan has been charged, while a 48-year-old man and a 36-year-old woman, both from Grand Manan, have been arrested following a seizure of drugs in Pocologan.

On March 28 at approximately 5 p.m., police conducted a traffic stop on Highway 1 in Pocologan, where the driver, Gregory MacFarland from Grand Manan, was arrested for breaching and undertaking. Police then executed a search warrant inside the vehicle and seized quantities of what is believed to be cocaine. Subsequent to the search, two passengers, a 48-year-old man and a 36-year-old female from Grand Manan, were also arrested.

On March 31 MacFarland appeared in Saint John Provincial Court and was charged with failure to comply with the conditions of an undertaking. He was remanded into custody and is scheduled to return to court at a later date.

The 48-year-old man and the 36-year-old woman were released from custody, pending a future court appearance. The investigation is ongoing.

spections and hope to open in three weeks.

Questions from council focused on how many days a week they wanted. Their goal is six days a week. Philman Green observed that previous visits from trucks “ruffled feathers” for some restaurants. Dan Boyd said five to six days might be “a little aggressive” to start, and village policies would have to be considered. He suggested two long weekends per month to start. Trish Toll inquired about the menu and opined “a hamburger’s a hamburger;” she would like to see “a different choice of menus” and suggested they move the truck around. The couple would prefer not to add expense and wear on the truck by moving around and want a “home base.” “We’re not trying to take away from any other business,” Phillips maintained. “We’re just trying to add to the community. It’s up to the businesses to maintain the standard of quality and service. We’re offering a different service with the late hours. If we’re not consistently here” the community will lose out on the rent. “We’re giving you the opportunity” to have a consistent rent paid daily, Greene said. “We’re helping each other.”

The application was referred to the properties committee for further consideration.

Other business

In other business, the council assented to a plan of subdivision in North Head, with Southwest New Brunswick Service Commission Planning Director Alex Henderson joining online. The 76 hectares encompass the Hole-in-the-Wall (HITW) campground area. An easement from Durant Drive will extend to a wetland buffer and include a trail to the HITW rock formation, with 8% of the total land area designated “for public purposes” that the village will own. This will guarantee access to HITW. The existing “red trail” will be unchanged except for some sections that have been moved inland a bit. Henderson described the plan as a “once in a generation” proposal that fits with bylaws. Morse stated that continued access to HITW was “a huge thing for the community.”

The bylaw committee will review the updated rural plan before it is set for public consultation.

With the 2023 audit nearly complete, the village needs to consider priorities for the 2024-28 Canada Community-Building Fund. CAO Chris Rayner mentioned a new pool, fire hall and fitness centre expansions, automated weather observation system upgrade at the airport, ways to offset the community centre’s energy needs and waste reduction. He noted the solid waste budget increases yearly.

Deputy Mayor Roger Fitzsimmons is stepping down from the library board; Wayne Sturgeon will be the council’s new representative.

Empowered to Ride, a youth wellness program incorporating mountain biking, requested a \$3,000 donation. The village’s non-budgeted donation limit is \$200. Boyd offered to contact them for more information.

Discussion about “age-friendly communities” will be revisited in the fall. The group promoting the initiative will be invited to return.

The Bell Mobility cell tower in Seal Cove is due for lease renewal. Morse suggested another conversation about ongoing cell reception issues should precede the renewal.

Morse also acknowledged NB Power’s retiring government liaison Bob Scott for his “irreplaceable” assistance during power outages, and she commended the Animal Welfare League on a clinic that spayed or neutered 48 cats.

There was no RCMP report. The next regular council meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 5, at 7:30 p.m. at the village office.



WITH HER NEW CHILDREN’S BOOK and her dogs, Junie (left, a rescue from Jamaica) and Nelly, is Jenny Naves. (Arlene Benham photo)

Resident aids international dog adoptions

by Arlene Benham

One Grand Manan resident has taken her passion for animals international, with a series of adventures that have been life-changing, both for her and for the dogs she has helped. Jenny Naves had been vacationing in Jamaica with her husband since 2008. She wanted something to occupy her time there, and a search for volunteer opportunities led her to the Negril Spay Neuter Clinic (NSNC). Founded 13 years ago by Canadian expat Debbie Lighthouse, the all-volunteer clinic is funded by donations. Naves says they average 1,000 spay/neuters a year and have done some 15,000 to date.

NSNC holds weekly Spay-A-Stray sessions. Naves arrived to “mayhem” on her first day. They were very busy, with “dogs in every corner,” and needed help. She says: “I needed them, and they needed me.” When Lighthouse dropped her off at her hotel at the end of the day, she asked somewhat dubiously, “Do you want to come back?” Naves said, “Yes!” She spent all of her 10 days’ stay at the clinic. A vivid memory is of sitting with dogs after their surgery, when another Canadian volunteer commented, “These dogs have probably never had affection before.” Just giving a little affection, a brush or a peaceful night’s sleep can be part of making dogs feel safe, Naves says. She realized, “I can make a difference in the life of one dog.”

She says many animals there have a hard life. “Having a pet down there is not the same as having a pet up here. Ours sleep on our beds; theirs are lucky to get inside. You have to remember it’s a different culture.” The often-large litters get out of control due to unneutered animals. The clinic has been taking dogs into schools to teach the next generation about care and that animals are not disposable. They also take care of cats, including ferals and strays.

With about a dozen volunteers and others, NSNC’s “village” is like a well-oiled machine, Naves says. “Flight angels” volunteer to transport dogs to the United States, Canada or U.K.

While there, she fell in love with a white puppy and decided to bring her home. Three vet checks are required to ensure dogs are healthy enough to fly and don’t have transmissible diseases; first they see an SPCA vet, then a government vet in Montego Bay for a passport. A third check at the airport completes the paperwork.

Unfortunately, the puppy was not deemed healthy enough. The clinic had three other puppies, and the female, Naves says, was less likely to be adopted than the males. This time they got clearance, and “Junie” came home with Naves. At first she had intended to foster, but before long she decided to keep Junie. Junie has settled into the family of five cats and one other dog; the latter “has taken to her as

we never could’ve imagined,” she says.

As soon as she got home, Naves thought, “When can I do this again?” She stayed in touch with the clinic and was invited to come back in January. This time she stayed with Lighthouse and brought home another dog, for whom she found a home in Hampton. “It was hard to give her up,” she says, but “I feel very blessed to be part of this, to get them out to a new life. They’re so innocent.”

She has just finished another trip, which was a combination of sightseeing and volunteering. She didn’t have an adoption set up this time but hopes to facilitate more in the future. She’s looking forward to helping in October with a three-day clinic aided by the International Spay Neuter Network, which sends vets from the U.S. and Canada.

Other area organizations include Negril Pup Rescue and Montego Bay Animal Haven. “Lots of people are doing lots of things, but there’s so much work to be done,” Naves says. With no vets currently based in Negril, NSNC is sponsoring a local girl at veterinary school.

Naves has written a children’s book about an experience with a puppy with a broken leg and parvovirus that the clinic saved, and later she found out it was the same puppy she saw on a previous visit. *Cinnamon’s Story* has a happy ending of Cinnamon’s adoption by a New York family. The book will be available locally and on Amazon.

Naves knows some people ask why bring dogs from Jamaica when local shelters are full. She says, “I feel like the need is so great in some countries” where education and means are lacking and they are overwhelmed with animals.

“Any animal needs to be rescued no matter where they’re from,” she says. “It’s not my place to say one place is better than another” for rescues. “I want to ‘stretch’ what they’re doing to my side of the world.”

It’s a dream to run a rescue of her own some day. She says, “There’s a big need for a lot of help, and I want to be part of it.”

NSNC has a Facebook group at <www.facebook.com/groups/889837081039930>, and Naves has one for news on “Jampups” at <www.facebook.com/groups/612365781532853>.

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Quoddy Nature Notes



Juncos

by Fred Gralenski

If you have a bird feeder outside your house, you might observe juncos hopping around. Many of our migrating birds



In Memoriam

In loving memory of
SADI

June 20, 2013 – March 10, 2025

Also known as
the Eastport Service Dog
Adopted from PAWS
on December 31, 2013

It is with great sadness and a heavy heart that I must share the passing of my beloved Sadi. She shared her peaceful and loving nature with all she met – while always looking for ways I needed help – whether it be picking up my credit card after I dropped it at the store or pulling me to safety when a car was backing up into me while walking through a parking lot or just being with me while shopping or eating out or enjoying a show at the EAC. Thank you to all who have helped me celebrate her life by your visits, texts, cards, delicious meals (even anonymous muffins in my mailbox) and by sharing the lives you've had with your own beloved companions.

When I needed a hand, she gave me her paw.

Have fun at Rainbow Bridge.

With loving memories,
Jeanne

haven't come back yet, but the juncos, at least mine, hung around all year and avoided the crows, bluejays, chickadees and mourning doves and got their share of the sunflower seeds and cracked corn meal that is scattered on the ground.

There are five species of juncos here in the Western Hemisphere. The most widespread is the dark-eyed junco, which ranges over most of the North American continent. The Guadalupe junco, which once roamed the entirety of Guadalupe Island, now is restricted to the northern part. The yellow-eyed junco is found in Mexico and the northern part of Central America. Baird's junco may be seen in Sierra de la Laguna, and the volcano junco may be found in Costa Rica and western Panama.

After much research, junco systematics are still confusing, especially to us amateur birders, with various scientists and authors accepting between three and 12 species. Here in Maine, we just seem to have only the slate-colored dark-eyed junco. This junco likes coniferous forests and dry terrain and eats mainly insects and seeds. They nest in shrubbery. It would be neat to see other species of juncos but that would involve a major trip, so I guess I'll just have to watch my juncos and see what I can learn from them as they do their thing under my feeder.

They don't always get along. Sometimes when there is a lot of feed and no crows or bluejays, the juncos don't want to share the bounty with other juncos, and the aggressor gets everything. I can't tell if the aggressor is male or female. In some ways they are like people.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

Norman Small, Perry – A graveside service for Norman Small, 67, of Perry, who passed away on February 23, 2025, will be held at Restlawn Cemetery in Perry at 11 a.m. on Saturday, June 21, 2025.

Obituaries

SCOTT NEWMAN

CAMPOBELLO – It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of Scott Newman, a beloved member of the Campobello Island community, who was born on February 18, 1966. Scott passed away on March 28 at Saint John Regional Hospital surrounded by his beloved wife and the love of his friends and family.

Scott was a dedicated volunteer firefighter, always ready to serve and protect his community. His selflessness and generosity were evident in everything he did; he was the type of person who would give you the shirt off his back without hesitation. He was a loving husband, father, cherished friend, uncle, caring grandfather, brother and devoted member of the Pentecostal Church. Scott's warmth and kindness touched the lives of all who knew him.

Scott had a deep love for the sea, spending countless hours fishing on the Bay of Fundy. He cherished the camaraderie of his coworkers, especially his captain, Jamie Mitchell, who became like family to him over the years. His passion for the water was matched only by his passion for helping others, and he will be remembered for the joy he brought into the lives of those around him.

Scott was predeceased by his parents and two brothers.

Scott is survived and missed deeply by his loving wife of 35 years, Sally Newman; daughter, Becky Nolan and spouse; son, Dana Morse and spouse; his grandchildren; nieces and nephews; extended family and special friends, Jocelyn Legacy and Chance Fitzsimmons.

Scott's legacy of service and love will continue to inspire us. He will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him. Respecting Scott's wishes, there will be no service.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Campobello Island Volunteer Fire Department, a cause that Scott held dear to his heart.

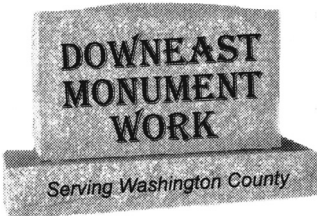
"They might be able to fit his boots, but they won't be able to fill them." – Captain Jamie Mitchell

SAY YOU SAW IT IN THE QUODDY TIDES

Card of Thanks

We would like to thank everyone for the support, cards, food, donations to the Sons of the American Legion and being there when we needed you most. A huge thank you to the individuals of "first shift and second shift."

Tina Wormell and the
family of Ricky J. Wilcox



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JAMES HOOPER

GLOUCESTER, VA. – James W. Hooper, age 67, of Gloucester, Va., died on Sunday, April 6, 2025. He was born in Eastport to Jimmy and Polly Hooper.

His younger years were spent living the life of a worldly traveler as his dad's military career progressed. The family returned to Eastport in the fall of 1973. After an early graduation from Shead Memorial High School in 1975, he joined

the U.S. Navy and began the lifer portion of his journey. His assignments included the USS *Forrestal*, Naval Station Mayport, Fla., Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, New London, Conn., Amcc9, Driver, Va., and ending a 20-year naval career in December 1994 at Naval Air Station, Norfolk. Next, he pursued a teaching certificate in Virginia while working numerous jobs. In 1995, he earned a bachelor of science from the University of the State of New York. In 1998, he earned his teaching certification and a bachelor of arts in sociology from Saint Leo College. In the fall of 1999, he began teaching at Peninsula Catholic High School. He transitioned from private to public school in 2000. Never one to give up on even more education, he earned a master of education in 2006 from Cambridge College with a concentration in accelerated learning and a master of science in 2007 from Longwood University, with an endorsement in K-12 library science. This opened the opportunity to be an elementary school librarian in two separate school divisions. (If you don't know, a bad day in the library is better than a good day in the classroom!) In June of 2019, he retired from 20 years of working in education.

He spent the next six months doing what most retirees would like to do – as little as possible. COVID-19 brought his career a jumpstart, as he began working with a local surveying company. Numerous trips and adventures with his wife and grandchildren brought joy and enthusiasm to his retired life.

James is survived by his wife of 41 years, Suellen; a daughter, Dr. Sarah Learman; a son, Dr. Deric Learman; and two wonderful grandchildren, William Learman and Elizabeth Learman; a sister, Hope Robinson (Richard); two nephews, Josh and James Murphy, and their families; as well as several cousins and endearing friends scattered across the world. An extended thanks to Melissa and all at the Riverside Newport News Cancer Center for their care and concerns throughout my journey. A big thanks to Izzy and all who topped me off weekly at Riverside, Walter Reed. Their compassion allowed me to continue as long as I could.

With James having lived a full life, there will be no service. Following cremation, the family will disperse ashes at various locations of interest to James. Memorial contributions in memory of James may be made to Tunnel to Towers Foundation, 2361 Hylan Boulevard, Staten Island, NY 10306 or to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Donor Services, PO Box 22324, New York, NY 10087. Arrangements are under the direction of Hogg Funeral Home & Crematory of Gloucester, Va.

CARDS OF THANKS

Cards of Thanks and In Memoriams are charged at the rate of \$5.00 for 20 words or fewer, and 10 cents for each additional word. The charge for committal notices is \$7.50.

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Cooke Aquaculture appreciates all resumes; however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

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Monday, May 12, at 3 p.m.

Pre-Kindergarten will be open to any child who becomes 4 years old on or before October 15, 2021. Kindergarten will be open to any child who becomes 5 years old on or before October 15, 2021.

Parents must report all children who will be entering Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten in September by contacting the Whiting Village School at 207-733-4617 as soon as possible to schedule an appointment. You will need to provide your child's name, date of birth, parents' names, physical and mailing address. Please bring your child's immunization record and birth certificate with raised seal to the registration.



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- Cutting, cleaning, trimming, filleting and scaling fish
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- Cutting sections according to specifications and placing them in containers for weighing

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Washington County Community College (WCCC) invites applications for the position of Head Women's Basketball Coach and Resident Director (RD). This is a part-time, stipend position that reports to the Director of Athletics and the Director of Residential Life. This position fulfills all aspects of coaching a collegiate basketball program. Duties include, but are not limited to, successfully delivering a program which will meet department recruitment, engagement, and retention initiatives; providing mentorship to student-athletes; and assisting with team fundraising initiatives. Other duties will include game day management, preparation and coaching of practices and games and driving duties to away games. Evening and weekend travel and/or games is to be expected. The position will collaborate with the Director of Residential Life to enforce college policies and procedures and develop an atmosphere of community and wellness on campus. The RD will rotate in an "on call" function and be expected to reside in a furnished on-campus apartment throughout the contract period.

Application Process: Position is open until filled. Please visit the college website at www.wccc.me.edu/about-wccc/news-info/employment/ to apply for this position.

WCCC is an Equal Opportunity Employer. We celebrate diversity and are committed to creating an inclusive and non-discriminatory environment for all employees. We provide reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals with disabilities upon request. For more information, please contact (207) 454-1000.

ATTENTION CUSTOMERS OF



Throughout 2025, Versant Power will be working to minimize tree-related power outages and momentary interruptions by pruning and removing trees in communities throughout our service territory.

Professional utility arborists will perform this work with high concern for the health and natural beauty of the trees and surrounding landscape.

Under Maine State Law, at the customer's request, Versant Power will personally notify property owners before pruning and removing trees along roads that border their property.

If you would like to be notified before our scheduled vegetation maintenance, please contact us using one of the following methods:

www.versantpower.com/trees

Call our Vegetation Management Coordinator:
(207) 973-2892

Write to:
Vegetation Management Coordinator
Versant Power
P.O. Box 932 • Bangor, ME 04402-0932

Please be sure to include your name, street address, town, telephone number, and utility company account number.

Note: Pruning and removing trees during a power outage emergency is exempted from the required notice provisions of Maine State Law. Also, Versant Power is not able to clean up downed brush and debris during and after a storm.

www.versantpower.com

TOWN OF MACHIAS
Operations Coordinator

The Town of Machias is seeking a highly organized and adaptable Operations Coordinator to join its administration team at the Machias Town Office.

Reporting directly to the Town Manager, the Operations Coordinator will assist in the planning, support and execution of initiatives across town departments. The ideal candidate will be positive, detail-oriented, and comfortable working in a dynamic municipal environment, with a wide array of constituents.

The Operations Coordinator is a full-time position. Interested candidates should submit a resume and cover letter detailing relevant experience and explaining why you're excited about working for the Town of Machias. Be sure to include at least two professional references.

Please send your application by email to Town Manager Sarah Craighead Dedmon at townmanager@machiasme.org, or mail to: Town of Machias, Attn: Operations Coordinator Position, PO Box 418, Machias, ME 04654. Applications may also be submitted in person at the Machias Town Office, 17 Stackpole Road, Machias. For more information, visit the town website at www.machiasme.org. Applications will be accepted until May 1, 2025.

The Town of Machias is an equal opportunity employer.

LUBEC ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL
Request for Bids

Bids are requested for the installation of a 400 amp 120/240 volt electric service for safe operation of installed heat pumps at the Lubec Elementary School. Bid pricing should account for all required permits and approval from the state electrical inspector and the local electric utility. Please submit your request in a sealed envelope marked "400 Amp Electric Service." Bids are due no later than 2 p.m. on Wednesday, May 7, 2025.

Included with your bid must be a copy of your liability insurance certificate and worker's compensation documentation.

Interested parties should contact Lubec Elementary School at 733-5561 to schedule a time to visit the school to view the project or for more details. The Lubec School Board reserves the right to accept or reject any/all bids.

Bids should be delivered to: AOS #77, Superintendent of Schools Office, 423 U.S Route 1, Unit A, Pembroke, ME 04666; 853-2567.

TOWN OF LUBEC
Cemetery
Mowing

The Town of Lubec is accepting applications for seasonal cemetery mowing to provide mowing, weed whacking and debris removal services for all cemeteries maintained by the Town of Lubec. \$17 per hour.

Interested individuals may contact:
Town of Lubec
Suzette Francis, Town Administrator
40 School Street
Lubec, Maine 04652
Tel: 207-733-2341
Fax: 207-733-4737

An Equal Opportunity/
Affirmative Action Employer

CITY OF EASTPORT
Public Hearing
Notice

Wednesday, May 14, 2025
Port Authority Building, Downstairs
at 6 p.m.

City Sale of Property
10 Evans Street –
Tax Map #E-0A1-11/29
35-37 Key Street –
Tax Map #I7-0C2-21

The Eastport City Council will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, May 14, 2025, at 6 p.m. at the port authority building. The purpose of the hearing is to receive public input on the sale of city property for 10 Evans Street and 35-37 Key Street.

The Eastport City Council welcomes public comment.

CITY OF EASTPORT
Public Hearing
Notices

Wednesday, May 14, 2025
Port Authority Building, Downstairs
at 6 p.m.

New and/or Renewal of Licenses
New Liquor License Application
d/b/a Look Lobster Company –
7 Sea Street

Renewal of Victualer License
d/b/a Look Lobster Company –
7 Sea Street

Renewal Liquor License Application
d/b/a Eastport Arts Center –
36 Washington Street

New Liquor License Application
Eastport Area Chamber of
Commerce – Water Street

Event: Eastport Salmon & Seafood
Festival
Incorporated Civic Organization
Special Event
August 30 & 31, 2025

The Eastport City Council will hold public hearings on Wednesday, May 14, 2025, at 6 p.m. at the port authority building. The purpose of the hearings is to receive public input on a new Liquor License application for Look Lobster at 7 Sea Street; the renewal of a Victualer License for Look Lobster at 7 Sea Street; the renewal of a Liquor License application for the Eastport Arts Center at 36 Washington Street; and a new Liquor License application for Eastport Area Chamber of Commerce for the Eastport Salmon & Seafood Festival event of August 30 and 31, 2025. The Eastport City Council welcomes public comment.

PEMBROKE ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL
Request for Bids

Bids are requested for the complete replacement of back stairs to outer building services to include demolition, rebuild and removal of current stairs at the Pembroke Elementary School. Please submit your request in a sealed envelope marked "Pembroke Stairs Bid." Bids are due no later than 2 p.m. on Monday, May 5, 2025.

Included with your bid must be a copy of your liability insurance certificate and worker's compensation documentation.

Interested parties should contact Kati Grass at Pembroke Elementary School by calling 726-5564 to schedule a time to visit the school to view the project or for more details. The Pembroke School Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any/all bids.

Bids should be delivered to: AOS #77, Superintendent of Schools Office, 423 U.S Route 1, Unit A, Pembroke, ME 04666; 853-2567.

TOWN OF EAST MACHIAS
Notice to Bid
ALEWIFE FISHING RIGHTS

The Select Board of the Town of East Machias are requesting bids from the residents of the Town of East Machias on the alewife fishing rights on the East Machias River. Sealed bids shall be submitted to the select board at the East Machias Town Office located at 32 Cutler Road by 3 p.m. on Thursday, April 24, 2025. The minimum bid required is \$10,000. Alewife harvesting must adhere to conservation regulations set up by the State of Maine and the select board of East Machias. A trap is to be placed at the end of the fishway at Gardner Lake. The roundabout Northern Stream Passage shall be open at all times for conservation purposes, but can be dipped, except from sunrise Friday to sunrise Monday; however, no nets or artificial obstructions shall be placed in the stream. The trap at the end of the fishway shall be removed from sunrise Friday to sunrise Monday so that fish can enter the lake. Contractor must be responsible for scale sampling.

Only flat bids will be accepted. All bidders must sign an understanding agreement to the requirements which can be picked up at the East Machias Town Office located at 32 Cutler Road, East Machias. The signed agreement must be included with your bid.

Select Board of East Machias

Selectmen reserve the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids. Bids will be opened April 25, 2025, at 4 p.m. at the East Machias Town Office located at 32 Cutler Road, East Machias, Maine.



WANTED
PAYING CASH

Buying out complete estates, collections, storage units, items lying around collecting dust.

Looking to downsize or liquidate? Please give us a call. We will help clean out attics, basements, full houses, garages, barns, storage units etc. You name it we can do it.

Looking for vintage items, new items, furniture, new and old toys, coins, signage and many, many more.

Don't throw it away, turn it into cash today. Paying cash and fast removal!!

WE ALSO ARE ACCEPTING
CONSIGNMENTS FOR
ON-SITE AUCTIONS!
Call Frank

207-904-7379



Washington County
Community College
Calais, Maine
Discover Choices • Create Success

Enrollment and Student Services
Success Specialist

Full-time

Washington County Community College is seeking a dynamic, student-focused professional with a strong work ethic to join our Enrollment Management and Student Services Department as an Enrollment and Student Services Success Specialist.

In this pivotal role, you will guide students on their academic journeys by delivering holistic advising services designed to support student success from the moment of enrollment. You'll help students create personalized academic and career plans, explore educational pathways and navigate key college resources – from program requirements and enrollment policies to financial counseling and transfer guidance. Key responsibilities include: conducting ongoing, one-on-one advising sessions (in-person and virtual) for all incoming matriculated students; assessing student readiness for college-level work using multiple measures placement tools; educating new students on how to access and utilize online college resources, including the student portal; promoting college programs and services through strategic advertising and social media engagement; traveling to area high schools and career and technical education (CTE) centers to connect with prospective students and share admissions information.

The ideal candidate will be a proactive communicator, tech-savvy advisor and enthusiastic collaborator who is passionate about helping students succeed in college and beyond.

Minimum Qualifications: A bachelor's degree is required, along with at least two years of recent experience in higher education. Demonstrated knowledge of and hands-on experience with student success strategies and best practices. Strong interpersonal, written, and presentation skills are essential. Preferred Qualifications: A master's degree, preferably with four years of recent experience at a community college. Background in student success programming and/or instruction, with a deep understanding of academic learning communities and their impact on student outcomes. Proven ability to work collaboratively with faculty, staff and institutional stakeholders to support student achievement.

Salary: MEA Administrators Unit, salary range \$45,914.99 to \$54,824.92, salary commensurate with credentials and experience. **Benefits:** Employer paid health, dental and life insurance for employees (spouse/domestic partner/dependent coverage also available), vision insurance, choice between Maine Public Employees Retirement System or TIAA CREF in lieu of Social Security, generous sick/personal time allowances, professional development and free tuition within the MCCC for employee, spouse and qualifying dependents.

Application Process: Please visit WCCC's website, www.wccc.me.edu/about-wccc/news-info/employment/. Review of applications will begin Friday, April 18, 2025. The position is open until filled.

WCCC is an Equal Opportunity Employer. We celebrate diversity and are committed to creating an inclusive and non-discriminatory environment for all employees. We provide reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals with disabilities upon request. For more information, please contact (207) 454-1000.

TIDES CLASSIFIED ADS

Classified ads are \$2.00 for 10 words or fewer; \$4.00 for 11 to 20 words, and 10 cents for each additional word. Classifieds are payable in advance. Display ads are \$8.00 per column inch. Contact our ad representative for special rates.

Write to: The Quoddy Tides, P.O. Box 213,
123 Water St., Eastport, Me. 04631
Tel. (207) 853-4806 . Fax 853-4095
E-mail: qtides@midmaine.com

Business Leasing Opportunity

EASTPORT: Furnished waterfront bar/restaurant lease opportunity, 171 Water Street in Eastport, previously the Chowder House Restaurant. Call 207-214-8833 or email <jgauthier84@yahoo.com>. 1a

Housesitting Sought

MATURE, quiet author ISO 2-3 months summer housesitting position in the Lubec/Campobello/Eastport area. Would cover utilities/WiFi/pet care. What else might I help with? Email <dr.mconnors@gmail.com> or call 212-203-2211. 1x

Rental Wanted

LOOKING TO RENT in Lubec or immediate surrounding area a 3-4 bedroom house, cabin, cottage, furnished or unfurnished or similar with or without garage, likely for spring and summer long-term rental (possibly longer) or until next fall minimally while new house and local building projects are being built for 3 gainfully employed adults. No pets or Airbnbs, wood heat preferred; however, a combination of LP gas is an option. Please, no extreme fixer-uppers or apartments will be considered. For more information please email us at <concrete@gwi.net> or call 207-699-7709 with your property details. 1x

Notices

HAVE AN EXPERIENCE with developers in the region you would like to share to a wider audience? Email <protectmainecommunity@proton.me>. tf

Real Estate For Rent

PERRY: 1-bedroom, in-law apartment on the water overlooking Passamaquoddy Bay, Perry. Kitchenette with refrigerator, coffee maker, toaster, 10-1 cooker. Large bathroom with shower and washer/dryer. Office area with desk and printer. Outside dining with BBQ stand and oceanside fire pit with seating. Walk down to the beach and drop your kayaks. Weekly, monthly rental available. Call 207-214-1286 for availability. tf

EASTPORT: 1- and 2-bedroom apartments in the heart of downtown Eastport overlooking the water. Heat is included. Call (207) 718-8720 or email <susan@apartmentsforpeople.com>. tf

Real Estate For Sale

LAND FOR SALE: 4 pristine acres overlooking Dennys River. Septic design has been done, nice lawn area, grape vines, several grafted apple trees of excellent cooking and storage varieties, garden plot approximately 40'x50', quiet neighborhood. Within half mile of grade school. Several people exercise walk on the road due to low vehicular traffic and beauty of the river flowing by. Many days harbor seals can be seen fishing the river for alewives, etc. Great house lot or what have you. Price \$55,000. Call Kevin at 207-214-6057. 1a

TOWN OF LUBEC Request for Bids

The Town of Lubec is seeking bids for the following:

- Landfill Mowing
- Airport Mowing
- Roadside Mowing
- Municipal Heating Oil (4,000 gals)
- Municipal Heating Propane
- General Assistance

- Propane
- Kerosene
- Heating Oil

Gasoline and Diesel for Trucks
Trash Removal – Municipal Facilities
Vehicle Repairs

Sealed bids clearly marked "Bid" with a reference to which you are bidding on should be addressed to the Select Board, Town of Lubec, 40 School Street, Lubec, Maine 04652. Bids must be received by 4 p.m. **Wednesday May 21, 2025.**

Bids will be opened at the selectmen's meeting on May 21, 2025. The selectmen reserve the right to accept or reject any and all bids.

Contractors for mowing and trash removal must submit a WCB-267 or proof of independent contractor status. If you do not have one, the Town of Lubec can help you acquire one.

Trash removal will include 4-yard dumpster at the Lubec Town Office, 2-yard dumpster at public works garage, municipal boat ramp, marina office and three trash receptacles placed on Water Street from May 15 to October 15, 2025.

If you have any further questions, please call the Lubec Town Office at 733-2341.

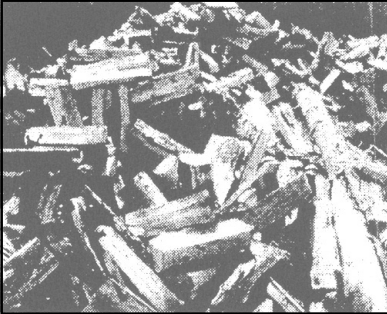
Town of Lubec
Suzette Francis, Town Administrator
40 School Street
Lubec, Maine 04652
Tel: 207-733-2341
Fax: 207-733-4737

New Homes. Old Homes.

dennysrivercarpentry.com

FIREWOOD

Cut, split and delivered
All hardwood



Gary Gilpatrick
733-7547 or 263-9171

TOWN OF LUBEC Request for Bids for Road Paving

The Town of Lubec is seeking bids from qualified individuals or firms for paving in Lubec. Bid packets are available at the town office. Any potential bidder must contact the Lubec Public Works at 207-733-4392 to schedule a pre-bid meeting prior to May 7, 2025.

The Lubec Board of Selectmen reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Please send sealed bids marked "Lubec Road Paving" to the Lubec Town Office. Bids must be received by 4 p.m. on May 7, 2025. Bids will be opened at the May 7, 2025, select board meeting at 6 p.m.

Interested individuals may contact:
Town of Lubec
Suzette Francis, Town Administrator
40 School Street
Lubec, Maine 04652
Tel: 207-733-2341
Fax: 207-733-4737

Asphalt Paving



Residential and Commercial Paving
Over 20 years' experience in the paving industry.
Fully Insured

Great rates!
Serving Downeast Maine.
Contact Us For More Information!
207-214-7523

Attention, Eastport Residents, From the Office of the Tax Collector

Please be informed that 30-day notices of lien on the FY2025 real estate taxes will be generated and processed on April 30, 2025, for mailing.

To avoid the filing of a lien, payment must be received no later than May 30, 2025. For further questions and/or information, reach out to City Hall at 207-853-2300.

ST. CROIX INTERNATIONAL WATERWAY COMMISSION Office Manager

The St. Croix International Waterway Commission is looking to hire a full-time Office Manager to work out of our office based in Calais, Maine. The Office Manager works under the Executive Director and helps with bookkeeping, maintaining files, managing accounts payable/receivable, payroll, answering phones and tax preparation. Starting pay is from \$21-\$26/hour depending on experience.

Please email programs@stcroix.org or call 207-952-9069 for more details.

TOWN OF PERRY Help Wanted

The Town of Perry has an opening in its Public Works Department. The position requires manual labor and the operation of light and heavy trucks in addition to motorized equipment used for road construction and repair, driving/operating a plow truck and other related equipment. Employee must be a team player and willing to learn. Applicants understand this position may include extensive overtime in winter weather or other emergencies.

The Town of Perry offers an extensive benefits package including single premium healthcare, life insurance, holidays, vacation time and more. Interested applicants must be at least 18 years of age and will be subject to all CDL drug and alcohol testing required by federal law. Applicants must be able to pass a physical examination and background check. Send cover letter and resume to Ann Bellefleur at perryselectman@gmail.com. This position shall remain open until a suitable candidate is found.

The Town of Perry is an EOE.

Help Wanted

Ferry Crew/Captain

Captains and crew wanted for the Eastport-to-Lubec ferry 2025 season (June – September).

Send resume/request application:
4master@downeastwindjammer.com

AMERICAN CONCRETE HOMES Help Wanted In Lubec

Marine dock workers wanted with chainsaw experience for pier rebuild over the water in Lubec, Maine.

Call 207-699-7709 or email us at concrete@gwi.net for more details.



DUE EAST REAL ESTATE


MAINE'S DOWN EAST SPECIALISTS

Greg Walston, Broker • Ann Bellefleur, Assoc. Broker • Kevin Raye, Broker
Linda Paprocki, Assoc. Broker • Mike MacPhee, Assoc. Broker • Melissa Small, Broker
Billy Howard, Broker • Deanna Newman, Assoc. Broker

MAINE LISTING SERVICE
MLS

Greater Bangor Association of REALTORS

REALTOR



Denise Plouffe,
Des. Broker/Owner




PRICE REDUCED

55 Summit St., Baileyville

This duplex offers up a spacious entry a great investment property. Rent both or live in one and use the other for income. A large sun porch, 2 big bedrooms, office or closet area and good size bathroom all on a full foundation, plus 1-car detached garage.

\$154,000

Call Melissa for more info.



NEW!

8 Varney Loop, Crawford

A 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bathroom home built in 1999 sitting on 1.2 acres on the shore of Crawford Lake with 240' of shorefront. The home features a 2 ½ car attached garage, HWBB heat, & a 14KW on demand generator.

\$399,000

Call Billy for more info.



NEW!

3 Doherty Lane, Lubec

The home is very well maintained, and boasts three bedrooms, and two full baths. The siting of the home offers a good deal of privacy, and quick access to the Straight Bay Road, and a short drive to downtown Lubec.

\$162,500

Call Greg for more info.



PRICE REDUCED

2 Pleasant St., Eastport

2BR cottage perched on headland overlooking Passamaquoddy Bay and the Canadian islands. There is a 12 x 16 deck on the waterside. Row to private beach included!

\$450,000

Call Mike for more info.



6 Case Dr., Lubec

Classic 1948 Cape, featuring 4 bedrooms and 1 bath, nestled on a 5-acre lot. With plenty of original character and large plank hardwood floors, this home offers an excellent opportunity for someone to bring their own updates and personal touches.

\$285,000

Call Deanna for more info.



93 Garnet Head Rd., Pembroke

This adorable 3 season home would make the perfect vacation home for you and your family, or a great opportunity for a seasonal rental. Large living room, open dinning and kitchen, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, and a bonus room at the top of stairs to use for additional beds.

\$122,000

Call Linda for more info.



101 Court St., Machias

Historic Italianate-style home with attached commercial space is situated on large 1.27 acre in-town lot with ample parking. Beautifully restored exterior and new roof.

\$350,000

Call Deanna or Kevin for more info.



NEW!

180 Bear Cove Rd., Baileyville

A 2-bedroom 1-bathroom year-round home on the edge of the very desirable Meddybemps Lake with 58' of lake front! Your get-a-way awaits!

\$279,000

Call Billy for more info.



NEW!

5 Johnson St., Eastport

Enjoy one-floor living and easy maintenance with this adorable, cozy and affordable 4 BR Home located in Quoddy Village in Eastport. This newly renovated home still has some work but has built in office space, professional grade kitchen, new plumbing, and lighting. There is also a large detached garage with power and a chicken coop.

\$145,000

Call Melissa for more info.

Visit www.DueEast.com For More Choice Properties!



EASTPORT

207.853.2626

eastport@dueeast.com

183 County Road • Eastport, ME. 04631

LUBEC

207.733.5511

office@dueeast.com

171 County Road • Lubec, ME 04652

CALAIS

207.454.2525

calais@dueeast.com

353 North Street • Calais, ME. 04619